

Breckenridge Masonic Lodge No. 47 A.F. & A.M. Collection

Finding Aid

Collection Summary

Title:	Breckenridge Masonic Lodge No. 47 A.F. & A.M. Collection
Inclusive Dates:	1879-mid 1900s, with gaps
Collection Number:	L.2015.2
Size:	7 document boxes, 1 oversize print box
Languages:	English
Repository:	Dr. Sandra F. Mather Archives, Breckenridge, Colorado
Source:	Ray Smith, Secretary, Breckenridge Masonic Lodge No. 47 A.F. & A.M.
Abstract:	Archival items relevant to the history, ceremony, and administrative operations of Breckenridge Masonic Lodge No. 47, dating from the late 1870s to mid-1900s. Items include photographs, financial records, administrative documents, correspondence, print materials, supply catalogues and more.

Restrictions

Access:

Open for research. On loan to the Archives from 1/30/2015 – 04/01/2025.

Use:

Research use only. Materials may be reproduced in accordance with the Archives' usual policy and procedures.

Copyright:

This collection is on loan to the Dr. Sandra F. Mather Archives and the Breckenridge Heritage Alliance. Copyright in papers in this collection may be held by their authors, or the author's heirs or assigns. Researchers must obtain the written permission of the holder(s) of copyright before publishing quotations from materials in the collection.

Rights Statement:

Copyright Not Evaluated (CNE)

Processing Information

Arrangement:

No original order could be established so materials have been placed in an imposed order. Container Lists are available by request.

Finding Aid Prepared By:

Kris Ann Knish, revised January 2018

Preferred Citation

Courtesy Dr. Sandra F. Mather Archives, Breckenridge Heritage Alliance, from Breckenridge Masonic Lodge No. 47 A.F. & A.M. Collection [L2015.2]

Biographical Note

The second Masonic Lodge in the Colorado Territory was chartered on June 5, 1861 in Parkville, a former town site south of Breckenridge. By August that year, Parkville Lodge No. 7 was declared one of three subordinate Lodges of Colorado and renamed Summit Lodge No. 2. Tailings from mining activity in the Swan River Valley eventually buried the Parkville site in the 1880s. Lodge members moved their organization a few miles south to Breckenridge and Lodge No. 47 was chartered September 20, 1882. For nearly a century (early 1900s to 2005), the Breckenridge Masons used the building located on the NE corner of Main Street and Washington Avenue, Breckenridge.

Scope and Content

The Breckenridge Masonic Lodge No. 47 A.F. & A.M. Collection contains educational and reference materials related to the history and ceremony of Freemasonry; administrative and financial records; correspondence between members and Lodges; and photographs. This collection also contains fraternal supply catalogues and magazines, unmarked administration forms and miscellaneous ephemera.

Series

- 1 - Education and Reference
- 2 - Administrative Records
- 3 - Financial Records

4 - Correspondence

5 - Serials and Ephemera

Series Description

Series Title: 1 - Education and Reference

Series Number: L.2015.2.1

Container: 01; 06 OVERSIZE

Contains print materials about the history and ceremony of Freemasonry, the beginnings of Masonry in Colorado, booklets outlining Masonic Constitutions and By-Laws, and instruction booklets for Masonic Ceremonies. Also includes "Service Letters" (reports of the committee) from 1939 to the mid-1950s; a "History of Breckenridge Lodge No. 47"; 1962 hand drawn map of Parkville. Photographs show Masons at the former townsite of Parkville and a portrait photograph of the founding officers circa 1900.

Series Title: 2 - Administrative Records

Series Number: L.2015.2.2

Container: 02

Order of business records including meeting minutes, Officer and Member lists, application requests, visit notices, and unmarked administrative forms. Limited cemetery records include one Permit for Burial register from the early 1900s and typed or handwritten lists of interred Masonic Lodge Members. There are Grand Lodge of Colorado Reports and some informational materials relevant to the Order of the Eastern Star and DeMolay.

Series Title: 3 - Financial Records

Series Number: L.2015.2.3

Container: 03A; 03B

Contains financial records and receipt books maintained by the Finance Committee, Secretary, and Treasurer. The earliest records are from the 1880s. The registers are incomplete and many receipts from certain years are missing - records are not consistent through the decades. Other items in this series are invoices and receipts generated from conducting business with the Breckenridge Masons. Included are handwritten and printed account statements as well as receipts with detailed lists of items, and invoices for services provided from Breckenridge businesses and some from Denver area businesses.

Series Title: 4 - Correspondence

Series Number: L.2015.2.4

Container: 04

Correspondence includes typed and handwritten letters to the Lodge Secretary from individual members concerning Masonic Lodge activities and programs, such as notice of membership dues, petitions for membership or advancement of degrees, and character references. Also included are letters of grievances against members and letters of response by Officers and Committees. Some letters are from members or their widows requesting benevolent funds to cover medical expenses or other type of assistance, as well as other Fraternal Lodges and organizations requesting information and member verification. Blood drive funding materials round out this series.

Series Title: 5 - Serials and Ephemera

Series Number: L.2015.2.5

Container: 05A; 05B; 06 OVERSIZE; FF1, Folder 16

Serials including Fraternal Order periodicals and chronicles, Masonic Lodge Directories and Masonic supplies catalogues, and printed materials like pamphlets and brochures. Two newspapers with brief articles related to the Masons, and play scripts. Also, miscellaneous ephemera such as Round Trip Tickets to Annual Meeting of the Masonic Grand Bodies of Colorado, Railroad Rates notice, song cards and a movie advertising poster.

Access Terms

Breckenridge (Colo.)

Business & finance

Charity

Education

Fraternal lodges

Fraternal organizations

Fund raising

Funeral processions

Funeral rites & ceremonies

Historical markers

History

Organizations & Clubs

Parades & processions

Parkville (Colo.)

Rites & ceremonies

Symbols