

Charles Moore Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Prepared by Daniel Gilham, William Roberts, and Joseph Sullivan



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

2012

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Collection Summary

Title: Charles Moore Papers

Span Dates: 1848-1944

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1900-1937)

ID No.: MSS33316

Creator: Moore, Charles, 1855-1942

Extent: 6,000 items ; 22 containers ; 8.8 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

Abstract: Author and art historian. Correspondence, letterbooks, date books, notes, articles, speeches, picture post cards, photographs, and newspaper clippings relating to the Plan of 1901 for Washington, D.C., the restoration of the White House in 1902-1903, the Washington, D.C., Park Commission, the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, and American architecture.

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

Charnwood, Dorothea Mary Roby Thorpe, Baroness, 1876-

Charnwood, Godfrey Rathbone Benson, Baron, 1864-1945.

Cleveland, Grover, 1837-1908.

Coolidge, Calvin, 1872-1933.

French, Daniel Chester, 1850-1931.

Gilbert, Cass, 1859-1934.

Harding, Warren G. (Warren Gamaliel), 1865-1923.

Harrison, Benjamin, 1833-1901.

Hoover, Herbert, 1874-1964.

Jusserand, J. J. (Jean Jules), 1855-1932.

Kendall, William Mitchell

McKim, Charles Follen, 1847-1909.

McKinley, William, 1843-1901.

McMillan, James, 1838-1902

Moore, Charles, 1855-1942.

Olmsted, Frederick Law, 1870-1957.

Roosevelt, Franklin D. (Franklin Delano), 1882-1945.

Roosevelt, Theodore, 1858-1919.

Root, Elihu, 1845-1937.

Swartwout, Egerton, 1870-1943.

Taft, William H. (William Howard), 1857-1930.

Wilson, Woodrow, 1856-1924.

Organizations

United States. Commission of Fine Arts.

Washington (D.C.). Park Commission.

White House (Washington, D.C.)

Subjects

Architecture--Conservation and restoration--Washington (D.C.)

Architecture--Washington (D.C.)

Architecture.

Landscape architecture--Washington (D.C.)

Parks--Washington (D.C.)--Design and construction.

Occupations

Art historians.
Authors.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Charles Moore, author and art historian, were given to the Library of Congress by Moore between 1918 and 1940. Additions were made by James M. Moore in 1969.

Processing History

The papers of Charles Moore were arranged and described in 1962 and expanded in 1978. The finding aid was revised in 2012.

Copyright Status

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

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Charles Moore 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, Charles Moore Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1855, Oct. 20	Born, Ypsilanti, Mich.
1878	A.B., Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.
1890	Ph.D., George Washington University, Washington, D.C.
1878-1895	Newspaper work in Detroit, Mich., and Washington, D.C.
1889-1903	Political secretary to Senator James McMillan of Michigan
1910-1937	Member, National Commission of Fine Arts (chairman, 1915-1937)
1918-1927	Acting chief, Division of Manuscripts, Library of Congress
1921	Published <i>Daniel H. Burnham: Architect, Planner of Cities</i> . Boston: Houghton Mifflin. 2 vols.
1926	Published <i>The Family Life of George Washington</i> . Boston: Houghton Mifflin
1929	Published <i>The Life and Times of Charles Follen McKim</i> . Boston: Houghton Mifflin
1942, Sept. 25	Died, Gig Harbor, Wash.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Charles Moore (1855-1942) span the years 1848-1944, with the bulk of the material dated 1900-1937. The collection consists of Correspondence, letterbooks, datebooks, notes, articles, speeches, picture post cards, photographs, and newspaper clippings relating to the Plan of 1901 for Washington, D.C., the restoration of the White House in 1902-1903, the Washington, D.C., Park Commission, the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, and American architecture. The papers are organized into six series: [Datebook and Bound Correspondence](#); [General Correspondence](#); [White House Letters](#); [Speech, Article, and Book File](#); [Miscellany](#); and [Addition](#). Of special importance are materials reflecting Moore's service on the Commission of Fine Arts, 1910-1937, including as chairman, that document his personal and business relations with prominent American architects and that make up the [White House Letters](#) series, 1884-1937. The [book file](#) relating to Moore's work on Daniel Burnham includes original correspondence and other background items relating to Burnham.

Correspondents include Baron, Godfrey Rathbone Benson Charnwood, Baroness Dorothea Mary Roby Thorpe Charnwood, Daniel Chester French, Cass Gilbert, J. J. Jusserand, William Mitchell Kendall, Charles Follen McKim, James McMillan, Frederick Law Olmsted (1870-1957), Elihu Root, and Egerton Swartout. Presidential correspondents include Grover Cleveland, Calvin Coolidge, Benjamin Harrison, Hebert Hoover, William McKinley, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Theodore Roosevelt William H. Taft, and Woodrow Wilson and their wives.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in six series:

- [Datebook and Bound Correspondence, 1887-1903](#)
- [General Correspondence, 1858-1937](#)
- [White House Letters, 1884-1937](#)
- [Speech, Article, and Book File, 1848-1934](#)
- [Miscellany](#)
- [Addition](#)

Description of Series

<i>Container</i>	<i>Series</i>
BOX 1-3	<u>Datebook and Bound Correspondence, 1887-1903</u> Notebook of diary and newspaper clippings, bound volumes of special correspondence, and personal letterbooks. Arranged by type of material.
BOX 4-9	<u>General Correspondence, 1858-1937</u> Letters sent and received. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent and therein chronologically
BOX 10-11	<u>White House Letters, 1884-1937</u> Letters sent and received. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent and therein chronologically.
BOX 12-18	<u>Speech, Article, and Book File, 1848-1934</u> Handwritten, typewritten, and printed copies of speeches, articles, and books, including research materials of original correspondence and other background matter relating to the publications and their subjects. Arranged by type and title of writing.
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BOX 21-22	<u>Addition</u> Correspondence, drafts of chapters of two book manuscripts, and a list. Arranged by type of material.

Container List

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General Correspondence, 1858-1937

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