

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO**

**WESTERN ARCHIVES**



**STAR OF BETHLEHEM LOYAL ORANGE LODGE #2769 FONDS**

**AFC 87**

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 87  
STAR OF BETHLEHEM LOYAL ORANGE LODGE #2769 FONDS**

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**STAR OF BETHLEHEM LOYAL ORANGE LODGE #2769 FONDS**  
**AFC 87**  
**FONDS DESCRIPTION**

**Dates**

1941-1974

**Extent**

2 folders of textual records  
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.

Star of Bethlehem Loyal Orange Lodge #2769 was originally founded on December 16, 1919. At some point during its history, London lodges #2625 and #2851 were absorbed into the Star of Bethlehem lodge membership. From approximately 1928, meetings were held in the Orange Hall at 388 Clarence Street in London, Ontario. Star of Bethlehem Loyal Orange Lodge #2769 was closed as of December 31, 1973.

**Scope and Content**

This fonds contains minutes, financial records, and correspondence from Star of Bethlehem Loyal Orange Lodge #2769. Most of the records cover the later period of the lodge's existence; discussions of the closing of the lodge are included.

**Arrangement**

The fonds is arranged into the following series:

Series 1: Minutes of meetings

Series 2: Financial records

Series 3: Correspondence

**Finding Aids**

File and item lists are available.

**Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Donated by the London Orange Hall Board on July 10, 2001.

**Related Material**

Copies of annual returns for this lodge are available in the District #1 Loyal Orange Lodge London Ontario fonds. For more information, please see AFC 99.

**Note**

Material was originally stored in box B5620.

**Conditions Governing Access**

No restrictions on access.

**STAR OF BETHLEHEM LOYAL ORANGE LODGE #2769 FONDS**  
**AFC 87**  
**SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS**

**Series 1      Minutes of meetings**

**Dates**

1964-1973

**Extent**

1 folder of textual records

**Scope and Content**

This series contains a minute book, detailing the activities during regular and special meetings of Star of Bethlehem Loyal Orange Lodge #2769. Discussions of the closing of this lodge are included.

**File/Item List**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Box/File</b>
Star of Bethlehem minutes	1964-1973	AFC 87-1-1

**STAR OF BETHLEHEM LOYAL ORANGE LODGE #2769 FONDS**  
**AFC 87**  
**SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS**

**Series 2      Financial records**

**Dates**

1941-1973

**Extent**

1 volume of textual records

**Scope and Content**

This series contains the treasurer's book from Star of Bethlehem Loyal Orange Lodge #2769. Records of dues paid are sorted by member name, and membership lists are also included.

**Item List**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Box</b>
Treasurer's book [vol.]	1941-1973	AFC 87-1

**STAR OF BETHLEHEM LOYAL ORANGE LODGE #2769 FONDS**  
**AFC 87**  
**SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS**

**Series 3      Correspondence**

**Dates**

1970-1974

**Extent**

1 folder of textual records

**Scope and Content**

This series contains correspondence to and from Chancey O. Smith in his capacity as Secretary for the Star of Bethlehem Loyal Orange Lodge #2769. Letters relating to late dues, the permanent closing of the lodge, and invitations to events held in other lodges are included.

**File List**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Box/File</b>
Star of Bethlehem correspondence	1970-1974	AFC 87-1-2