

Inventory of the

Platte River Development Association

Records

In the
Regional History Center

RC 31

INTRODUCTION

The records of the Platte River Development Association were donated to the Northern Illinois Regional History Center by Mr. William Crill through Mr. Gilbert Walk, Monroe Center, Illinois, on July 5, 1978.

Property rights in the collection are held by the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to the collection.

Linear feet of shelf space: 2.25
Number of containers: 4 boxes
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Collection 31

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Platte River Development Association Collection contains material documenting the activities of an unincorporated oil company dating 1920 to 1926 and a privately owned supply company dating 1911-1919. It contains the general business records of the old Platte River Development Association and the new Platte River Drilling Association. Included are both the old and new association correspondences, by-laws, minutes of trustee meetings and holders of beneficial interests, legal forms; agreements and declaration of trust, irrevocable proxies, beneficiary certificates and receipts from the Platte River holding Company. There are minimal amounts of materials on the privately owned business of Atchison and Hildebrand and on the distributors affiliated with the Platte River Drilling Association.

The collection also contains the receipts and expense records from the Platte River Development Association, Platte River Drilling Association and the Atchison and Hildebrand Company. Also included are special agreement papers from the Drilling Association and financial statements from the Development Association and the Atchison and Hildebrand Company. The folder of photographic prints remain to be identified.

The C.L. Atchison letters and the business correspondences from the old and new Platte River Associations are all valuable assets to the collection as they examine in detail fraudulent activity found within the business as well as detailing the association's development as a profitable enterprise.

HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Platte River Development Association was an unincorporated oil company otherwise referred to as a Common Law Company or Common Law Trust, formed on September 1, 1920, in the city of Guernsey, Platte County, Wyoming. The original trustees of the Association were George O. Houser, President, John B. Bear, Vice-president and manager and William L. Karcher, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Platte River Holding Company, located in Freeport, Illinois, was controlled and managed by these three Trustees who were elected annually by holders of beneficial interests in the association on their authorized proxies. Each holder agreed to deliver to the Trustees their written proxies and certificates showing ownership of beneficial interests or units in the association.

In the spring of 1924, the Platte River Development Association was transferred by its trustees, under a trust agreement, creating the new Platte River Drilling Association. The trustees of the new association were H.L. Otto, President, D.C. Meinert, Vice-president, and C.L. Atchison, Secretary and Treasurer. The last known available records for this business are dated 1926.

SUBJECT TRACINGS

Atchison and Hildebrand
Freeport
Oil Industries
Platte River Development Association
Wyoming

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1	1	General Records
	2	Maps of Wyoming, location of Association, 1921 Platte River Development Association:
	3	Membership list
	4	Correspondences, 1921-1924
	5	Agreements, 1923
	6	Proxies
	7	Receipts from Holding Company, 1924
	8	Beneficiary Certificates, 1921-1924
	9	Applications, 1923-1924
	10	Railroad Shipping Rates, 1921 Platt River Drilling Association:
	11	Correspondence, 1925-1926
	12	Letters to C.L. Atchison, 1922-1926
	13	Agreements, 1924
	14	Proxies, 1924
	15	Receipts from Holding Company, 1924-1925
	16-17	Beneficiary Certificates, 1924-1926
	18	Applications
	19	Business Reports, 1924-1925
	20	Leases, 1925
	21-23	Daily Drilling Report, June 4, 1924-July 21, 1925
	24	Corporation Income Tax Returns, 1924 Atchison and Hildebrand:
	25	Atchison Personal Papers, 1924-1926
	26	Invoices, 1916
	27	Monroe Center State Bank Checks, 1915-1917
	28	McClaren Tire and Rubber: Bulletins and Letters, 1923-1926
	29	Peer Oil Corporation: Letters to Stockholders, 1926-1929
	30	Photograph, n.d.

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	3
1	31-32 33 34	Receipts: Platt River Development Association, 1921-1925 Platt River Drilling Association, 1924-1925 Atchison and Hildebrande, 1916-1917	
2	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Expense Reports: Platt River Development Association, 1921-1924 Platt River Drilling Association, 1925-1926 Atchison and Hildebrande, 1916-1917 Contracts, 1923-1925 <u>Roberts Rules of Order</u> , State Bank of Freeport Bank Book, Monroe Center State Bank Book Order Book, 1916-1917 Account Book, 1911, 1913	
3	1 volume 1 volume 1 volume	Journal of financial accounts: Platte River Development Association, 1920-1924 Beneficial Interest Receipt book, Platte River Development Association, 1921-1924 Financial ledger: Atchison and Hildebrand Company, (1911-1917)	
4	2 volumes	Journal of financial accounts, Atchison and Hildebrand, 1911-1913, 1915-1917	