Guide to the Baeck Family Papers, [ca. 1859-1972]

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Note
History --History, California --History, Bay Area
History --History, United States (excluding California) --General
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Collection number: BANC MSS 74/101 c

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Collection Summary

Collection Title: Baeck Family Papers,
Date (inclusive): [ca. 1859-1972]
Collection Number: BANC MSS 74/101 c
Creator: Baeck Family
Extent: Number of containers: 7 boxes, 2 cartons, 1 scrapbook, and 2 oversize folders
Repository: The Bancroft Library
Berkeley, California 94720-6000

Physical Location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

Abstract: Includes papers of Anna R. Baeck, some relating to student days at the University of California, Class of 1912; papers of her father, San Francisco Judge Timothy H. Rearden, including letters, manuscripts of writings, copies of legal decisions, etc. Contains Civil War correspondence, including letters from a cadet on the U.S.S. Constitution. Family papers also include those of Anna Baeck's uncle, Joseph D. Redding, relating to his career as a San Francisco attorney and as composer. Some papers of other members of the family also included: Benjamin D. Redding, Samuel Cowles, Anita C. Rearden, and Myra C. Redding. Correspondents include Ambrose Bierce, Ina Coolbrith, and Porter Garnett.

Languages Represented: English

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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Baeck Family papers, BANC MSS 74/101 c, The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

Acquisition Information
The Baeck family papers were given to The Bancroft Library by Anne C. Baeck in 1973, with additions in 1974.

Scope and Content
The Baeck family Papers consist primarily of papers of Anna R. Baeck; papers of her father, Timothy H. Rearden, and her mother, Anita C. Rearden; and papers of her uncle, Joseph D. Redding and his wife, Myra C. Redding.

Brief Family History
Anna Wooster (Rearden) Baeck was born in San Francisco in 1888, the daughter of Anita Elizabeth (Cowles) and Judge Timothy Henry Rearden. After attending public schools in California and Illinois, she entered the University of California at Berkeley where she was a member of the Prytanean Society. In 1912, the year of her graduation, she wrote the first "Partheneia" to be given there by the women students. After teaching school for several years, she was married in 1917 to John Eric Baeck and resided in Berkeley almost continuously until her death in 1970. Her papers relate mainly to her academic career at the University, literary interests and family affairs.

Her father, Timothy Rearden, was born in Wooster, Ohio in 1839. He attended high school in Cleveland and was graduated from Kenyon College in 1859. Serving briefly in the Civil War, he came to San Francisco in 1863, worked in the mint while studying law and opened an office about 1872. In 1883 he was appointed by Governor Stoneman to fill a vacancy in the Superior Court; in 1884 he was elected to succeed himself and served through 1890. He was married in 1888 to Anita Cowles, daughter of his friend Judge Samuel Cowles. Rearden was a serious student of languages and literature, a member of the Chit-Chat Club and part of the literary scene which included Ambrose Bierce, Bret Harte and Fanny Osbourne. His book *Petrarch and Other Essays* was published after his death which occurred on May 10, 1892. His papers relate to his career, life in San Francisco, and to his studies and writings.

Joseph Deighn Redding (Anna Baeck's uncle) was born in Sacramento in 1859, the son of Mary Prescott (Putnam) and Benjamin Barnard Redding. He was graduated in 1874 from the California Military Academy in Oakland, attended Harvard Law School from 1877 to 1879, was admitted to the California bar in 1879 and practiced law in San Francisco almost continuously until several years before his death in 1932. In 1882 he was married to Myra Augusta Cowles who died in 1945. He was a member of the Bohemian Club, serving as president from 1885 to 1886, and was the author of several of its "Grove" plays. He also wrote the operas *Natoma* and *Fay-Yen Fah*. Redding's papers relate mainly to his career and to his musical activities.

Scope and Content
Most of the photographs have been removed and indexed separately.

A key to arrangement describes the collection in greater detail. Separate lists of significant correspondents have been prepared for each member of the family.

Box 1

**Letters written by Rearden, 1859-1892.**

**Scope and Content Note**

Originals, written mainly to his family in Cleveland, Ohio, relating to his education at Kenyon College, Civil War service, voyage to California in 1863 and activities in San Francisco. Arranged chronologically.

Boxes 1-2

**Letters written to Rearden.**

**Scope and Content Note**

Arranged alphabetically by name of person or organization. A partial list of correspondents follows. Unlisted letters have been placed in a miscellany preceding the rest of the letters.

**Bierce, Ambrose, 1842-1914?**
3 letters, 1872-1884.
Scope and Content Note
Photocopies.

Chit-Chat Club
Letter, Sept. 30, 1881.
Scope and Content Note
Notification of election to active membership.

Davis, Murray, d. 1877
4 letters, 1863-1870 & n.d.
Scope and Content Note
Relate mainly to experiences as a cavalry officer in the Civil War & the West. With this: 2 letters written by his wife, n.d.

Douglas, William Wallace, 1863-
Letter, Mar. 11, 1889.
Scope and Content Note
Written while Executive Secretary to Gov. R. W. Waterman.

Dwight, Theodore F.
Letter, June 28, 1873.
Scope and Content Note
Mentions Charles Warren Stoddard.

Gregg, V. A., 1844-1899
Letter, Mar. 15, 1889

Heller, Moses
Letter, May 22, 1880

Raebel, Herman C., d. 1869
7 letters, 1861-1865.
Scope and Content Note
Written while a cadet aboard the U.S.S. Constitution.

Spalding, Zepharin Swift
3 letters, 1869-1870.
Scope and Content Note
Re proposed visit to Hawaii by Rearden & Ambrose Bierce.

Stebbins, Alfred, 1834-1901
4 letters, 1873-1874.
Scope and Content Note
With this: 3 letters written by his wife, 1873-1884.

Stevenson, Fanny (Van de Grift) Osbourne, 1840-1914
59 letters, 1874-1879 & n.d.
Scope and Content Note
Transcripts. Some written for her by Belle Osbourne & others. With this: Several sets of variant transcripts; one set annotated by Anna (Rearden) Baeck, (3 folders).

Stevenson, Robert Louis, 1850-1894
Letter (incomplete copy), [Apr. 1881?].
Scope and Content Note
In handwriting of Rearden's sister.

Taussig, Rudolph Julius, 1861-1922
Letter, Feb. 2, 1891.
Scope and Content Note
Requesting Rearden to secure the services of a Superior Court Judge for his wedding.

Williams, Dora Norton [Mrs. Virgil Macey Williams]
Letter, Feb. 17, 1891.
Williams, Virgil Macey
Letter, n.d.
Wills, M. A.
35 letters, 1871-1889 & n.d.
Scope and Content Note
Some letters relate to social life in San Francisco.

Box 3
Letters written by Anita (Cowles) Rearden (later Mrs. James V. Lavery).
Scope and Content Note
Originals, arranged chronologically.

Letters written to Mrs. Rearden.
Arrangement
Arranged alphabetically by name of person. Unlisted letters are in a miscellany preceding listed letters.

Bierce, Ambrose, 1842-1914?
2 letters, 1912.
Coolbrith, Ina Donna, 1842-1928
Cowles, Alfred Hutchinson, 1858-1929
Letter, Sept. 6, 1906.
Cowles, Edwin, 1825-1890
Letter, Dec. 17, 1883.
Cowles, William Hutchinson, 1866-1946
4 letters, 1925-1938 & n.d.
Field, Isobel (Osbourne)
Letter, Aug. 4, 1912.
Garnett, Edna (Foote)
Letter, Apr. 9, 1912.
Hotaling, Anson Parsons
Letter, Jan. 13, 1887.
Hotaling, Lavinia J.
2 letters, 1897-1906.
Hotaling, Richard M., 1868-1925
3 letters, 1912 & n.d.
Lyons, Timothy J., 1860-1916
2 letters, 1900-1902.
Morrison, Alexander Francis, 1856-1921
Letter, Aug. 25, 1898.
Osbourne, Lloyd, 1868-1947
Letter, Nov. 30, 1899.
Scope and Content Note
Photocopy.
Key to Arrangement

Redding, Joseph Deighn, 1859-1962
  8 letters, 1900-1925.
Redding, Myra Augusta (Cowles), 1857-1945
  100 letters, 1883-1943 & n.d.
Rowell, Joseph Cummings, 1853-1938
  Letter, Dec. 19, 1924.
Stevenson, Fanny (Van de Grift) Osbourne, 1840-1914
  3 letters, n.d.
  Scope and Content Note
  Photocopies.

Wills, M. A.
  5 letters, 1895-1924.
Worcester, Joseph
  8 letters, 1893-1901 & n.d.

Box 4
Letters written by Anna Wooster (Rearden) Baeck, 1902-1939 & n.d.
  Scope and Content Note
  Mainly drafts, arranged chronologically.

Boxes 4-5
Letters written to Mrs. Baeck
  Arrangement
  Arranged alphabetically by name of person or organization. Listed letters (see below) are preceded by a miscellany of unlisted letters.

Bates, Katharine Lee, 1859-1929
  see Garnett, Porter

Bierce, Ambrose, 1842-1914?
  2 letters, 1912.
  Scope and Content Note
  Letter dated Aug. 25 is a photocopy.

Boalt, Elisabeth Joselyn
  2 letters, 1906-1912.
  Scope and Content Note
  Letter, dated May 4, 1906 states that Ina Coolbrith is staying with her.

Booth, Bradford A.
California. University, Berkeley. Library
  2 letters, 1942.
  Scope and Content Note
  Written by Harold L. Leupp, Librarian.

California. University, Berkeley. Prytanean Society
  Letter, Apr. 15, 1912.
Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage
  2 letters, 1915.

Cornelius Fidelis, Brother, 1877-1962
  Postcard, May 5, 1942.

Cowles, William Hutchinson, 1866-1946
  59 letters, 1915-1945.
  Scope and Content Note
  Relate mainly to family finances, including those of Myra (Cowles) Redding. Included also: Letter (n.d.) from Mrs. Cowles.
Drury, Ella L. (Bishop) [Mrs. Wells Drury]
Letter, Mar. 18, 1931.

Field, Isobel (Osbourne)
Letter, Apr. 1, 1912.

Garnett, Edna (Foote) [Mrs. Porter Garnett]
19 letters, 1913-1951 & n.d.
Scope and Content Note
Includes also: 3 letters, 1917-1919 & n.d., written by Ellie [sister ?].

Garnett, Porter, 1871-1951
20 letters, 1912-1950 & n.d.
Scope and Content Note

Letter (copy), Nov. 15, 1915.
Additional Note
Written to Mrs. William Kent.
See also Fred Yates

Hotaling, Richard M., 1868-1925
2 letters, 1912.

Howe, Will David, 1873-1946
3 letters, 1929.

Issier, Anne Roller, 1892-

Kent, Elizabeth (Thacher), 1868-1952
2 letters, 1915.
Scope and Content Note
See also Garnett, Porter

Lavery, Anita Elizabeth (Cowles) Rearden, 1861-1944
77 letters, 1910-1942 & n.d.

Leupp, Harold Lewis, 1877-1952
see California. University, Berkeley. Library

Lyons, Timothy J., 1860-1916
2 letters, 1906.

Mitchell, Lucy (Sprague), 1878-1967
Letter, May 1, 1912.
Scope and Content Note
Inviting her to attend her wedding.

Neuhaus, Eugen, 1879-1963

Noyes, George Rapall, 1873-1952
Letter, Mar. 20, 1942.

Occident
Letter, July 10, 1912.
Scope and Content Note
Requesting her to submit a manuscript for publication.

Poulson, Edna Snell
Letter, Apr. 10, 1912.

Redding, Joseph Deighn, 1859-1932
2 letters, 1917-1925.
Redding, Myra Augusta (Cowles), 1857-1945
100 letters, 1900-1938 & n.d.
Scope and Content Note
A few letters are written to John Baeck & the children.

Sanchez, Nellie (Van de Grift), 1856-1935
2 letters, 1916.
Stebbins, Lucy Ward, 1880-1955
2 letters, 1934-1936.
Stricklen, Edward G., d. 1950
Letter, Aug. 10.
Strouse, Norman Hulbert, 1906-
see Vailima Foundation
U.S. Library of Congress
2 letters, 1949.
Vailima Foundation
Scope and Content Note
Written mainly by Norman H. Strouse. A few letters are written to Anne C. Baeck.

Wheeler, Charles Stetson, 1889-
4 letters, 1939-1944.
Scope and Content Note
Relate to Myra (Cowles) Redding's financial affairs.

White, Ralston L.
5 letters, 1918-1919 & n.d.
Wills, M. A.
7 letters, 1902-1914.
Yates, Fred
Letter, May 2, 1912.
Scope and Content Note
Written to Porter Garnett.

Scope and Content Note
Mainly typed carbons, arranged chronologically.
See also carton 1 for miscellaneous letters relating to his operas.

Letters written to Redding.
Scope and Content Note
Arranged alphabetically by name of person or organization. Listed letters are preceded by a miscellany of unlisted letters.

American Prospecting Club, Incorporated
see Ralston, William Chapman, 1863-
Arkhatov, Alexander
Arliss, George, 1868-1946
Letter, July 13, 1929.
Cloman, Sydney Amos, d. 1923
Letter (copy), Feb. 25, 1915.
Cowles, William Hutchinson, 1866-1946
Letter, May 15, 1925.
Hughes, Rupert
Key to Arrangement

Letter (copy), July 22, 1926.
Newlin, Gurney Elwood, 1880-1955
Letter, June 24, 1925.
Price, Walter Winston, 1866-1943
Letter, Jan. 11, 1932.
Ralston, William Chapman, 1863-

Scope and Content Note
Concerns his membership in the American Prospecting Club, Inc., Tonopah, Nevada.

Redding, Benjamin Barnard, 1824-1882
Letter, Apr. 9, 1879.
Redding, Myra Augusta (Cowles), 1857-1945
36 letters, 1905-1926 & n.d.
Redding, Myra Cowles, 1882-1897
26 letters, 1892-1896 & n.d.

Scope and Content Note
Mainly typed transcripts, some written to her grandmother.

Royal Arch Masons. San Francisco, Calif. California Chapter No. 5
Letter, Oct. 6, 1896.

Scope and Content Note
Transmitting demit.

Shasta (Calif.) Historical Society
see Southern, May H.
Southern, May H.
4 letters, 1930-1932.

Scope and Content Note
Writing mainly as president, Shasta (Calif.) Historical Society.

Stephens, Henry Morse, 1857-1919
Letter (copy) Aug. 27, 1913.
Steuer, Max D., 1871-
4 letters, 1929-1931.
Woodruff, Henry Mygatt, 1869-1916
Letter, Dec. 29, 1908.

Scope and Content Note
Written to Josephine Redding [daughter].

Letters written by Myra Augusta (Cowles) Redding, 1870-1944 & n.d.
Scope and Content Note
Originals & typed carbons, arranged chronologically. See also: Letters written to Joseph D. Redding, Anita Rearden Lavery and Anna (Rearden) Baeck.

Boxes 6-7

Letters written to Myra Redding.
Scope and Content Note
Arranged alphabetically by name of person or organization. Listed letters are preceded by a miscellany of unlisted letters.

Bohemian Club, San Francisco
Letter, July 26, 1932.
Chapin, William Wallace, 1874-1957
Letter, May 9, 1933.
Cowles, William Hutchinson, 1866-1946
34 letters, 1931-1943 & n.d.
Scope and Content Note
Relate mainly to her financial affairs.

Crocker, Templeton, 1884-1948
4 letters, 1925.
See also Correspondence in material relating to Fay-Yen-Fah, Carton 1.

Hotaling, Richard M, 1868-1925

Lavery, Anita Elizabeth (Cowles) Rearden, 1861-1944
3 letters, 1909-1921 & n.d.

Redding, Joseph Deighn, 1859-1932
19 letters, 1899-1926 & n.d.

Sproul, Robert Gordon, 1891-
Letter, May 9, 1940.

Scope and Content Note
Mainly typed transcripts arranged chronologically. Written mainly to her father & grandmother.

Miscellaneous correspondence.
Scope and Content Note
Written to other members of the Rearden & Cowles families.

Papers of Timothy Henry Rearden
Scope and Content Note
Printed transcripts of legal decisions, annotated by Anna (Rearden) Baeck.

Manuscripts of writings
Scope and Content Note
Drafts of poems, typed transcript of Life of Alcaeus & Life of Sappho.

Album re marriage of Rearden & Anita E. Cowles
Scope and Content Note
Concerning announcement, newspaper article, letters of congratulations.

Personalia
Scope and Content Note
Certificate of service in Civil War, 3 biographies, program for D.A.R. memorial services.

Miscellany
Scope and Content Note
Notes, high school reunion program, list of books selected by Mrs. Crocker from his library after his death.

Papers of Anna Wooster (Rearden) Baeck
Scope and Content Note
Items relating to the University of California at Berkeley. Includes material compiled for a history of the Partheneias (never written), Prytanean Society Initiation Program, records of courses taken & grades, reunion invitations, library card, etc.
Key to Arrangement

Presentation copy of *The Green Knight* by Porter Garnett & Edward G. Stricklen, annotated by Anna Baeck.

**Personalia**
- Scope and Content Note
- Biographical data, notes re tombstone.

**Miscellany**
- Scope and Content Note
- High school publications & report cards, miscellaneous notes, etc.

**Papers of Anita Elizabeth (Cowles) Rearden Lavery**
- Scope and Content Note
- Miscellaneous papers including photocopy of letter of introduction written by Abraham Lincoln for Alpheus Shreve Badger, Oct. 4, 1861. [her sister’s father-in-law].

**Papers of Samuel Cowles [Anna Rearden Baeckt’s grandfather]**
- Scope and Content Note
- Personalia, including letter of recommendation, will, memorial tribute.

**Papers of Joseph Deighn Redding**

**Manuscripts of writings**
- Scope and Content Note
- Typed transcripts of poems & musical dramas, mimeograph copy of song "My Sweetheart Long Ago."

**Miscellaneous correspondence, accounts, notes, etc.**
- Scope and Content Note
- Re his operas *Fay-Yen-Fah* and *Natoma*.

**Personalia**
- Scope and Content Note
- Biographical data, membership cards, copy of affidavit of admission to practice law in New York.

**Miscellany**
- Scope and Content Note
- Bohemian Club programs & menus

**Papers of Myra Augusta (Cowles) Redding**

**Manuscripts of writings**
- Scope and Content Note
- Typed transcripts of short stories

**Diary, 1914-1915**

**Personalia**
- Scope and Content Note
- Will, passports

**Papers of Myra Cowles Redding [daughter]**

**Personalia**
- Scope and Content Note
- Including memorial tribute
Papers of Josephine Redding [daughter]
Diaries, 1906-1915
Personalia
Scope and Content Note
Biography written by her mother, poem written in her memory, sketch of tombstone.

Genealogy for the Cowles family
Legal papers of J. D. & Myra Redding & Anita Lavery
Scope and Content Note
Include copies of deeds, etc. re property in Ohio, San Francisco, Alameda County & Kern County; papers re estate of Clara Huntington Hatzfeldt (J. D. Redding was named in her will).

Accounts
Scope and Content Note
Miscellaneous invoices & receipts

Invitations, announcements, calling cards
Photographs
Scope and Content Note
Most of the photographs have been removed and indexed separately. J. D. Redding, T. H. Rearden, other family members.

Published writing of T. H. Rearden
Scope and Content Note
Life of Sappho; Life of Alcaeus; Alfred Tennyson, Poet Laureate; poem & address; illustrations for his writings, some by Virgil Williams.

Newspaper clippings
Arrangement
Arranged roughly by family.
Scope and Content Note
Includes also clippings about Redding's opera Fay-Yen-Fah and miscellaneous clippings. See also v. 3 in oversize.

Miscellany
Scope and Content Note
Unidentified notes

Joseph D. Redding's certificates to practice law in California, 1879; and in New York, 1896, and his certificate of appointments as Fish Commissioner, 1887, 1889 & 1891; Benjamin B. Redding's certificates of appointment as Fish Commissioner, 1870 & 1874. Illustrated poem written to T. H. Rearden

Scrapbook of clippings, programs, etc.
Scope and Content Note
Relating mainly to Fay-Yen-Fah.