



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

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This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on December 05, 2019.

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

<b>Repository:</b>	Rockefeller Archive Center
<b>Creator:</b>	Rockefeller, Laurance Spelman
<b>Creator:</b>	Rockefeller, Nelson A. (Nelson Aldrich)
<b>Creator:</b>	Rockefeller, John D. (John Davison), 1839-1937
<b>Creator:</b>	Rockefeller, David
<b>Creator - aut:</b>	Rockefeller, John D., Jr. (John Davison), 1874-1960
<b>Creator - aut:</b>	Rockefeller, John D., III (John Davison), 1906-1978
<b>Title:</b>	Office of the Messrs. Rockefeller records, Media, Series Y
<b>ID:</b>	FA334
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	Bulk, 1879-1961 1858-1961, bulk 1879-1961 Bulk, 1879-1961 1858-1961, bulk 1879-1961
<b>Date [bulk]:</b>	1879-1961
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1 Cubic Feet Actual extent unknown.
<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.

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

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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

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Former Classification: III 02

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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

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### 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.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Education -- United States
- Family planning
- Economics
- Education
- Government policy
- Governors -- Election -- New York (State) -- 1958
- Federal government -- United States
- Folk art
- Public relations
- Public welfare
- Health insurance
- Housing rehabilitation
- Restoration and conservation
- Rockefeller family -- Art collections
- Religion
- Religious institutions
- Charities -- Investments
- Child welfare
- Civic improvement
- International cooperation
- Capital investments
- Charitable contributions
- Charitable uses, trusts, and foundations
- Charities
- Art -- Collectors and collecting
- Arts
- Business
- Business enterprises, Foreign
- Economic policy
- Economic development
- Art
- Art, Modern
- Performing arts
- Parks -- New York (State)
- New York (State)
- New York (N.Y.)
- Medical sciences
- Medical research
- Medical education

- Medical care
- Maternal health services
- Juvenile delinquency
- International relations -- United States
- International relations
- International education
- International economic relations
- Public policy
- Public health
- Public health administration
- Political science
- Prohibition
- Philanthropy -- New York (N.Y.)
- Political campaigns -- United States
- Philanthropy
- Philanthropy -- United States
- World War I
- Urban renewal
- World War II
- Travel
- State governments -- United States
- Urban policy
- United States

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## Other Finding Aids

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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](#)

[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](#)

[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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