



THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

**NAME OF
COLLECTION**

Odontological Society of Victoria

ACCESSION NO

106/30

CATEGORY

Professional Associations, organizations

ACTIVITY

Professional organizations

DATE RANGE

1884-1903

**SIZE OF
COLLECTION**

8.5 cm (1 archive box with 3 volumes)

HISTORICAL NOTE	<p>Formed at a meeting of the dental profession in Victoria held 19th February 1884 when the following resolutions were passed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That this meeting resolve itself into a Society on the basis of the British Dental Association 2. That this Society shall be called the Dental Association of Victoria.¹ <p>The first meeting of the new Society was held on 26 February 1884 at the Coffee Palace, Bourke Street, Melbourne. At this meeting the name of the Society was altered to the Odontological Society of Victoria.² John Iliffe, later editor of the Journal of Australian Dentistry, was Treasurer.³</p> <p>Said to be the first dental association in the Australian colonies the Society was active in lobbying for legislation for the regulation of the profession in the Colony of Victoria. This resulted in the Colonial Parliament passing the <i>Dentists Act 1887</i>. This act provided for the creation of a Dental Board and with Registrar to keep a register of dentists in the State. Persons who could prove that they had practiced dentistry before the passing of the Act could be registered. Those seeking registration after the passing of the Act were required to have completed a four year course of study described in the Act and to pass an examination set by the Board.</p> <p>In 1890 the Melbourne Dental Hospital was established in Lonsdale Street for the treatment of the poor. Members of the Society gave their services free of charge and assisted in the teaching and training of dental students.</p> <p>Formal teaching facilities were needed for students who wished to qualify for registration with the Dental Board of Victoria. This need was met when the Society established the Australian College of Dentistry in 1897. The College and the Dental Hospital were housed together but their finances were kept separate.</p> <p>The Society continued in existence until about 1920 when it merged with the Australian College of Dentistry Alumni Society. In 1922 the merged society merged with the Dental Graduates Society to form the State Dental Society of Victoria.</p>
DATE OF TRANSFER	Various. See note below.
ACCESS CONDITIONS	Open

¹ Odontological Society of Victoria, Minutes of Meeting held 19 February 1884.

² Odontological Society of Victoria, Minutes of Meeting held 26 February 1884

³ Odontological Society of Victoria, Minutes of Meeting held 6 March 1884

NOTE ON COLLECTIONS	<p>The records in this accession were transferred to the University of Melbourne Archives from the School of Dental Science - Dental Museum over a number of years. In some instances the records were not formally accessioned. In 2005 a project was undertaken to consolidate and document the various records at Archives that had over time been created by entities involved with Dental education.</p> <p>For example, Item 1/1 Minute Book, 1884-1887 was previously part of Accession No: 94/85.</p>
NOTE ON LISTING	<p>Some items in this accession were catalogued in the School of Dental Science - Dental Museum's <i>Heritage Documentation Management System</i> catalogue prior to transfer to the University of Melbourne Archives. These items are identified in listing this with the Museum's catalogue number at the end of the item description. For example: Item 1/3 – "Minute Book [DMC01668]"</p> <p>This listing has been made possible by a Grant from the School of Dental Science, University of Melbourne.</p>
LISTED BY	Bruce Smith
DATE	30 March 2006

Series Table of Contents

Series 1	Committee Minute Books	1884-1903	p.5
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Box No	Series No	Description	Date
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1	1	Committee Minute Books	1884-1903
		<i>Series note</i> This series comprises the surviving minute books of the Society. The minutes record decisions and activities of the meetings of members of the Society.	
	1/1	Minute Book	1884-1887
	1/2	Minute Book [DMC01667]	1887-1894
	1/3	Minute Book [DMC01668]	1895-1903

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