
Finding aid prepared by Processed by Jamie Henricks.
William Andrews Clark Memorial Library
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Title: Rounce & Coffin Club Collection
Collection number: Press coll. Archives. Rounce & Coffin
Contributing Institution: William Andrews Clark Memorial Library
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 1.25 Linear feet; 3 boxes
Date (inclusive): 1932-1991
Abstract: This collection contains papers and printed ephemera created for members of the Rounce & Coffin Club. It includes items related to administration and activities of the club, materials associated with the annual Western Books Exhibition, event invitations, and printed keepsake booklets.
Physical location: Clark Library
creator: Rounce & Coffin Club
Access
Collection is open for research.
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Preferred Citation
Acquisition Information
Portions of this collection originated in accession MS.1988.002, as a gift of Josephine Ver Brugge Zeitlin. Other portions of the collection were gifts of Lawrence Clark Powell or the Rounce & Coffin Club, or were collected over time by the William Andrews Clark Memorial Library.
Processing History
Processed by Jamie Henricks, August 2009
Historical note
The Rounce & Coffin Club began in late 1931 at the house of Jake (Jacob) Zeitlin in Echo Park (Los Angeles), California. Grant Dahlstrom was named President and Ward Ritchie was designated secretary. The members met frequently at Zeitlin’s house and later at hotels in Pasadena. Beginning in 1938, the members held an annual Western Books Exhibition which displayed and judged fine press books made in and about the Western United States. Early and noted members included Saul Marks, Paul Landacre, Gregg Anderson, Robert Schad, Roland Baughman, H. Richard Archer, and others. Lawrence Clark Powell features often in club ephemera as well.
Scope and Content
This collection contains papers and printed ephemera created for members of the Rounce & Coffin Club. It includes items related to administration and activities of the club (including members lists, bylaws, photographs, correspondence, and other items); announcements and judging materials for their annual Western Books Exhibition; printed invitations for dinners, lectures, and meetings; Western Books Exhibition catalogs; and printed keepsake booklets. Six printed booklets which were not keepsakes of the Rounce and Coffin Club were removed from box 3 and moved to a folder in the Fine Press Ephemera Collection (Press Coll. Ephemera). The folder is titled “Items from the Rounce & Coffin Club Collection”.
Arrangement
The collection was kept in its original order, except where certain items (such as the keepsake booklets) were arranged chronologically by date. Items are arranged thematically, and then chronologically when possible.
The collection is organized into the following series:
Series 1. Administration, Publicity, and Western Book Exhibition... stuff., 1938-1989
Series 2. Invitations to Dinners, Lectures, and Meetings, 1931-1991
Series 3. Printed Booklets and Catalogs
Related Material
Items relating to the Rounce & Coffin Club and its members may be found in other California fine press collections held at the Clark Library. Many of these collections have finding aids available via the Online Archive of California, but this list is in no way exhaustive: Ward Ritchie Papers, the Patrick Reagh Papers, the Battledore Press Collection, the Richard J. Hoffman Collection, the Vance Gerry and the Weather Bird Press Archive, Plantin Press Papers, the Paul Landacre Archive, the H. Richard Archer Papers, and the Zamorano Club Collection.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**
- Archer, H. Richard, (Horace Richard), 1911-1978
- Cheney, William Murray, 1907-
- Dahlstrom, Grant Edward
- Ritchie, Ward, 1905-1996
- Zeitlin, Jake, 1902-1987
- Clubs--California--20th century
- Ephemera--California--20th century
- Fine books--California--20th century
- Administration, Publicity, and Western Book Exhibition Series 1. 1938-1989
  - Arrangement note
    - This series is arranged thematically, with general Rounce & Coffin material appearing before Western Books Exhibition material.

**Folder 1, Folder 1**
- **Administrative Ephemera 1941-1958, 1966, 1977**
  - Scope and Contents note
    - Includes multiple member lists; membership cards for H. Richard Archer, Lawrence Clark Powell, and Robert O. Schad; by-laws; voting forms; and other notices.

**Folder 1, Folder 2**
- **Annual Book Auction Announcements 1939-1993**

**Folder 1, Folder 3**
- **Correspondence 1954-1988**
  - Scope and Contents note
    - Includes seven letters to and from members of the Rounce & Coffin Club.

**Folder 1, Folder 4**
- **Exhibition Announcements 1946-1965**
  - Scope and Contents note
    - Includes announcements for miscellaneous exhibitions, most about printing.

**Folder 1, Folder 5**
- **Photographs 1955**
  - Scope and Contents note
    - Includes photographs sent from Grant Dahlstrom to H. Richard Archer of people at one or two Rounce & Coffin Club events. Some photos have the word "Eeney-chay" written on the back -- Cheney (Will) in Pig Latin.

**Folder 1, Folder 6**
- **Newspaper Clippings and Periodical Articles 1946-1960**

**Folder 1, Folder 7**
  - Scope and Contents note
    - Includes printed ephemera exchanged as keepsakes for members of the Rounce & Coffin Club, usually at meetings.

**Folder 1, Folder 8**
- **Stationery**
  - Scope and Contents note
    - Includes blank forms and various pieces of Rounce & Coffin Club stationery as well as stationery for amusement, including a piece for "The Flying Hiatus" ("published at intervals", "all issues out of series and uncalled-for").
Folder 1, Folder 9  **Western Books Exhibition announcements and itineraries 1938-1983**  
**Scope and Contents note**  
Includes announcements and locations for Western Book Exhibitions.

Folder 1, Folder 10  **Western Books Exhibition call for books 1938-1988**  
**Scope and Contents note**  
Includes requests for submissions of books to be judged and possibly exhibited in the Western Book Exhibition.

Folder 1, Folder 11  **Western Books Exhibition display cards and merit certificates 1938-1967**

Folder 1, Folder 12  **Western Books Exhibition judging ephemera 1969-1971, 1987, 1989**

Folder 1, Folder 13  **Western Books Exhibitions -- retrospective exhibition announcements 1948, 1954, 1959**

Box 3  **Western Books Exhibition catalogs 1938-1994**

**Scope and Contents note**  
Includes announcements for two Rounce & Coffin retrospective exhibitions (10 and 20 years) and an exhibit of United States books to be sent to Mexico with a list of books.

General note
The back of the photograph reads "L to R = Jake Zeitlin, Wyllis Kerr (Pomona), + Carl Wheat, Judging R & C Books" and "Carey Bliss + Phil Brown in background - at Huntington Library".
Printed Keepsake Booklets for members of the Rounce & Coffin Club 1938-1959, 1990

Scope and Contents note
International Book Illustration, 1935-1945 / sponsored by the American Institute of Graphic Arts at the Pierpont Morgan Library, New York. [ca. 1946.]
Faith in Literature. Phi Beta Kappa Address, Colgate University / Morris Bishop. 1947. [Gift to the Rounce & Coffin Club.]
Librarian-on-Leave / Lawrence Clark Powell, edited by Everett Moore. Los Angeles City College: Los Angeles, 1952.

Invitations to Dinners, Lectures, and Meetings Series 2. 1931-1991

Scope and Contents note
This series contains invitations to dinners, lectures, and meetings organized by and for the members of the Rounce & Coffin Club.
Arrangement note
This series is arranged chronologically by date of event.

Invitations to Rounce & Coffin Club dinners, lectures, and meetings [1932]-1991

General note
Also includes a folder of undated invitations.