

Garfinckel's Department Store Records
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2009

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm95083036>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009185>

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Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2009
Revised 2010 April

Collection Summary

Title: Garfinckel's Department Store Records

Span Dates: 1919-1981

ID No.: MSS83036

Creator: Garfinckel's (Department store)

Extent: 470 items

Extent: 2 containers

Extent: 0.8 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mmm95083036>

Summary: Washington, D.C., department store. Correspondence, press releases, newspaper clippings, and photographs documenting the store's officers, personnel, organization, expansion, and advertising.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Darlington, Joseph J. (Joseph James), 1849-1920.

Garfinckel, Julius, 1874?-1936.

Whistler, James McNeill, 1834-1903.

Organizations

Allied Stores Corporation.

Brooks Brothers (Firm)

Corcoran Gallery of Art.

Garfinckel's (Department store)

Subjects

Advertising--Department stores.

Consolidation and merger of corporations.

Department stores--Washington (D.C.)

Etching, American.

Provenance

The records of Garfinckel's, a Washington, D.C., department store, were given to the Library of Congress by Garfinckel's in 1990. In 1994, archival items were transferred to the Manuscript Division by the Prints and Photographs Division, which retained items more properly assigned to its custody.

Processing History

The records of Garfinckel's Department Store were arranged and described in 1995. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Garfinckel's Department Store is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The records of Garfinckel's Department Store are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Garfinckel's Department Store Records, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The records of Garfinckel's Department Store span the years 1919-1981 and consist of correspondence, newsclippings, photographs, press releases, and printed ephemera. The collection documents the store's officers, personnel, organization, expansion, and advertising. Subjects pertain to the public sale of stock in 1939, acquisition of Brooks Brothers in 1946, and the attempted takeover of the company in 1981 by Allied Stores Corporation. Other material includes a memorial to Joseph J. Darlington and Julius Garfinckel's loan of his etchings by James McNeill Whistler to the Corcoran Gallery of Art in 1938.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material or subject and therein chronologically.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Correspondence, 1922-1981, undated
BOX 1	Newsclippings, 1920s-1980s, undated (6 folders)
BOX 1	Photographs, 1940, 1956, 1976-1979, undated (2 folders)
BOX 2	(2 folders)
BOX 2	Press releases, 1939-1981, undated
BOX 2	Printed ephemera, 1922-1962, undated
BOX 2	Staff manuals, 1960-1963, undated
BOX 2	Subject file
BOX 2	Brooks Brothers Clothing, 1946-1953
BOX 2	Company history and organization, 1955-1979, undated
BOX 2	Darlington, Joseph J., memorial, 1919-1940, undated
BOX 2	Gimble Brothers' buyer's manual, 1930
BOX 2	Miscellany, undated
BOX 2	Whistler, James McNeill, exhibit at Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C., 1934-1938, undated