

Guide to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Records of California Lodges

WA MSS S-2961



by Beinecke Staff

2014

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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New Haven, CT 06520-8330
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CALL NUMBER: WA MSS S-2961

CREATOR: Independent Order of Odd Fellows

TITLE: Independent Order of Odd Fellows Records of California Lodges

DATES: 1852–1967

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 6.09 linear feet (7 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Financial records and receipts, account books, membership records, meeting minutes, reports, correspondence, circulars, and ephemera generated by the activities of the Charity Lodge No. 6 of Stockton and the Hanford Lodge, the Lady of the Lake Rebekah Lodge No. 111, and the Lucerne Lodge (all located in Hanford), as well as other California-based Independent Order of Odd Fellows lodges and encampments.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.oddfellows>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.oddfellows>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from William P. Wreden on the Frederick W. and Carrie S. Beinecke Fund for Western Americana, 1972; purchased from Vigilante Rare Documents on the Frederick W. and Carrie S. Beinecke Fund for Western Americana, 2004; and purchased from Carmen D. Valentino on the Ramona Lazare Fund, 2006.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows Records of California Lodges is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

Independent Order of Odd Fellows Records of California Lodges. Yale Collection of Western Americana, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

This collection received a basic level of processing in 2014, including rehousing and minimal organization. Various acquisitions associated with the collection have not been merged and organized as a whole. Each acquisition is described separately in the contents list below, identified by a unique call number and titled according to month and year of acquisition.

Information included in the Description of Papers note and Collection Contents section is drawn from information supplied with the collection and from an initial survey of the contents. Folder titles appearing in the contents list below are often based on those provided by the creator or previous custodian. Titles have not been verified against the contents of the folders in all cases. Otherwise, folder titles are supplied by staff during initial processing.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description

Biographical / Historical

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows is a fraternal organization. The Order was founded in Britain, and the American branch of the organization was founded in Baltimore, Maryland in 1819. The Order opened to women in 1851 with the founding of the Rebekah branch.

Scope and Contents

Financial records and receipts, account books, membership records, meeting minutes, reports, correspondence, circulars, and ephemera generated by the activities of the Charity Lodge No. 6 of Stockton and the Hanford Lodge, the Lady of the Lake Rebekah Lodge No. 111, and the Lucerne Lodge (all located in Hanford), as well as other California-based Independent Order of Odd Fellows lodges and encampments.

Arrangement

Organized into three groupings: July 1972 Acquisition; January 2004 Acquisition; and July 2006 Acquisition.

Collection Contents

Series I: July 1972 Acquisition, 1852–1919

0.42 linear feet (1 box)

Purchased from William P. Wreden on the Frederick W. and Carrie S. Beinecke Fund for Western Americana, 1972.

Former call number: Uncat WA MS Oddfellows

This portion of the collection is arranged alphabetically by file type.

b.1	Financial and membership records of various lodges	1854–1919
b.1	Financial and membership records of various lodges	1868–1919
b.1	Membership records of various lodges <i>3 Folders</i>	1853–1908
b.1	Reports and meeting minutes, primarily for Charity Lodge No. 6 (Stockton, Calif.)	1853–1919
b.1	Unsorted records <i>2 Folders</i>	1852–1893

Series II: January 2004 Acquisition, 1874–1967*4 linear feet (4 boxes)*

Purchased from Vigilante Rare Documents on the Frederick W. and Carrie S. Beinecke Fund for Western Americana, 2004.

Former call number: Uncat MSS 628

This portion of the collection is organized into four series: Hanford Lodge, Lady of the Lake Rebekah Lodge 111, Lucerne Lodge 275, and Unsorted Lodges.

Hanford Lodge (Hanford, Calif.)

Contains material pertaining to the Hanford Lodge of Hanford, California. Other material concerning the Hanford Lodge may be present in the "Unsorted Lodges" series.

b. 2	Reports and letters	1911–1929
b. 2	Blank checks	undated
b. 2	Roll of officers, lodges 189 and 164	1887–1897
b. 2	Meeting minutes, Lodge 264	1887–1890
b. 2	Meeting minutes, Encampment 68	1900–1904
b. 2	Meeting minutes, Encampment 68	1931–1938
b. 2	Meeting minutes, Encampment 68	1939–1946
b. 2	Meeting minutes, Encampment 68	1947–1967
b. 2	Recorder's monthly reports, Lodge 189	1889–1890
b. 2	Recorder's monthly reports, Lodge 164	1899–1901
b. 2	Enrollment registry, unidentified lodge or encampment	1902–1913
b. 2	Treasurer's receipt book, Lodge 264	1887–1892
b. 2	Account book, Encampment 68	circa 1916-1952
b. 2	Minutes of the Executive Committee appointed by Encampment 68	1907–1908
b. 2	Receipt books for Executive Committee <i>4 Folders</i>	1908–1908
b. 2	Annual reports	1925–1927
b. 2	Semi-annual reports	1891–1895
b. 2	Semi-annual reports <i>2 Folders</i>	1911–1927
b. 3	Annual relief reports	1891–1924
b. 3	Report of the permanent secretary	1891–1893

Hanford Lodge (Hanford, Calif.) (continued)

b. 3	Membership applications for Lodge 264 <i>5 Folders</i>	1879-1898
b. 3	Receipts	1891-1899
b. 3	Postcards	1889-1909
Lady of the Lake Rebekah Lodge 111 (Hanford, Calif.) Contains material pertaining to the Lady of the Lake Rebekah Lodge 111 of Hanford, California. Other material concerning the Lady of the Lake Rebekah Lodge 111 may be present in the "Unsorted Lodges" series.		
b. 3	Checks <i>2 Folders</i>	1903-1924
b. 3	Roll of officers	1887-1904
b. 3	Roll of officers	1905-1928
b. 3	Meeting minutes	1887-1892
b. 3	Meeting minutes	1892-1897
b. 3	Account book	1884-1902
b. 3	Receipt book	1888-1892
b. 3	Receipt book	1899-1909
b. 3	Receipt book	1928-1929
b. 3	Receipt book	1929-1929
b. 3	Receipt book	1931-1932
b. 3	Delinquent dues book	1897-1907
b. 3	Semi-annual reports	1911-1915
b. 3	Bills and receipts <i>2 Folders</i>	1886-1949
b. 3	Certificates	1911-1960
b. 3	Checks	1892-1923
b. 3	Dues	1908-1908
Lucerne Lodge 275 (Hanford, Calif.) Contains material pertaining to the Lucerne Lodge 275 of Hanford, California. Other material concerning the Lucerne Lodge 275 may be present in the "Unsorted Lodges" series.		
b. 3	Meeting minutes	1907-1909
b. 3	Meeting minutes	1912-1914
b. 3	Roll of officers	1902-1914

Lucerne Lodge 275 (Hanford, Calif.) (continued)

b. 3	Blank book of notice of arrearage forms	undated
b. 3	Semi-annual report	1904-1904
Unsorted Lodges		
The material in this series comprises the records of numerous lodges. Material created by specific lodges has been noted at the file level.		
b. 4	Applications <i>3 Folders</i>	1889-1913
b. 4	Bills, checks, and receipts <i>2 Folders</i>	1923-1936
b. 4	Bills <i>9 Folders</i>	1894-1957
b. 4	Certificates <i>4 Folders</i>	1874-1924
b. 4	Checks and receipts <i>10 Folders</i>	1890-1923
b. 4	Grand Lodge of the State of California circulars <i>5 Folders</i>	1890-1929
b. 4	Forms	1891-1911
b. 4	Grand Army of the Republic circulars <i>6 Folders</i>	1889-1896
b. 4	Reports	1883-1895
b. 4	Member lists and financial records	1903-1929
b. 4	Unsorted ephemera and correspondence	undated
b. 4	Unsorted printed material	undated
b. 4	Correspondence <i>4 Folders</i>	1893-1914
b. 4	Reports <i>2 Folders</i>	1904-1933
b. 4	Grand Army of the Republic circulars	1889-1892
b. 4	Correspondence <i>2 Folders</i>	1895-1932
b. 5	Correspondence <i>11 Folders</i>	1888-1939
b. 5	Envelopes <i>7 Folders</i>	1889-1931
b. 5	Fraternal Aid Association members roll book	1897-1907

Unsorted Lodges (continued)

b. 5	Unsorted reports, circulars, and correspondence <i>7 Folders</i>	1895-1934
b. 5	Ceremonies for opening, conducting the business, and closing subordinate lodges	1908-1908
b. 5	Published programs for opening and closing lodges <i>3 Folders</i>	1896-1896
b. 5	Reports, bonds, and leases <i>5 Folders</i>	1884-1940
b. 5	Printed material	undated
b. 5	Patriarchs Militant program and report	1905-1905
b. 5	California Odd Fellow and New Age newsletter	1908, 1916, 1918
b. 5	Receipts	1906-1906
b. 5	Patriarch Militant ceremonial braid	undated

Series III: July 2006 Acquisition, 1870–1913*1.67 linear feet (2 boxes)*

Purchased from Carmen D. Valentino on the Ramona Lazare Fund, 2006.

Former call number: Uncat MSS 1160

This portion of the collection is arranged chronologically.

	Colfax Lodge Records	1870–1913
b. 6	Dues ledger for Colfax Lodge 132	1870–1880
b. 7	Meeting minutes ledger for Colfax Lodge 132	1900–1913

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Fraternal organizations -- California
Women -- Societies and clubs
Women -- West (U.S.)

Geographic Names

California -- Social life and customs -- 19th century
California -- Social life and customs -- 20th Century

Genres / Formats

Account books -- California -- 19th century
Account books -- California -- 20th Century
Minutes (administrative records) -- California -- 19th century
Minutes (administrative records) -- California -- 20th Century
Receipts (financial records) -- California -- 19th century
Receipts (financial records) -- California -- 20th Century

Corporate Bodies

Independent Order of Odd Fellows
Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Charity
Lodge No. 6 (Stockton, Calif.)
Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Hanford
Lodge (Hanford, Calif.)
Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Lady of the
Lake Rebekah Lodge No. 111 (Hanford, Calif.)
Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Lucerne
Lodge (Hanford, Calif.)