

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

**Occidental Hotel. Juneau, Alaska.
Registers, February 17, 1886 - July 14, 1908.**

MS 137

5 Boxes
6 Vols.

Processed By: Sean M. Lanksbury;
May, 2005
Updated by: Jacki Swearingen;
November, 2013

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HISTORICAL NOTE

“The Occidental Hotel opened in Juneau's second decade with amenities rare for buildings in town during that period - each of its 25 rooms boasted hot and cold running water.

Built in 1892 on Front Street, across from where the Sealaska Plaza parking lot now sits, it was owned by John Olds and Morris Orton. In addition to the plumbing, hotel facilities included a billiard room, a reading room, a dining room, bar and kitchen.

In 1896, a 12-room addition was built, adding a ladies parlor and a sample room for traveling salesmen."

"During its first 20 years, the Occidental was the premiere hotel in Juneau. But as newer hotels were built, the Occidental became a second-rate establishment. Part of this decline was due to the closure of its dining room after Christmas dinner in 1912."

"The last Occidental Hotel guest was listed in the register in 1931. John Olds' wife Lila lived in the hotel until her death in 1937."

"The Occidental remained empty after her death until it was razed sometime in the later 1940s."

"John Olds, his wife and the Priors were charter members of the Pioneers' of Alaska."

(Taken from *Hotel history: Remembering the Occidental on Front Street*. Article written By John E. Dapcevich for The Juneau Empire © 2003 (03/26/2003) and as told by a descendant of John Olds and from the information gathered from the Juneau-Douglas City Museum.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

Registers for guests at the Occidental Hotel, Juneau, Alaska. Guest information includes date, name, residence, and room number. Local business advertisements appear on blotter sheets which are bound in as separators between the registration pages in three of the volumes.

SUBJECTS

Hotels, taverns, etc.--Alaska--Juneau
Occidental Hotel (Juneau, Alaska)

INVENTORY

Dates for each volume are:

- Vol. 1 February 17, 1886 - March 16, 1897
- Vol. 2 March 16, 1897 - October 29, 1899
- Vol. 3 October 25, 1899 - September 17, 1901
- Vol. 4 September 1, 1903 - February 28, 1905
- Vol. 5 March 28, 1906 - August 17, 1907
- Vol. 6 August 15, 1907 - July 14, 1908