



Annie Ridenbaugh BIRD

Annie Ridenbaugh Bird (1856-1937) served as president of Emery, Bird, Thayer & Co. from 1920 to 1937. After their marriage in 1880, Annie's husband, Joseph T. Bird, became an original partner of the downtown Kansas City retailer. Annie was always knowledgeable about her husband's work and was named president of the company after his death. She was the first woman in Kansas City to assume such a prominent role in a large commercial enterprise, and she successfully navigated this responsibility until her death in 1937. Annie's contributions to Kansas City extended to philanthropic pursuits, including donating land to what would become Children's Mercy Hospital.