Additional Sources on R.G. Dun & Company

Published histories of R.G. Dun & Company


On the use of the handwritten R.G. Dun & Company credit reports


Published credit information

In addition to its handwritten credit reports the R.G. Dun & Company began publishing its Reference Book in 1859 for use by its subscribers. The Reference Book includes a two-part credit rating for individuals and firms, consisting of estimated pecuniary strength and general credit.

Baker Library Historical Collections holds an incomplete run of the Reference Book.

The Library of Congress has digitized a large portion of Dun's Reference Book. Volumes can be found online at the Library of Congress site.

The Mercantile Agency’s Reference Book, of the United States and British Provinces. New York:


Library of Congress Digitized Holdings: Mar. 1900-Sept. 1924

Microfilm Holdings: 1867, 1871, 1879, 1880, 1883, 1885, 1894, 1895, 1897


Baker Library Historical Collections also holds an incomplete run of some state editions and Bradstreet’s Book of Commercial Ratings.

For more information on the Reference Book and for online access see Library of Congress’s blog Inside Adams: Science, Technology & Business.

Company manuals on credit reporting


