



Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Media, Series Y

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rockefeller Archive Center

15 Dayton Avenue

Sleepy Hollow 10591

archive@rockarch.org

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

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rockefeller Archive Center
Creator:	Rockefeller, Laurance Spelman
Creator:	Rockefeller, Nelson A. (Nelson Aldrich)
Creator:	Rockefeller, John D. (John Davison)
Creator:	Rockefeller, David
Creator - aut:	Rockefeller, John D., Jr. (John Davison)
Creator - aut:	Rockefeller, John D. 3rd (John Davison), 1906-1978
Title:	Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Media, Series Y
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Date [bulk]:	1879-1961
Physical Description:	1 Cubic Feet Actual extent unknown.
Language of the Material:	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

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.

The material 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

The Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records are 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

Former Classification: III 02

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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archive@rockarch.org

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

Conditions Governing Access note

Open for research with select materials restricted as noted. Brittle or damaged items are available at the discretion of RAC. Material in the Rockefeller family collections that provides the names, correspondence, or activities of living members of the Rockefeller family, and/or documents the net wealth of any Rockefeller family members, is restricted. Researchers interested in accessing digital media (floppy disks, CDs, DVDs, etc.) or audiovisual material (audio cassettes, VHS, etc.) in this collection must use an access surrogate. The original items may not be accessed because of preservation concerns. To request an access surrogate be made, or if you are unsure if there is an access surrogate, please contact an archivist.

Conditions Governing Use note

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Controlled Access Headings

- Education -- United States
- Family planning
- Economics
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- Federal government -- United States
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- Philanthropy
- Philanthropy -- United States
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- Urban renewal
- World War II
- Travel
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- Urban policy
- United States

Other Finding Aids

Other available finding aids describing the Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records include: [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](#)

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[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](#)

[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](#)

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