

WORCESTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM

30 Elm Street
Worcester, Massachusetts

ARCHIVES

Filene's Department Store
Collection

2002.04

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Collection Information

Abstract : Policies for various aspects of store operations, 1920s, and written history of Filene's

Department Store by Stacy Holmes, ca. 1960s.

Finding Aid : Finding Aid in print form is available in the Repository

Preferred Citation : Worcester Historical Museum, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Provenance : Gift of Robert J. Hogan, Paxton, Mass., March 20, 2002.

MARC Access: Collection is catalogued in MARC under the following subject headings (lcs, aat, gm, etc.)

Filene, William, 1830-1901.

Filene's (Department store) – History.

Department stores – History.

Department stores – Employees.

Holmes, Stacy – *Filene's*

Historical/Biographical Notes

William Filene, a German immigrant, operated several stores in eastern New England between 1849 and 1881. In 1881 he opened a store in Boston selling women's clothing and accessories, and by 1890 expanded into a five-story building with basement, the largest store in Boston devoted to women's wear. William Filene retired after opening the new store, turning the business over to his sons, Edward and Lincoln. By 1912 annual sales amounted to \$4,500,000. The store continued to expand in Boston, adding a men's clothing department in 1912. In 1923 Filene's began opening branch stores throughout Massachusetts. The 100,000 square foot Worcester branch of Filene's opened in 1928 and closed in the 1970s, with the opening of a new Filene's in Auburn Mall. Filene's remains one of the leading department stores in Massachusetts.

Scope and Content

The collection consists of policies relating to Filene's Bargain basement, responsibilities of store managers, and publicity, all ca. 1920s. In addition the collection includes a history of Filene's, written by Stacy Holmes ca. 1960s.

Series Descriptions

Series 1: Policies. Three policies relating to store operation, 1920s. (3 items.)

Series 2: History. Pamphlet written by Stacy Holmes. (1 item)

2002.04
Series 1, Policies

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	2002.04.1.1	Publicity Policy, January 10, 1928. Typescript. (10 pages)
1	1	2002.04.1.2	Business Policies of Vice President in charge of store, January 9, 1928. Typescript. (14 p.)
1	1	2002.04.1.3	Merchandise Policies, Basement, January 6, 1928. Typescript. (17 p.)

Filene's Department Store Collection

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Series 2, History

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	2	2002.04.2.1	<i>Filene's / Stacy Holmes</i> : S.l., s.n., n.d.. 32 p. A brief history of the origin and growth of Filene's from around 1880s to ca. 1965.