



Kaufman's Men's Store
Records, 1935-1966

Collection 130

Champaign County Historical Archives

Compiled by: Christine Willson

Creator/Corporate Name: Kaufman's Men's Store

Inclusive Dates: 1935-1966

Physical Description: 1 box, plus oversized material (1.5 linear ft.)

Language: English

Provenance:

The Kaufman's Men's Store records were donated to the Champaign County Historical Archives.

Access:

These records are accessible to the public within applicable copyright restrictions and limited to use at the Champaign County Historical Archives of The Urbana Free Library.

Biographical Note:

Jacob McClellan Kaufman was a prominent citizen of Champaign and was active in both his business and his social activities. He was born in Windfall, Indiana, on July 19, 1865, to Simon and Fannie Kaufman. He came to Champaign, Illinois, in 1881 to join his brother Aaron in running a clothing store he had opened in 1879. In 1884, they took positions at their uncle's store at 18 Main Street, which later became J. M. Kaufman and Company; Jacob was the sole owner of the store by 1899, and successfully expanded the family's business interests in Champaign and elsewhere. Jacob married Hattie Freudenstein in 1896, and they had one son together, Stanley. Jacob died on February 10, 1921.

Stanley Kaufman was born on June 18, 1900. He owned and operated Kaufman's, Inc. from 1921 to 1966 when the store was sold to Karoll's of Chicago. He married Josephine Hart in 1925 and they had one daughter, Joan K., who married Irving Donn Schwartz. Irving was born on June 11, 1927, in Chicago and was involved in some business operations of his father-in-law's. He was a national award-winning architect and interior designer. He also served as an adjunct professor at the University of Illinois Graduate School of Architecture. He died on February 1, 2007.

Scope and Content Note:

The materials in this box pertain to Kaufman's Men's Store in Champaign (later Karoll-Kaufman's) and Kaufman's Country Fair Shopping Center in Champaign, as well as McWilliams & Peterson Millinery, which was located in Kaufman's Men's Store in Champaign. This collection contains correspondence, financial documents, legal documents, photographs, ledgers, blueprints, plats, and other documents relating to the business operations of the two Kaufman's locations.

Subject Terms:

Business records



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Clothing trade
J.M. Kaufman and Co. Clothiers (Champaign, Ill.)
Men's clothing industry

Name Terms:

Kaufman, Jacob McClellan

Container List:

Box 1

Folder 1: Tax Documents, 1955-1961

Correspondences with Seidman & Seidman Certified Public Accountants.
Individual Income Tax Return forms for Irving and Joan Schwartz.
Declaration of Estimated Tax forms.
Statements of Account Estimated Income Tax forms.

Folder 2: Annual Reports, Store Lease, Tax Returns, 1936-1945

Annual Reports of Schumacher and Kaufman Inc.
Return of Capital-Stock tax forms, 1933-1945
Tax receipts, 1942-1945
Census Survey of Business, 1937-1938
Sublease agreements, 1936
Lease extension notices, 1947-1950

Folder 3: Customer Correspondence

Receipts, promotional material, customer complaints, requests for item exchanges or modifications, and gift certificates for Kaufman's Inc. and Karoll's, 1959-1966 (bulk 1966).

Folder 4: Clinton Montgomery Ward 1957-1958

Letters regarding repairs to building in Clinton, IL by insurance company Montgomery Ward.
1961-1963: Insurance papers for Clinton building.

Folder 5: Country Fair Shopping Center, 1955-1963

Correspondence concerning proposed construction on the Country Fair Shopping Center Annex.
Estimated cost of construction calculations.

Folder 6: Barber Shop Sketch of Kaufman's Country Fair Shopping Center, undated.

Folder 7: Analysis of Shopping Center by Real Estate Research Corp., 1955-1960.

Correspondence with Real Estate Research Corp. regarding the location and planning of the construction of the Country Fair Shopping Center.

Folder 8: Clinton, Illinois, 1962 Wards Spurgeons

Correspondence with the insurance company Montgomery Ward & Co. and documents concerning insurance coverage, policies, and lease, 1960-1963.
Letters concerning the Clinton building damage.
Photographs of damage between Montgomery Ward building and Woolworth Co.
Letters from company Surgeon's Mercantile Company about renting and store location.

Folder 9: Zayre, 1962-1963



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Topographic maps between Springfield and Country Fair Drive.

Plat of Survey for shopping center.

Amendment notes to Schwartz lease.

Correspondence letters concerning Zayre building construction.

Folder 10: Miscellaneous files, 1955-1962

Advertisement for Kaufman's use of National Cash Registers and Accounting Machines, 1961

Letters concerning selling Kaufman's.

Drafts of an article for Illinois MAC News about clothing furnishing colors and styles, 1955

Letters about the Illinois State Fair, 1959

Folder 11: Stables, 1961-1962

Statement for Stonegate Farms to Joan Schwartz.

Letters about bills on barn construction at Stone Gate and stable interest.

Oversized

Booklet: "Specifications for Unit II of Country Fair Shopping Center Annex for Mr. Irving D. Shwartz on West Springfield Avenue Champaign, Illinois," May 31, 1961.

McWilliams & Peterson Exclusive Millinery book (hat orders), November 1939- May 1940.

McWilliams & Peterson Exclusive Millinery book (hat orders), August 1945- March 1946.