



# Rockefeller (John D.) papers, Letterbooks, Series L

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Rockefeller Archive Center

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Sleepy Hollow 10591

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

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## Summary Information

<b>Repository:</b>	Rockefeller Archive Center
<b>Creator:</b>	Spelman family
<b>Creator:</b>	Standard Oil Company.
<b>Creator:</b>	Inglis, William O.
<b>Creator - aut:</b>	Rockefeller, John D. (John Davison)
<b>Creator:</b>	American Baptist Education Society.
<b>Title:</b>	John D. Rockefeller papers, Letterbooks, Series L
<b>ID:</b>	FA431
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1877-1918
<b>Physical Description:</b>	389 Bound Volumes
<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

John Davison Rockefeller (July 8, 1839 - May 23, 1937) was the guiding force behind the creation and development of the Standard Oil Company, which grew to dominate the oil industry and became one of the first big trusts in the United States, thus engendering much controversy and opposition regarding its business practices and form of organization. Rockefeller was also one of the first major philanthropists in the U.S., establishing several important foundations and donating a total of \$540 million to charitable purposes.

Rockefeller was born on a farm at Richford, in Tioga County, New York, on July 8, 1839, the second of the six children of William A. and Eliza (Davison) Rockefeller. The family lived in modest circumstances. When he was a boy, the family moved to Moravia and later to Owego, New York, before

going west to Ohio in 1853. The Rockefellers bought a house in Strongsville, near Cleveland, and John entered Central High School in Cleveland. While he was a student he rented a room in the city and joined the Erie Street Baptist Church, which later became the Euclid Avenue Baptist Church. Active in its affairs, he became a trustee of the church at the age of 21.

He left high school in 1855 to take a business course at Folsom Mercantile College. He completed the six-month course in three months and, after looking for a job for six weeks, was employed as assistant bookkeeper by Hewitt & Tuttle, a small firm of commission merchants and produce shippers. Rockefeller was not paid until after he had worked there three months, when Hewitt gave him \$50 (\$3.57 a week) and told him that his salary was being increased to \$25 a month. A few months later he became the cashier and bookkeeper.

In 1859, with \$1,000 he had save and another \$1,000 borrowed from his father, Rockefeller formed a partnership in the commission business with another young man, Maurice B. Clark. In that same year the first oil well was drilled at Titusville in western Pennsylvania, giving rise to the petroleum industry. Cleveland soon became a major refining center of the booming new industry, and in 1863 Rockefeller and Clark entered the oil business as refiners. Together with a new partner, Samuel Andrews, who had some refining experience, they built and operated an oil refinery under the name of Andrews, Clark & Co. The firm also continued in the commission business but in 1865 the partners, now five in number, disagreed about the management of their business affairs and decided to sell the refinery to whoever amongst them bid the highest. Rockefeller bought it for \$72,500, sold out his other interests, and with Andrews, formed Rockefeller & Andrews.

#### THE STANDARD OIL COMPANY

Rockefeller's stake in the oil industry increased as the industry itself expanded, spurred by the rapidly spreading use of kerosene for lighting. In 1870 he organized The Standard Oil Company along with his brother William, Andrews, Henry M. Flagler, S.V. Harkness, and others. It had a capital of \$1 million.

By 1872 Standard Oil had purchased and thus controlled nearly all the refining firms in Cleveland, plus two refineries in the New York City area. Before long the company was refining 29,000 barrels of crude oil a day and had its own cooper shop manufacturing wooden barrels. The company also had storage tanks with a capacity of several hundred thousand barrels of oil, warehouses for refined oil, and plants for the manufacture of paints and glue.

Standard prospered and, in 1882, all its properties were merged in the Standard Oil Trust, which was in effect one great company. It had an initial capital of \$70 million. There were originally forty-two certificate holders, or owners, in the trust.

After ten years the trust was dissolved by a court decision in Ohio. The companies that had made up the trust later joined in the formation of the Standard Oil Company (New Jersey), since New Jersey adopted a law that permitted a parent company to own the stock of other companies. It is estimated that Standard Oil owned three-fourths of the petroleum business in the U.S. in the 1890s.

In addition to being the head of Standard, Rockefeller owned iron mines and timberland and invested in numerous companies in manufacturing, transportation, and other industries. Although he held the title of president of Standard Oil until 1911, Rockefeller retired from active leadership of the company in 1896. In 1911 the U.S. Supreme Court found the Standard Oil trust to be in violation of the anti-trust laws and

ordered the dissolution of the parent New Jersey corporation. The thirty-eight companies which it then controlled were separated into individual firms. In his biography, *Study in Power*, John D. Rockefeller, Industrialist and Philanthropist, the historian Allan Nevins reports that Rockefeller at that time owned 244,500 of the company's total of 983,383 outstanding shares.

## PHILANTHROPY

Rockefeller was 57 years old in 1896 when he decided that others should take over the day-to-day leadership of Standard Oil. He now focused his efforts on philanthropy, giving away the bulk of his fortune in ways designed to do the most good as determined by careful study, experience and the help of expert advisers.

From the time he had begun earning money as a boy, he had been giving a share of his income to his church and charities. His philanthropy grew out of his early family training, religious convictions, and financial habits. "I believe it is every man's religious duty to get all he can honestly and to give all he can," he once wrote. During the 1850s, he made regular contributions to the Baptist church, and by the time he was 21, he was giving not only to his own but to other denominations, as well as to a foreign Sunday school and an African-American church. Support of religious institutions and African-American education remained among his foremost philanthropic interests throughout his life.

## THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

As his wealth grew in the 1870s and 1880s, Rockefeller came to favor a cooperative and conditional system of giving in which he would agree to supply part of the sum needed for a particular project if the others interested in it also would provide substantial financial support. It was on such a conditional basis that Rockefeller participated in the founding of the University of Chicago. The American Baptist Education Society had resolved in 1889 to establish a "well-equipped college" in Chicago. At the urging of the society's director, the Rev. Frederick T. Gates, Rockefeller offered to give \$600,000 of the first \$1 million for endowment, provided the remaining \$400,000 was pledged by others within 90 days. Thus begun, the University of Chicago was incorporated in 1890, and over the next twenty years Rockefeller contributed to help build up the institution, always on condition that others should join in its support. In 1910 he made a farewell gift of \$10 million, which brought his total contributions to the university to about \$35 million. In withdrawing from further activity, he wrote: "I am acting on an early and permanent conviction that this great institution, being the property of the people, should be controlled, conducted and supported by the people."

## CORPORATE PHILANTHROPY

Rockefeller recognized the difficulties of wisely applying great funds to human welfare, and he helped to define the method of scientific, efficient, corporate philanthropy. The method was this: to create charitable corporations and give them title to great funds, whose management and use would be governed by trustees and overseen by officers with specialized training and experience, with both the trustees and officers being dedicated to continuous study of the opportunities for the best uses of the funds under their care. To help manage his philanthropy, Rockefeller hired the Rev. Frederick T. Gates, whose work with the American Baptist Education Society and the University of Chicago inspired Rockefeller's confidence. With the advice of Gates and, after 1897, his son, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Rockefeller established a series of institutions that are important in the history of American philanthropy, science, and medicine and public health.

## THE ROCKEFELLER INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

In 1901 he founded the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research (now The Rockefeller University) for the purpose of discovering the causes, manner of prevention, and the cure of disease. From its laboratories have come cures for diseases, and new knowledge and scientific techniques which have helped to revolutionize medicine, biology, biochemistry, biophysics and other scientific disciplines. A few of the noted achievements of its scientists are the serum treatment of spinal meningitis and of pneumonia; knowledge of the cause and manner of infection in infantile paralysis; the nature of the virus causing epidemic influenza; blood vessel surgery; a treatment for African sleeping sickness; the first demonstration of the preservation of whole blood for subsequent transfusion; the first demonstration of how nerve cells flow from the brain to other areas of the body; the discovery that a virus can cause cancer in fowl; peptide synthesis; and identification of DNA as the crucial genetic material.

## THE GENERAL EDUCATION BOARD (1902-1965)

In 1902 Rockefeller established the General Education Board (GEB) for the "promotion of education within the United States of America without the distinction of race, sex or creed." In its active years between 1902 and 1965, the GEB distributed \$325 million for the improvement of education at all levels, with emphasis upon higher education, including medical schools. In the South, where there was special need, the GEB helped schools for both white and African-American students. Also, out of the Board's work with children's clubs in the farm arena grew the 4-H Club movement and the federal programs of farm and home extension.

## ROCKEFELLER SANITARY COMMISSION (1909-1915)

In 1909 Rockefeller combined his special interest in the South and his interest in public health with the creation of the Rockefeller Sanitary Commission for the Eradication of Hookworm Disease. Its purpose was "to bring about a cooperative movement of the medical profession, public health officials, boards of trade, churches, schools, the press, and other agencies for the cure and prevention of hookworm disease," which was especially devastating in the South. From its headquarters in Washington, D.C., the Sanitary Commission launched a massive campaign of public education and medication in eleven Southern states. It paid the salaries of field personnel, who were appointed jointly by the states and the Commission, and sponsored public education campaigns and the treatment of infected persons. As part of this program, more than 25,000 public meetings were attended by more than 2 million people who were given the facts about hookworm and its prevention. So successful was its work that a new agency was created as part of a new Rockefeller philanthropy to expand the work to other countries and to attack other diseases both in the South and abroad.

## THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

In 1913 Rockefeller established the Rockefeller Foundation (RF) to "promote the well-being of mankind throughout the world." In keeping with this broad commitment, the Foundation through the years has given important assistance to public health, medical education, increasing food production, scientific advancement, social research, the arts, and other fields all over the world.

The Foundation's International Health Division expanded the work of the Sanitary Commission worldwide, working against various diseases in fifty-two countries on six continents and twenty-nine islands, bringing international recognition of the need for public health and environmental sanitation.

Its early field research on hookworm, malaria and yellow fever provided the basic techniques to control these diseases and established the pattern of modern public health services. The RF built and endowed the world's first School of Hygiene and Public Health, at The Johns Hopkins University, and then spent over \$25 million in developing public health schools in the U.S. and in twenty-one foreign countries. Its agricultural development program in Mexico led to what has been called the Green Revolution in the advancement of food production around the world; and the RF provided significant funding for the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines. Thousands of scientists and scholars from all over the world have received RF fellowships and scholarships for advanced study. The foundation helped to found the Social Science Research Council and has provided significant support for such organizations as the National Bureau for Economic Research, the Brookings Institution, the Council on Foreign Relations, and Russian Institute at Columbia University. In the arts the RF has helped establish or support the Stratford Shakespearean Festival in Ontario, Canada, and the American Shakespeare Festival in Stratford, Connecticut; Arena Stage in Washington, D.C.; Karamu House in Cleveland; and Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York.

## OTHER ROCKEFELLER PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT

In addition to creating these corporate philanthropies, Rockefeller continued to make personal donations. Among others whose activities received his financial support were various colleges and universities, including Yale, Harvard, Columbia, Brown, Spelman, Bryn Mawr, Wellesley, and Vassar; theological schools; the Palisades Interstate Park Commission; San Francisco Earthquake victims; the Anti-Saloon League; Rockefeller Park and other parks in Cleveland; Baptist missionary organizations; and various YMCAs and YWCAs.

## FAMILY LIFE

John D. Rockefeller and Laura C. Spelman (1839-1915), a teacher, were married on September 8, 1864, in Cleveland. The Rockefellers had five children - four daughters and a son, John D. Rockefeller, Jr. (1874-1960), who inherited much of the family fortune and continued his father's philanthropic work. Their eldest daughter, Bessie (1866-1906), married Charles Strong. Their second daughter, Alice (1869-1870), died in infancy. Alta (1871-1962) married E. Parmalee Prentice, and the youngest daughter, Edith (1872-1932), married Harold Fowler McCormick.

In the 1870s Rockefeller began to make business trips from Cleveland to New York. After a time he started bringing along his family for lengthy stays and, in 1884, he bought a large brownstone house at 4 West 54th Street, the land of which is now part of the garden of the Museum of Modern Art. Beginning in the 1890s, the family spent part of their time at Pocantico Hills, about 25 miles north of New York. For a number of years the Rockefellers returned during the summer to their Forest Hill home in East Cleveland. As he grew older, Rockefeller spent several months each year at his country homes in Lakewood, New Jersey, and Ormond Beach, Florida.

Rockefeller died on the morning of May 23, 1937, at The Casements, his home in Ormond Beach. He was 97 years old. He is buried in Lakeview Cemetery in Cleveland.

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## File Plan note

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Former Classification: III 1 L

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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>

### Immediate Source of Acquisition note

The John D. Rockefeller papers were given to the Rockefeller Archive Center by the Rockefeller Brothers in 1976.

### Conditions Governing Access note

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

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## Related Materials

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### Related Archival Materials note

Rockefeller family photographs, John Davison Rockefeller family, P/1003



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## Controlled Access Headings

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- United States -- History -- 19th century
- United States
- Spelman family
- Standard Oil Company.
- Inglis, William O.
- Rockefeller, John D. (John Davison)
- American Baptist Education Society.

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## Other Finding Aids

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For all other series of the John D. Rockefeller papers, see:

[FA002 John D. Rockefeller papers](#)

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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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## Collection Inventory

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**Letterbooks, 1877-1918**

Physical Description: 389 Bound Volumes Volumes 1-381, 387-394.

## **Scope and Contents note**

Letterbooks contain copies of handwritten or typed correspondence sent by John D. Rockefeller, John D. Rockefeller, Jr. or office staff on their behalf. Correspondents include Rockefeller family members and the major educational, religious, social, philanthropic and business leaders of the period 1877-1918.

The letterbooks reveal the daily activities of the office and individuals as well as personality and convictions. The letterbooks contain not only appeals for aid, but communication between John D. Rockefeller Sr. and John D. Rockefeller Jr., their individual and cooperative business endeavors, and the planning of the family's home in Pocantico Hills, NY. The letters of reply regarding financial aid are answered with explanations of the action taken, making them an important insight into the process of Rockefeller philanthropy.

Subjects documented in the letterbooks include the individual and cooperative business endeavors of JDR and JDR Jr., their charitable and philanthropic activities, and the planning and management of Kykuit, the family's home in Pocantico Hills, New York. The letterbooks cover such varied topics as iron mining in Cuba and the number of daffodil bulbs planted at the Rockefeller family home.

Volumes 382-386 are not contained in the archival collection.

### Processing Information:

## **Processing Information**

The description in this guide is presented in order to facilitate two distinctly different styles of research. For those researchers interested in documenting specific correspondents, the Letterbooks Index can be referenced for individual names and company names. For those researchers interested in a broader view of the contents of the letterbooks, the intellectual arrangement can be used to identify sets of volumes by subject matter and/or date.

### Processing Information:

## **Processing Information**

Letterbooks index compiled by Claire Collier and Emily J. Oakhill, RAC, 1987.

In preparing the index, the compiler has drawn upon the original indexes accompanying each letterbook. A sample of this compiled index has shown that approximately 5% of the entries are inaccurate in name or location in the letterbook. These errors occur because the letterbooks and the indexes were created by a series of office personnel, and individual styles and attention to detail are reflected in the letterbooks.

In compiling the index, variants of certain proper and company names were found and consolidated under single spellings when they could be confidently identified. However, users should be aware that there may be variant spellings and that the use of initials and the form of company names may be irregular. Upper-case letter are used. The index does not use punctuation.

A few examples of name variants: ABBOTT = ABBOT ALDRICH STUART M = ALDRICH STUART B BOISE = BOICE = BOYCE CURTIS = CURTISS ELIOT = ELIOTT = ELLIOT HOTEL BON AIR = BON AIR HOTEL JORDAN & MORIARITY = JORDAN MORIARITY & COMPANY

The original indexes contain a small volume of subject indexing which has been preserved in this index. The compiler did not add to the subject indexing. Certain of the letterbooks contain a subject as well as a name index.

### Related Archival Materials note:

## **Related Archival Materials note**

Corresponding incoming letters may be found in Series C, Correspondence of the John D. Rockefeller papers, or in the Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records.

Conditions Governing Access note:**Conditions Governing Access note**

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

**Arrangement**

Letterbooks Index is arranged alphabetically, by correspondent last name or company name.

**Arrangement note**

Letterbooks are intellectually and physically arranged in nineteen files:

1. JDR Business and Office Files, 1879-1916 (179 volumes; Volumes 1-179); 2. JDR Business, 1877-1897 (32 volumes; Volumes 180-211); 3. JDR Personal, 1904-1918 (42 volumes; Volumes 212-253); 4. JDR, Jr. Personal, 1897-1916 (71 volumes; Volumes 254-324); 5. Abeyton Realty, 1909-1916 (5 volumes; Volumes 325-329); 6. JDR - F.T. Gates - Business, 1893-1905 (12 volumes; Volumes: 330-341); 7. JDR - F.T. Gates - Philanthropy, 1891-1905 (11 volumes; Volumes 342-352); 8. JDR - Frederick T. Gates, Personal, 1895-1913 (9 volumes; Volumes 353-361); 9. Duluth, Missabe & Northern Railway, 1894-1904 (5 volumes; Volumes 362-366); 10. Tilden Mining Company, 1896-1917 (5 volumes; Volumes 367-371); 11. Lake Superior Consolidated Iron Mines, 1894-1899 (5 volumes; Volumes 372-376); 12. Bessemer Steamship Company, 1896-1898 (1 volume; Volume 377);
13. Everett & Monte Cristo Railway Company, 1894-1903 (4 volumes; Volumes 378-381);
14. Starr J. Murphy, 1905-1908, (1 volume; Volume 387); 15. Laura Spelman Rockefeller - Estate, 1915-1916 (1 volume; Volume 388); 16. Receipt Book (1 volume; Volume 389); 17. Standard Oil Company, 1885-1888 (1 volume; Volume 390); 18. William Rockefeller, 1871-1896 (2 volumes; Volume 391-392); 19. Rockefeller, Flagler & Andrews, 1867-1868 (2 volumes; Volume 393-394).

**General**

The letterbooks index is available via digital objects. In order to reduce loading times as much as possible, the complete index has been split into 39 PDF files. Please refer to file entries for details.

Title/Description	Instances
<b>Letterbooks Index</b>	
Title/Description	Instances
Code Index	
Digital Object: <a href="#">Code Index</a>	
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
A key to the code used in certain correspondence and telegrams, primarily Standard Oil related	
A	
Abbey Dudley - Arnold Felix	
Digital Object: <a href="#">Abbey Dudley - Arnold Felix</a>	
Arnold Francis E - Batterson & Eisele	

Digital Object: [Arnold Francis E - Batterson & Eisele](#)

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B

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Batterson & Eisele - Bobbink & Atkins

Digital Object: [Batterson & Eisele - Bobbink & Atkins](#)

---

Bobbs-Merrill Company - Brown CS

Digital Object: [Bobbs-Merrill Company - Brown CS](#)

---

Brown CW - Cady Calvin B

Digital Object: [Brown CW - Cady Calvin B](#)

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C

---

Cady John H - Christopher John P

Digital Object: [Cady John H - Christopher John P](#)

---

Christy AB - Cook Frederick F

Digital Object: [Christy AB - Cook Frederick F](#)

---

Cook GL - Dalton JJ

Digital Object: [Cook GL - Dalton JJ](#)

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D

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Dalton John J - Dominick Brothers

Digital Object: [Dalton John J - Dominick Brothers](#)

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Dominick Brothers & Company - Earline JC

Digital Object: [Dominick Brothers & Company - Earline JC](#)

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E - F - G

---

Early NB Jr - Fahnstock HC

Digital Object: [Early NB Jr - Fahnstock HC](#)

---

Fainhaur EP - Francis Brothers

Digital Object: [Fainhaur EP - Francis Brothers](#)

---

Francis Brothers & Company - Gold Howard R

Digital Object: [Francis Brothers & Company - Gold Howard R](#)

---

Goldberg Fred - Haddon Jason

Digital Object: [Goldberg Fred - Haddon Jason](#)

---

H

---

Haden AM - Heink HS

Digital Object: [Haden AM - Heink HS](#)

---

Heinrich C - House HL

Digital Object: [Heinrich C - House HL](#)

---

House Herbert E - Ingersoll EP

Digital Object: [House Herbert E - Ingersoll EP](#)

---

I - J - K

---

Ingersoll Edward P - Justin Brothers

Digital Object: [Ingersoll Edward P - Justin Brothers](#)

---

Juvenal Anthony B - Ladd HM

Digital Object: [Juvenal Anthony B - Ladd HM](#)

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L

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Ladd HM Mrs - MaCarthur Robert S

Digital Object: [Ladd HM Mrs - MaCarthur Robert S](#)

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M

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MaCarthur Robert Stuart - McCormick Stanley

Digital Object: [MaCarthur Robert Stuart - McCormick Stanley](#)

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McCormick Stanley R - Moffatt JM

Digital Object: [McCormick Stanley R - Moffatt JM](#)

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Moffatt R Burnham Mrs - Naish R

Digital Object: [Moffatt R Burnham Mrs - Naish R](#)

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N - O - P - Q

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Nally EJ - Obelisk Waterproofing Comapny

Digital Object: [Nally EJ - Obelisk Waterproofing Comapny](#)

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Obelisk Waterproofing Company - Packard Alpheus A

Digital Object: [Obelisk Waterproofing Company - Packard Alpheus A](#)

---

Packard E - Pleasance GH

Digital Object: [Packard E - Pleasance GH](#)

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Pleasants PD - Railey CL

Digital Object: [Pleasants PD - Railey CL](#)

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R

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Railey Charles L - Rockefeller Eliza

Digital Object: [Railey Charles L - Rockefeller Eliza](#)

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Rockefeller Emma - Sage CN

Digital Object: [Rockefeller Emma - Sage CN](#)

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S

Sage EC - Seago AK

Digital Object: [Sage EC - Seago AK](#)

Seal Harbor Fish Company - Smith Edith W

Digital Object: [Seal Harbor Fish Company - Smith Edith W](#)

Smith Edna I - Stone HA

Digital Object: [Smith Edna I - Stone HA](#)

Stone HC - Tafel George F

Digital Object: [Stone HC - Tafel George F](#)

T

Tafel George F - Tretbar Charles F

Digital Object: [Tafel George F - Tretbar Charles F](#)

Trevar J - Ulich MH Mrs

Digital Object: [Trevar J - Ulich MH Mrs](#)

U - V

Ullman AE - Wagner Charles A

Digital Object: [Ullman AE - Wagner Charles A](#)

W

Wagner FH - White Edith

Digital Object: [Wagner FH - White Edith](#)

White Edwin A - Wzorek Joseph

Digital Object: [White Edwin A - Wzorek Joseph](#)

X - Y - Z

XYZ Pool - Zwierlein Shoe Company

Digital Object: [XYZ Pool - Zwierlein Shoe Company](#)

## Microfiche

Physical Description: 389 Bound Volumes Volumes 1-381, 387-394.

## JDR Business and Office Files, 1879-1916

Physical Description: 179 Bound Volumes Volumes 1-179

### Scope and Contents

These letterbooks document JDR's major philanthropies. They also include the management of his personal fortune and real estate holdings. JDR Jr. is a significant figure, as he acts as his father's representative.

#### Title/Description

#### Instances

1879 July 19-1882 October 30

volume 1

1879 November 8-1881 May 31	volume 2
1881 May 28-1882 May 3	volume 3
1882 May 4-1883 October 4	volume 4
1884 June 24-1887 June 28	volume 5
1883 July 27-1884 October 10	volume 6
1884 October 5-1885 March 16	volume 7
1885 March 18-1885 December 3	volume 8
1885 December 3-1886 April 3	volume 9
1886 April 3-1886 August 2	volume 10
1886 August 2-December 15	volume 11
1886 December 16-1887 March 28	volume 12
1887 March 29	volume 13
1887 July 29-December 8	volume 14
1887 December 8-1888 February 24	volume 15
1888 February 24-June 8	volume 16
1888 June 8-November 27	volume 17
1888 November 27-1889 February 26	volume 18
1889 February 26-May 20	volume 19
1889 May 20-October 14	volume 20
1889 October 14-December 31	volume 21
1889 December 31-1890 March 10	volume 22
1890 March 10-May 28	volume 23
1890 May 28-October 7	volume 24
1890 October 7-December 24	volume 25
1890 December 24-1891 March 10	volume 26
1891 March 10-June 13	volume 27
1891 June 15-October 28	volume 28
1891 October 28-1892 January 15	volume 29
1892 January 15-April 20	volume 30
1892 April 20-August 2	volume 31
1892 August 3-December 23	volume 32
1892 December 23-1893 April 25	volume 33

1893 April 23-November 14	volume 34
1893 November 14-1894 March 15	volume 35
1894 March 15-September 18	volume 36
1894 September 18-1895 March 2	volume 37
1895 March 2-August 22	volume 38
1895 August 22-December 19	volume 39
1895 December 20-1896 January 6	volume 40
1896 January 7-April 4	volume 41
1896 April 16-September 21	volume 42
1896 September 21-1897 January 7	volume 43
1897 May 24-July 30	volume 44
1897 July 28-October 23	volume 45
1897 October 23-December 17	volume 46
1897 December 17-1898 February 17	volume 47
1898 February 18-1898 April 22	volume 48
1898 April 22-July 11	volume 49
1898 July 12-September 29	volume 50
1898 September 15-December 29	volume 51
1898 December 15-1899 February 6	volume 52
1899 February 6-April 6	volume 53
1899 April 6-May 24	volume 54
1899 May 24-August 2	volume 55
1899 August 3-October 19	volume 56
1899 October 19-December 21	volume 57
1899 December 21-1900 February 20	volume 58
1900 February 15-April 25	volume 59
1900 April 25-June 27	volume 60
1900 June 27-October 3	volume 61
1900 October 3-December 4	volume 62
1900 December 1-1901 January 14	volume 63
1901 January 14-March 14	volume 64
1901 March 14-May 11	volume 65



1901 May 11-June 30	volume 66
1901 July 1-October 24	volume 67
1901 October 24-December 27	volume 68
1901 December 27-1902 February 17	volume 69
1902 February 19-April 12	volume 70
1902 April 12-May 28	volume 71
1902 May 29-July 17	volume 72
1902 July 17-October 22	volume 73
1902 October 22-December 13	volume 74
1902 December 15-1903 January 20	volume 75
1903 January 17-August 17	volume 76
1903 March 18-May 27	volume 77
1903 May 27-July 24	volume 78
1903 July 25-October 6	volume 79
1903 October 5-1903 December 7, 1903 October 5-December 7	volume 80
1903 December 5-1904 January 19	volume 81
1904 January 19-March 19	volume 82
1904 March 17-May 26	volume 83
1904 May 27-August 22	volume 84
1904 August 22-November 2	volume 85
1904 November 2-January 7	volume 86
1905 January 7-April 4	volume 87
1905 April 4-May 27	volume 88
1905 May 29-July 19	volume 89
1905 July 19-September 15	volume 90
1905 September 15-November 14	volume 91
1905 November 14-December 26	volume 92
1905 December 27-30	volume 93
1906 January 2-February 3	volume 94
1906 February 2-March 8	volume 95
1906 March 9-April 12	volume 96
1906 April 13-May 28	

	volume 97
1906 May 29-July 31	volume 98
1906 July 31-October 2	volume 99
1906 October 2-November 19	volume 100
1906 November 20-December 26	volume 101
1906 December 27-1907 January 23	volume 102
1907 January 23-February 19	volume 103
1907 February 20-March 22	volume 104
1907 March 23-April 20	volume 105
1907 October 19-November 27	volume 106
1907 November 29-1908 January 6	volume 107
1908 January 6-February 10	volume 108
1908 February 10-March 11	volume 109
1908 March 12-April 9	volume 110
1908 April 10-May 11	volume 111
1908 May 11-June 10	volume 112
1908 June 11-July 8	volume 113
1908 July 10-August 21	volume 114
1908 August 24-September 28	volume 115
1908 September 8-October 30	volume 116
1908 November 2-30	volume 117
1908 December 1-30	volume 118
1908 December 30-1909 January 22	volume 119
1909 January 23-February 18	volume 120
1909 February 18-March 15	volume 121
1909 March 16-April 12	volume 122
1909 April 12-May 13	volume 123
1909 May 14-June 14	volume 124
1909 June 15-July 12	volume 125
1909 July 12-August 16	volume 126
1909 August 17-October 13	volume 127
1909 October 13-November 17	volume 128

1909 November 17-December 18	volume 129
1909 December 17-1910 January 20	volume 130
1910 January 20-February 19	volume 131
1910 February 21-March 16	volume 132
1910 March 16-April 9	volume 133
1910 April 9-May 9	volume 134
1910 May 10-June 10	volume 135
1910 June 10-July 16	volume 136
1910 July 18-September 17	volume 137
1910 September 19-November 11	volume 138
1910 November 12-December 19	volume 139
1910 December 16-1911 January 20	volume 140
1911 January 24-March 2	volume 141
1911 March 1-April 11	volume 142
1911 April 12-June 15	volume 143
1911 June 10-September 20	volume 144
1911 September 20-November 22	volume 145
1911 November 22-1912 January 11	volume 146
1912 January 12-February 17	volume 147
1912 February 19-March 22	volume 148
1912 March 22-April 26	volume 149
1912 April 26-May 29	volume 150

## JDR Business, 1877-1897

Physical Description: 32 Bound Volumes Volumes 180-211

### Scope and Contents

These letterbooks document JDR's activities in the Standard Oil Company and other investments.

Title/Description	Instances	
1877 August 11-1878 May 5	box 40	volume 180-184
<u>Conditions Governing Access</u> :		
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the		

microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

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1879 February 25-1884 December 31	box 41	volume 185-188
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Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

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1885 January 1-1893 December 22	box 42	volume 189-192
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Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

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1890 January 3-1893 May 29	box 43	volume 193-197
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Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

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1893 May 29-1894 October 24	box 44	volume 198-201
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Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

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1894 October 24-1896 October 15	box 45	volume 202-207
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Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

## JDR Personal, 1904-1918

Physical Description: 42 Bound Volumes Volumes 212-253

## Scope and Contents

These letterbooks cover JDR's activities as he saw them from outside the office after his retirement. They cover both business and philanthropy and include letters of instruction to the office.

Title/Description	Instances	
1896 October 16-1904 December 7	box 46	volume 208-212
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.		
1904 December 7-1906 May 1	box 47	volume 213-217
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.		
1906 May 1-1908 January 8	box 48	volume 218-222
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.		
1908 January 8-1909 August 23	box 49	volume 223-227
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.		
1909 August 24-1911 January 4	box 50	volume 228-232
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.		
1911 January 11-1912 April 26		

Conditions Governing Access:

box 51

volume

**Conditions Governing Access**

233-237

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

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1912 April 26-1913 July 16

box 52

volume

Conditions Governing Access:

238-242

**Conditions Governing Access**

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

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1913 July 16-1914 September 21

box 53

volume

Conditions Governing Access:

243-247

**Conditions Governing Access**

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

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1914 December 15-1915 December 30

box 54

volume

Conditions Governing Access:

248-252

**Conditions Governing Access**

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

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1918 January 2-1900 November 24

box 55

volume

Conditions Governing Access:

253-257

**Conditions Governing Access**

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

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1900 November 26-1902 June 24

box 56

volume

Conditions Governing Access:

258-262

**Conditions Governing Access**

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the

microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

## JDR Jr. Personal, 1897-1916

Physical Description: 71 Bound Volumes Volumes 254-324

### Scope and Contents

These letterbooks reflect JDR Jr.'s growing participation in his father's affairs as well as the management of his own interests. These are not exclusively JDR Jr. letters but include letters by members of JDR's personal staff.

Title/Description	Instances	
1902 June 25-1914 June 14	box 57	volume 263-267
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.		
1904 June 14-1906 April 16	box 58	volume 268-271
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.		
1906 June 16-1907 July 17	box 59	volume 272-276
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.		
1907 July 18-1908 December 18	box 60	volume 277-280
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.		
1908 December 21-1910 April 19	box 61	volume 282-286
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		

## Conditions Governing Access

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

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1910 April 21-1911 January 12

box 62

volume  
287-291

Conditions Governing Access:

## Conditions Governing Access

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

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1911 January 20-July 13

box 63

volume  
292-296

Conditions Governing Access:

## Conditions Governing Access

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

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1911 July 13-1912 February 27

box 64

volume  
297-301

Conditions Governing Access:

## Conditions Governing Access

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

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1912 February 28-October 16

box 65

volume  
302-306

Conditions Governing Access:

## Conditions Governing Access

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

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1912 October 17-1913 May 28

box 66

volume  
307-311

Conditions Governing Access:

## Conditions Governing Access

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the



microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

1913 May 27-1914 January 27

box 67

volume  
312-316

Conditions Governing Access:

### **Conditions Governing Access**

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

1914 January 27-December 4

box 68

volume  
317-321

Conditions Governing Access:

### **Conditions Governing Access**

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

1914 December 4-1916

box 69

volume  
322-324

Conditions Governing Access:

### **Conditions Governing Access**

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

## **Abeyton Realty, 1909-1916**

Physical Description: 5 Bound Volumes Volumes 325-329

### **Scope and Contents**

Management of Cleveland properties through a real estate company.

Title/Description	Instances	
1909-1916	box 70	volume 326-329
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>	box 69	volume 325
The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.		

## **JDR - Frederick T. Gates - Business, 1893-1905**

Physical Description: 12 Bound Volumes Volumes 330-341

## Scope and Contents

F.T. Gates management of JDR's principal investments. His responses to investment opportunities offered to JDR.

Title/Description	Instances	
1893-1894 April 2	box 70	volume 330
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b> <p>The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.</p>		
1894 April 10-1897 April 7	box 71	volume 331-335
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b> <p>The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.</p>		
1897 April 8-1905 October 31	box 72	volume 336-340
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b> <p>The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.</p>		
1905 November 1-1905 December	box 373	volume 341
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b> <p>The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.</p>		

## JDR - Frederick T. Gates - Philanthropy, 1891-1905

Physical Description: 11 Bound Volumes Volumes 342-352

### Scope and Contents

F.T. Gates as JDR's chief almoner. Investigations of worthy causes. Gifts and declinations.

Title/Description	Instances
1891-1897 January 4	

Conditions Governing Access:

box 73

volume

**Conditions Governing Access**

342-345

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

1897 January 5-1905 April 18

box 74

volume

Conditions Governing Access:

346-350

**Conditions Governing Access**

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

1905

box 75

volume

Conditions Governing Access:

351-352

**Conditions Governing Access**

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

**Frederick T. Gates Personal, 1895-1913**Physical Description: 9 Bound Volumes Volumes 353-361**Scope and Contents**

Strictly F.T. Gates affairs. Family fortunes, homes, relations.

Title/Description	Instances	
1895-1904 February 15	box 75	volume
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		353-356
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.		
1904 February 17-1913 June 13	box 76	volume
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		357-361
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the		

microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

## Duluth, Missabe & Northern Railway Company, 1894-1904

Physical Description: 6 Bound Volumes Volumes 362-366

### Scope and Contents

F.T. Gates managing railway company. Five annual reports to state railway commission.

Title/Description	Instances	
1894 February 14-1903 April 11	box 77	volume 362-366
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.		

## Tilden Mining Company, 1896-1917

Physical Description: 5 Bound Volumes Volumes 367-371

Title/Description	Instances	
1896 March-December	box 77	volume 367
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.		
1896 December-1917 January	box 78	volume 368-371
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.		

## Lake Superior Consolidated Iron Mines, 1894-1899

Physical Description: 5 Bound Volumes Volumes 372-376

**Scope and Contents**

F.T. Gates managing the iron company.

Title/Description	Instances	
1894 February 2-October 26	box 78	volume 372
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.		
1894-1899	box 79	volume 373-376
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.		

**Bessimer Steamship Company, 1896-1898**

Physical Description: 1 Bound Volumes Volume 377

**Scope and Contents**

F.T. Gates managing the steamship company.

Title/Description	Instances	
1896-1898 February 1	box 79	volume 377
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.		

**Everett & Monte Cristo Railway Company, 1894-1903**

Physical Description: 4 Bound Volumes Volumes 378-381

**Scope and Contents**

F.T. Gates managing the railway company.

Title/Description	Instances	
1894 November 15-1903 August 20	box 80	volume 378-381

Conditions Governing Access:**Conditions Governing Access**

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

**Starr J. Murphy, 1905-1908**

Physical Description: 1 Bound Volumes Volume 387

**Scope and Contents**

Murphy, as G.E.B. secretary, handles college appeals.

Title/Description	Instances	
1905 August 25-1908 June 17	box 80	volume 387

Conditions Governing Access:**Conditions Governing Access**

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

**Laura Spelman Rockefeller Estate, 1915-1916**

Physical Description: 1 Bound Volumes Volume 381

Title/Description	Instances	
1915 June 18-1916 June 5	box 81	volume 381

Conditions Governing Access:**Conditions Governing Access**

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

**Receipt Book**

Title/Description	Instances	
Receipt Book	box 81	volume 389

Physical Description: 1 Bound Volumes Volume 389

Conditions Governing Access:**Conditions Governing Access**

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the

microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

## Standard Oil Company, 1885-1888

Physical Description: 1 Bound Volumes Volume 390

Title/Description	Instances	
1915 June 18-1871 May 16	box 81	volume 390

Conditions Governing Access:

### Conditions Governing Access

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

## William Rockefeller, 1871-1896

Physical Description: 2 Bound Volumes Volumes 391-392

Title/Description	Instances	
1895 July 3-1876 March 9	box 81	volume 391-392

Conditions Governing Access:

### Conditions Governing Access

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

## Rockefeller, Andrews and Flagler, 1867-1868

Physical Description: 2 Bound Volumes Volumes 393-394

Title/Description	Instances	
1867 September 17-1868 September 9	box 82	volume 393-394

Conditions Governing Access:

### Conditions Governing Access

The archival material has been reformatted and the original letterbooks are restricted. User copies of the microfiche are available for scholarly access. Individual volumes are listed in the index by volume number.

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