

Inventory of the

Spot-Lite Food Mart
Malta, Illinois

Records

In the

Regional History Center

RC 353

INTRODUCTION

Janice Haws, part owner of Spot-Lite Food Mart and daughter of original part-owner Alfred Heins, donated Spot-Lite's records to the Regional History Center on August 11, 2016.

Property rights in the collection belong to the Regional History Center, literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to the collection. Original employee income records and Spot-Lite Mart income tax forms contained within the bound business ledgers, 1950-1970 (box 1) have been removed. Copies with sensitive information removed are available to researchers.

Linear feet of shelf space: 1.25
Number of containers: 2
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Collection 353

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Spot-Lite Food Mart Collection dates from 1950 to 1970. The records consist of business ledgers, inventory logs, tax and insurance records, building records, financial records, clippings, and advertisements.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

In 1952, Alfred and Opal Heins purchased the grocery side of a local meat locker in Malta, Il, where Opal was employed for three years. In partnership with Robert and Marion Jacobs, the Heins' began construction on Malta's first self-service grocery store, Spot-Lite Food Mart in 1952. The grand opening of the store was held on April 11, 1953.

Holleb and Company, a Chicago based food service firm, sponsored Spot-Lite Food Marts throughout Illinois. They provided local retailers with access to better, faster, and more affordable merchandise to fill their stores.

Throughout 1953 to 1971, Spot-Lite Food Mart was a profitable local business that provided customers with a modern grocery shopping experience. The store came especially equipped with meat and refrigeration cases, and deep-freeze cabinets and shelving. In 1966, the Jacobs sold their half of the business to Opal and Janice and Daniel Haws, Opal's daughter and son-in-law. The Food Mart was then ran by Alfred Heins, his wife, their daughter Janice, and her husband Daniel until it sold in 1971.

SUBJECT TRACINGS

Malta (Ill.)
Spot-Lite Food Mart

RC 353 - Spot-Lite Food Mart Records

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1		Spot-Lite Food Mart Bound Business Ledgers, 1950-1951, 1953-1970
2	1	Building Records, 1952-1969
	2	Business Records, 1954-1969
	3-6	Inventory Logs, 1966-1969
	7	Newspaper Clippings, c. 1953-1954, 1956
	8	Newsletter, May 14, 1953; Sale flyer, July 27-28, 1956