This collection includes a guest register, cash book, and expense ledgers of the Rose Cliff Hotel at Van Buren, Carter County, Missouri.

The Rose Cliff Hotel was built in 1927-1929 by Robert I. Davis along the Current River in what was known as “South” Van Buren. The hotel was a regional landmark, and was the temporary home of teachers, salesmen, politicians, vacationers, conservationists, hunters, fishermen, journalists, writers, and other travelers. Among the guests who signed the hotel’s registers were Governor Forrest Donnell, Thomas Hart Benton, Leonard Hall, Dan Saults, and other prominent Missourians, many of whom were instrumental in preventing construction of a dam on the Current River and establishing the Ozark National Scenic Riverways. The Rose Cliff closed in the 1960s, and burned during its restoration in the 1980s. For more information on the Rose Cliff, see the article by Lynn Morrow, “Rose Cliff Hotel...a Missouri Forum for Environmental Policy,” Gateway Heritage (Fall 1982): 38-48.

The collection consists of a single guest register dating from the hotel’s opening, a combination “cash and ledger” volume documenting the daily expenses and income of the hotel as well as the expenses of a wholesale merchandise operation in 1947-1948, and two expense ledgers showing operating costs in such categories as meals, laundry, freight, fuel oil, utilities, taxes, advertising, and labor.

**Shelf List**

This collection includes a guest register, cash book, and expense ledgers of the Rose Cliff Hotel at Van Buren, Carter County, Missouri.

Volume 1: Hotel register, 26 April 1928--14 February 1931
Volume 2: “Cash and ledger,” 23 April 1928--29 November 1948
Volume 3: Ledger, 1939
Volume 4: Journal, 1 April 1958--27 December 1960

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