



Additional Sources on R.G. Dun & Company

Published histories of R.G. Dun & Company

Norris, James D. R.G. Dun & Co., 1841-1900: [*The Development of Credit-reporting in the Nineteenth Century*](#). Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1978.

Vose, Edward Neville. [*Seventy-five Years of the Mercantile Agency, R.G. Dun & Co., 1841-1916*](#). Brooklyn, N.Y.: R.G. Dun & Co., 1916.

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

Lovett, Robert W. [*Nineteenth-century Credit Information*](#). Boston: Boston Public Library, 1975.

Madison, James H. "The Credit Reports of R.G. Dun and Co. as Historical Sources," [*Historical Methods Newsletter*](#). Vol. 8 (1975).

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 Special Collections and Archives 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:

B. Douglass and Co. Holdings: v.2:pt.2-3 (1860)



[The Mercantile Agency Reference Book, \(and Key\)](#): *Containing Ratings of the Merchants, Manufacturers and Traders Generally Throughout the United States*. New York: R.G. Dun & Co.

[Library of Congress Digitized Holdings](#)

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

Holdings: 1864/65-1866, Jan. 1867, July 1868, Jan. 1870, July 1871, Sept. 1874, Jan. 1875, July 1879, Jan. 1880, Mar. 1880, Jan. 1883, July 1883, Jan. 1885, Jan. 1885, July 1889, Jan. 1890-Mar. 1890, Jan. 1891, July 1891-Mar. 1892, Jan. 1893, Jan. 1894, July 1894, July 1895, July 1897, Jan. 1898-Jan. 1899, Jan. 1900, Jan. 1905, Jan. 1910, Jan. 1915, Jan. 1918, Jan. 1920, Jan. 1925

[Reference book](#). New York, N.Y.: Dun & Bradstreet

Holdings: Jan. 1935, Nov. 1940, Jan. 1946, Jan. 1950, Jan. 1956, Jan. 1957, Sept. 1958; map supplements 1944, 1954, 1956

Baker Library Special Collections and Archives also holds an incomplete run of some state editions and [Bradstreet's Book of Commercial Ratings](#).

Company manuals on credit reporting

Mercantile Agency. [Detailed Instructions to Reporters and Report Writers on the Arrangement of Reports](#). [New York?: R.G. Dun & Co., 1918?]

Mercantile Agency. [The Mercantile Agency Manual](#): *A Compilation of Rules and Regulations for the General Conduct of the Business*. 3rd ed. New York: R.G. Dun & Co., 1897.

Mercantile Agency. [The Mercantile Agency Manual](#): *A Compilation of Rules and Regulations for the General Conduct of the Business*. 4th ed. New York: R.G. Dun & Co., 1905.



Mercantile Agency. [*The Mercantile Agency Manual*](#): *A Compilation of Rules and Regulations for the General Conduct of the Business*. 5th ed. New York: R.G. Dun & Co., 1924.

Mercantile Agency. [*The Mercantile Agency Reporters' Manual*](#). 2nd ed. New York: R.G. Dun & Co., 1902.

Mercantile Agency. [*The Mercantile Agency Reporters' Manual*](#). 4th ed. New York: R.G. Dun & Co., 1918.

Mercantile Agency. [*The Mercantile Agency Reporters' Manual*](#). 5th ed. [New York: R.G. Dun & Co.], 1927.