

Rockefeller family

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See also: *Rockefeller*

Rockefeller	
Ethnicity	German, English, Scotch-Irish
Current region	New York City, New York; Charleston, West Virginia; Cincinnati, Ohio; Houston, Texas
Place of origin	 United States
Notable members	John Davison Rockefeller, Sr. William Avery Rockefeller, Jr. John Davison Rockefeller, Jr. John Davison Rockefeller III Nelson Aldrich Rockefeller David Rockefeller John Davison Rockefeller IV Winthrop Rockefeller Winthrop Paul Rockefeller
Connected families	McCormick family Dudley–Winthrop family



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The **Rockefeller family** /ˈrɒkɪfələr/ is an American [industrial](#), [political](#), and [banking family](#) of German descent that made one of the [world's largest fortunes](#) in the [oil business](#) during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, with [John D. Rockefeller](#) and his brother [William Rockefeller](#) primarily through [Standard Oil](#).^[1] The family is also known for its long association with and control of [Chase Manhattan Bank](#).^[2] They are considered to be one of the most powerful families, if not the most powerful family,^[3] in the [history of the United States](#).

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Real estate and institutions^{[\[edit\]](#)}



30 Rockefeller Center, New York City, NY, U.S.



One Chase Manhattan Plaza



The Rockefeller Center and the RCA Building, December 1933



Riverside Church

The family was heavily involved in numerous real estate construction projects in the U.S. during the 20th century.^[4] Chief among them:

- [Rockefeller Center](#), a multi-building complex built at the start of the Depression in Midtown Manhattan, financed solely by the family
- [International House of New York](#), New York City, 1924 (Junior) {Involvement: John III, Abby Aldrich, David & Peggy, David Jr., Abby O'Neill}
- *Wren Building*, [College of William and Mary's](#), Virginia, from 1927 (Renovation funded by Junior)
- [Colonial Williamsburg](#), Virginia, from 1927 onwards (Junior, Abby Aldrich, John III and Winthrop), historical restoration
- [Museum of Modern Art](#), New York City, from 1929 (Abby Aldrich, John Jr., Blanchette, Nelson, David, David Jr., Sharon Percy Rockefeller)
- [Riverside Church](#), New York City, 1930 (John Jr.)
- [The Cloisters](#), New York City, from 1934 (John Jr.)
- *The Interchurch Center*, New York City, 1948 (John Jr.)
- [Asia Society](#) (Asia House), New York City, 1956 (John III)
- [One Chase Manhattan Plaza](#), New York City, 1961 (David)
- *Nelson A. Rockefeller* [Empire State Plaza](#), Albany, New York, 1962 (Nelson)
- [Lincoln Center](#), New York City, 1962 (John III)
- [World Trade Center](#) Twin Towers, New York City, 1973-2001 (David and Nelson)
- [Embarcadero Center](#), San Francisco, 1974 (David)
- [Council of the Americas](#)/*Americas Society*, New York City, 1985

(David)

- In addition to this is Senior and Junior's involvement in seven major housing developments:
 - *Forest Hill Estates*, Cleveland, Ohio
 - *City Housing Corporation's* efforts, Sunnyside Gardens, Queens, New York City
 - *Thomas Garden Apartments*, The Bronx, New York City
 - *Paul Lawrence Dunbar Housing*, Harlem, New York City
 - *Lavoisier Apartments*, Manhattan, New York City
 - *Van Tassel Apartments*, [Sleepy Hollow](#), New York (formerly North Tarrytown)
 - A development in [Radburn](#), New Jersey[5][6]
 - A further project involved [David Rockefeller](#) in a major middle-income housing development when he was elected in 1947 as chairman of [Morningside Heights](#), Inc., in [Manhattan](#) by fourteen major institutions that were based in the area, including [Columbia University](#).

The result, in 1951, was the six-building apartment complex known as [Morningside Gardens](#). [7]

- Senior's donations led to the formation of the [University of Chicago](#) in 1889, where the first American Nobel Prize in Science was produced in 1907; the [Central Philippine University](#) in the [Philippines](#) (The first Baptist university and second American university in Asia); and notable for the [Chicago School of Economics](#). [8] This was one instance of a long family and [Rockefeller Foundation](#) tradition of financially supporting [Ivy League](#) and other major colleges and universities over the generations - seventy-five in total. This includes:
 - [Harvard University](#)
 - [Dartmouth College](#)
 - [Princeton University](#)
 - [Stanford University](#)
 - [Yale University](#)
 - [Massachusetts Institute of Technology](#)
 - [Case Western Reserve University](#)
 - [Brown University](#)
 - [Columbia University](#)
 - [Cornell University](#)
 - [University of Pennsylvania](#)
 - Institutions overseas such as [London School of Economics](#)

and [University College London](#), among many others.[9]

- Senior (and Junior) also created
 - [Rockefeller University](#) in 1901
 - *General Education Board* in 1902, which later (1923) evolved into the *International Education Board*
 - *Rockefeller Sanitary Commission* in 1910
 - *Bureau of Social Hygiene* in 1913 (Junior)
 - [International Health Division](#) in 1913
 - [China Medical Board](#) in 1915.
 - [Rockefeller Museum](#), Israel, 1925–30
- In the 1920s, the International Education Board granted important fellowships to pathbreakers in modern mathematics, such as [Stefan Banach](#), [Bartel Leendert van der Waerden](#), and [André Weil](#), which was a formative part of the gradual shift of world mathematics to the US over this period.
- To help promote cooperation between physics and mathematics Rockefeller funds also supported the erection of the new Mathematical Institute at the [University of Göttingen](#) between 1926 and 1929
- The rise of probability and mathematical statistics owes much to the creation of the [Institut Henri Poincaré](#) in Paris, partly by the Rockefellers' finances, also around this time.[10]
- Junior was responsible for the creation and endowment of the [Colonial Williamsburg Foundation](#), which operates the restored historical town at [Williamsburg, Virginia](#), one of the most extensive historic restorations ever undertaken.

Conservation^[edit]

Beginning with John Sr., the family has been a major force in land conservation.[11] Over the generations, it has created more than 20 national parks and open spaces, including the [Cloisters](#), [Acadia National Park](#), [Forest Hill Park](#), the Nature Conservancy, the Rockefeller Forest in California's Humboldt Redwoods State Park (the largest stand of old-growth redwoods), and [Grand Teton National Park](#), among many others. [John Jr.](#), and his son [Laurance](#) (and his son Laurance Jr. aka Larry) were particularly prominent in this area.

The family was honored for its conservation efforts in November

2005, by the [National Audubon Society](#), one of America's largest and oldest conservation organizations, at which over 30 family members attended. At the event, the society's president, John Flicker, notably stated: "Cumulatively, no other family in America has made the contribution to conservation that the Rockefeller family has made".^[11]

International politics/finance/economics^[edit]



The logo of [Chase Manhattan Bank](#) (1954-60), a financial institution traditionally controlled by the Rockefeller family.^[2]



The logo of the [Trilateral Commission](#), a non-partisan, non-governmental group initiating meetings across three continents.^[12]



[Kykuit](#), the landmark family home of the Rockefeller family, located in [Sleepy Hollow, New York](#).

The family has been awarded the annual [UNA-USA's Global Leadership Award](#), along with other recipients over time, including [Bill Clinton](#) and [Michael Bloomberg](#). Members of the Rockefeller family into the fourth generation (especially the prominent banker and philanthropist [David Rockefeller](#), who is the present family patriarch) have been heavily involved in international politics, and have donated money to, established or been involved in the

following major international institutions:

- The [Council on Foreign Relations](#) - David, David Jr., Nelson, John D. 3rd, John D. IV (Jay), Peggy Dulany, Rockefeller Foundation, Rockefeller Brothers Fund.
- The [Trilateral Commission](#) - David, Rockefeller Brothers Fund.
- The [Bilderberg Group](#) - David, John D. IV.
- The [Asia Society](#) - John D. III, John D. IV, Charles, David.
- The [Population Council](#) - John D. III.
- The [Council of the Americas](#) - David.
- The [Group of Thirty](#) - The Rockefeller Foundation.
- The [World Economic Forum](#) - David.
- The [Brookings Institution](#) - Junior.
- The [Peterson Institute](#) (Formerly the *Institute for International Economics*) - David, Monica.
- The [International Executive Service Corps](#) - David.
- The [Institute for Pacific Relations](#) - Junior.
- The [League of Nations](#) - Junior.
- The [United Nations](#) - Junior, John D. III, Nelson, David, Peggy Dulany, Rockefeller Brothers Fund.
- The [United Nations Association](#) - David. Monica.

The family archives^[edit]

The *Rockefeller Archive Center*, an independent foundation that was until 2008 a division of [Rockefeller University](#),^[13] is a vast

three-story underground bunker built below the *Martha Baird Rockefeller Hillcrest* mansion on the family estate at Pocantico (see [Kykuit](#)). Along forty-foot-long walls of shelves on rails, maintained by ten full-time archivists, is the entire repository of personal and official papers and correspondence of the complete family and its members, along with historical papers of its numerous foundations, as well as other non-family philanthropic institutions. These include: the [Commonwealth Fund](#), *Charles E. Culpeper Foundation*, *Lucille P. Markey Charitable Trust*, and the *John and Mary R. Markle Foundation*.

In total, it holds over 70 million pages of documents and contains the collections of forty-two scientific, cultural, educational and philanthropic organizations.

Only the expurgated records of deceased family members are publicly available to scholars and researchers; all records pertaining to living members are closed to historians. However, as [Nelson Rockefeller's](#) researcher, Cary Reich, discovered, in the case of Nelson's voluminous 3,247 cubic feet (91.9 m³) of papers, only about one-third of these files had been [processed](#) and released to researchers up to 1996. He reports that it will be many years before all the papers will be open to the public, despite Nelson's having died in 1979.^[14]

The Center maintains that this repository of records, covering 140-plus years of the records of the family, in addition to non-Rockefeller philanthropic collections, gives unique insights into United States and world issues and social developments in both the 19th and 20th centuries.

Records in the collection are available up until only the early 1960s, generally 1961. Major subjects in the collection include:

- Agriculture
- The Arts
- African-American history
- Education
- International Relations
- Economic Development
- Labor
- Medicine
- Philanthropy

: Politics
: Population

- Religion
- Social Sciences
- Social Welfare
- Women's history[15]

Family wealth[edit]

The **Standard Oil** Rockefeller brothers



John Davison Rockefeller, Sr.



William Avery Rockefeller, Jr.

The combined wealth of the family – their total assets and investments plus the individual wealth of its members – has never been known with any precision. The records of the family archives relating to both the family and individual members' net worth is closed to researchers.[16]

From the outset, and even today, the family wealth has been under the complete control of the male members of the dynasty, through the family office. Despite strong-willed wives who had influence over their husbands' decisions—such as the pivotal female figure [Abby Aldrich Rockefeller](#), wife of Junior—in all cases they received allowances only and were never given even partial responsibility

[17]

for the family fortune.

Much of the wealth has been locked up in the notable family trust of 1934 (which holds the bulk of the fortune and matures on the death of the fourth generation), and the trust of 1952, both administered by the [Chase Manhattan Bank](#). These trusts have consisted of shares in the successor companies to [Standard Oil](#) and other diversified investments, as well as the family's considerable real estate holdings. They are administered by a powerful trust committee that oversees the fortune.

Management of this fortune today also rests with professional money managers who oversee the principal holding company,

Rockefeller Financial Services, which controls all the family's investments, now that [Rockefeller Center](#) is no longer owned by the family. The present chairman is [David Rockefeller, Jr.](#)

In 1992, it had five main arms:

- *Rockefeller & Co.* (Money management: Universities have invested some of their endowments in this company);
- [Venrock Associates](#) (Venture Capital: an early investment in [Apple Computer](#) was one of many it made in [Silicon Valley](#) entrepreneurial start-ups);
- *Rockefeller Trust Company* (Manages hundreds of family trusts);
- *Rockefeller Insurance Company* (Manages liability insurance for family members);
- *Acadia Risk Management* (Insurance Broker: Contracts out policies for the family's vast art collections, real estate and private planes.)[18]

Family residences[edit]

Over the generations the family members have resided in some notable historic homes. A total of 81 Rockefeller homes are on the National Register of Historic Places.[19] Not including all homes owned by the five brothers, some of the more prominent of these are:

- [Kykuit](#) - The landmark six-story home on the vast Westchester

- County family estate, home to four generations of the family;
- [Bassett Hall](#) - The house at Colonial Williamsburg bought by Junior in 1927 and renovated by 1936, it was the favorite residence of both Junior and Abby and is now a house museum at the family-restored Colonial Revival town;
 - The Eyrie - A sprawling 100-room summer holiday home on [Mount Desert Island](#) in Maine, demolished by family members in 1982;
 - [Forest Hill](#) - The family's country estate and summer home in Cleveland for four decades. Built and occupied by Senior, it burned down in 1917;
 - [Golf House](#) at Lakewood, New Jersey - The former three-story clubhouse for the elite Ocean County Hunt and Country Club, which Senior bought in 1902 to play golf on its golf course;
 - [The Casements](#) - A three-story house at Ormond Beach in Florida, where Senior spent his last winters, from 1919 until his death;
 - 10 West Fifty-fourth Street - A nine-story single family home, the former residence of Junior before he shifted to [740 Park Avenue](#), and the largest residence in New York City at the time, it was the home for the five young brothers. It was later given by Junior to the Museum of Modern Art;
 - One Beekman Place - The residence of Laurance in New York City;
 - [740 Park Avenue](#) - Junior and Abby's famed 40-room triplex apartment in the luxury apartment building, which was later sold for a record price;
 - The [JY Ranch](#) - The landmark ranch in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, the holiday resort home built by Junior and later owned by Laurance, it was used by all members of the family and had many prominent visitors, including presidents, until Laurance donated it to the federal government in 2001.

Legacy^{[[edit](#)]}

A trademark of the dynasty over its 140-plus years has been the remarkable unity it has maintained, despite major divisions that developed in the late 1970s, and unlike other wealthy families such as the [Du Ponts](#) and the [Mellons](#). A primary reason has been the lifelong efforts of "Junior" to not only cleanse the name from the opprobrium stemming from the ruthless practices of [Standard Oil](#), but his tireless efforts to forge family unity even as he allowed his

five sons to operate independently. This was partly achieved by regular brothers and family meetings, but it was also because of the high value placed on family unity by first Nelson and John III, and later especially with David.[20]

Regarding achievements, in 1972, on the 100th anniversary of the founding of [Andrew Carnegie](#)'s philanthropy, the [Carnegie](#)

[Corporation](#), which has had a long association with the family and its institutions, released a public statement on the influence of the family on not just philanthropy but encompassing a much wider field. Summing up a predominant view amongst the international philanthropic world, albeit one poorly grasped by the public, one sentence of this statement read: *"The contributions of the Rockefeller family are staggering in their extraordinary range and in the scope of their contribution to humankind."*[21]

John D. Rockefeller gave away US\$540 million over his lifetime (in dollar terms of that time), and became the greatest lay benefactor of medicine in history.[22] His son, "Junior," also gave away over

\$537 million over his lifetime, bringing the total philanthropy of just two generations of the family to over \$1 billion from 1860 to 1960.[23] Added to this, the [New York Times](#) declared in a report in November 2006 that [David Rockefeller](#)'s total charitable benefactions amount to about \$900 million over his lifetime.[24]

The combined personal and social connections of the various family members are vast, both in America and throughout the world, including the most powerful politicians, royalty, public figures, and chief businessmen. Notable figures through [Standard Oil](#) alone have included [Henry Flagler](#) and [Henry H. Rogers](#). Contemporary figures include [Henry Kissinger](#), [Nelson Mandela](#),

[Richard Parsons](#) (Chairman and CEO of [Time Warner](#)), [C. Fred Bergsten](#), [Peter G. Peterson](#) (Senior Chairman of the [Blackstone Group](#)), and [Paul Volcker](#).

In 1991 the family was presented with the [Honor Award](#) from the [National Building Museum](#) for four generations worth of preserving and creating some of the U.S.'s most important buildings and places. David accepted the award on the family's behalf.[25] The ceremony coincided with an exhibition on the family's contributions to the built environment, including John Sr.'s preservation efforts for the [Hudson River Palisades](#), the restoration of [Williamsburg, Virginia](#), construction of [Rockefeller Center](#), and Governor Nelson's efforts to construct low- and middle-income housing in New York state.[26]

The Rockefeller name is imprinted in numerous places throughout the United States, most notably in [New York City](#), but also in [Cleveland](#), where the family originates:

- The [Rockefeller Center](#) - A landmark 19-building 22-acre (89,000 m²) complex in the center of [Manhattan](#) established by Junior: Older section constructed from 1930–1939; Newer section constructed during the 1960s-1970s;
- The [Rockefeller University](#) - Renamed in 1965, this is the distinguished Nobel prize-winning graduate/postgraduate medical school (formerly the *Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research*, established by Senior in 1901);
- The [Rockefeller Foundation](#) - Founded in 1913, this is the famous philanthropic organization set up by Senior and Junior;
- The [Rockefeller Brothers Fund](#) - Founded in 1940 by the third-generation's five sons and one daughter of Junior;
- The *Rockefeller Family Fund* - Founded in 1967 by members of the family's fourth-generation;
- The [Rockefeller Group](#) - A private family-run real estate development company based in New York that originally owned, constructed and managed Rockefeller Center, it is now wholly owned by [Mitsubishi Estate Co. Ltd](#);
- The [Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors](#) - is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that advises donors in their philanthropic endeavors throughout the world;
- The *Rockefeller Research Laboratories Building* - A major research center into cancer that was established in 1986 and named after Laurance, this is situated at the [Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center](#);
- The *Rockefeller Center* - Home of the International Student Services office and department of philosophy, politics and law at the [State University of New York](#) at Binghamton;
- The [Rockefeller Chapel](#) - Completed in 1928, this is the tallest building on the campus of the [University of Chicago](#), established by Senior in 1889;
- The *Rockefeller Hall* - Established by Senior in 1906, this building houses the [Case Western Reserve University](#) Physics Department;
- The *Rockefeller Hall* - Established by Senior and completed in 1906, this building houses the [Cornell University](#) Physics Department;^[27]

- The *Rockefeller Hall* - Established by Senior in 1887, who granted [Vassar College](#) a \$100,000 (\$2.34 million in 2006 dollars) allowance to build additional, much needed lecture space. The final cost of the facility was \$99,998.75. It now houses multi-purpose classrooms and departmental offices for political science, philosophy and math;
- The ~~*Rockefeller Hall*~~ - Established by Senior and completed in 1886, this is the oldest building on the campus of [Spelman College](#);
- The *Rockefeller College* - Named after [John D. Rockefeller III](#), this is a [residential college](#) at [Princeton University](#);
- The *Michael C. Rockefeller Arts Center* - Completed in 1969 in memory of Nelson Rockefeller's son, this is a cultural center at the [State University of New York at Fredonia](#);
- The *Michael C. Rockefeller Collection and the Department of Primitive Art* - Completed in 1982 after being initiated by Nelson, this is a wing of the [Metropolitan Museum of Art](#);
- The *David and Peggy Rockefeller Building* - A tribute to David's wife, Peggy Rockefeller, this is a new (completed in 2004) six-story building housing the main collection and temporary exhibition galleries of the family's [Museum of Modern Art](#);
- The *Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden* - Completed in 1949 by David, this is a major outdoor feature of the Museum of Modern Art;
- The *Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Museum* - Opened in 1957 by Junior, this is a leading folk art museum within the complex of Junior's [Colonial Williamsburg](#);
- The *Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Hall* - The freshman residence hall on the campus of [Spelman College](#);
- The *Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial Building* - Completed in 1918, it is among other things a student residence hall at [Spelman College](#), after the wife of Senior and after whom the College was named;
- The *Rockefeller State Park Preserve* - Part of the 3,400-acre (14 km²) family estate in Westchester County, this 1,233-acre (5 km²) preserve was officially handed over to New York State in 1983, although it had previously always been open to the public;
- The *Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park* - Established as a historical museum of conservation by Laurance during the 1990s
- The [John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway](#) - Established in

- 1972 through Congressional authorization, connecting Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks;
- The *Rockefeller Forest* - Funded by Junior, this is located within [Humboldt Redwoods State Park](#), California's largest redwood state park;
 - Either of two US congressional committees {in 1972 - [John D. III](#) and 1975 - [Nelson](#) dubbed the [Rockefeller Commission](#)};
 - *Rockefeller Park*, a scenic park featuring gardens dedicated to several world nations along Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. between [University Circle](#) and [Lake Erie](#) in Cleveland.
 - The *Winthrop Rockefeller Institute* of the University of Arkansas System was established in 2005 with a grant from the *Winthrop Rockefeller Charitable Trust*. The educational center with conference and lodging facilities is located on Petit Jean Mountain near Morrilton, Arkansas, on the original grounds of Gov. Winthrop Rockefeller's model cattle farm.
 - The David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies at Harvard University.
 - The Rockefeller Quad at the Loomis Chaffee School
 - The Rockefeller Complex library at Nørrebro in Denmark

John Jr., through his son [Nelson](#), purchased and then donated the land upon which sits the [UN headquarters](#), in New York, in 1946. Earlier, in the 1920s, he had also donated a substantial amount towards the restoration and rehabilitation of major buildings in [France](#) after [World War I](#), such as the [Rheims Cathedral](#), the [Fontainebleau Palace](#) and the [Palace of Versailles](#), for which he was later (1936) awarded France's highest decoration, the Grand Croix of the [Legion d'Honneur](#) (subsequently also awarded decades later to his son, [David Rockefeller](#)).

He also funded the notable excavations at [Luxor](#) in Egypt, as well as establishing a Classical Studies School in [Athens](#). In addition, he provided the funding for the construction of the [Palestine Archaeological Museum](#) in [East Jerusalem](#) - the [Rockefeller Museum](#).^[28]

Generational philanthropy^[edit]

The members of the Rockefeller family are noted for their [philanthropy](#); a *Rockefeller Archive Center* study in 2004 documents an incomplete list of 72 major institutions that the family has created and/or endowed up to the present day.

Historically, the major focus of their benefactions have been in the

educational, health and conservation areas.

Family leaders in both philanthropy and business have included [John D. Sr.](#), [John D. Jr.](#) ("Junior"), [John D. III](#), [Laurance](#), and [David](#), who is the family's current patriarch. Several family members have held high public office, including [Vice President of the United States](#) ([Nelson Rockefeller](#)), [United States Senator](#) ([Jay Rockefeller](#)), [state governor](#) ([Nelson](#), [Jay](#), and [Winthrop Rockefeller](#)), and [lieutenant governor](#) ([Winthrop Paul Rockefeller](#)). Another noted family member was [Michael Rockefeller](#), son of Nelson Rockefeller, an [anthropologist](#) who came to media attention after he was presumed killed in New Guinea in 1961.

The corporate, financial and personal affairs of the family - numbering around 150 blood relatives of John D. Rockefeller - are run from the [family office](#), *Room 5600*, known officially as "Rockefeller Family and Associates". It comprises three floors of the [GE Building](#) in [Rockefeller Center](#); all private family legal matters are handled by the family-associated New York law firm of [Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy](#). Room 5600 is also the base of the current family historian, *Peter J. Johnson*, who assisted with [David Rockefeller's](#) *Memoirs*, published in 2002.

To distinguish the generations and facilitate communication, the fourth generation is generically known as "*The Cousins*" (24 in all, with 21 still living) and the younger family members are known as the "*Fifth/Sixth*" generation. Many if not all of these family members are involved in institutionalised philanthropic pursuits. Family links are solidified through the practice of ritualised family meetings - which started with the regular "brothers' meetings" held in Room 5600 or in their respective private residences, beginning in 1945. Family get-togethers are held today at the "*Playhouse*", in the [Westchester County](#) family estate of *Pocantico*, in June (the "cousins weekend") and December of each year (see [Kykuit](#)).

Members^{[\[edit\]](#)}

Ancestors^{[\[edit\]](#)}

- Goddard Rockefeller (born Gotthard Rockenfeller) (1590, [Neuwied](#)–1684) (m.1622) Magdalena (1592, [Neuwied](#)–1656)
- Johannes Rockefeller (1634–1684) (m.1678) Elizabeth Margaretha Remagen (1634)
- Johann Peter Rockefeller (1681 [German Kingdom of Prussia](#)–1763, [Rocktown, NJ](#)) (Arrived in America 1768)

- Peter Rockefeller (1711–1787) (m. 1740) Mary Bellis (1723–1772) (Had nine children in all)
- Godfrey Rockefeller (1745–1818)
- Margaret Rockefeller (1750–1797) (m. late 18th century) George Trumbo (1750–1830)
- William Rockefeller (1750–1793) (m. 18th century) Christina Rockefeller (1754–1800) (Distant relative) (Had seven children in all)
- Simon William Rockefeller (1775–1839)
- Godfrey Lewis Rockefeller (1783/1784–1857) (m. 1806) Lucy Avery (1786–1867) (Had ten children in all)
- William Avery "Bill" Rockefeller, Sr. (1810–1906) (m.1837) *Eliza Davison* (1813–1889)
- Lucy Rockefeller (1838–1878) (m. 1856) Pierson D. Briggs
- Clorinda Rockefeller (c. 1838–?, died young) (daughter from Nancy Brown)
- John Davison Rockefeller, Sr. (1839–1937) (m. 1864) Laura Celestia "Cettie" Spelman (1839–1915)
- Cornelia Rockefeller (c. 1840–?) (daughter from Nancy Brown)
- William Avery Rockefeller, Jr. (1841–1922) (m. 1864) Almira

- Geraldine Goodsell
 - Mary Ann Rockefeller (1843–1925) (m.1872) William Cullen Rudd
 - Franklin "Frank" Rockefeller (1845–1917) (m.1870) Helen Elizabeth Scofield
 - Frances Rockefeller (1845–1847)
 - William W. Rockefeller (1788–1851) (m.early 19th century) Eleanor Kisselbrack (1784–1859)

Descendants of John Davison Rockefeller, Sr.[\[edit\]](#)

To the sixth-generation, with 21 still living in the fourth (*the Cousins*). The total number of blood relative descendants as of 2006 is about 190.

- Elizabeth "Bessie" Rockefeller (1866–1906) (m.1889) Charles Augustus Strong (1862–1940)
- Margaret Rockefeller Strong (1897–1985) (m.1st.1927) George de Cuevas (1885–1961), (m. 2nd 1977) Raimundo de Larrain
- Alice Rockefeller (1869–1870)
- Alta Rockefeller (1871–1962) (m.1901) Ezra Parmelee Prentice (1863–1955)
- John Rockefeller Prentice (1902–1972) (m.1941) Abra Cantrill (1912–1972)
 - Abra Prentice Wilkin (born 1942)
 - Mary Adeline Prentice Gilbert (1907–1981) (m.1937) Benjamin Davis Gilbert (1907–1992)
 - Spelman Prentice (1911–2000) (m.3rd.1972) Mimi Walters
 - Pamela Prentice (born 1938)(m.1st. 1960) Frans H. ten Bos
 - Helena ten Bos (born 1962)(m. 1987) Count Frederic de Belloy de Saint-Lienard
 - Joanna ten Bos (born 1964)(m. 1989) Christopher Booth
- Peter Spelman Prentice (born 1940)
 - Alexandra Sartell Prentice (born 1962)

- Peter Parmalee Bens (born 1987)
- Erik Carl Bens (born 1996)
- Sarah Prentice Bens (born 1997)
- Michael Andrew Prentice (born 1964)
- Alta Rockefeller Prentice (born 1942)
- Michael Sartell Prentice (born 1944)
- [Edith Rockefeller McCormick](#) (1872–1932) (m. 1895) [Harold Fowler](#)
- John Rockefeller McCormick (1896–1901)
- Editha McCormick (1897–1898)
- Harold Fowler McCormick, Jr. (1898–1973) (m.1931) Anne "Fifi" Potter (1879–1969)
- Muriel McCormick (1902–1959) (m.1931) Elisha Dyer Hubbard (1906)
- Mathilde McCormick (1905–1947) (m.1923) Max Oser (1877–1942)
- Anita Oser Pauling (d. 2009 in Paris, France) Peter Max Oser (d. 1970 in Geneva, Switzerland)
- [John Davison Rockefeller, Jr.](#) (1874–1960) (m. 1st 1901) [Abigail Greene "Abby" Aldrich](#) (1874–1948)
- [Abigail Aldrich "Abby" Rockefeller](#) (1903–1976)
- Abigail Rockefeller "Abby" Milton O'Neill (born 1928)
- Marilyn Ellen Milton (1931–1980)
- Laura Knickerbacker Simpson (1954–2012)
- Abigail Rockefeller "Abby" Simpson (born 1958)
- [John Davison Rockefeller III](#) (1906–1978) (m.1932) [Blanchette Ferry Hooker](#)
- [John Davison "Jay" Rockefeller IV](#) (born 1937) (m. 1967) [Sharon Percy](#)
- John Davison "Jamie" Rockefeller V m. Emily Tagliabue
- Laura Chandler Rockefeller (born c. 2000)
- Sophia Percy Rockefeller (born c. 2002)
- John Davison Rockefeller VI (born 2007)
- Valerie Rockefeller m. Steven "Steve" Wayne
- Percy Abigail Wayne (born 2005)
- Lucille Natalia "Lucy" Wayne (born 2007)[\[29\]](#)

- Charles Rockefeller
- [Justin Aldrich Rockefeller](#) (born 1979)
- Sandra Rockefeller Ferry (born 1943)
- [Hope Aldrich Rockefeller](#) (born 1946)
- [Alida Rockefeller Messinger](#) (born 1949)
- **Nelson Aldrich Rockefeller** (1908–1979) (m.1st.1930)
 [Mary Todhunter Clark](#) (m. 2nd 1963) [Margaretta Large](#)
 ["Happy" Fitler](#) (born 1926)
- [Rodman Clark Rockefeller](#) (1932–2000) (m.1st 1953-1979) Barbara Ann Olsen (m. 2nd 1980)
 Alexandra von Metzler
- [Meile Rockefeller](#) (born 1955)
- Peter Rockefeller
- Stuart Rockefeller
- Michael Rockefeller
- Ann Clark Rockefeller Roberts (born 1934)
- [Steven Clark Rockefeller](#) (born 1936)
- [Michael Rockefeller](#) (1938–1961)
- Mary Clark Rockefeller (born 1938)
- Nelson Aldrich Rockefeller, Jr. (born 1964)
- [Mark Fitler Rockefeller](#) (born 1967)
- [Laurance Spelman Rockefeller](#) (1910–2004) (m.1934)
 Mary French
- [Laura Spelman Rockefeller Chasin](#) (born 1936)
- [Marion French Rockefeller](#) (born 1938)
- Dr. Lucy Rockefeller Waletzky (born 1941)
- Laurance Spelman Rockefeller, Jr. (born 1944) (m. 1982) Wendy Gordon
- two sons^[30]
- **Winthrop Aldrich Rockefeller** (1912–1973) (m. 1st 1948, div. 1954) Jievute "Bobo" Paulekiute (1916–2008) (m. 2nd 1956, div. 1971) Jeannette Edris (1918–1997)
- [Winthrop Paul Rockefeller](#) (1948–2006) (m. 1st 1971, div. 1979) Deborah Cluett Sage (m. 2nd 1983)
 Lisenne Dudderar
- Andrea Davidson Rockefeller (b. 1972)
- Katherine Cluett Rockefeller (b. 1974)
- Winthrop Paul Rockefeller, Jr. (b. 1976)
- William Gordon Rockefeller
- Colin Kendrick Rockefeller (b. c. 1990)

- John Alexander Camp Rockefeller
- Louis Henry Rockefeller
- [David Rockefeller](#) (born 1915) (m. 1940) Margaret McGrath (1915–1996)
- [David Rockefeller, Jr.](#) (born 1941) (m. 1st divorced) Diana Newell-Rowan (m. 2nd 2008) Susan Cohn
- Ariana Rockefeller (born 1982)
- Camilla Rockefeller (born 1984)
- [Abigail Rockefeller](#) (born 1943)
- Neva Rockefeller (born 1944)
- [Margaret Dulany "Peggy" Rockefeller](#)^[31] (born 1947)
- [Richard Gilder Rockefeller](#) (1949-2014); ^[32]^[33] married to Nancy King^[31]
- two children from his first marriage, Clayton and Rebecca;^[31] two stepsons^[32] and three grandchildren^[31]
- [Eileen Rockefeller](#)^[31] (born 1952)

Descendants of William Avery Rockefeller, Jr.^[edit]

An article in the *New York Times* in 1937 stated that William Rockefeller had, at that time, exactly 28 great-grandchildren.

- Lewis Edward Rockefeller (1865–1866)
- Emma Rockefeller McAlpin (1868–1934)
- [William Goodsell Rockefeller](#) (1870–1922)
- William Avery Rockefeller III (1896–1973)
- William Rockefeller
- Frederick Lincoln Rockefeller
- [Elsie Rockefeller](#)
- [Godfrey Stillman Rockefeller](#) (1899–1983)
- [Godfrey Anderson Rockefeller](#) (c. 1925–2010)
- Marion Rockefeller
- Audrey Rockefeller
- Lucy Ann Rockefeller
- Anderson Rockefeller
- Peter Rockefeller
- Benjamin Rockefeller
- [James Stillman Rockefeller](#) (1902–2004)
- James Stillman Rockefeller, Jr. (born 1926)
- Liv Merlin Rockefeller Hessler (born 1957)
- Ola Stillman Rockefeller (born 1959)
- Nancy Sherlock Carnegie Rockefeller (born 1927)

- (Married Barclay McFadden, Jr.)
- Andrew Carnegie Rockefeller (born 1929)
- Georgia Stillman Rockefeller (born 1933) (Married J Harden Rose)
- James Stillman Rose (born 1958)
- Andrew Carnegie Rose (born 1960)
- Georgia Rockefeller Rose (born 1961)
- [John Sterling Rockefeller](#) (1904–1988) (m. 1931) Paula Watjen
- Christina Rockefeller
- Almira Geraldine Rockefeller (1907–1997) (m. 1st) MacRoy Jackson (m. 2nd) Samuel Weston Scott (m. 3rd) Hardie Scott
- MacRoy Jackson
- John Davison Rockefeller II (1872–1877)
- [Percy Avery Rockefeller](#) (1878–1934) m. Isabel Goodrich Stillman
- [Isabel Stillman Rockefeller](#) (1902–1980) m. [Frederic Walker Lincoln IV](#)
- [Avery Rockefeller](#) (1903–1986) m. 1923 Anna Griffith Mark
- Avery Rockefeller, Jr. (born 1924)
- Ann Rockefeller (born 1926)
- Joan Rockefeller
- [Winifred Rockefeller](#) (1904–1951)
- [Faith Rockefeller Model](#) (1909–1960)
- [Robert Model](#) (born 1942)
- Gladys Rockefeller Underhill (1910-1988)
- [Geraldine Rockefeller Dodge](#) (1882–1973) m. [Marcellus Hartley Dodge, Sr.](#)
- [Marcellus Hartley Dodge, Jr.](#) (1908–1930)

Spouses^[edit]

- [Laura Celestia "Cettie" Spelman](#) (1839–1915) - John D. Rockefeller, Sr.
- [Abby Greene Aldrich](#) (1874–1948) - John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
- Martha Baird Allen (1895–1971) - John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
- [Mary Todhunter Clark "Tod"](#) (1907–1999) - Nelson Rockefeller
- [Margaretta "Happy" Fitler](#) (born 1926) - Nelson Rockefeller
- Anne Marie Rasmussen - Steven Clark Rockefeller
- [Blanchette Ferry Hooker](#) (1909–1992) - John D. Rockefeller III
- Sharon Lee Percy - John D. "Jay" Rockefeller IV

- Mary French (1910–1997) - Laurance Rockefeller
- Wendy Gordon - Laurance "Larry" Rockefeller, Jr.
- Jievute "Bobo" Paulekiute (1916–2008) - Winthrop Aldrich Rockefeller
- Jeannette Edris (1918–1997) - Winthrop Aldrich Rockefeller
- Deborah Cluett Sage - Winthrop Paul Rockefeller
- Lisenne Dudderar - Winthrop Paul Rockefeller
- Margaret "Peggy" McGrath (1915–1996) - David Rockefeller
- Diana Newell Rowan - David Rockefeller, Jr.
- Nancy King - Richard Gilder Rockefeller.
- Sarah Elizabeth "Elsie" Stillman (1872–1935) - William Goodsell Rockefeller
- Isabel Goodrich Stillman (1876–1935) - Percy Avery Rockefeller

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See also^[edit]

- [AIG](#)
- [Asia Society](#)
- [Bilderberg Group](#)
- [Brookings Institution](#)
- [Carnegie Corporation](#)
- [Chase Manhattan Bank](#)
- [Citibank](#)
- [Colonial Williamsburg](#)
- [Council of the Americas](#)
- [Council on Foreign Relations](#)
- [ExxonMobil](#)
- [Ford family](#)
- [GE](#)
- [General Education Board](#)
- [Grand Teton National Park](#)
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- [Lincoln Center](#)
- [List of museums and cultural institutions in New York City](#)
- [Ludlow massacre](#)
- [MacArthur Foundation](#)
- [McCormick family](#)
- [Montgomery Burns](#)
- [Museum of Modern Art](#)
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- RCA
- Rockefeller Brothers Fund
- Rockefeller Center
- Rockefeller Foundation
- Rockefeller Republican
- Rockefeller University
- Rothschild family
- Spelman College
- Standard Oil
- Trilateral Commission
- United Nations Association
- University of Chicago
- Venrock Associates
- Gianni Agnelli
- William Adams Delano (Delano & Aldrich)
- J. Richardson Dilworth
- Allen Dulles
- John Foster Dulles
- Henry Morrison Flagler
- Frederick Taylor Gates
- Wallace Harrison
- Richard Holbrooke
- Henry Kissinger
- Ivy Lee
- William Lyon Mackenzie King
- John J. McCloy
- Richard Parsons
- Charles Pratt
- Henry H. Rogers
- George Shultz
- Jerry Speyer
- Ida Tarbell
- Paul Volcker
- John C. Whitehead
- James Wolfensohn
- Owen D. Young
- William Zeckendorf

[edit]

Notes

- ¹ **Jump up** ^ World's largest private fortune - see Ron Chernow,

- Titan: The Life of John D. Rockefeller, Sr.*, London: Warner Books, 1998. (p.370)
- 2.^ [Jump up to: a b](#) *The Political Economy of Third World Intervention: Mines, Money, and U.S. Policy in the Congo Crisis*, David N. Gibbs, University of Chicago Press 1991, page 113
 - 3.[Jump up](#) ^ *The Rockefeller inheritance*, Alvin Moscow, Doubleday 1977, page 418
 - 4.[Jump up](#) ^ *The Edifice Complex: The Architecture of Power*, By Deyan Sudjic, Penguin, 7 Apr 2011, page 245-255
 - 5.[Jump up](#) ^ ["Rockefeller Archive Center "Family, OMR"".](#) Rockarch.org. Retrieved 2013-02-19.
 - 6.[Jump up](#) ^ ["John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and the Van Tassel Apartments, Rockefeller Archive Newsletter, Fall 1997" \(PDF\).](#) Retrieved 2013-02-19.
 - 7.[Jump up](#) ^ The Morningside Heights housing project - see David Rockefeller, *Memoirs*, New York: Random House, 2002. (pp.385-87).
 - 8.[Jump up](#) ^ ["UChicago.edu, "News, Nobel"".](#) News.uchicago.edu. Retrieved 2013-02-19.
 - 9.[Jump up](#) ^ ~~Funded colleges and Ivy League universities—see~~ Robert Shaplen, *Toward the Well-Being of Mankind. Fifty Years of the Rockefeller Foundation*, New York: Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1964. (passim)
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 12. [Jump up](#) ^ ["David Rockefeller"](#). Trilateral Commission. Retrieved 14 March 2013.
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 14. [Jump up](#) ^ Rockefeller Archive Center (RAC) papers on Nelson not released - see Cary Reich, *The Life of Nelson A. Rockefeller: Worlds to Conquer 1908-1958*, New York: Doubleday, 1996.(pp.774-5) (Note: Reich died before completing the second volume of his life.)
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 16. [Jump up](#) ^ ["Rockefeller Archive Center "Family, JDR"".](#) Rockarch.org. Retrieved 2013-02-19.
 17. [Jump up](#) ^ Women in the family with no control over the family fortune—see Bernice Kert, *Abby Aldrich Rockefeller: The Woman in the Family*. New York: Random House, 1993. (p.100)

18. **Jump up** ^ Managing the family wealth, 1992 New York Times article *Rockefeller Family Tries to Keep A Vast Fortune From Dissipating* (see External Links). (Note: The names and nature of these departments may have changed since 1992.)
19. **Jump up** ^ "[Amazon Books: Forest Hill](#)". Amazon.com. Retrieved 2013-02-19.
20. **Jump up** ^ Family unity maintained over the decades - see John Ensor Harr and Peter J. Johnson, *The Rockefeller Century: Three Generations of America's Greatest Family*, New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1988. (pp.370-71, passim); David's unifying influence - see *Memoirs* (pp.346-7)
21. **Jump up** ^ [Carnegie.Org "Rockefellers"](#)^[*dead link*]
22. **Jump up** ^ Greatest benefactor of medicine in history - see Ron Chernow, *Titan*: op.cit. (p.570)
23. **Jump up** ^ "[Rockefeller Archive Center "JDR Jr"](#)". Rockarch.org. Retrieved 2013-02-19.
24. **Jump up** ^ [New York Times, November 21, 2006](#)
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29. **Jump up** ^ Comins, Linda (September 15, 2007). "[Rockefellers Welcome Their First Grandson](#)". *Wheeling News-Register*. Retrieved 3 April 2013.
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32. ^ **Jump up to:** ^{*a b*} Santora, Marc, "[Richard Rockefeller Killed in New York Plane Crash](#)", New York *Times*, June 13, 2014. Retrieved 2014-06-13.
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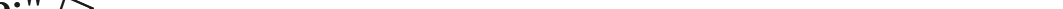
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- The Rockefeller Foundation
- The Rockefellers – An American Experience Documentary

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