



Grand Teton Lodge Company records

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rockefeller Archive Center

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

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rockefeller Archive Center
Creator:	Grand Teton Lodge Company
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Date [bulk]:	1946-1975
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Language of the Material:	English .

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Biographical / Historical

The Grand Teton Lodge and Transportation Company was formed in 1936, following on a reorganization of the Teton Investment Company. Until their 1936 merger, the Teton Investment Company had been comprised of the Teton Lodge Company and the Teton Transportation Company, known collectively as the Teton Companies. The Transportation Company operated a bus service between Jackson Hole, the Union Pacific Railroad in Victor, Idaho, and Yellowstone Park, whereas the Lodge Company operated the Teton Lodge at Moran and subsequently the old Jackson Lake Lodge.

The Teton Companies were formed in the early 1930s, under the oversight of Harold Fabian, to provide transportation and lodging for visitors to the Grand Tetons. Harold Fabian's involvement in the region had begun a few years earlier with his appointment as vice president of the Snake River Land Company, an organization established in 1927 to provide for John D. Rockefeller Jr.'s land purchases in the Jackson Hole valley. The Snake River Land Company's purchases came with buildings as well as the land, and having acquired the two main lodges in the valley, it found itself in turn the main provider of services for visitors.

John D. Rockefeller Jr. had traveled to the Grand Teton area in 1924 and 1926 under the guidance of Yellowstone National Park Superintendent Harold Albright, and the visit inspired him to preserve the beauty of the region from unregulated development. The 1929 borders of Grand Teton National Park included the mountain range and the lakes abutting it, but they did not safeguard the surrounding valley. Under the guise of the Snake River Land Company, JDR Jr. bought up over 30,000 acres of private land within the Jackson Hole valley, for the express purpose of donating it to the federal government for an expanded Grand Teton National Park.

JDR Jr.'s efforts to donate his land met with prolonged local opposition. In 1943, President Roosevelt circumvented opposition by proclaiming much of the Jackson Hole valley a national monument. It was not until 1949 that Laurance S. Rockefeller was able to complete the formal transfer of land to the National Park Service. In 1950, a new, enlarged Grand Teton National Park emerged, combining the 1929 park and the monument lands.

With the rise in automobile travel and tourism in the postwar period, the park saw an increasing number of visitors, along with changes in the patterns of tourism. While protecting the valley from overdevelopment, there was also a need to provide additional and improved facilities for park visitors. Working through Jackson Hole Preserve Inc. (JHPI), the nonprofit conservation and education organization they founded in 1940, John D. Rockefeller Jr. and his son Laurance provided much of the funding needed to expand and improve tourist facilities in the park. JHPI purchased the Grand Teton Lodge Company, which then became a subsidiary of the nonprofit organization. The Lodge Company's leases with the National Park Service also made it the primary concessioner within the park.

In 1952 the Rockefellers and JHPI began planning and construction for a new Jackson Lake Lodge, which opened in 1955 as the first modern lodge within a national park. A second development at Colter Bay, funded jointly by the National Park Service and the Grand Teton Lodge Company, opened in 1957 and provided a range of accommodations, from rustic cabins (which had been preserved and moved from several locations within the park) to tent and trailer camping, as well as a cafeteria, general store, laundry, service station, marina, and museum. Colter Bay was an important pilot project in the National Park Service's Mission 66 program.

Grand Teton Lodge Company also developed a third lodge at Jenny Lake, on the site of the old Danny Ranch. Jenny Lake Lodge was a smaller and higher-end development of rustic cabins.

In 1955 the Grand Teton Lodge Company dropped the "and Transportation" function from its title, reflecting its heightened role in providing facilities for visitors who tended to prolong their stay in the valley and park.

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Scope and Contents

The Grand Teton Lodge Company records consist of board materials, correspondence files, and financial records that document the company's operations in Grand Teton National Park from the 1930s to the

1980s. The bulk of the materials, dating from the late 1940s to the 1960s, concerns the development and renovation of tourist and lodging facilities in the park, and particularly the design, construction, furnishing, and remodeling of the new Jackson Lake Lodge, the cabins and facilities at Colter Bay, and the Jenny Lake Lodge.

Topics covered include the development of the park and the lodges. Early materials concerning the organization of the Grand Teton Lodge Company, concessions operations, and negotiations with the National Park Service and state representatives, are found in Harold Fabian's correspondence files from the 1930s-1940s, labeled Moran Operations and Jackson Hole. National Park Service files touch on the extension of Grand Teton National Park and the monument controversy, but also include studies of park development, concessions financing, and a 1965 survey of concession facilities in neighboring Yellowstone National Park. Other materials relating to interactions with the National Park Service, 1948-1950, are found in files for the GTLC's parent organization, Jackson Hole Preserve, Inc. The records also include JHPI board meeting materials for 1953-1969.

Files relating to the Lodge Company operations include accounting, construction, and general management and operations files; correspondence with architects and contractors; correspondence with Rockefeller or JHPI associates in New York, especially Allston Boyer and Kenneth Chorley; files concerning publicity and opening arrangements; and materials relating to transportation and other concession agreements. There is also a nearly full run of financial statements and/or audit reports for the period 1934-1985.

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Arrangement

The collection is arranged into four series: 1. Board of Directors; 2. Grand Teton Lodge Company; 3. Corporate Financial Records; 4. Photographs.

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File Plan

Former Classification: IV 3B 27

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Rockefeller Archive Center

15 Dayton Avenue

Sleepy Hollow 10591

archive@rockarch.org

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

Processing Information

Standard Processing conducted by Regina Carra, Summer, 2013.

Conditions Governing Access

Open for research with select materials restricted as noted. Brittle or damaged items are available at the discretion of RAC. 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.

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

The Grand Teton Lodge Company records were donated to the Rockefeller Archive Center in August 2003, by GTLC president Clay James.

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Related Materials

Related Materials

Related materials will be found in other Rockefeller Archive Center collections, including the Harold P. Fabian papers; the Kenneth Chorley papers; and the Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Cultural Interests series.

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Collection Inventory

Board of Directors, 1945-1985

Physical Description: 3.2 Cubic Feet 7 boxes

Arrangement

The Board of Directors series is arranged into four sets of files: Agenda, Correspondence, Minutes, and Executive Committee. Each file heading is arranged chronologically.

Scope and Contents

The Board of Directors series documents the general administration of the Grand Teton Lodge Company from the mid-1940s to the mid-1980s.

The series is sorted by file type, but there is a considerable amount of overlap in the contents of the various Board files. The Agenda files for the most part include the full set of materials prepared for the board meetings. The Correspondence files concern meeting scheduling and arrangements and include a mixture of board materials.

Title/Description

Instances

Agenda

Scope and Contents

Agendas include meeting topics and materials

1947, 1949	box 1	folder 1
1953, 1955	box 1	folder 2
1956-1957	box 1	folder 3
1957	box 1	folder 4
1958	box 1	folder 5

Grand Teton Lodge Company records

1959	box 1	folder 6
1959	box 1	folder 7
1960-1961	box 1	folder 8
2 pictures of construction at Jackson Lake Lodge, 1960 October 29	box 29	
4 pictures of remodeling at Jackson Lake Lodge, 1960 October 29	box 29	
1962	box 2	folder 9
1963-1964	box 2	folder 10
1965-1966	box 2	folder 11
Construction Drawing of Jackson Lake Lodge benches, 1966 August 25	folder 9	
1967	box 2	folder 12
1968-1969	box 2	folder 13
1970-1971	box 2	folder 14
1971-1972	box 2	folder 15
1972-1973	box 2	folder 16
1974-1975	box 3	folder 17
1976	box 3	folder 18
1977-1979	box 3	folder 19
1980	box 3	folder 20
1981	box 3	folder 21
1982	box 3	folder 22
1983	box 3	folder 23
1984	box 3	folder 24
1985	box 3	folder 25
Correspondence		
1945-1948	box 4	folder 26
1951-1953	box 4	folder 27
1954-1956	box 4	folder 28
1955-1956 (1)	box 4	folder 29
1957 (1)	box 4	folder 31
1957 (2)	box 4	folder 32

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1958 (2)	box 4	folder 34
1959	box 4	folder 35
1960 (1)	box 4	folder 36
1960 (2)	box 4	folder 37
1961	box 4	folder 38
1962 (1)	box 5	folder 39
1962 (2)	box 5	folder 40
1962 (3)	box 5	folder 41
1962 (4)	box 5	folder 42
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1963 (2)	box 5	folder 44
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1966 (1)	box 5	folder 49
1966 (2)	box 5	folder 50
1967 (1)	box 5	folder 51
1967 (2)	box 5	folder 52
1968 (1)	box 5	folder 53
1968 (2)	box 5	folder 54
1969 (1)	box 5	folder 55
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1951,1956,1959-1960	box 7	folder 65
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1962-1963	box 7	folder 67
1964-1967	box 7	folder 68
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Grand Teton Lodge Company, 1926-1991

Physical Description: 7.5 Cubic Feet 15 boxes

Arrangement

The Grand Teton Lodge Company series is arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents

The main topics of this series include the development of concessions and tourist facilities, operations, business and accounting, and correspondence.

While files relating to a specific person or place may have their own heading, related documents may also be found under more general titles.

Title/Description	Instances	
General, 1936-1938	box 7	folder 70
General, 1940-1945	box 7	folder 71
General, 1953, 1955-1956, 1958-1963	box 7	folder 72
Albright, Horace M. (Testimonial), 1949	box 7	folder 73
Attorneys (Patterson, Belknap & Webb), 1964-1965	box 7	folder 74
Accounts Receivable (1), 1951	box 7	folder 75
Accounts Receivable (2), 1951	box 7	folder 76
Barton, Robert S.: Correspondence, 1954-1955	box 8	folder 77

Scope and Contents

Correspondence concerns park expenditures.

Biographical / Historical

Barton became treasurer of the Grand Teton Lodge Company in 1967. (The folder pre-dates this appointment).

Budget and Accounting, 1946-1949	box 8	folder 78
Budget and Accounting, 1952-1953	box 8	folder 79
Budget and Accounting, 1955	box 8	folder 80
Cabins, 1955-1956	box 8	folder 81

Scope and Contents

The file contains photocopies of photos of cabins at Colter Bay, Moran, Jackson Lake Lodge, and Square G Ranch.

Colter Bay Project, 1954-1955	box 8	folder 82
Colter Bay Project, 1970	box 8	folder 83

Scope and Contents

"Specifications for Colter Bay Cabins," by Spencer, Lee and Busse, architects.

File Plan

1400

Concessions		
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General, 1952-1953	box 8	folder 85

File Plan

LC 12-8

Horses, 1946-1956	box 8	folder 86
Horses, 1960-1961	box 8	folder 87
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NPS Business Permits, 1947-1955	box 9	folder 91
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1006-A

Harold Wiley (Boating), 1947, 1951-1955	box 9	folder 92
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1006-C

Construction: General, 1953, 1957-1965	box 9	folder 93
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Dude Rancher's Convention, 1947-1949	box 9	folder 99

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Conditions Governing Access: Conditions Governing Access Restricted- confidential material		
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Employee Retirement Plan: Documents, 1956	box 9	folder 102
Expense Accounts, 1960	box 9	folder 103
Furnishings: Budget Estimates, 1946	box 9	folder 104
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LC-5

General Management, 1948-1950	box 9	folder 106
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Generators, 1945-1946	box 10	folder 107
Green, John D.: Correspondence, 1954	box 10	folder 108
Harris, Kerr, Forster and Company (Auditors), 1955-1960	box 10	folder 109
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Includes original letter signed by John D. Rockefeller Jr. conveying Snake River Land Company land holdings to the Grand Teton Lodge Company, 1945; and GTLC chronology.

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Conditions Governing Access

Retrieval times for maps and flat files may exceed 24 hours. Individual items may be restricted from access at the discretion of RAC.

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Related Materials

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Conditions Governing Access

Restricted - Confidential material.

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Scope and Contents

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File Plan

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901 C		
Jennings National Park Service Permit, 1948	box 21	folder 262
Jennings National Park Service Permit, 1948-1956	box 21	folder 263
File Plan		
901 F		
Public Utilities Commission, 1948-1952, 1961	box 21	folder 264
Rates and Schedules, 1951	box 21	folder 265
File Plan		
LC 25		
Sales Tours, 1952	box 21	folder 266
Victor-Moran Line, 1952-1955	box 21	folder 267
File Plan		
901		
Wyoming Contract Permit, 1951-1956	box 21	folder 268
File Plan		
902 B		
Wyoming Public Service Commission, 1947-1955	box 21	folder 269
Wyoming Public Service Commission (Special Hearing), 1953-1956	box 21	folder 270
File Plan		
901 D		
Tree Planting Program, 1946-1950	box 22	folder 271
Vehicles, 1950-1954	box 22	folder 272
File Plan		
Folder originally entitled "Personal Property (Autos)," file number 252. A few items for 1952 added from folder "Operations - Autos and Trucks"		
Visits: John F. Kennedy, 1963		

	box 22	folder 273
Still Images of John F. Kennedy's visit to Grand Teton National Park, 1963 September	box 29	
Visits: Lady Bird Johnson, 1964	box 22	folder 274
Still Images of Lady Bird Johnson's Visit to Grand Teton National Park, 1964 August 14-17	box 29	
Still images and negatives of Lady Bird Johnson's visit to Grand Teton National Park , 1964 August 14-17	box 29	
Wyoming Secretary of State, 1949-1953	box 22	folder 275

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Corporate Financial Records, 1934-1985

Physical Description: 3 Cubic Feet 6 boxes

Arrangement

Series arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents

The Corporate Financial series includes a full run of financial statements and/or audit reports for 1934-1985, as well as various investment, stockholder, and tax records.

Title/Description	Instances	
Correspondence, 1950-1952	box 22	folder 276
Financial Statements and Audit Reports		
1934-1939	box 22	folder 277
1940-1946	box 22	folder 278
1947-1949	box 22	folder 279
1950-1951	box 22	folder 280
1952-1953	box 23	folder 281
1954	box 23	folder 282
1955-1956	box 23	folder 283
1957	box 23	folder 284
1958	box 23	folder 285
1959	box 23	folder 286
1960	box 23	folder 287
1961	box 23	folder 288

1962	box 24	folder 289
1963	box 24	folder 290
1963-1964	box 24	folder 291
1965-1966	box 24	folder 292
1967-1968	box 24	folder 293
1969-1970	box 24	folder 294
1971-1972	box 24	folder 295
1973-1974	box 25	folder 296
1975-1978	box 25	folder 297
1979-1981	box 25	folder 298
1982-1985	box 25	folder 299
Investments, 1958-1960	box 25	folder 300
Investments, 1960-1962	box 25	folder 301
Ledgers, 1947-1950, 1953-1954	box 25	folder 302

Scope and Contents

Ledger page (Coupon Accounts Receivable), pertaining to travel companies and tours; check register - payments to Underwood and others concerning Jackson Lake Lodge construction, 1953-1954

Stocks

GTLC Stockholders: Minutes, 1954, 1956, 1959, 1960-1964	box 25	folder 303
GTLC Stockholders: Minutes, 1965-1966, 1968-1974	box 25	folder 304
Stock Certificates, 1952-1956	box 26	folder 305
Stock Certificates, 1957-1963	box 26	folder 306
Stock Certificates, 1964	box 26	folder 307
Stock Certificates, 1964	box 26	folder 307 A

Conditions Governing Access:

Conditions Governing Access

Restricted material.

Stock Certificates: Teton Investment Company Transfer, 1936-1937	box 26	folder 308
Stockholder Record, 1936-1949	box 26	folder 309

Taxes

Federal Excise, 1952-1957		
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Processing Information:

box 26

folder 310

Processing Information

File originally labeled Federal Admissions Tax.

Federal Excise, 1958-1962	box 26	folder 311
Federal Income Tax, 1952-1955	box 26	folder 312
Federal Income Tax, 1956-1957	box 26	folder 313
Federal Income Tax, 1958-1959	box 26	folder 314
Federal Income Tax, 1960-1962	box 26	folder 315
Federal Taxes, 1952-1955	box 27	folder 316

File Plan

502

Federal Withholding Tax, 1951-1957	box 27	folder 317
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File Plan

502 C

Conditions Governing Access:**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted- Confidential material

Federal Withholding Tax, 1958-1960	box 27	folder 318
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File Plan

502 C

Conditions Governing Access:**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted- Confidential Material

Conditions Governing Access:**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted- Personnel Information

Federal Withholding Tax, 1961-1962	box 27	folder 319
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File Plan

502 C

Conditions Governing Access:

Conditions Governing Access

Restricted- Confidential Material

Federal Withholding Tax, 1963-1964

box 27

folder 320

File Plan

502 C

Conditions Governing Access:**Conditions Governing Access**

Restricted- Confidential Material

Property Taxes, 1952-1955, 1964

box 27

folder 321

Utah State Tax Commission, 1947-1955

box 27

folder 322

Certificate of Incorporation, 1947 October 30

folder 9

folder 9

Wyoming Poll Tax, 1951

box 27

folder 323

Wyoming State Sales Tax, 1951-1956

box 27

folder 324

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)**Grand Teton Lodge Company Photographs, 1954-1989**Controlled Access Headings:

- Photographs

Title/Description**Instances**

Colter Bay and Jackson Lake Lodge Construction, circa 1954-1956

box 28

folder 325

Unidentified Photos

box 29

folder 326

Still image of Cabins

Still image of man with horse

General

Photo found loose in box.

Writing on back- "Among Harold Fabian papers?"

Still image of Vernon Johnson and Horace Albright

Board of Directors, circa 1970s - 1980s

box 29

folder 327

Biographical / Historical

Group photo, including: Franklin E. Parker, Fred J. Eydt, Clifford P. Hansen, Bernie Iliff, Nash Castro, Fred Smith, Clayton W. Frye, Jr., John D. Green, Laurance S. Rockefeller, Carlisle H. Humelsine, Charles H. P. Duell, Richard E. Holtzman, Felix Buckenroth, Jr.

Colter Bay, circa 1954-1955	box 29	folder 328
Jackson Lake Lodge, circa 1954-1955	box 29	folder 329
Jackson Lake Lodge, circa 1962-1964, 1976	box 29	folder 330
Moran and Jackson Lake Lodge (transparencies)	box 29	folder 331
Separated Photographs		
2 pictures of Construction at Jackson Lake Lodge, 1960 October 29	box 29	folder 332
<u>Separated Materials:</u> Separated Materials Separated From: Box 1/ Folder 8 GTLC Board of Directors: Agenda, 1960-1961		
4 pictures of remodeling at Jackson Lake Lodge, 1961 October 29	box 29	folder 333
<u>Separated Materials:</u> Separated Materials Separated From: Box 1/ Folder 8 GTLC Board of Directors: Agenda, 1960-1961		
6 negatives of Jackson Lake Lodge, circa 1954	box 29	folder 334
<u>Separated Materials:</u> Separated Materials Separated From: Box 13/ Folder 148 GTLC Jackson Lake Lodge: Furnishings (3), 1954		
Photo of rifle, 1956 April 20	box 29	folder 335
<u>Separated Materials:</u> Separated Materials Separated From: Box 17/ Folder 209 GTLC New York Office: Chorley, Kenneth (Correspondence), 1956		
Still Images of John F. Kennedy's visit to Grand Teton National Park, September 1963	box 29	folder 336
<u>Separated Materials:</u>		

Separated Materials

Separated from: Box 22/ Folder 273 GTLC: Visits (John F. Kennedy), 1963

Still Images of Lady Bird Johnson's visit to Grand Teton National Park, 1964 August 14-17	box 29	folder 337
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Separated Materials:

Separated Materials

Separated from: Box 22/ Folder 274 GTLC: Visits (Lady Bird Johnson), 1964

Still Images and Negatives of Lady Bird Johnson's visit to Grand Teton National Park, 1964 August 14-17	box 29	folder 339
	box 29	folder 338

Separated Materials:

Separated Materials

Separated from: Box 22/ Folder 274 GTLC: Visits (Lady Bird Johnson), 1964

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