Kelsey Family papers, 1872-1934
MC.950.110
Finding aid prepared by Mary A. Crauderueff

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit
March 30, 2016
Describing Archives: A Content Standard
Table of Contents

Summary Information ................................................................................................................................. 3
Biographical note........................................................................................................................................ 4
Scope and Contents ........................................................................................................................................ 4
Administrative Information .......................................................................................................................... 4
Related Materials ........................................................................................................................................ 5
Controlled Access Headings ........................................................................................................................ 5
Collection Inventory ..................................................................................................................................... 6
  Diaries .......................................................................................................................................................... 6
  Rayner Kelsey writings ................................................................................................................................. 7
  Letters of Sympathy .................................................................................................................................... 7
  Graphic materials ........................................................................................................................................ 8
## Summary Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Repository</th>
<th>Haverford College Quaker &amp; Special Collections</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creator</td>
<td>Kelsey Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creator - Author</td>
<td>Kelsey, Asa, 1839-1929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creator - Author</td>
<td>Kelsey, Rayner Wickersham, 1879-1934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Kelsey Family papers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>1872-1934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent</td>
<td>0.88 Linear feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Preferred Citation

Kelsey family papers (MC.950.110), Quaker & Special Collections, Haverford College, Haverford, PA.
Biographical note

Asa Kelsey (1839-1929) was born near Niagara Falls in Canada in 1839. As a young man he moved to Michigan and became a naturalized citizen of the United States. In 1860 he married Sarah E. Atwater and they lived in Western Springs, IL with their four children, among whom was Rayner W. Kelsey. Asa Kelsey engaged in the tea and coffee business and was a faithful member of the Society of Friends.

Rayner Wickersham Kelsey (1879-1934) was born in Western Springs, IL to Asa and Sarah Atwater Kelsey. He graduated from Earlham College in 1900 and a year later he married Naomi Harrison Binford; their only child, Rayner Wilfred, was born in 1910. From 1901 to 1904, Kelsey was professor of German and public speaking at Pacific College (now George Fox University) in Oregon and then at Whittier College in California until 1909. In 1909 he was appointed professor of American history at Haverford College in Pennsylvania and in 1922 he was named Curator of Haverford’s Quaker Collection. He was an authority on Quakers and Indians and wrote the book *Friends and the Indians* in 1917. He was president of Friends’ Historical Association from 1913-1915, which is an association devoted to the study, preservation and publication of material relating to the history of the Religious Society of Friends, and editor of its *Bulletin* from 1922-1932. He was a member of Haverford Monthly Meeting of Friends and a recorded minister in the Society of Friends.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains materials relating to Rayner Kelsey, and his father, Asa Kelsey. These include diaries of both Asa and Rayner from 1872-1934 and letters of sympathy received upon the death of Rayner in 1934. Rayner's diaries were written while he was a professor at Haverford College.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Haverford College Quaker & Special Collections March 2016

Use Restrictions
Standard Federal Copyright Law Applies (U.S. Title 17).

**Acquisition**
Gift of Ray Kelsey, February 2012.

**Processing Information**
Processed by Mary A. Crauderueff; completed March 2016.

---

**Related Materials**

Related materials
- MC 1108 R.W. Kelsey's notes on American and agricultural history
- MC.950.130 Naomi and Rayner Kelsey papers

---

**Controlled Access Headings**

**Genre(s)**
- Diaries.
- Quakers -- Diaries

**Subject(s)**
- Clippings (Books, newspapers, etc.)
- Quakers
## Collection Inventory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1872-1934</td>
<td>Diaries 1872-1934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1872-1912</td>
<td>Asa Kelsey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1872</td>
<td>Diary 1872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1874-1875</td>
<td>Diary 1874-1875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>Diary 1910 (January-May)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>Diary 1910 (May-September)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910-1911</td>
<td>Diary 1910-1911 (September 1910-January 1911)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>Diary 1911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911-1919</td>
<td>Diary 1911-1919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td>Diary 1912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909-1934</td>
<td>Rayner Kelsey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>Diary 1909</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Rayner Kelsey writings

Diary 1910-1914

Diary 1915-1919

Diary 1920-1924

Diary 1925-1929

Diary 1930-1934

Rayner Kelsey writings 1908, 1934, undated

Newspaper clipping 1908

Scope and Contents

Newspaper clipping of "The New Way and The Old: Easy and Correct Way to See Nature's Great Art Gallery" from the *Oakland Tribute*. 1908 June 07

Speech entitled "Prohibition" undated

"Uncle Allen," poem 1934

Annotated copy of "National Issues of the United States Historically Presented" undated

Letters of Sympathy 2.0 Folders Alphabetically organized. Also includes death notices and obituary newspaper clippings.
Graphic materials 1925, undated

Silver Gelatin photograph of Rayner Kelsey by Hollander & Feldman, Philadelphia circa 1925

Etching of the life of George Fox by Robert Spence undated  1.0 Item Removed to 988G