Henry White Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Prepared by Frank Tusa

Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

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Contact information: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact

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Collection Summary

Title: Henry White Papers
Span Dates: 1812-1931
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1880-1928)
ID No.: MSS45328
Creator: White, Henry, 1850-1927
Extent: 31,500 items; 103 containers ; 43 linear feet; 6 microfilm reels
Language: Collection material in English
Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Abstract: Diplomat. Correspondence, business records, conference proceedings, bulletins, memoranda, and notes relating to White's career in the foreign service and as a member of the American Commission to Negotiate Peace.

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
Baker, Ray Stannard, 1870-1946--Correspondence.
Baruch, Bernard M. (Bernard Mannes), 1870-1965--Correspondence.
Bliss, Tasker Howard, 1853-1930--Correspondence.
Bullitt, William C. (William Christian), 1891-1967--Correspondence.
Dulles, Allen Welsh, 1893-1969--Correspondence.
Dulles, John Foster, 1888-1959--Correspondence.
Hay, John, 1838-1905--Correspondence.
Herter, Christian Archibald, 1895-1966--Correspondence.
Hoover, Herbert, 1874-1964--Correspondence.
James, Henry, 1843-1916.
Lansing, Robert, 1864-1928--Correspondence.
Lincoln, Abraham, 1809-1865.
Lincoln, Robert Todd, 1843-1926--Correspondence.
Lodge, Henry Cabot, 1850-1924--Correspondence.
Lowell, James Russell, 1819-1891.
Polk, Frank L. (Frank Lyon), 1871-1943--Correspondence.
Roosevelt, Theodore, 1858-1919--Correspondence.
Root, Elihu, 1845-1937--Correspondence.
White family.
White, Henry, 1850-1927.
White, Margaret Stuyvesant Rutherford, 1857-1916 Margaret Stuyvesant Rutherford White papers.
White, Margaret Stuyvesant Rutherford, 1857-1916--Correspondence.
Wilson, Woodrow, 1856-1924--Correspondence.

Organizations
Paris Peace Conference (1919-1920)
United States. American Commission to Negotiate Peace.

Subjects
Authors, American.
Diplomatic and consular service, American--Argentina.
Diplomatic and consular service, American--Austria.
Diplomatic and consular service, American--France.

Diplomatic and consular service, American--Great Britain.
Diplomatic and consular service, American--Italy.
World War, 1914-1918--Peace.

Places

Argentina--Foreign relations--United States.
Austria--Foreign relations--United States.
Europe--Economic conditions--1918-1945.
Europe--Politics and government--1918-1945.
Europe--Social conditions--20th century.
France--Foreign relations--United States.
Great Britain--Foreign relations--United States.
Italy--Foreign relations--United States.
United States--Foreign relations--1865-1921.
United States--Foreign relations--1921-1923.
United States--Foreign relations--1923-1929.
United States--Foreign relations--Argentina.
United States--Foreign relations--Austria.
United States--Foreign relations--France.
United States--Foreign relations--Great Britain.
United States--Foreign relations--Italy.
United States--Intellectual life.

Occupations

Diplomats.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Henry White, diplomat, were deposited in the Library of Congress by his son, John Campbell White, and daughter, the Countess Seherr-Thoss, between 1928 and 1950, and converted to a gift in 1960.

Processing History

The collection was processed beginning in 1970 and a portion prepared for microfilming in 1978. The finding aid was revised in 2009..

Transfers

Henry White have been transferred to the Library's Geography and Map Division where they are identified as part of the Henry White Papers.

Copyright Status

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

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Henry White 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.

Security Classified Documents

Government regulations control the use of security classified material in this collection. Manuscript Division staff can furnish information concerning access to and use of classified materials.

Microfilm

A microfilm edition of part of these papers is available on six reels. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition.

Preferred Citation

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

Biographical Note

Date	*Event*
1850, Mar. 29	Born, Baltimore, Md.
1879	Married Margaret Stuyvesant Rutherford (died 1916)
1883	Secretary, American legation, Vienna, Austria
1884-1886	Second secretary, American legation, London, England
1886-1893	First secretary, American legation, London, England
1896	Unofficial agent for Secretary of State Richard Olney during the Venezuela Boundary dispute
1897-1905	First secretary, American legation, London, England
1905	Ambassador to Italy
1906	Senior delegate to International Conference at Algeciras, Spain
1907	Ambassador to France
1910	Chairman, American Delegation to Fourth Pan-American Conference, Buenos Aires, Argentina
1918-1919	Member, American Commission to Negotiate Peace, Paris, France
1920	Married Emily Vanderbilt Sloane
1927, July 15	Died, Pittsfield, Mass.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Henry White span the years 1812-1931, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1880-1928. Consisting chiefly of correspondence, supplemented by diaries, letterbooks, financial records, and material relating to the Paris Peace Conference of 1919, the collection documents White's long career in the diplomatic service, his personal life, and his business interests. The papers also include material concerning the interests and activities of his wife, Margaret Stuyvesant Rutherford White, a prominent American socialite. The collection is

arranged in ten series: Diaries, Letterbooks, Family Correspondence, General Correspondence, Selected Correspondence, Business Correspondence, Peace Conference File, Financial Records, Printed Matter, and Miscellany.

Diaries in the collection are relatively brief and incomplete; they include diaries of Henry White for part of the period 1892-1894 as well as diaries of Mrs. White. Six volumes of Letterbooks make up the second series in the collection. These volumes, which are available on microfilm, contain a large number of letters relating to White's diplomatic activities as well as his personal and business interests during the period 1882-1909.

The four correspondence series constitute the largest and perhaps most valuable part of the collection. The Family Correspondence includes numerous letters from White to his wife, many of which contain his observations on American foreign policy. Copies of White's correspondence with his superiors in the diplomatic service are scattered throughout the General Correspondence. Within the latter series are letters from many prominent Americans including Woodrow Wilson, Henry Cabot Lodge, Tasker Howard Bliss, Robert Lansing, Elihu Root, and Frank L. Polk. A number of revealing letters from Theodore Roosevelt as well as White's extensive correspondence with his friend and superior, John Hay, are separated into a single container of Selected Correspondence. White's business interests, particularly his extensive real estate holdings, constitute the substance of the Business Correspondence series.

Social prominence brought the White family into contact with many leading American literary figures, including Henry James (1843-1916) and James Russell Lowell. A partial index of their letters to both the Whites is appended to this register.

The Peace Conference File contains a wealth of material relating to the negotiations in Paris in 1919. It contains letters, cablegrams, and memoranda from several members of the American delegation at Paris and correspondence with American political figures including President Wilson, Henry Cabot Lodge (1850-1924), Tasker Howard Bliss, Robert Lansing, Frank L. Polk, John Foster Dulles, Allen Welsh. Dulles, William C. Bullitt, Christian Archibald Herter, Herbert Hoover, Bernard M. Baruch, and Ray Stannard Baker. Military intelligence reports and numerous cablegrams from American legations throughout Europe provide a vivid account political, economic, and social conditions in Europe after the war. The bulletins, minutes, resolutions, decisions, proceedings, treaties, and maps that supplement the correspondence offer a succinct, if incomplete, record of the activities and achievements of the Conference.

The collection concludes with a Financial Records File, a Printed Matter series, and Miscellany. The latter incorporates correspondence relating to the erection of a statue of Abraham Lincoln, 1917-1918, and includes several letters from Lincoln's son, Robert Todd Lincoln.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in ten series:

- Diaries, 1852-1908
- Letterbooks, 1882-1909
- Family Correspondence, 1812-1928
- General Correspondence, 1850-1931
- Selected Correspondence, 1888-1917
- Business Correspondence, 1858-1928
- Paris Peace Conference File, 1918-1919
- Financial Records, circa 1868-1928
- Printed Matter
- Miscellany

Description of Series

Container	*Series*
BOX 1 not filmed	Diaries, 1852-1908

Diaries of White, his father, John Campbell White, and wife, Margaret Stuyvesant Rutherford White, and several sheets of unidentified diary fragments. All of the diaries are incomplete.

Arranged alphabetically by name of person.

BOX 2-4 REEL 1-6	Letterbooks, 1882-1909

Bound volumes of letters sent by White.

Arranged chronologically by volume. Available on microfilm shelf no. 17,196.

BOX 5-11 not filmed	Family Correspondence, 1812-1928

Mainly letters sent and received by Margaret Stuyvesant Rutherford White and correspondence of Henry White with family members.

Arranged chronologically by month.

BOX 12-27 not filmed	General Correspondence, 1850-1931

Letters received and some copies of letters sent by White supplemented by occasional memoranda and reports.

Arranged chronologically by month.

BOX 28 not filmed	Selected Correspondence, 1888-1917

Letters from Theodore Roosevelt and John Hay to White and from White to Hay.

Arranged by name of correspondent and therein chronologically by month.

BOX 29-37 not filmed	Business Correspondence, 1858-1928

Letters received and some copies of letters sent by White dealing with personal and family business affairs.

Arranged chronologically by month.

BOX 38-82 not filmed	Paris Peace Conference File, 1918-1919

Letters and cablegrams sent and received supplemented by memoranda, bulletins, reports, minutes, resolutions, decisions, proceedings, and treaties.

The correspondence is organized in two groups, one arranged chronologically and the other alphabetically by country and region and therein chronologically within folders by month. The remainder of the material is arranged chronologically by day wherever possible or by number or type of material.

BOX 83-96
not filmed

Financial Records, circa 1868-1928

Account statements, deeds, leases, bills, receipts, canceled checks, and bound financial record books.

Arranged by type of material.

BOX 97-101
not filmed

Printed Matter

Invitation books, appointment books, hunting journal, reports, studies, and documents.

Arranged by type of material. Includes printed matter relating to the Algeciras Conference and the Paris Peace Conference.

BOX 102-103
not filmed

Miscellany

Correspondence and memorabilia relating to the erection of a statue of Abraham Lincoln, as well as speeches, articles, wills, newspaper clippings, invitations, and memorabilia.

Arranged by type of material. Includes miscellaneous matter relating to the Paris Peace Conference.

Container List

Container	*Contents*
BOX 1 not filmed	Diaries, 1852-1908
	Diaries of White, his father, John Campbell White, and wife, Margaret Stuyvesant Rutherford White, and several sheets of unidentified diary fragments. All of the diaries are incomplete. Arranged alphabetically by name of person.
BOX 1	White, John Campbell (father), 1852-1853
BOX 1	White, Margaret Stuyvesant Rutherford (wife), 1896-1908
BOX 1	White, Henry, 1892-1894
BOX 1	Unidentified fragments, undated
BOX 2-4 REEL 1-6	Letterbooks, 1882-1909
	Bound volumes of letters sent by White. Arranged chronologically by volume. Available on microfilm shelf no. 17,196.
BOX 2 REEL 1-2	1882, Nov.-1888, Feb.
BOX 3 REEL 3-4	1888, Feb.-1893, Apr.
BOX 4 REEL 5-6	1893, Apr.-1909, Apr.
BOX 5-11 not filmed	Family Correspondence, 1812-1928
	Mainly letters sent and received by Margaret Stuyvesant Rutherford White and correspondence of Henry White with family members. Arranged chronologically by month.
BOX 5	1812-1883
BOX 6	1884, May-1892
BOX 7	1892, June-1900
BOX 8	1901-1905
BOX 9	1906-1916
BOX 10	1917-1928
BOX 11	Undated
BOX 12-27 not filmed	General Correspondence, 1850-1931
	Letters received and some copies of letters sent by White supplemented by occasional memoranda and reports. Arranged chronologically by month.

Container	*Contents*
BOX 12	1850, Apr.-1888
BOX 13	1888, Apr.-1890, Mar.
BOX 14	1890, Apr.-1893, June
BOX 15	1893, July-1896
BOX 16	1897-1902, July
BOX 17	1902, July-1905, Oct.
BOX 18	1905, Oct.-1909, May
BOX 19	1909, June-1913, Mar.
BOX 20	1913, Mar.-1915, Oct.
BOX 21	1915, Oct.-1916, Sept.
BOX 22	1916, Sept.-1918, Nov.
BOX 23	1918, Nov.-1920, May
BOX 24	1920-1924, June
BOX 25	1925-1931
BOX 26	Undated
BOX 27	Undated
BOX 28 not filmed	Selected Correspondence, 1888-1917
	Letters from Theodore Roosevelt and John Hay to White and from White to Hay. Arranged by name of correspondent and therein chronologically by month.
BOX 28	Roosevelt, Theodore, to White, 1894-1917
BOX 28	Hay, John, to White, 1888-1905
BOX 28	White, Henry, to John Hay, 1897-1902, undated
BOX 29-37 not filmed	Business Correspondence, 1858-1928
	Letters received and some copies of letters sent by White dealing with personal and family business affairs. Arranged chronologically by month.
BOX 29	1858-1896
BOX 30	1897-1903
BOX 31	1904-1909
BOX 32	1910-1912
BOX 33	1913-1914
BOX 34	1915-1917
BOX 35	1918-1922
BOX 36	1923-1924
BOX 37	1925-1928, undated
BOX 38-82 not filmed	Paris Peace Conference File, 1918-1919
	Letters and cablegrams sent and received supplemented by memoranda, bulletins, reports, minutes, resolutions, decisions, proceedings, and treaties.

Container	*Contents*
	The correspondence is organized in two groups, one arranged chronologically and the other alphabetically by country and region and therein chronologically within folders by month. The remainder of the material is arranged chronologically by day wherever possible or by number or type of material.
BOX 38	Correspondence
BOX 38	Chronological
BOX 38	1918, Dec. 2-1919 Jan.
BOX 38	1919
BOX 38	Jan. 20-Feb. 22
BOX 40	Feb. 23-Mar. 21
BOX 41	Mar. 22-Apr. 18
BOX 42	Apr. 19-May 25
BOX 43	May 26-July 20
BOX 44	July 21-Oct. 3
BOX 45	1919, Oct.4-Dec. 9 and undated
BOX 46	Alphabetical
BOX 46	Aaland Islands-Austria
BOX 47	Balkans-China
BOX 48	Columbia-Germany, 1919, Feb.
BOX 49	Germany
BOX 50	Greece-Italy, 1919, May
BOX 51	Italy, 1919, May, and Jugo-Slavia
BOX 52	Korea-Syria
BOX 53	Turkey-Ukraine
BOX 54	S-H Bulletins
BOX 54	Nos. 1-171
BOX 55	Nos. 172-271
BOX 56	Nos. 272-345
BOX 57	Nos. 346-420
BOX 58	Nos. 421-483
BOX 59	Nos. 484-537
BOX 60	Nos. 438-640
BOX 61	Nos. 641-680
BOX 62	Nos. 681-782
BOX 63	Nos. 783-871
BOX 64	Nos. 872-945
BOX 65	Nos. 946-1027
BOX 66	Nos. 1028-1136
BOX 67	Nos. 1137-1281
BOX 68	Nos. 1282-1412
BOX 69	Nos. 1413-1427
BOX 69	Reports on Germany, nationalism in Austria, and reclamation in Asiatic Turkey, 1919
BOX 70	Supreme Council minutes, 1919
BOX 70	Jan. 12-Feb. 7

Container	*Contents*
BOX 71	Feb. 8-Mar. 6
BOX 72	Mar. 6-Apr. 23
BOX 73	Apr. 26-July 9
BOX 74	July 10-31
BOX 75	Aug. 1-Nov. 20
BOX 76	Nov. 21-Dec. 6
BOX 76	Resolutions adopted by Supreme Council
BOX 76	July 5-Aug. 2
BOX 77	Aug. 4-Oct. 28
BOX 78	Oct. 29-Dec. 6
BOX 78	Decisions of Council of Four
BOX 78	Nos. 1-69
BOX 79	Nos. 70-113
BOX 79	Proceedings, plenary sessions
BOX 80	Minutes, meetings of American commissioners, 1919, Feb. 15-July 19 and Oct. 9
BOX 80	Minutes, meetings of American commissioners and technical advisors, 1919, June 3-Sept. 24
BOX 81	Treaties
BOX 81	German and Austrian
BOX 82	Notations and annotations on Germany treaty
BOX 82	Observations of German delegation on peace treaty
BOX 83-96 not filmed	Financial Records, circa 1868-1928
	Account statements, deeds, leases, bills, receipts, canceled checks, and bound financial record books.
	Arranged by type of material.
BOX 83-88	Loose items, circa 1880-1928
BOX 89-90	Bound items
BOX 89-90	Record of work completed at American Embassy, Paris, France, 1907-1908
BOX 91-92	Account books, checkbooks, and deposit books, circa 1868-1928
BOX 93	Household account books, 1886-1892, 1904
BOX 94-95	Canceled checks and receipts, circa 1880-1928
BOX 96	Miscellaneous
BOX 96	Cash book, 1869-1871
BOX 96	Household account books, 1899-1909
BOX 96	Household expense account books, 1897-1909
BOX 97-101 not filmed	Printed Matter
	Invitation books, appointment books, hunting journal, reports, studies, and documents.
	Arranged by type of material. Includes printed matter relating to the Algeciras Conference and the Paris Peace Conference.

Container	*Contents*
BOX 97	Invitation books, visiting books, appointment books, hunting, journal, business reports
BOX 98-101	Reports, studies, articles, speeches, and documents, including material relating to the Algeciras Conference and the Paris Peace Conference
BOX 102-103 not filmed	Miscellany
	Correspondence and memorabilia relating to the erection of a statue of Abraham Lincoln, as well as speeches, articles, wills, newspaper clippings, invitations, and memorabilia. Arranged by type of material. Includes miscellaneous matter relating to the Paris Peace Conference.
BOX 102	Lincoln, Abraham, statue, correspondence and memorabilia
BOX 102	Speeches and articles
BOX 102	Family wills
BOX 102	Newspaper clippings
BOX 102	Memorabilia, including peace conference material
BOX 103	Invitations, acceptances, and guest lists