A guide to the Captain George Warner Yardley records, 1906-1954

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A Guide to the Captain George Warner Yardley records

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San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park, National Park Service

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Title: Captain George Warner Yardley records
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Abstract: The Captain George Warner Yardley records SAFR 14306, HDC 98) consists of official documents, a scrapbook, and news clippings.
Physical Location: San Francisco Maritime NHP, Historic Documents Department
Language(s): In English.
Access
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Preferred Citation
[Item description], [Location within collection organization identified by Collection Number/Series Number/File Unit Number/Item Number], HDC0098 (SAFR 14306), Captain George Warner Yardley records, San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park
Acquisition Information
SAFR-00001
This collection was transferred from Golden Gate National Recreation Area to San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park.
Historical or Biographical Note
Captain George Warner Yardley (1879-1938) born in Yardley Pennsylvania. At an early age he stowed away aboard a Delaware river boat. By age 27 he had gained his master's papers. He came to San Francisco after the Spanish American war and whaling in the Artic. He was employed by the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, eventually rising to master of the GOLDEN STATE (steamer). He continued on to be master of Dollar Line's PRESIDENT CLEVELAND and PRESIDENT HOOVER. The PRESIDENT HOOVER, reportedly a $7.5 million dollar vessel and considered the most luxurious American made passenger ship sailing the Pacific sea during the 1930's, shipwrecked on a reef near the island of Hoishoto, eastward off Formosa in December 1937 with Captain Yardley at the helm.
Collection Scope and Content
The Captain George Warner Yardley records SAFR 14306, HDC 98) consists of official documents, a scrapbook, and news clippings.

Official documents include a Master of Steam and Motor Vessels license dated October 19, 1936, issued by the United States Department of Commerce Steamboat Inspection Service, "over any size vessel, in any ocean and first class pilot [in the] bay of San Francisco, Benicia, Columbia River Bar, Astoria, Humbolt Bay, San Pedro Bay, each to sea; also from Tacoma to sea via main channel routes." The certificate verso shows the captain's signature, certification for having passed color blindness test, and a fingerprint. The license was issued in Honolulu, Hawaii. Other documents include a waterfront pass with a photograph for the Port of San Francisco with Yardley's occupation noted as Captain for the Pacific Mail Steamship Company dated May 14, 1918, and a USA Citizen Seaman's Identification Card with personal statistics and photograph. There is also a loose 20 page scrapbook relating to significant events aboard the PRESIDENT HOOVER, on which Yardley was captain. The collection is processed and open for use.

Collection Arrangement
Materials are arranged in three folders: personal documents, PRESIDENT HOOVER news clippings and a scrapbook.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Shipwrecks
Maritime history
Passenger vessels
Port of San Francisco (Calif.)
Hoishoto, Formosa
Clippings
Scrapbooks
Shipping articles