Naomi and Rayner Kelsey papers, 1842, 1900-1952, undated
MC.950.130
Finding aid prepared by Mary A. Crauderueff

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March 31, 2016
Describing Archives: A Content Standard
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Summary Information

Repository  Haverford College Quaker & Special Collections

Creator - Author  Jones, Elizabeth B. (Elizabeth Bartram), 1871-1952

Creator - Author  Jones, Rufus Matthew, 1863-1948

Creator  Kelsey Family

Creator - Author  Kelsey, Naomi, 1875-1967

Creator - Author  Kelsey, Rayner Wickersham, 1879-1934

Creator - Author  Ly, Juwan Usang, 1888-

Creator - Author  Sharpless, Isaac, 1848-1920

Title  Naomi and Rayner Kelsey papers

Date  1842, 1900-1952, undated

Extent  0.44 Linear feet

Language  English

Preferred Citation

Naomi and Rayner Kelsey papers (MC.950.130), Quaker & Special Collections, Haverford College, Haverford, PA.
Biographical note

Rayner Wickersham Kelsey (1879-1935), a graduate of Earlham College received a Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of California in 1909. From 1901 to 1904, he was professor of German and public speaking at Pacific College (now George Fox) in Oregon and then at Whittier College in California until 1909. In 1909, he was appointed professor of American history at Haverford College and Curator of its Quaker Collection. Kelsey was an authority on Quakers and Indians; he authored the book Friends and the Indians in 1917. He was also author of the Centennial History of Moses Brown School and a short biography of William Penn. He married Naomi Binford in 1901. He was a member of Haverford Monthly Meeting and a Quaker minister.

Naomi Kelsey (1875/6-1967) was a member of Haverford Monthly Meeting and president of the Haverford College Women’s Faculty Club.

Scope and Contents

The papers include the correspondence of Rayner and Naomi Kelsey and letters to Wilfred and Sherma Kelsey. Correspondents include: John B. Garrett, Rayner W. Kelsey, Elizabeth B. Jones, Rufus M. Jones, J. Usang Ly, Roderick Scott, Isaac Sharpless, and Albert H. Wilson. There is a diary kept by Naomi Kelsey, probably in 1936, during a leg of a world cruise, recording events in China, Japan, Hong Kong and Hawaii and discussing people with whom she visits. There are sermons and talks of Rayner Kelsey that span several topics and decades. Finally, there are a number of miscellaneous objects including a badge created during Henry Clay’s run for the presidency.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Haverford College Quaker & Special Collections March 2016

Use Restrictions

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

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.950.110 Kelsey family papers

Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)
• Correspondence.
• Diaries.

Subject(s)
• Haverford College--History.
• Indians of North America
• Native Americans.
• Quaker women -- United States
Collection Inventory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Correspondence</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Rayner and Naomi Kelsey Correspondence 1909-1952</strong></td>
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**Scope and Contents**


<table>
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<tr>
<th>Letters to Wilfred and Sherma Kelsey 1947-1949</th>
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</table>

**Scope and Content**

Ideas for research needs; “criticism” sometimes heard that under Gilbert White, Haverford is becoming a Quaker institution; discussion in Meetings on the efficacy of First Day schools.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Diaries</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Diary circa 1936</strong></td>
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**Scope and Contents**

Diary describes places visited by Naomi Kelsey while on a world cruise aboard the S.S. Reliance, including Hong Kong, China, Japan and Hawaii. Kelsey mentions meeting such people and Gilbert and Minnie Pickett Bowles, Esther Rhoads, Gurney Binford, Edith Sharpless, J. Usang Li and others.
Included as well are snapshots, postcards, clippings, but also a letter from Albert Wilson, dated February 8, 1936 (moved to correspondence) stating that he has learned of her being in Bombay, thus the attribution of 1936 to this diary.

**Sermons and talks**

Rayner Kelsey sermons and talks 1909-1925  4.0 Folders

**Scope and Contents**

These are Rayner Kelsey’s notes toward talks in various places. Most talks have a title, date and place given on the envelopes which contained the notes. Some envelopes are empty. There are a few undated photographs of Native Americans (Myra Fry, McCloud, OK and Mrs. Sueze Black Dog, Hominy) in folder 4. Topics include: Quakers and Native Americans, Native Americans, Society of Friends.

**Photographs**

Photographs 1901-1904

**Scope and Contents**

Photographs at Pacific (now George Fox College). The photographs are of groups, perhaps faculty, one identifying Rayner and Naomi Kelsey, and a few of the interior of their home.

**Miscellaneous**

Miscellaneous 1842, 1900, 1929, undated

**Scope and Content**
Quakeriana Notes 1933-1935

Scope and Content

Quakeriana Notes were issued by the Quaker Collection of Haverford College and published by Haverford College. They were edited by Rayner Kelsey until his death in 1935. Attached to the inside front cover is a poem written by J. Russell Hayes upon the death of Kelsey. Laid in are seven letters of Kelsey to Hayes, librarian at Swarthmore College. Highlights of these letters include:

- Haverford, Pa., 1930 10/17. [refers to account of visit of Friends to Indians of NY in 1806 and 1837]
- Haverford, Pa. 1932 12/2. [Exeter Monthly Meeting has deposited their records at Swarthmore]
- Haverford, Pa. 1933 10/11. [“Quakeriana Notes” were conceived by Kelsey]