

The Whitney Library
New Haven Colony Historical Society

Manuscript Register

MSS #241

R. G. Davis & Sons, Inc.

Records, 1875 - 1962

Arranged and Described

By

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Introduction

R. G. Bradley & Sons was originally founded in 1876 as S. D. Bradley & Co. with Richard G. Davis as a partner. Two years later the company name became Bradley and Davis and in 1890 the name was again changed to R. G. Davis.

In 1890, the company moved from it's original location on a wharf in New Haven harbor to 560 Grand Avenue where there was access to the railroad.

The company name changed again to R. G. Davis & Sons in 1910 when the two sons of the founder, Harvey H. and Louis L., joined him. Soon after this the company established retail stores in Westville, Milford, Ansonia, Clinton, Cheshire, Glenbrook (later to be in Noroton Heights) and Winnipauk

The assets of the company were sold to the Cutler Company of Boston, MA in the 1960's. This was part of the Wirthmore Seeds Inc.

Louis L. Davis died in 1963 and his brother Harvey died in 1968 according to the paper that accompanied the business records and was written by Nancy Davis Sachse, daughter of Louis L. Davis.

The business records of this collection were given by Mrs. Sachse to the New Haven Colony Historical Society in 1990.

Description of the Records

The records consist primarily of correspondence but also include ledgers and financial statements.

The records are not the complete records of the company and appear to be items that were in the possession of one person, presumably Louis Davis. There is no early correspondence and the minutes of stock holders meetings only cover the years between 1923 and 1932.

Included in the records are drawings and photographs of Louis Davis's residence in New Haven.

Series I - Company History

Box/Folder	Contents
1/A	Paper by Nancy Davis Sachse, Spatters Magazine, Minute for Richard G. Davis
1/B	Photographs
1/C	Photographs

Series II - Business Records

Box/Folder	Contents
1/D	Records, Mar. 1962 - Jan. 1958
1/E	Records, Feb. 1950 - Dec. 1957
1/F	Account Book 1929 - 1952, Includes journal of trip to St. Louis
1/G	Records, Jan. 1947 - Dec. 1949
2/A	Records, May 1932 - Oct. 1944
2/B	Records, June 1920 - May 1929
2/C	Ledger Book, 1923 - 1932, Certificate of Incorporation & Minutes of Meetings
2/D	Inventory Book, 1901
2/E	Record, Dec. 1875 - Dec. 1919
2/F	Ledger Book, 1879 - 1887