

THE H.R. DUNHAM BUILDING

64 Main Street ~ Map #22



Horatio Dunham graduated from Colby in 1886 and, with George Dolloff, opened Dolloff & Dunham in 1887. In 1897, it became the H.R. Dunham Co. Mr. Dunham retired in 1912, and ownership fell to William Brown who started with Dunham in 1909.

Dunham's produced their first catalogue in 1932 – a penny postcard featuring a Hathaway shirt, which they had begun carrying on an exclusive basis. In 1952, Dunham's had earned the title of "America's No. 1 Hathaway Shirt Store." Also in 1932, Dunham's was gutted by fire and everything was lost. They were able to reopen in six months because their reputation had earned them good credit. It was the beginning of a mail order business that would stretch from coast to coast.

Ron Brown, who had great marketing insight, joined the family business. By running ski trains from Waterville to Rumford and starting the Colby ski slope, he began a thriving business with winter clothing and ski equipment.

In 1951 Dunham's acquired the adjoining building. Ron retired and sold to Hathaway executive Dick Norton. It was bought in 1975 by Robert Fairburn and closed in 1984 for good. This building is home to KFS.

