



# Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rockefeller Archive Center

15 Dayton Avenue

Sleepy Hollow 10591

[archive@rockarch.org](mailto:archive@rockarch.org)

URL: <http://www.rockarch.org>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Rockefeller Archive Center
<b>Creator:</b>	Fosdick, Raymond B. (Raymond Blaine)
<b>Creator:</b>	Museum of Modern Art (New York, N.Y.)
<b>Creator:</b>	Spelman Fund
<b>Creator:</b>	China Medical Board (U.S)
<b>Creator:</b>	Rockefeller, Winthrop
<b>Creator:</b>	Rockefeller, John D. (John Davison)
<b>Creator:</b>	Rockefeller Brothers Fund
<b>Creator:</b>	Bureau of Social Hygiene. (New York, N.Y.)
<b>Creator:</b>	Aldrich, Nelson W. (Nelson Wilmarth)
<b>Creator:</b>	Rockefeller Foundation
<b>Creator:</b>	Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial
<b>Creator:</b>	Rockefeller Sanitary Commission for the Eradication of Hookworm Disease
<b>Creator:</b>	Rockefeller, Nelson A. (Nelson Aldrich)
<b>Creator:</b>	Rockefeller, Abby Aldrich
<b>Creator:</b>	Rockefeller, John D.
<b>Creator:</b>	Rockefeller, John D. (John Davison)
<b>Creator:</b>	Spelman family
<b>Creator:</b>	Sealantic Fund, New York
<b>Creator:</b>	Standard Oil Company
<b>Creator:</b>	International Education Board
<b>Creator:</b>	Mauze, Abby Rockefeller
<b>Creator:</b>	Rockefeller, David
<b>Creator:</b>	Rockefeller, Laurance Spelman
<b>Creator:</b>	General Education Board. (New York, N.Y.)
<b>Creator:</b>	Rockefeller family
<b>Creator:</b>	Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research

<b>Creator:</b>	Davison Fund
<b>Creator:</b>	Rockefeller University
<b>Title:</b>	Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records
<b>ID:</b>	FA245
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	Bulk, 1879-1961 1858-1961, bulk 1879-1961
<b>Date [bulk]:</b>	bulk
<b>Physical Description:</b>	580 Cubic Feet
<b>Physical Description:</b>	580 cubic feet
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English

### Preferred Citation note

Information regarding the Rockefeller Archive Center's preferred elements and forms of citation can be found at <http://www.rockarch.org/research/citations.php>

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## Biographical/Historical note

The central figure in the creation and operation of the Standard Oil Company during its rise to the top of the petroleum industry, John D. Rockefeller (JDR) established for the family a leading role in business and philanthropy. From the days of his earliest employment, Rockefeller, a devout Baptist, was generous in his giving to worthy causes, especially those of a religious nature. During the 1890s he developed an orderly system of philanthropic giving through an office staff that included his close advisor, Frederick T. Gates (1853-1929) and his son, John D. Rockefeller, Jr. (1874-1960). With the advise of these and other associates, Rockefeller established the University of Chicago, The Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research (now The Rockefeller University), the Rockefeller Foundation, and other philanthropic organizations working nationally and internationally in the fields of education, religion, and health. Rockefeller's total donations to philanthropic endeavors are estimated to have been \$540 million.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr. (JDR Jr.) joined his father's office on October 1, 1897. He oversaw the expansion and diversification of the philanthropic work begun by his father. During his lifetime, the younger Rockefeller gave more than \$537 million to educational, religious, cultural, medical, and other charitable projects.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and his wife, Abby Aldrich Rockefeller (1874-1948), passed the Rockefeller philanthropic impulse on to their children. John D. 3rd (1906-1978), Nelson A. (1908-1979), Laurance

S. (1910-2004), Winthrop (1912-1973), and David (1915-) further expanded and diversified Rockefeller influence and interests, establishing their own philanthropic organizations, most notably the Rockefeller Brothers Fund (1940), and becoming more active politically.

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## Scope and Contents note

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The Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller (OMR) materials document the increasing role assumed by John D. Rockefeller, Jr. in the management of Rockefeller affairs and amply document his business and philanthropic affairs. They also chronicle the entrance of JDR Jr.'s sons, John D. 3rd, Nelson A., Laurance S., Winthrop, and David, into the world of business, philanthropy, civic leadership, and politics as they joined the office.

This record group contains correspondence, reports, pamphlets, memoranda, deeds, maps, contracts, reports, minutes, charters, certificates of incorporation, clippings, diaries, notebooks, calendars, and memorabilia.

There is a microfilm card index of personal and institutional names.

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## Arrangement note

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This record group is arranged by subject matter in 27 series. Most of these series are wholly or partially open for research. The series are:

A John D. Rockefeller, Sr.; C Business Interests; D Civic Interests; E Cultural Interests; F Economic Reform Interests; G Educational Interests; H Friends and Services; I Homes; J Housing Interests; K Medical Interests; L Real Estate; M Maps and Memorabilia; N Religious Interests; O Rockefeller Boards; P Welfare - General Files; Q World Affairs; R Welfare - Youth Files; S Documents; T Public Relations; U Public Land Law Review Commission; V Greenrock; W Properties; X Costume Collection; Y Media; Z John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Personal; AA Abby Aldrich Rockefeller; AC Abby Rockefeller Mauzé

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## File Plan note

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Former Classification: III 02

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

Rockefeller Archive Center

15 Dayton Avenue

Sleepy Hollow 10591

[archive@rockarch.org](mailto:archive@rockarch.org)

URL: <http://www.rockarch.org>

### Revision Description

### Conditions Governing Access note

Open for scholarly research except where particular restrictions are noted.

Material in the Rockefeller family collections which provides the names, correspondence, or activities of living members of the Rockefeller family, and/or documents the net worth of any Rockefeller family members, is restricted from scholarly access.

RAC is unable to provide access to obsolete media and original digital media. In addition separated media may not yet have undergone stabilization procedures. When feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special order. All applicable charges will apply. See RAC Head of Archival Services or RAC Head of Digital Programs for details.

### Conditions Governing Use note

RAC users must abide by all applicable provisions of United States copyright law. Reproduction/duplication of archival items is routinely provided in accordance with "fair use." If the RAC does not hold copyright for an archival collection, or items within a collection, it is the user's responsibility to contact the copyright holder, or make a fair effort to do so, prior to publication.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Philanthropy -- New York (N.Y.)
- Urban renewal
- Urban policy
- World War II
- World War I
- State governments -- United States
- Rockefeller family -- Art collections
- United States
- Travel
- Religion
- Public welfare
- Restoration and conservation
- Religious institutions
- Health insurance
- Governors -- Election -- New York (State) -- 1958
- Public relations
- Housing rehabilitation
- Folk art
- Government policy
- Family planning
- Federal government -- United States
- Education
- Education -- United States
- Economic policy
- Economics
- Art
- Economic development
- Art -- Collectors and collecting
- Art, Modern
- Business
- Arts
- Capital investments
- Business enterprises, Foreign
- Charitable contributions
- Charitable uses, trusts, and foundations
- Charities
- Charities -- Investments
- Child welfare
- Civic improvement

- International cooperation
- International economic relations
- International education
- International relations
- International relations -- United States
- Juvenile delinquency
- Maternal health services
- Medical care
- Medical education
- Medical research
- Performing arts
- Parks -- New York (State)
- New York (State)
- New York (N.Y.)
- Medical sciences
- Public policy
- Public health administration
- Public health
- Prohibition
- Political science
- Political campaigns -- United States
- Philanthropy
- Philanthropy -- United States
- Fosdick, Raymond B. (Raymond Blaine)
- Museum of Modern Art (New York, N.Y.)
- Spelman Fund
- China Medical Board (U.S)
- Rockefeller, Winthrop
- Rockefeller, John D. (John Davison)
- Rockefeller Brothers Fund
- Bureau of Social Hygiene. (New York, N.Y.)
- Aldrich, Nelson W. (Nelson Wilmarth)
- Rockefeller Foundation
- Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial
- Rockefeller Center
- Rockefeller Sanitary Commission for the Eradication of Hookworm Disease
- Rockefeller, Nelson A. (Nelson Aldrich)
- Rockefeller, Abby Aldrich
- Rockefeller, John D.
- Republican Party (U.S. : 1854- )
- Rockefeller, John D. (John Davison)
- Spelman family
- Sealantic Fund, New York
- Standard Oil Company
- International Education Board
- Mauze, Abby Rockefeller
- Rockefeller, David



- Rockefeller, Laurance Spelman
- General Education Board. (New York, N.Y.)
- Rockefeller family
- Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research
- Davison Fund
- Rockefeller University

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## Other Finding Aids note

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Detailed finding aids for the following series of this collection are available:

[FA310 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, John D. Rockefeller, Sr.](#)

[FA312 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Business Interests](#)

[FA313 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Civic Interests](#)

[FA314 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Cultural Interests](#)

[FA315 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Economic Reform Interests](#)

[FA316 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Educational Interests](#)

[FA317 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Friends and Services](#)

[FA318 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Homes](#)

[FA319 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Housing Interests](#)

[FA320 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Medical Interests](#)

[FA321 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Real Estate](#)

[FA322 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Maps and Memorabilia](#)

[FA323 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Religious Interests](#)

[FA324 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Rockefeller Boards](#)

[FA325 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Welfare - General Files](#)

[FA326 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, World Affairs](#)

[FA327 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Welfare - Youth Files](#)

[FA329 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Public Relations](#)

[FA333 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Costume Collection](#)

[FA334 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Media](#)

[FA335 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Personal](#)

[FA336 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Abby Aldrich Rockefeller](#)

[FA337 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Abby Rockefeller Mauze](#)

Detailed finding aids for each series of this collection are available.

### Missing Title

- 1 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, John D. Rockefeller, Sr. (FA310)
- 2 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Business Interests (FA312)
- 3 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Civic Interests (FA313)
- 4 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Cultural Interests (FA314)
- 5 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Economic Reform Interests (FA315)
- 6 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Educational Interests (FA316)
- 7 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Friends and Services (FA317)
- 8 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Homes (FA318)
- 9 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Housing Interests (FA319)
- 10 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Medical Interests (FA320)
- 11 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Real Estate (FA321)
- 12 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Maps and Memorabilia (FA322)
- 13 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Religious Interests (FA323)
- 14 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Rockefeller Boards (FA324)
- 15 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Welfare - General Files (FA325)
- 16 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, World Affairs (FA326)
- 17 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Welfare - Youth Files (FA327)
- 18 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Documents (FA328)
- 19 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Public Relations (FA329)
- 20 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Public Land Law Review Commission (FA330)
- 21 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Greenrock (FA331)
- 22 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Properties (FA332)
- 23 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Costume Collection (FA333)
- 24 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Media (FA334)
- 25 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Personal (FA335)
- 26 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Abby Aldrich Rockefeller (FA336)
- 27 Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Abby Rockefeller Mauzé (FA337)

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## Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements note

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Materials requiring specialized equipment for access (film, audio, video, slides) may be closed to research dependent on availability of the applicable equipment

Brittle or damaged items, or materials otherwise in need of preservation care, may be closed to researchers at the discretion of the RAC Head of Archival Services/Head of Reference.

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