

Olof E. Lind Papers

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Washington, D.C.
2015

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Prepared by Melinda K. Friend

Collection Summary

Title: Olof E. Lind Papers

Span Dates: 1713-1996

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1920-1955)

ID No.: MSS85935

Creator: Lind, Olof E., 1889-1971

Extent: 1,000 items ; 4 containers plus 1 oversize ; 1.6 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English, Swedish, and Arabic

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Summary: Member of the American Colony in Jerusalem, photographer, and rancher. Correspondence, memoirs and other writings, biographical material, legal files, financial records, clippings, autograph book, scrapbook, photographs, and other material relating primarily to Lind's life and work in Palestine while a member of the American Colony in Jerusalem, after leaving the colony in 1923, and his claims against the Israeli government.

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.

People

Lind family.

Lind, Astrid V., 1910- --Correspondence.

Lind, Erik E.--Correspondence.

Lind, Lars E.--Correspondence.

Lind, Nils E.--Correspondence.

Lind, Olof E., 1889-1971--Claims vs. Fr. Vester & Co.

Lind, Olof E., 1889-1971--Claims vs. Israel.

Lind, Olof E., 1889-1971.

Organizations

American Colony (Jerusalem)

Subjects

Christian communities--Palestine.

Land tenure--Sweden.

Photography--Palestine.

Ranching--Palestine.

Swedes--Palestine.

Places

Jerusalem--History--19th century.

Jerusalem--History--20th century.

Jerusalem--Social life and customs.

Palestine--History--19th century.

Palestine--History--20th century.

Palestine--Social life and customs.

Occupations

Photographers.

Ranchers.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Olof E. Lind, member of the American Colony in Jerusalem, photographer, and rancher, were purchased in 2014.

Transfers

Some photographs have been transferred to the Library's Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as part of these papers.

Related Material

Related collections in the Manuscript Division include the records of the [American Colony in Jerusalem](#), the [Lars E. Lind Papers](#), the papers of G. Olof Matsson, the papers of [John D. Whiting](#), and the [G. Eric and Edith Matson Papers](#).

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Olof E. Lind is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Olof E. Lind are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Olof E. Lind Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1889, Mar. 15	Born Olof Eriksson Möckelind, in Hjulbäck, Nås, Sweden
1896	Settled with parents and siblings at American Colony in Jerusalem, Palestine
circa 1914-1921	Worked in American Colony Photo Department
1921-1923	Tour guide and manager, American Express Co., Jerusalem, Palestine
1923	Left American Colony, but remained in Palestine
1923-1926	Worked at various jobs, including freelance cinematographer for Fox News in the Middle East
1926-1935	Contract photographer, Oriental Institute, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill., at excavations in Megiddo, Palestine, Luxor, Egypt, and Khorsabad, Iraq
1933	Married Astrid Victoria "Tassi" Johannsen of Björbo, Sweden (divorced circa 1939)
circa 1939-1948	Operated an orchard and ranch in Athlit, Palestine, near Haifa
1948	Fled to Sweden escaping violence in Palestine

1948-1957	Lived in Sweden and worked at the Statens Historiska Museum, Stockholm, Sweden
1957	Moved to the United States
circa 1960s	Married Lila Waters Williams (died 1987)
1967	Naturalized as citizen of the United States
1971, Oct. 1	Died, Metter, Ga.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Olof Eriksson Lind (1889-1971) span the years 1713-1996, with the bulk of the material dating from 1920 to 1955. The papers are in English, Swedish, and Arabic, and are arranged alphabetically by type of material or topic. A majority of the material relates to Lind's life and work in Palestine while a member of the American Colony in Jerusalem, after leaving the colony in 1923, and his claims against the Israeli government.

The memoirs, where Lind refers to himself as Loe, recount life in the American Colony in Jerusalem and in Palestine. He provides a view of the colony from the perspective of one of its Swedish members offering many personal experiences. The memoirs are actually several documents consisting of two larger essays giving a comprehensive history of the colony from its inception in 1881 and three smaller essays depicting individual chapters from Lind's life. Supplementing the memoirs are his speeches, photographs, biographical material, and newspaper clippings.

The general correspondence provides further insight into his life through letters written to and from Lind's family, friends, associates, and American Colony members. Family members include his brothers, Erik E., Lars E., and Nils E. Lind, and his wife, Astrid V. Lind. A block of correspondence written in the mid to late 1930s concerns the relationship between Lind and his wife and their eventual divorce sometime around 1939. Letters signed "mor" or "mors" are from Astrid's mother. His letters, written in later years to family members, also give accounts of life in the colony.

The legal files chronicle Lind's separate struggles to win compensation from Fr. Vester & Co. and the Israeli government. The Vester & Co.-American Colony store was managed on behalf of the colony by Frederick Vester and John D. Whiting. It functioned as the primary commercial outlet for the colony's photography and tourism businesses, which helped to support the colony as a whole, and in which Lind had worked and also helped to support through his related wage-earning. After leaving the colony, Lind sought financial compensation for labor and earnings he had contributed while a member. In *Lind v. Israel*, he sought compensation for the real estate and personal property he left behind when fleeing the violence in Palestine in 1948. The financial records supplement the case and contain accounts relating to his orchard.

Rounding out the collection is a scrapbook kept by Lind chronicling the tour he lead through Europe and Palestine in 1954, documents and travel information probably related to his work for the American Express Company, and material related to his archaeological work for the Oriental Institute of Chicago, Illinois. Of interest are documents relating to land in Sweden owned by Lind's ancestors.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material, name of organization, or topic.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	American Express Co., 1921-1923, undated
BOX 1	Archaeological expeditions and the Oriental Institute, Chicago, Ill., 1929-1936, undated
BOX 1	Autograph book of Lind and his wife, Astrid V. Lind, 1933-1936
BOX 1	Biographical material, 1925, 1933-1938, circa 1943-1971, undated
BOX 1	Christmas card lists, 1965-1968, undated
BOX 1	Financial records, 1930-1952, undated (3 folders)
BOX 1	General correspondence
BOX 1	1918-1939 (3 folders)
BOX 2	1941-1969, undated (3 folders)
BOX 2	Greeting cards with Holy Land scenes by Ernest F. Beaumont, circa 1932-circa 1948
BOX 2	Legal files
BOX 2	Lind v. Israel
BOX 2	Correspondence and documents, 1939-1969, undated (2 folders)
BOX 2	Lists and notes, circa 1938-circa 1948
BOX 2	Surveys of Haifa, Palestine, 1933, 1942, undated <i>See also Oversize</i>
BOX 2	Lind v. Fr. Vester & Co., 1920-1933, 1942
BOX 2	Miscellaneous, 1921, 1934
BOX 2	Memoirs
BOX 2	Background information and notes, 1904-1906, 1951, undated
BOX 2	"A Chapter from Loe's Memoirs in Palestine," circa 1968 (1 folder)
BOX 3	(1 folder)
BOX 3	"Hafitha, the Moabite Princess, and Her Lover Muthfy," undated
BOX 3	"The Life of One of the Ingemar Sons," undated (2 folders)
BOX 3	"A Swede Flees from Palestine," 1955
BOX 3	"Three Different Groups," undated (2 folders)
BOX 3	Memorabilia, 1933, undated
BOX 3	Miscellaneous
BOX 3	Lists and notes, undated
BOX 3	Map of Palestine and chart of Jerusalem rainfall, undated
BOX 3	Publications, 1901, 1959-1964
BOX 3	Newspaper clippings, 1926-1931, 1949-1951, 1964-1968, undated
BOX 3	Photographs
BOX 3	Breasted, James Henry, undated <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 4	Building of house and interior scenes (Jerusalem?), circa 1930s
BOX 4	Homes in the United States, 1939, 1949

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 4	Lind and his wife, Astrid V. Lind, circa 1930s
BOX 4	Religious procession in Jerusalem, undated
BOX 4	Scenes of Nås, Sweden, 1923, circa 1926, 1948, undated
BOX 4	Unidentified people, circa 1900, 1933-1934, 1940, 1949, undated
BOX 4	Postcards
BOX 4	Scenes of Europe, Mosul, Iraq, and souvenir packet, undated
BOX 4	Scenes of Nås, Sweden, undated
BOX 4	Printed reproductions of photographs, Palestine and the Near East, undated
BOX 4	Scrapbook of trip to Palestine and Europe, newspaper clippings, 1954
BOX 4	Speeches, 1959, undated
BOX 4	Surrender of Jerusalem in 1917, 1917-circa 1918, 1937, 1948
BOX 4	Swedish land documents
BOX 4	Correspondence, 1988, 1996
BOX 4	Texts, circa 1713-circa 1888 (4 folders)
BOX 4	Travel guide and tours information, 1922-1923, undated
BOX 4	Unidentified documents in Arabic, 1946, undated
BOX OV 1	Oversize
BOX OV 1	Legal files
BOX OV 1	Lind v. Israel
BOX OV 1	Surveys of Haifa, Palestine, 1933, 1942 (Container 2)
BOX OV 1	Photographs
BOX OV 1	Breasted, James Henry, undated (Container 3)