

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

WESTERN ARCHIVES



KERWOOD ANCIENT ORDER OF UNITED WORKMEN #408 FONDS

AFC 121

Inventory prepared by Alison Mitchell-Reid, based on student finding aid project(s) undertaken in partial fulfilment of archives course requirements – January 2010

**WESTERN ARCHIVES
AFC 121
KERWOOD ANCIENT ORDER OF UNITED WORKMEN #408 FONDS**

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**KERWOOD ANCIENT ORDER OF UNITED WORKMEN #408 FONDS
AFC 121
FONDS DESCRIPTION**

Dates

1894-1903

Extent

5 folders of textual records

Administrative History

The Ancient Order of United Workmen was a fraternal organization founded by John Upchurch in Meadville, Pennsylvania in October, 1868. Based heavily on the Masonic tradition, the A.O.U.W. was aimed at the working class man. The order established one of the first fraternal benefit funds, where a member would pay into an insurance fund to ensure his dependents remuneration of up to \$2,000 upon his death. New chapters were granted by the United States headquarters up to 1897; in 1897, the Canadian order split from its parent organization. The Ancient Order of United Workmen ceased to exist by the 1940s.

The Kerwood chapter of the Ancient Order of United Workmen #408 was founded on December 21, 1895. By 1903, there were 67 Kerwood members in good standing. Kerwood A.O.U.W. ceased operations sometime after 1903.

Scope and Content

This fonds contains the records of the Kerwood Ancient Order of United Workmen #408. Correspondence, membership petitions, remittance documents and other documents are included.

Arrangement

The fonds is arranged into the following series:

- Series 1: Petitions for membership
- Series 2: Correspondence
- Series 3: Remittance documents
- Series 4: Miscellaneous documents

Finding Aids

File and item lists are available.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Donated by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Rebekahs of Kerwood, Ontario in 2009.

Conditions Governing Access

No restrictions on access.

**KERWOOD ANCIENT ORDER OF UNITED WORKMEN #408 FONDS
AFC 121
SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS**

Series 1 Petitions for membership

Dates

1896-1902

Extent

1 folder of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains membership petition cards for Kerwood A.O.U.W. #408. Name, age, residence, occupation, and endorsement details are included.

Item List

Title	Dates	Box
Petitions for membership	1896-1902	AFC 121-1-1

**KERWOOD ANCIENT ORDER OF UNITED WORKMEN #408 FONDS
AFC 121
SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS**

Series 2 Correspondence

Dates

1894-1903

Extent

2 folders of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains correspondence addressed to Kerwood Ancient Order of United Workmen #408. Letters from other local lodges, as well as correspondence from the Grand Lodge of Ontario are included.

Item List

Title	Dates	Box
General correspondence	1902-1903	AFC 121-1-2
Correspondence from the Grand Lodge	1894-1903	AFC 121-1-3

**KERWOOD ANCIENT ORDER OF UNITED WORKMEN #408 FONDS
AFC 121
SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS**

Series 3 Remittance documents

Dates

1898-1903

Extent

1 folder of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains copies of documentation sent with monthly fee and premium remittances. All funds were sent to the Grand Recorder in Toronto, Ontario.

Item List

Title	Dates	Box
Monthly remittance documents	1898-1903	AFC 121-1-4

**KERWOOD ANCIENT ORDER OF UNITED WORKMEN #408 FONDS
AFC 121
SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS**

Series 4 Miscellaneous documents

Dates

1897-1902

Extent

1 folder of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains various documents belonging to Kerwood Ancient Order of United Workmen #408. Blank semi-annual reports, death reports, and beneficiary certificates are included.

File List

Title	Dates	Box
Miscellaneous documents	1897-1902	AFC 121-1-5