

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO**

**WESTERN ARCHIVES**



**DIAMOND LOYAL ORANGE LODGE #965 FONDS**

**AFC 79**

Inventory prepared by Alison Mitchell-Reid, based on student finding aid project(s) undertaken in partial fulfilment of archives course requirements - November 2009

**WESTERN ARCHIVES  
AFC 79  
DIAMOND LOYAL ORANGE LODGE #965 FONDS**

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**DIAMOND LOYAL ORANGE LODGE #965 FONDS**  
**AFC 79**  
**FONDS DESCRIPTION**

**Dates**

1880-1888

**Extent**

1 volume of textual records

**Administrative History**

The Orange Order is a Protestant Christian fraternal organization, formed in Ireland in 1795 in honour of William of Orange's 1690 victory at the Battle of the Boyne. The Grand Lodge of British North America was founded in Brockville, Ontario in 1830, although there is evidence that Orangemen were active in Canada during the War of 1812.

According to the constitution of Canada's Loyal Orange Association, an applicant must be an observant Protestant Christian and be loyal to Queen and country. Members are called to be kind to others and to assist in benevolent activities within the community.

In Canada, lodges are organized within individual communities, with local district lodges, county lodges, and regional lodges forming a link to the Grand Lodge of British North America. Members of the Loyal Orange Association often strive to rise in the Biblically-based Degree system, from Orange Degree (initiation) to Blue Degree, Royal Arch Purple Degree, and Scarlet Degree. Degrees are conferred after application and advanced study. Members of the Orange Order celebrate the Battle of the Boyne every July 12, often marching in parades and playing in bands.

Diamond Loyal Orange Lodge #965 was originally founded in Wisbeach, Lambton East, on September 25, 1858. First transferred to Port Lambton, Lambton West in 1876, a new warrant was issued at New Brighton (London South), Westminster Township on January 10, 1880. Meetings were held in various halls and private homes.

The inaugural officers were:

Bro. John Oneil – Worshipful Master

Bro. John Lore – Deputy Master

Bro. William Finch – Secretary

Bro. Freeman Hodgins – Treasurer

Diamond Loyal Orange Lodge #965 ceased operations in January, 1888. The warrant was transferred to Caistor Township, Haldimand County, in November, 1890.

**Scope and Content**

This series contains a minute book of Diamond Loyal Orange Lodge #965.

**Arrangement**

The fonds is arranged into the following series:

Series 1: Minutes of meetings

**Finding Aids**

Item list is available.

**Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Purchased at an auction of the effects of the Orange Lodge building at 388 Clarence Street in June, 1975.

**Note**

Material was originally stored in box B4266-001.

**Related Material**

The documents of South London's successor lodge, Beaver Loyal Orange Lodge #2101, are available at Western Archives. For more information, please see AFC 90.

**Conditions Governing Access**

No restrictions on access.

**DIAMOND LOYAL ORANGE LODGE #965 FONDS  
AFC 79  
SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS**

**Series 1      Minutes of meetings**

**Dates**

1880-1888

**Extent**

1 volume of textual records

**Scope and Content**

This series contains a minute book, detailing the activities during regular and special meetings of Diamond Loyal Orange Lodge #965.

**Item List**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Box</b>
Minutes [vol.]	1880-1888	AFC 79-1