



**Jefferson County (Colorado). Board of County Commissioners
1952 Courthouse Cornerstone Time Capsule and Contents,
1877-2000**

Series #120

Originally Processed by: Marge Benham, February 2000

Re-processed by: Ronda Frazier

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Jefferson County Archives

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Overview of Records

Creator:	Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners
Title:	1952 Courthouse Cornerstone Time Capsule and Contents
Dates:	1877-2000
Series Number:	120
Quantity:	3 boxes (1 Rec, 1 Doc, 1 F24), 2.32 cubic ft.
Arrangement:	Box 2 is alphabetical
Abstract:	Time capsule box and contents recovered from the 1952 County courthouse before its demolition in November, 1999. The capsule was opened during a public ceremony sponsored by the Jefferson County Historical Commission on January 10, 2000.

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions:	None
Use Restrictions:	Handle with care
Preferred Citation:	Item Description; Box number, Folder number; Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners, 1952 Courthouse Cornerstone Time Capsule and Contents, 1877-2000; Series #120; Jefferson County Archives, Golden, Colorado.
Provenance:	Contents were found sealed in a time capsule that had been placed in the cornerstone of the Jefferson County Courthouse August 2, 1952. The courthouse, once located at the corner of 17 th and Arapahoe Streets in Golden, Colorado, was demolished in November, 1999. Officials knew about the time capsule and retrieved it, opening it in a public ceremony held January 10, 2000.

History Note

In a public ceremony held January 10, 2000, members of the Jefferson County Historical Commission and Jefferson County Archives opened a time capsule recovered from the 1952 County Courthouse. The small copper box had been placed in the cornerstone August 2, 1952, when the courthouse at 17th and Arapahoe streets in Golden was built. Inside the box, which had been welded shut half a century earlier, were newspapers, postcards, County documents, Colorado Masonic publications, and a State of Colorado Yearbook.

The old Jefferson County courthouse, which stood behind the Hall of Justice building on what is currently the Colorado School of Mines campus, was sold to the school in 1994 and demolished in November, 1999. The time capsule laid at its dedication in 1952 was saved and opened in a public ceremony held January 10, 2000 at the Jefferson County Administration and Courts Building.

Scope and Content Note

The collection contains the actual time capsule box and its contents. The small copper box measures 8” wide by 12” long by 8” high. Three notes were found taped to the bottom. The notes were contributed by Frank Stanbro, Deputy County Treasurer; Sadie Fishburn, a Jefferson County Democrat; and an unknown party addressed to Ruth K. Beville, Clerk to the County Treasurer.

Box 2 contains documents such as the county’s 1952 Budget and Financial Statement; the courthouse bond; Abstract of Assessments and list of Tax Levies; and specifications for bids for construction of the courthouse. It also contains 1877 and 1951 proceedings from the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Colorado; postcards showing the 1877 courthouse and the Golden welcome arch; and a 1948-1950 Yearbook from the State of Colorado. Photographs of the time capsule being removed from the cornerstone before the building was demolished in 1999 and newspaper articles about the opening of the time capsule in 2000 are also included.

Box 3 contains nine area newspapers with dates ranging from July 2 to August 3, 1952.

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Container List	Box	Folder
Time capsule copper box containing three notes taped to the bottom: <i>“Frank Stanbro: The Greatest Deputy Co. Treasurer to Date. A Democrat. Aug. 2, 1952”</i> <i>“Ruth K. Beville – The best South Carolina Democrat in Colorado. Position: Clerk for the most competent Treasurer Jefferson County ever had!!!!”</i> <i>“from the old line of Democrats and Residence of Jefferson Co., Sadie Fishburn”</i>	1	
Abstract of Assessment and Tax Levies (Jefferson County), 1951	2	1
Budget Summary and Statements of Expenditures (Jefferson County), 1952		2
Colorado Masonic Publications: Colorado Masonic Directory, 1952 Trestle Board of Golden City Lodge No. 1, A.F. & A.M., 1952 Trestle Board of Golden Royal Arch Chapter No. 5, 1952		3
County Treasurer’s Semi-Annual Statement to the Board of County Commissioners, Jefferson County, Colorado, June 30, 1952		4
List of contents of the time capsule, August 2, 1952		5
Postcards: Picture of 1877 Jefferson County Courthouse, n.d. Picture of Golden Welcome Arch with note <i>“Good Luck to the County Clerk when this box is opened, Bob Newton, Co. Clerk, August 2, 1952”</i>		6
<i>“Proceedings of the M.W. Grand Lodge, of A.F. & A.M. of Colorado, at its 17th Annual Communication, Held at Denver, September 18 & 19, A.D. 1877; A.L. 5877,”</i> 1877		7
<i>“Proceedings of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Colorado at Special Communications” (Held at Boulder, Colorado, September 30, 1950),</i> 1951		8
Refunding Bond Number 1 for \$1,000 (redeemed), 1951-1952		9
Signatures of all present County officials, August 2, 1952		10
Specifications for Bids on Construction of Courthouse, 1951		11

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Container List

	Box	Folder
<i>Yearbook of the State of Colorado, 1948-1950</i> , containing map of Reclamation Projects in Colorado, 1948-1950	2 (cont.)	12
Newspaper articles about time capsule opening, 2000		13
Photographs of time capsule being removed from cornerstone, 1999		14
Newspapers:	3	
Arvada Enterprise, July 31, 1952		
Colorado Transcript, July 31, 1952		
Denver Post, July 31, 1952		
Golden Outlook, August 3, 1952		
Jefferson County Sentinel, July 2, 1952		
Jefferson County Sentinel, July 30, 1952 (2 copies)		
Jefferson Record, July 31, 1952		
Rocky Mountain News, August 2, 1952		