

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO**

**WESTERN ARCHIVES**



**INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS  
ENTERPRISE ENCAMPMENT #38 FONDS**

**AFC 122**

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 122  
INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS  
ENTERPRISE ENCAMPMENT #38 FONDS**

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**INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS  
ENTERPRISE ENCAMPMENT #38 FONDS  
AFC 122  
FONDS DESCRIPTION**

**Dates**

1925-1966

**Extent**

5 volumes of textual records

**Administrative History**

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows is a benevolent fraternal organization; originally founded in the United States in 1819, it separated from the British Odd Fellows in the 1830s. Its mandate is to “improve and elevate the character of mankind;” charitable work community involvement make up a large part of Oddfellowship. Belief in a supreme being is the only requirement for membership; there are women’s and children’s groups within the I.O.O.F. family as well. The motto, “Friendship, Love, and Truth” is exemplified in the initiatory degrees of the I.O.O.F. and is represented by a three-linked chain. While the order is inter-faith, the lessons taught are derived from the Christian Bible.

The Grand Encampment of Ontario was instituted on August 6, 1869. Encampments are higher branches of Odd Fellowship, offering three degrees (Patriarch, Golden Rule, and Royal Purple). One must be a member in good standing of a subordinate (local) lodge, having already achieved the three degrees available at that level in order to qualify for membership in an Encampment. Members of an Encampment who have achieved the Royal Purple degree are eligible for membership in the Patriarchs Militant. Encampments often have a Ladies Auxiliary branch, offering higher degrees than are available in the Rebekah Lodge.

The Enterprise Encampment #38 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows was instituted at Kerwood, Ontario on May 6, 1925. Most of the members held their local membership in either Egremont Lodge #207 (Kerwood), Peabody Lodge #99 (Watford), or Howard Lodge #58 (Strathroy). The inaugural officers were:

Richard E. Waltham – Chief Patriarch  
William H. McLean – Senior Warden  
William Brigham – High Priest  
Rex Winter – Recording Scribe  
Winfield R. Waltham – Financial Scribe  
William J. McDougall – Treasurer

Meetings were held at the I.O.O.F. hall in Kerwood. Enterprise Encampment #38 ceased operations sometime after 1966.

**Scope and Content**

This fonds contains records from the Enterprise Encampment #38 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in Kerwood, Ontario. Membership documents, a minute book, a roll book, and a dues certificate book are included.

**Arrangement**

The fonds is arranged into the following series:

Series 1: Membership documents

Series 2: Minute book

Series 3: Roll book

Series 4: Dues certificate book

**Finding Aids**

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.

**INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS  
ENTERPRISE ENCAMPMENT #38 FONDS  
AFC 122  
SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS**

**Series 1      Membership documents**

**Dates**

1925-1966

**Extent**

2 volumes of textual records

**Scope and Content**

This series contains a membership register and a membership application book from Enterprise Encampment #38. Details of the members' or applicants' name, age, residence, occupation, and local lodge affiliation are included.

**Item List**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Box/File</b>
Membership register [vol.]	1925-1966	AFC 122-1-1
Membership application book [vol.]	1925-1953	AFC 122-1-4

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**Series 2      Minute book**

**Dates**

1925-1954

**Extent**

1 volume of textual records

**Scope and Content**

This series contains the minutes of regular meetings of Enterprise Encampment #38.

**Item List**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Box/File</b>
Minute book [vol.]	1925-1954	AFC 122-1-2

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**Series 3      Roll book**

**Dates**

1925-1951

**Extent**

1 volume of textual records

**Scope and Content**

This series contains a roll book from Enterprise Encampment #38. Attendance for office-holding members is recorded.

**Item List**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Box/File</b>
Officers roll book [vol.]	1925-1951	AFC 122-1-3



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SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS**

**Series 4      Dues certificate book**

**Dates**

1931-1939

**Extent**

1 volume of textual records

**Scope and Content**

This series contains books of dues certificates for Enterprise Encampment #38. Bi-annual dues paid are recorded on the stubs remaining in the books.

**Item List**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Box</b>
Dues certificate book	1931-1939	AFC 122-1-5