Preliminary Guide to the Hobart O. Skofield Papers

Preliminary arrangement and description by D. Tambo
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URL: http://www.library.ucsb.edu/speccoll/speccoll.html
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Descriptive Summary
Title: Hobart O. Skofield Papers
Dates: ca. 1910s-1991
Bulk Dates: 1930s-1970s
Collection number: Printers Mss 1
Collection Size: ca. 30 linear feet (26 cartons, 10 oversize boxes, and 2 open-reel audio tapes).
Repository: University of California, Santa Barbara. Library. Dept. of Special Collections
Santa Barbara, CA 93106
Abstract: Two series: personal/family materials re Hobart O. Skofield, his father Ray L. Skofield, and a large number of genealogical files; and a printers/presses series, with a large amount of material relating to Skofield's association with the Rudge printing firm, as well as long-term correspondence with other prominent printers and research/subject files on numerous mostly-American presses and printing interests.
Physical location: Boxes 1-2, 27-36 (Annex 2); Boxes 3-26 (SRLF); Audiovisual (Annex 2).
Languages: English
Access Restrictions
None. Collection is stored off-site; advance notice required for retrieval.
Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
Hobart O. Skofield Papers. Printers Mss 1. Department of Special Collections, Davidson Library, University of California, Santa Barbara.
Acquisition Information
Multiple gifts from Hobart Skofield, ca. 1948-1991.
Biography
Hobart O. Skofield (known as Sko):
1902: Born, New York City.
1924: graduated from Amherst College (Amherst, Massachusetts).
ca. 1924-1926: father got him a job Banker's Trust (16 Wall Street, New York), but realized he didn't want to be a banker and got interested, instead, in fine printing.
1926-1931: Apprentice compositor at the Printing House of William Edwin Rudge; left because of Depression and economizing measures in the firm. Became interested in history of the book and printing during this time.

1931: Moved to Santa Barbara, joining family [father Ray L. Skofield, stepmother, and nurse companion]. Family returned to New York in fall 1931; HOS stayed on and maintained the family ranch on/by Las Canoas Road.

1937: formed partnership with A. Edwin Fisher, who had a small printing shop on Anacapa St. (in SB), but left it a few months later. Went back to work on the ranch.

Sept. 1940: Enlisted in local National Guard, the 144th Field Artillery.

Feb. 1941: Ordered to active duty; sent to Fort Lewis, Washington; there three-four years, training recruits.

1944-1945: sent to Europe, landed at Normandy, through Germany and Austria; discharged.

1945: Returned to Santa Barbara; worked at Schauer's printing studio (SB).

1946: Father asked HOS to quit Shauer's job and help with developing the ranch (more an acreage than working ranch).

1948: Donated 500 books from his personal collection, which formed the core of what came to be known as the Hobart O. Skofield Printers Collection. This constituted the second special collection that the library had, the first being the William Wyles Collection.

Mid-1960s: Began UCSB consultanship.

1976: The Printers Collection had grown to more than 10,000 volumes.

Feb. 5, 1991: Died, Santa Barbara, California.

**Arrangement**

The collection contains the following series:

- **Personal/Family** - Biographical material re Hobart O. Skofield and his father Ray L. Skofield; b/w photographs and slides, many relating to HOS in WWII; and a large number of Skofield family genealogical files. Boxes 1-17.

- **Printers/Presses** - Alphabetical files, bibliographical, and correspondence files with a large amount of material relating to Hobart O. Skofield's association with the Rudge printing firm and its alumni, as well numerous other mostly-American presses and printers. Boxes 18-26.

- **Oversize** - mainly maps and other material relating to the Skofield property; also some personal, genealogical, and a 1958 framed commendation to the Rancheros Vistadores, from the California State Assembly. Boxes 27-36.

- **Audiovisual** - Two audiotapes dealing with Sko's life, his printing and collecting interests.

**Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

- Skofield, Hobart O.
- Small presses--United States.
- William Edwin Rudge (Firm)

**Related Materials at UCSB**


- **Skofield [Hobart O.] Portfolio, ca. 1926-1931.** Two volumes, containing approximately 217 items representing printing specimens collected by Hobart O. Skofield. Call Number: Special Coll., Printers Collection Z232.S5 A4 1926. Tape # AS13602/R7, in container list, includes information about the portfolio.

- **Skofield [Hobart O.] Printers Collection.** Named after Hobart O. Skofield, who also donated several thousand printed items (most cataloged separately) and who established an endowment to support the collection, currently there are more than 30,000 volumes, with an emphasis on the book arts, bookplates, California presses (such as Arion, Black Sparrow, Book Club of California, Grabhorn, Flying Fish, Paul Elder, and Yolla Bolly presses), fine printing, history of the book, writing and printing, miniature books, papermaking, Santa Barbara presses (including Capra Press, Mary Heebner's Simplemente Maria Press and Harry and Sandra Reese's Turkey Press), small and private presses (such as Doves, Gehenna, Granary, Hogarth, Janus, Kelmscott, Nonesuch, Pennyroyal, Perishable, and Roycroft presses), and typography. Also, related manuscript collections relating to Hobart O. Skofield, Mudborn Press, John Henry Nash, Ninja Press (Carolee Campbell), Pear Tree Press, Bruce Rogers, Rowny Press, and Rudge Press.

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**Personal / Family**
Biographical Scope and Content Note
Personal and family

Skofield, Hobart O. [HOS]
Box 1 Amherst College - Biographical Record, 1973
Box 1 Correspondence - mostly to his father, also some newspaper clippings, incl. WWII experiences on the European front), 1941-1945
Box 1 "A Few Notes Concerning Ancient Writing," by H. O. Skofield (Mount Vernon, N.Y.: At the Academic Press, 1931)
Box 1 144th F.A. [Field Artillery Regiment]
Box 1 General - mostly correspondence from former members of the 144th, ca. 1945-1947
Box 1 Association - former members of the 144th
Box 1 Typescript recollections, written by unidentified member of the unit - mentions HOS at points such as New York leave, just before departing for Europe and the war
Box 1 Oral History - transcripts, ca. 1982
Box 1 Rancheros Vistadores
Box 1 Rudge [Printing House of William Edwin Rudge, New York City] - correspondence and other re HOS' time with the firm and period following it, ca. 1931-1936
Box 1 Skofield Park
Box 1 Skofield Property - Santa Barbara
Box 1 Skofield, Ray L. [RLS] (b. 1871; d. 1958)
Box 1 Aviation - scrapbook with newspaper clippings and photographs (incl. one of Charles Lindbergh); correspondence, schedules, and other relating to transcontinental flights taken by aviation enthusiast RLS, including the purported first telegram sent from an airplane (June 27, 1929), 1927-1939
Box 1 Newspaper clippings, including obituary
Box 1 Skofield Family - Ermine Skofield Reynolds
Photographs
Box 1 Prints (most black/white)
Box 1 Beilenson, Anthony and Dolores - with HOS, on visit to UCSB Libraries, Feb. 14, 1987
Box 1 Fiesta (incl. Will Rogers), 1928, n.d.
Box 1 Glick, Milton - with HOS and Chris Brun, 1971
Box 1 144th F.A. [Field Artillery Regiment] Association
Box 1 Paper Mill Trip - Dard Hunter's Mill, Lime Rock, CT, May 1930
Box 1 Rancheros Vistadores - incl. Ed Borein, Walt Disney, ca. 1959, n.d.
Box 1 Rudge - William Edwin Rudge and employees, including HOS, 1930
Box 1 Skofield, Hobart O. - portraits and other, n.d.
Box 1 Skofield Family - mainly Ray L. Skofield's mother (HOS grandmother), pre 1920
Box 1 Skofield Park - Acquisition and Dedication, 1959
Box 1 UCSB Library - Rudge exhibit, HOS, and Special Collections, 8th floor, 1966
Box 1 UCSB Library - Rudge exhibit, 1969
Box 1 UCSB Library - Rudge exhibit, with HOS, Chris Brun, and Fred Rudge, n.d.
Box 2 WWII - with the 144th F.A., 1944-1945
Box 2 Zamarano Club - at Covarrubias Adobe, Santa Barbara, June 14, 1969
Box 2 Unidentified
Box 2 Negatives (black/white) - Map of an Automobile Trip
Box 2 Negatives (color) - unidentified (domestic/family, not WWII), n.d.
Box 2 Slides (color) - boxed, incl. Santa Barbara area, California, horses, 144th F.A. [Field Artillery Regiment], ca. 1941-1943, 1946-1948
Genealogical Research

Binders - arranged by alpha/numerical code devised by HOS
Box 3  A-D99
Box 4  E1-G29
Box 5  G30-J; unsorted
Box 6-7  Unsorted (incl. some loose papers)
Files
Box 8  A1-F13
Box 9  F14-H16
Box 10  H17-J10
Box 11  A-Ma
Box 12  Ma-Z
Box 13  Reynolds-Schmidt
Box 14  Public Records (deeds and other)
Files - Cards (boxed, each arranged alphabetically)
Box 15  Given [family]
Box 15  Skofield [family]
Box 15  Skofield collateral
Notebooks - Family histories and other
Box 16  Adams Family of York, Maine
Box 16  Curtis Genealogy, by C. N. Sinnett
Box 16  MacLaughlin Family
Box 16  Maine Census - 1790
Box 16  Maine Genealogical Inquirer
Box 16  Maine, Harpswell
  Harpswell, Maine Marriages Recorded, 1754-1843, by Rev. Elisha Eaton and
  his son Samuel Eaton
Box 16  Historic Harpswell, Maine and Its Historic Congregational Church, by Rev.
  Charles N. Sinnett
Box 16  Maine Vital Records
Box 16  [Merryman] Walter Merryman of Harpswell, Maine and His Descendants, by
  Rev. Charles Nelson Sinnett
Box 16  The Pennells of Brunswick - Shipbuilders, by George A. Erswell, Jr.
Box 16  Skofield Family Tree
Box 16  Skofield, Ray L. - Lineages of
Box 16  [Skofield] Clement Skofield Descendants, C-3
Box 16  [Skofield] Ebenezer Skofield & Descendants
Box 16  [Skofield] Jacob Skofield & Descendants
Box 16  Skofield Clippings
Box 16  Spear Family
Box 17  Unsorted - correspondence, photocopies/photostats, re genealogical research
  mainly done in collaboration with cousin Esther Skofield Schmiedt of Berkeley,
  CA; intended by HOS to be filed with other genealogical records

Printing / Presses

Alphabetical

Scope and Content Note
Correspondence, print specimens, prospectii, research notes, and related material on
presses, individuals, and printing interests [similar files in the Rudge Collection (Printers
Mss 1) and Presses and Printers Collection (Printers Mss 31)], most ca. 1960s-1980s.

Box 18  "A"
Box 18  Abbatoir Press
Alphabetical

Box 18
Adler, Elmer
Box 18
Albertus Magnus Press
Box 18
Albion Press
Box 18
Allenholme Press
Box 18
American Institute of Graphic Arts
Box 18
American Printing History Association
Box 18
American Type Founders Company
Box 18
Ampersand Club
Box 18
Angel Alley Press
Box 18
Annenberg, Maurice
Box 18
Antioch College Co-ops
Box 18
Archetype Press
Box 18
Ari Press
Box 18
Arion Press
Box 18
Artichoke Press
Box 18
Arundo Press
Box 18
Association of American University Presses
Box 18
Association of Research Libraries (ARL)
Box 18
"B"
Box 18
Baker, George H.
Box 18
Barrows Mussey
Box 18
Baskin, Leonard
Box 18
Battery Park Book Co.
Box 18
Beilenson, Edna, Peter, and family - Peter Pauper Press
Box 18
Bennett, Paul A.
Box 18
Bernhard, Lucian
Box 18
Birrell & Garnett
Box 18
Blumenthal, Joseph (Joe)
Box 18
Bohn, Ralph L.
Box 18
Book Club of California
Box 18
Book Den (Santa Barbara)
Box 18
Book Plates
Box 18
Bradford, Ralph
Box 18
Bremer Presse
Box 18
Brewer, Luther A.
Box 18
Bromer Booksellers
Box 18
Bromley, George F.
Box 18
Brown University
Box 18
Bunny Press
Box 18
Burke, Clifford
Box 18
"C"
Box 18
California Missions - Books
Box 18
Carpenter, Kenneth & Patricia
Box 18
Castle Press
Box 18
Caxton Club
Box 18
Center for Typographical Language
Box 18
Chappel
Box 18
Chiswick Book Shop
Box 18
Christmas - bibliographical information about Christmas books; cards, engravings, etchings, and related
Box 18
Cliff Dwellers
Box 18
Coal Trade Journal
Box 18
Cohen, Herman - re W. E. Rudge
Box 18
Colt Press
Box 18
Columbiad Club
Box 18
Cowell Press (Cowell College, University of California, Santa Cruz)
Box 18
Cranium Press
Box 18
Crown Point Press
| Box 18 | "D" |
| Box 18 | Dahlstrom, Grant |
| Box 18 | Daniel Press |
| Box 18 | Davis, John M. K. |
| Box 18 | Dickman, O. A. - re Rudge association |
| Box 18 | Dingbat Gossip |
| Box 18 | Distaff Side |
| Box 19 | Duenewald, Ralph M. |
| Box 19 | Duncan, Harry |
| Box 19 | Dworczyk, Raymond |
| Box 19 | "E" |
| Box 19 | Ellis, Richard W. |
| Box 19 | Elm Tree Press |
| Box 19 | Elmete Press |
| Box 19 | Enschedé |
| Box 19 | Ephemera |
| Box 19 | Equinox Press |
| Box 19 | Erickson, E. O. [Eric] |
| Box 19 | Eucalyptus Press |
| Box 19 | Evans, M. B. |
| Box 19 | Exhibitions |
| Box 19 | "F" |
| Box 19 | Farquhar |
| Box 19 | Field, Eugene |
| Box 19 | First Edition Club |
| Box 19 | First Press - Santa Barbara |
| Box 19 | Folio Society |
| Box 19 | Freedman, Ted |
| Box 19 | "G" |
| Box 19 | Garden View Press |
| Box 19 | Gautier, Theophil |
| Box 19 | Glad Hand Press |
| Box 19 | Glick - Milton B., Evelyn, and Bill |
| Box 19 | Goodspeed's Book Shop |
| Box 19 | Goudy, Frederic W. |
| Box 19 | Grabhorn Press |
| Box 19 | Grabhorn - Hoyem |
| Box 19 | Grace Hoper Press |
| Box 19 | Graphic Group |
| Box 19 | Gravesend Press |
| Box 19 | Griddle Press |
| Box 19 | Grolier Club |
| Box 19 | Guthrie, James |
| Box 19 | "H" |
| Box 19 | Haldeman - Julius Co. |
| Box 19 | Handwriting |
| Box 19 | Harris, Paul S. |
| Box 19 | Harris, Paul Stuart |
| Box 19 | Hart, Ruth and James |
| Box 19 | Hawthorn House |
| Box 19 | Hebert, Marian - Santa Barbara artist |
| Box 19 | Heritage of the Graphic Arts |
| Box 19 | Herity Press |
| Box 19 | Hermes Free Press |
| Box 19 | Higgins-McArthur Co. |
| Box 19 | Historic Press of Tubac |
| Box 19 | Hoffman, Richard |
Box 19  Howell, John
Box 19  Hubbard, Elbert
Box 19  Hunter, Dard
Box 19  [Huntington] Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery
Box 19  Hutner, Martin W.
Box 19  "I"
Box 19  Imprint Society
Box 19  International Bookfinders
Box 19  In Our Time (Eugene O'Neill)
Box 19  Ives, Vernon A.
Box 20  "J"
Box 20  "K"
Box 20  Kafka, Francis J.
Box 20  Kahoe, Walter
Box 20  Kelmscott Press
Box 20  Kemble Collections
Box 20  Klinefelter, Walter
Box 20  Koch, Theodore W.
Box 20  Korle, Alice
Box 20  "L"
Box 20  Labyrinth Editions
Box 20  Lerner, Abe
Box 20  Leslie, Robert Lincoln
Box 20  Lime Kiln Press
Box 20  Limited Editions Club
Box 20  Loos, Melvin
Box 20  Lowry, Walker
Box 20  "M"
Box 20  Mackenzie-Harris Corp.
Box 20  Maya
Box 20  Mayhew Press
Box 20  "Mc"
Box 20  McMurtrie, Douglas C.
Box 20  Meadow Press
Box 20  Meridan Press
Box 20  Merrymount Press
Box 20  Meyer, Walter and Paul
Box 20  Monotype, Langston
Box 20  Morgan, Ernest
Box 20  Miscellaneous Antiquities
Box 20  Mussey, J. B.
Box 20  "N"
Box 20  National Amateur Press Association [NAPA]
Box 20  New Directions
Box 20  New York Printers
Box 20  Noble, Mrs. George (Carol Hollister)
Box 20  Nonesuch Press
Box 20  Nonpareil Press
Box 20  "O"
Box 20  October House
Box 20  Overbrook Press
Box 20  "P"
Box 20  Pacific Coast Printing Co. (Santa Barbara)
Box 20  Peregrine Press
Box 20  Perishable Press
Box 20  Peter Pauper Press
Box 20  Philpott, Arlen
Box 20  Pinch-Penny Press
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Press</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Pinion Press</td>
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<td>Porcupine Press</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Pre-Columbian Press</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>The Press at Colorado College</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>The Press in Tuscany Alley</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Press of A. Colish</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Printing</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Printing Dates</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Printing History Association of Southern California</td>
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<td>Printing - Specimens</td>
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<td>Private Press of the Haywoods</td>
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<td>Private Press of the Indiana Kid</td>
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<td>&quot;Q&quot;</td>
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<td>Quail Press</td>
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<td>&quot;R&quot;</td>
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<td>Rebis Press</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Rigby, Irving F. - Rudge Reminiscences</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Ritchie, Ward</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Rogers, Bruce</td>
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<td>Rollins, Carl Purington</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Rounce &amp; Coffin Club</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Rowfant Club</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Roxburghe Club</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Rudge</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Rudge Chapbook</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Rudge - Douglas Correspondence</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Russell, Thomas C.</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>&quot;S&quot;</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Sade, Donatien Alphonse François</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>San Francisco Bay Area</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Scarab Press</td>
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<td>Schaefer, Caroline</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Schauer, David Howard</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Schedule and Report - UCSB Libraries news</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Scripps College Press</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Shapiro, Karl</td>
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<td>Shapiro, S. R. (book dealer)</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Shoestring Press</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Small Press Club of Marin</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Spare Moments Press</td>
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<td>21</td>
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<td>Stinehour Press</td>
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<td>Stonewall Press</td>
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<td>Stricker, Thomas Perry</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Sumac Press - E. G. Wulling</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Sutcliff, Judy</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>&quot;T&quot;</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Tamalpais Press</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Tanner, Wesley</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Box 21  Taylor & Taylor
Box 21  Thomas C. Russell (San Francisco printer and publisher)
Box 21  Thompson, Edmund B.
Box 21  Thompson / Collamore
Box 21  Turkey Press
Box 21  Typophiles
Box 21  "U"
Box 21  Untide Press
Box 21  University of California, Davis
Box 21  University of California, Los Angeles
Box 21  University of California Press
Box 21  University of California, Santa Barbara - College of Creative Studies
Box 21  University of California, Santa Barbara - Library
Box 21  University of Hawaii Press
Box 21  Updike, D. B.
Box 21  Urban Printers
Box 21  "V"
Box 21  Village Press
Box 21  "W"
Box 22  W. T. Genns
Box 22  Wall, Bernhardt
Box 22  Waller, Pickford
Box 22  Ward, Lynd
Box 22  Ward Ritchie Press
Box 22  Warwick Press
Box 22  Wattle Grove Press
Box 22  Weaker Moments
Box 22  White Birch Press
Box 22  White, Carl Milton
Box 22  Whittaker, Alice
Box 22  Wilson, Adrian
Box 22  Wood, Starr
Box 22  Woodcuts
Box 22  "X-Y-Z"
Box 22  Yolla Bolly Press
Box 22  Young, Gary
Box 22  Young, Noel
Box 22  Zamorano Club
Box 22  Zapf, Hermann
Box 22  Zauberberg Press
Box 22  Zenger, John Peter
Box 22  Miscellany

Bibliographical
Scope and Content Note
Card files and notebooks; arranged by topic

Notebooks
Christmas Books
Box 22  Bibliographical and Other Reference Material in the UCSB Library relating to Christmas Books
Box 22  Checklist of Christmas Books at UCSB
Box 22  Christmas and New Year Gift Books
Box 22  Christmas Books (3)
Box 22  Miscellaneous Checklists of Christmas Books
Box 22  Press Checklists and Want Lists
Card Files
### Correspondence

**Scope and Content Note**

Mainly with fellow printers, often about aspects of Rudge history; also with dealers and Chris Brun, Head of Special Collections at the time, re building the Printers Collection.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>1975-1979</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Oversize

**Scope and Content Note**

[at Annex 2]

### Personal / Family

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>General - incl. photos (Skofield Park), Joseph Pennell sketches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Genealogy - rolled items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Rancheros Vistadores - framed commendation from the California State Assembly, 1958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Sko property and genealogical information - rolled items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Sko property - rolled and other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Sko property - rolled topo maps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Sko property - rolled maps in telescoping box</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Printers / Presses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Scrapbooks (materials re the following; cataloged as Printers Z232 S5 A2)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Book 1: Skofield and William Edwin Rudge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Book 2: Peter Beilenson, Peter Pauper Press, and Walpole Printing Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Book 4: Milton Glick, Harbor Press, Richard Ellis and the Georgian Press, Miscellaneous</td>
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<td>36</td>
<td>Print specimens, mainly John Henry Nash</td>
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### Audiovisual

**Scope and Content Note**

Open reel tapes

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Tape No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A13602/R7</td>
<td>Discussion of items in portfolio (Printers Z238 G6) and in scrapbook (Printers Z232 S5A2), Jan. 5, 1968</td>
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<td>A13603/R7</td>
<td>Skofield-Rudge article for <em>Soundings</em>, Feb. 26, 1970</td>
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