

# Guide to the Whiffenpoofs, Yale University, Records

RU 156



compiled by Daniel Hartwig

November 2007

Yale University Library  
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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
(203) 432-7441  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** RU 156

**CREATOR:** Whiffenpoofs (Musical group)

**TITLE:** Whiffenpoofs, Yale University, records

**DATES:** 1904-2009

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 28.2 linear feet (21 boxes, 4 folio folders)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The records consist of song arrangements, sheet music, audio recordings, membership lists, advertisements, clippings, photographs, posters, scrapbooks, and other memorabilia of the Yale Whiffenpoofs.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ru.0156>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ru.0156>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Conditions Governing Access

Access to the records is partially restricted. See Collection Contents for details.

Original audiovisual materials, as well as preservation and duplicating masters, may not be played. Researchers must consult use copies, or if none exist must pay for a use copy, which is retained by the

repository. Researchers wishing to obtain an additional copy for their personal use should consult Copying Services information on the Manuscripts and Archives web site.

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## Preferred Citation

Whiffenpoofs, Yale University, Records (RU 156). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Separated Materials

Recording of the 1950 Whiffenpoofs was transferred to the library's Historical Sound Recordings collection.

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## Biographical / Historical

The Whiffenpoofs, a Yale student singing group, was founded in 1909 by four members of the University Quartet: George Pomeroy (1909), James M. Howard (1909), Meade Minnigerode (1910), Carl A. Lohmann (1910), and Denton Fowler (1909). The founders took their name from a fish story told by Joe Cawthorn, a popular comedian of the time. In a musical show called "Little Nemo," he described a fabulous creature which he caught by boring a hole in the lake and putting cheese around the hole. The Whiffenpoof, led on by the cheese, came up the hole, squawked, and then was caught. The Yale Whiffenpoofs claimed that they too could be led on by food and drink to squawk.

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## Scope and Contents

The records consist of song arrangements, sheet music, audio recordings, membership lists, advertisements, clippings, photographs, posters, scrapbooks, and other memorabilia of the Yale Whiffenpoofs.

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## General note

Forms part of Yale Record Group 40 (YRG 40), Records of Yale clubs, societies, and organizations.

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## Arrangement

The records are arranged by accession.

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**Collection Contents**  
**Accession 19ND-A-485: Members' lists, 1940-1954**

b.1	Members' lists	1940-1954
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**Accession 1984-A-052: Advertisements, clippings and posters, 1983**

b. 1	Advertisements, clippings and posters	1983
b. AF6	Oversized material	

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**Accession 1991-A-091: Scrapbook, 1950**

Recording of the 1950 Whiffenpoofs was transferred to the library’s Historical Sound Recordings collection.

b.1	Scrapbook	1950
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**Accession 1991-A-103: Reunion memorabilia, 1939-1990**

Restricted until Jan 1, 2025

b. 1, f. 1	30th Reunion: Correspondence and Photographs	1939
b. 1, f. 2	Rudy Vallee	circa 1939-1949
b. 1, f. 3	40th Reunion	1949
b. 1, f. 4	50th Reunion	1959
b. 1, f. 5	Correspondence	1959
b. 1, f. 6	60th Reunion	1969
b. 1, f. 7	Whiffs	1970-1978
b. 1, f. 8	70th Reunion	1979
b. 1, f. 9	Correspondence	1980
b. 1, f. 10	75th Reunion	1984
b. 1, f. 11	Whiffs	1985
b. 1, f. 12	Women and the Whiffenpoofs	1987-1988
b. 1, f. 13	80th Reunion: Private party of 1945-1950 Whiffenpoofs in Old Lyme. Taped and donated by J. Marshall <i>1 Videocassette (VHS)</i>	1989
b. 1, f. 14	Correspondence	1989
	1970 Whiffenpoofs 20th Reunion	
b. 1, f. 15	[Branford College] <i>1 Videocassette (VHS)</i>	1990 June 1
b. 1, f. 16	Table Cards announcing concert. Donated by Richard Alfieri, "71	1990
b. 1, f. 17	Frisbees donated by Richard Alfieri, "71	1990
b. 1, f. 18	Clippings	1946-1990
b. 1, f. 19	Address Lists	



## **Accession 1994-A-001: Song arrangements, circa 1946-1992**

No online inventory available. Paper inventory available in repository.

b.1

## **Accession 1994-A-084: "Songs of the Whiffenpoofs" manuscript, circa 1948**

b.1

"Songs of the Whiffenpoofs" manuscript

circa 1948

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**Accession 1994-A-128: Records, photographs, and other material documenting the  
activities of the Whiffenpoofs, 1945-1994**

b. 1, f. 1	Blazer patch	1943
b. 1, f. 2	Biographical sketch and clipping	1947
b. 1, f. 3	The Whiffenpoof Song	
b. 1, f. 4	Audition materials	1986
b. 1, f. 5	Portraits	
b. 1, f. 6	1945	
b. 1, f. 7	1947	
b. 1, f. 8	1948	
b. 1, f. 9	1949	
b. 1, f. 10	Materials from <i>Button, Button</i>	1947
b. 1, f. 11	Materials from <i>Whoosh</i>	1948
	Alumni	
b. 1, f. 12	<i>Gentlemen Songsters</i> , vol. 4	1994 April
b. 1, f. 13	Lower Potomac River Valley Ballad Singers	
b. 1, f. 14	Musikfest (Bethlehem, PA)	1992

**Accession 1998-A-099: Original sheet music, Whiff arrangements, Whiff index, and  
ALS by C. Lohmann, circa 1904-1997**

b. 1	Alexander Words by: Andrew Sterling Music by: Harry Von Tilzer
b. 1	Alexander's Ragtime Band Words by: Irving Berlin Music by: Irving Berlin
b. 3	All Coons Look Alike to Me Words by: Ernest Hogan Music by: Ernest Hogan
b. 1	Bill Bailey, Won't You Please Come Home Words by: Hughie Cannon Music by: Hughie Cannon
b. 1	Daddy is a Yale Man Words by: Dave Lippincott Music by: Dave Lippincott
b. 1	Down Among the Shletering Pams Words by: James Brockman Music by: Abe Olman
b. 3	Honey man Words by: Joe McCarthy Music by: Al Piantadosi
b. 1	Hong Kong Blues Words by: Hoagy Carmichael Music by: Hoagy Carmichael
b. 1	How Long Has This Been Going On? Words by: Ira Gerswhin Music by: George Gershwin
b. 1	How ya Gonna Keep 'em Down on the Farm Words by: Joe Young Sam Lewis Music by: Walter Donaldson
b. 1	It Takes A Long Tall Brown-Skin Gal Words by: Marshall Walker Music by: Will E. Skidmore

b. 3	I've Got A Feelin' For You Words by: Madden and Morse Music by: Madden & Morse
b. 3	I've Got the Time-I've Got the Place Words by: Ballard MacDonald Music by: S. R. Henry
b. 1	Jamboree Jones Words by: Johnny Mercer Music by: Johnny Mercer
b. 1	Lora-Belle Lee Words by: Sid Miller and Ray Gilbert Music by: Sid Miller and Ray Gilbert
b. 1	Macnamara's Band Words by: John J. Stamford Music by: Shamus O'Connor
b. 1	Mandy Words by: Irving Berlin Music by: Irving Berlin
b. 1	mandy Lee Words by: Thurland Chattaway Music by: Thurland Chattaway
b. 1	Miss Otis Regrets Words by: Cole Porter Music by: Cole Porter
b. 1	My Home Town Is A One Horse Town Words by: Alex Gerber Music by: Abner Silver
b. 1	Oceana Roll Words by: Roger Lewis Music by: Lucien Denni
b. 1	Oh By Jingo Words by: Lew Brown Music by: Albert Von Tilzer

b. 3	Oh! By Jingo Words by: Lewis Brown Music by: Albert Von Tilzer
b. 1	One-Two-Three-Four Words by: S. Kamala Music by: Jack Alau
b. 1	Passport Photograph Words by: Ray Perkins Music by: Ray Perkins
b. 3	Put On Your Old Grey Bonnet Words by: Stanely Murphy Music by: Percy Wenrich
b. 1	Put the Blame on Mame Words by: Allan Roberts, Doris Fisher Music by: Allan Roberts Doris Fisher
b. 1	Ragtime Violin Words by: Irving Berlin Music by: Irving Berlin
b. 1	Rose of Washington Square Words by: Ballard MacDonald Music by: James F. Hanley
b. 1	Saloon Words by: George Whiting Music by: Roland E. Llab
b. 1	Some of These Days Words by: Shelton Brooks Music by: Shelton Brooks
b. 1	Sunshine Girl Words by: Bob Merrill Music by: Bob Merrill
b. 1	Tea for Two Words by: Caesar and Harbach Music by: Vincent Youmans

b. 3	Teasing 1904 Words by: Cecil Mack Music by: Albert Von Tilzer
b. 2	Teasing 1936 Words by: Cecil Mack Music by: Albert Von Tilzer
b. 2	The Ace Down in the Hole Words by: Jams Dempsey Music by: George Mitchell
b. 2	The Gang That Sang 'Heart of My Heart' Words by: Ben Ryan Music by: Ben Ryan
b. 2	The Memphis Blues Words by: George A. Norton Music by: W.C. Handy
b. 2	The Pullman Porters on Parade Words by: Ben G. May Music by: Maurice Abrahms
b. 2	The Whiffenpoof Song 1936 Words by: Meade Minnegerode George Pomeroy Music by: Todd Galloway
b. 2	The Whiffenpoof Song 1944 Words by: Moss Hart Music by: Rudy Valee
b. 2	There'll Be Some Changes Made Words by: Billy Higgins Music by: W. Benton Overstreet
b. 2	Toot Toot Toosie (Goo'bya) Words by: Kahn, Erdman, Russo Music by: Kahn, Erdman, Russo
b. 2	What You Goin' To Do When the Rent Comes Round? Words by: Andrew Sterling Music by: Harry Von Tilzer

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|------|---|
| b. 2 | When You Wore a Tulip<br>Words by: Jack Mahoney<br>Music by: Percy Wnrich     |
| b. 2 | You Stepped Out of A Dream<br>Words by: Gus Kahn<br>Music by: Ncip Herb Brown |



**Accession 1999-A-085: Scrapbook, 1979**

b.1	Scrapbook	1979
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## Accession 2000-A-044: Sheet music and memorabilia, circa 1904-1994

b. 1	List of Ballads and Novelty Songs Series I by Harry Von Tilzer	
b. 1	List of Novelty Songs Series II and Instrumental Numbers by Harry Von Tilzer	
b. 1	Picture of the 1923 Whiffenpoofs on the Fence	1923
b. 1	Yale Record (centerfold copy of Lippencott's "Daddy Is A Yale Man")	1946 October 10
b. 1	The Whiffenpoofs of Yale University Eighty-Fifth Anniversary 1909-1994 (booklet)	1994
b. 1	The Yale Whiffenpoofs Weekend Program 85th Anniversary Reunion	1994
b. 1	Letter from Kent Sanger to Prof. Collins with words to "The Yale Song"	1986 August 27
b. 1	Letter from Wally Collins to Kent Sanger re the Aug 27, 1986 letter	1986 October 13
	Sheet Music	
b. 1	Collegiate; Moe Jaffe and Nat Bonx (words and music)	
b. 1	Down In Jungle Town; Edward Madden (words), Theodore Morse (music)	
b. 1	I Married the bootlegger's Daughter; Frank Crumit (words and music)	
b. 1	Lazy River; DeVol, Manley, Mecum (words and music)	
b. 1	Louisville Lou; Jack Yellen (words), Milton Ager (music)	
b. 1	Lulu's Back In Town; Al Dubin (words), Harry Warren (music)	
b. 1	My Cutie's Due at Two-to-Two; Robin and Von Tilzer (words and music)	
b. 1	Pullman Porters Parade; Ren. G. May (words), Maurice Abrahams (music)	
b. 1	Strike Up the Band Here Comes the Sailor; Andrew Sterling (words), Chas. B. Ward (music)	
b. 1	There'll Be Some Changes Made; Billy Higgins (words), W. Benton Overstreet (music)	
b. 1	Wedding Bells (Are Breaking Up That Old Gang of Mine); Raskin and Kanal (words), Fain (music)	
b. 1	A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square; Eric Maschwitz (words), Manning Sherwin (music)	
b. 1	Without A Song; William Rose and Edward Eliscu (words), Vincent Youmans (music)	
b. 1	Sit Down You're Rockin' the Boat; Frank Loesser	

**Accession 2001-A-109: Poster for Whiffenpoofs Jamboree, 1967**

b.1	Poster for Whiffenpoofs Jamboree	1967
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**Accession 2001-A-126: Poster, circa 2000**

b.1	Poster	circa 2000
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**Accession 2003-A-094: Photograph album, 1965**

b.1	Photograph album	1965
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Accession 2003-A-100: "Whiffenpoofs in China"; Scrapbook, 1957, 1986

b. 1U	"Whiffenpoofs in China" 1 Videocassette (VHS)	1986
b. 2	Scrapbook	1957

## Accession 2003-A-126: Scrapbooks, 1946-1947, 1954-1955

b.1

[Scrapbooks](#)

1946-1955

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## **Accession 2004-A-038: "Perfect Harmony: The Whiffenpoofs in China", 1985**

b.1	"Perfect Harmony: The Whiffenpoofs in China" 1 Videocassette (VHS)	1985
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**Accession 2005-A-123: Scrapbook, 1948**

b.1	Scrapbook	1948
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## Accession 2008-A-072: Anniversary ephemera, 1985-1989

b.1	75th anniversary brochure	1985
	80th anniversary	
	Reunion weekend program	1989
	Reunion weekend songbook	1989
	Saturday evening program	1989

**Accession 2008-A-178: Scrapbook, 1972**

b.1

**Accession 2009-A-211: Whiffenpoofs centennial poster, 2009**

The materials are open for research.

b.1	Whiffenpoofs centennial poster	2009
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**Accession 2022-A-0009: Original songbook , 1936**

Gift of Amy Solomon, Class of 1972.

Open for research.

b. 1, f. 1	Songbook	1936
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## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### Subjects

College students -- Societies, etc.  
Students' songs  
Vocal groups

### Genres / Formats

Audiotapes  
Photographs  
Posters  
Scrapbooks

### Corporate Bodies

Whiffenpoofs (Musical group)  
Yale University -- Societies, etc.  
Yale University -- Songs and music  
Yale University -- Students