

Roswell Manufacturing Company records
1840-1975 (bulk 1840-1927)
MS 5



Roswell Historical Society/City of Roswell Research Library and Archives

Contact Information:

Roswell Historical Society/City of Roswell
Research Library and Archives
Cultural Arts Center
950 Forrest Street, 2nd floor
Roswell, Georgia 30075
Phone: 770.594.6405
E-mail: edeniro@roswellgov.com

Title: Roswell Manufacturing Company records
Dates: 1840-1975, bulk 1840-1927
Extent: 16 linear feet (22 boxes)
Identification: 1994-5; 1994-15; 200-13; 2002-19; 2002-20; 2002-21; 2002-22;
2002-23; 2002-24; 2002-25

Biographical or Historical Note

The Roswell Manufacturing Company was a textile mill complex that was built by Roswell King, founder of the town of Roswell, and his son Barrington King. It was incorporated in 1839 in Cobb County. Barrington King served as its first president.

By 1860 the Roswell Manufacturing Company consisted of two cotton mills and a factory store. It produced cotton cloth, yarn, rope, and tenting.

During the Civil War, the mill manufactured supplies for the Confederate States of America. The Union army invaded Roswell in July 1864. Union General Sherman sanctioned the destruction of the mills and ordered the more than 400 mill workers, mostly women, to be charged with treason and sent to the North as prisoners.

After the war only one (circa 1854) of the original two cotton mills was rebuilt. In 1882, a second cotton mill was built. In 1926, a fire destroyed the original circa 1854 mill building. In 1923, the mill was sold to William G. Broadfoot of Wilmington, North Carolina and operated under a new charter and a new name, Roswell Mills, Inc. In 1947, Southern Mills, Inc. took over the operation of the mill. Southern Mills ended its operation in 1975.

The Roswell Store was established by and part of the Roswell Manufacturing Company. It sold its own manufactured goods and general merchandise to mill operatives and town's people. Mill workers, in the beginning, were paid with company scrip to be redeemed at the company store. It was also owned and operated by the Roswell Mills, Inc. It was eventually sold to private parties and continued to operate as the Roswell Store until 1964.

Scope and Content

This collection contains a bound copy of minutes of the stockholders minutes, time books, bank records, delivery receipts of goods, deposit receipts from Confederate States of America, and cotton delivery receipts for the mill. It also contains textiles from the mill. The Roswell Store collection contains account books for non-operatives, railroad bills of lading, and a merchant catalog.

Organization Note

This collection is organized in two series:

- 1) Roswell Manufacturing Company, Roswell Mill, Inc., and Southern Mills, Inc. records
- 2) Roswell Store records

Restrictions

Restrictions on access

Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

To quote in print, or otherwise reproduce in whole or in part in any publication, including on the Worldwide Web, any material from this collection, the researcher must obtain permission from (1) the owner of the physical property and (2) the holder of the copyright. Reproduction of any item must contain the complete citation to the original.

Selected Search Terms

Roswell Manufacturing Company (Roswell, Ga.)
Roswell Mill, Inc. (Roswell, Ga.)
Southern Mills, Inc. (Roswell, Ga.)
Roswell Store (Roswell, Ga.)

Related Materials

King, Baker, and Simpson family papers

Administrative Information

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Roswell Manufacturing Company Records, Manuscript Collections, Roswell Historical Society/City of Roswell Research Library and Archives, Roswell, GA.

Processing

Processed by Elaine DeNiro