George Clinton Ward Papers: Finding Aid

The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens
Manuscripts Department
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, California 91108
Phone: (626) 405-2191
Email: reference@huntington.org
URL: http://www.huntington.org
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Overview of the Collection
Title: George Clinton Ward Papers
Dates (inclusive): 1847-1948
Bulk dates: 1927-1936
Collection Number: mssWard papers
Creator: Ward, George Clinton.
Extent: 881 items in 3 boxes and 1 oversize scrapbook.
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Abstract: This collection contains the papers of engineer and California utility company executive George Ward Clinton (1863-1933). Subject matter includes Ward's life in New York (1887-1900), two trips to the High Sierra in the area of Huntington Lake in 1922 and 1923, and Ward's work with the Big Creek hydro-electric generating project.
Language: English.
Access
Open to qualified researchers by prior application through the Reader Services Department. For more information, contact Reader Services.
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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item]. George Clinton Ward Papers, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.
Provenance

- Approximately 350 photographs were transferred to the Photo Archives (photPF 5640-5729 and photPF 8580-8797). These photographs consist chiefly of black-and-white snapshots taken during survey trips, 1910s-1920s, to the High Sierras (including Huntington Lake, Florence Lake, Big Creek, and Ward's Lake), Fresno County, the Colorado River, Big Creek hydro-electric generating project area, and a Southwest survey, including images of Native Americans and a Hopi Village
- Louise Ward Watkins papers, 1871-1974. (Call number: mssWatkins papers)
- Whipple, Squire. The canal bridges : a specimen of the manner of awarding contracts, by the late canal board (Albany, 1852) (Call number: 263887). This item was removed from the oversize scrapbook and transferred to the Rare Books Department
- Southern California Edison Company Ltd., approximately 1931. (Call number: photCL 29)
- Photographs of the Big Creek Hydro-Electric Dam Construction, 1912 (Call number: photOV 11000-11028)

Biographical Note
George Clinton Ward (1863-1933), engineer and California utility company executive, was a native of New York, where his first work was in the construction of iron bridges and in railroad engineering. He was chief engineer for the Racquette lake Railroad in NY, owned by Collis P. Huntington. In 1905 Henry E. Huntington persuaded Ward to come to California. Ward became general manager first for the Huntington Land and Improvement Company and then for the Pacific Light and Power Company, where he was in charge of the Big Creek hyrdo-electric generating project. He was made vice-president of the Southern California Edison Company in 1917 and then president in 1932.

Scope and Content
This collection contains the papers of engineer and California utility company executive George Ward Clinton (1863-1933). Subject matter includes Ward's life in New York (1887-1900), two trips to the High Sierra in the area of Huntington Lake in
1922 and 1923, and Ward's work with the Big Creek hydro-electric generating project.
The alphabetically-arranged collection, the bulk of which is correspondence, is arranged into the following series:
The correspondence includes condolence letters, letters by and about Henry E. Huntington and Collis P. Huntington, letters
related to Ward’s honorary degrees, posthumous requests for biographical information about Ward, and letters related to
the Ward Memorial dedication ceremony.
The manuscripts feature Ward’s personal diaries, biographical accounts written by and about Ward, two journals about trips
to the Sierra mountains that were written by John B. Miller and that contain references to Ward, and miscellaneous
manuscripts.
The clippings are primarily about Ward’s death (these folders also contain clippings about an accident just prior to his
death, funeral services, and the filing of his will), his honorary degrees, and the Ward Memorial dedication ceremony.
The documents relate to Ward’s business and financial matters and the Ward Memorial dedication.
The ephemera feature an engineers’ notebook belonging to Squire Whipple, who was famous for his iron bridge work,
various items related to Ward’s honorary degree from Oberlin College, guest lists for the Ward Memorial dedication, and
seven miscellaneous photographs.
There is also an oversize scrapbook containing various clippings, manuscripts, correspondence, documents, and
photographs related to Ward’s engineering work. Each subject listed in the index can be found in the oversize scrapbook.

Arrangement
The collection is arranged in the following 5 series:
• Correspondence
• Manuscripts
• Clippings
• Documents
• Ephemera

Items are arranged alphabetically within the series.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Huntington Library's Online Catalog.

Subjects
Huntington, Collis Potter, 1821-1900.
Huntington, Henry Edwards, 1850-1927.
Ward, George Clinton.
Webb, William Seward.
Erie Railroad Company.
Huntington Land and Improvement Company.
Huntington Memorial Hospital (Pasadena, Calif.)
Oberlin College.
Pacific Light and Power Company.
Southern California Edison Company.
University of Southern California.
Zamorano Club.
Engineers -- California -- Archives.
Engineers -- New York (State) -- Archives.
Hydroelectric power plants -- California.
Hydroelectric power plants -- Colorado.
Big Creek (Calif.) -- History -- Sources.
Boulder Canyon (Colo.) -- Photographs.
Huntington Lake (Calif.) -- History -- Sources.
Sierra Nevada (Calif. and Nev.) -- Description and travel.
Sierra Nevada (Calif. and Nev.) -- History -- Sources.
Washington Court House (Ohio)
Forms/Genres
Clippings -- United States.
Diaries -- United States.
Letters (correspondence) -- United States.
Professional papers -- United States.
Scrapbooks -- United States.

Additional Contributors
Huntington, Collis Potter, 1821-1900.
Huntington, Henry Edwards, 1850-1927.
Whipple, Squire, 1804-1888.

Indexing: Added Entries
Huntington, Collis Potter, 1821-1900
• Entry in Correspondence: Huntington, Collis Potter, 1821-1900 (1899-1929). Box 1 (4).

Huntington, Henry Edwards, 1850-1927
• Entry in Correspondence: Huntington, Henry Edwards, 1850-1927 (1903-1948). Box 1 (5). Entry in Manuscripts: Biographical Accounts (1934). Box 2 (1).

Whipple, Squire, 1804-1888
• Entry in Ephemera: Engineers’ and Mechanics’ Pocket-Book, Whipple, Squire, 1804-1888 (1847). Box 3 (11).

Indexing: Subjects
Big Creek (Calif.) - - History - - Sources
• Subject in Manuscripts: Memorandum regarding Big Creek Project [undated]. Box 2 (9).

Boulder Canyon (Colo.)
• Subject in Ephemera: Photographs (1921-1925). Box 3 (14).

Engineers - -New York (State) - - Archives
• Subject in Correspondence: Posthumous Requests for Ward Biographical Information (1933-1934). Box 1 (8).
• Subject in Manuscripts: Diary of George Clinton Ward (1887). Box 2 (2).
• Subject in Manuscripts: Diary of George Clinton Ward (1888). Box 2 (3).
• Subject in Manuscripts: Diary of George Clinton Ward (1897). Box 2 (4).
• Subject in Manuscripts: Diary of George Clinton Ward (1898). Box 2 (5).
• Subject in Manuscripts: Diary of George Clinton Ward (1900). Box 2 (6).
• Subject in Ephemera: Engineers’ and Mechanics’ Pocket-Book, Whipple, Squire, 1804-1888 (1847). Box 3 (11).

Erie Railroad Company
• Subject in Manuscripts: Biographical Accounts (1934). Box 2 (1).

Huntington, Collis Potter, 1821-1900
• Subject in Correspondence: Huntington, Collis Potter, 1821-1900 (1899-1929). Box 1 (4).

Huntington, Henry Edwards, 1850-1927
• Subject in Correspondence: Huntington, Henry Edwards, 1850-1927 (1903-1948). Box 1 (5).
• Subject in Manuscripts: Biographical Accounts (1934). Box 2 (1).

Huntington Lake (Calif.) - - History - - Sources
• Subject in Correspondence: Ward Memorial Dedication (1934-1936). Box 1 (12).
• Subject in Correspondence: Ward Memorial Dedication (1936). Box 1 (13).
• Subject in Correspondence: Ward Memorial Dedication [undated]. Box 1 (14).

Huntington Land and Improvement Company
• Subject in Correspondence: Huntington, Henry Edwards, 1850-1927 (1903-1948). Box 1 (5).

Huntington Memorial Hospital (Pasadena, Calif.)
• Subject in Manuscripts: Minutes of Called Meeting of the Trustees of the Collis P. and Howard Huntington Memorial Hospital (1933). Box 2 (10).
Hydroelectric power plants - - California
  • Subject in Manuscripts: Memorandum regarding Big Creek Project [undated]. Box 2 (9).

Hydroelectric power plants - - Colorado
  • Subject in Clippings: Boulder Dam Project (1925). Box 3 (1).

Oberlin College
  • Subject in Correspondence: Oberlin College Honorary Degree (1928-1942). Box 1 (7).
  • Subject in Clippings: Oberlin College Honorary Degree (1928). Box 3 (6).
  • Subject in Ephemera: Oberlin College Honorary Degree (1927-1928). Box 3 (13).

Pacific Light and Power Company
  • Subject in Manuscripts: Biographical Accounts (1934). Box 2 (1).

Sierra Nevada (Calif. and Nev.) - - Description and Travel
  • Subject in Manuscripts: Journal of Blaney Meadows Trip (1923). Box 2 (7).
  • Subject in Manuscripts: Log of Jack Ass Meadows Camp (1922). Box 2 (8).

Sierra Nevada (Calif. and Nev.) - - History - - 20th century
  • Subject in Clippings: Florence Lake Tunnel Commemoration (1925). Box 3 (2).
  • Subject in Documents: Ward Memorial Dedication Application (1934). Box 3 (10).
  • Subject in Ephemera: Photographs (1921-1925). Box 3 (14).
  • Subject in Ephemera: Ward Memorial Dedication (1935-1936). Box 3 (15).

Southern California Edison Company
  • Subject in Correspondence: Southern California Edison Company Promotions (1928-1932). Box 1 (9).
  • Subject in Correspondence: University of Southern California Honorary Degree (1927). Box 1 (11).
  • Subject in Manuscripts: Biographical Accounts (1934). Box 2 (1).
  • Subject in Clippings: Miscellaneous (1925-1933). Box 3 (3).
  • Subject in Documents: Business and Financial (1929-1932). Box 3 (9).
  • Subject in Ephemera: Miscellaneous (1873-1934). Box 3 (12).

University of Southern California
  • Subject in Correspondence: University of Southern California Honorary Degree (1927). Box 1 (10).
  • Subject in Correspondence: University of Southern California Honorary Degree (1927). Box 1 (11).
  • Subject in Clippings: University of Southern California Honorary Degree (1927). Box 3 (7).
  • Subject in Ephemera: Miscellaneous (1873-1934). Box 3 (12).

Washington Court House (Ohio)
  • Subject in Correspondence: Posthumous Requests for Ward Biographical Information (1933-1934). Box 1 (8).

Webb, William Seward
  • Subject in Correspondence: Posthumous Requests for Ward Biographical Information (1933-1934). Box 1 (8).
  • Subject in Manuscripts: Biographical Accounts (1934). Box 2 (1).

Zamorano Club
  • Subject in Correspondence: Miscellaneous (1901-1934). Box 1 (6).

**Correspondence**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1</th>
<th>Correspondence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Folder 1</td>
<td>Condolence Letters (1933). 86 items.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 2</td>
<td>Condolence Letters (1933). 98 items.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 3</td>
<td>Condolence Letters [undated]. 38 items.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Folder 4</td>
<td>Huntington, Collis Potter, 1821-1900 (1899-1929). 7 items.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 6</td>
<td>Miscellaneous (1901-1934). 33 items.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 7</td>
<td>Oberlin College Honorary Degree; Physics Building (1928-1942). 13 items.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 8</td>
<td>Posthumous Requests for Ward Biographical Information (1933-1934). 16 items.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Folder 9  Southern California Edison Promotions (1928-1932). 21 items.
Folder 10  University of Southern California Honorary Degree (1927). 49 items.
Folder 11  University of Southern California Honorary Degree (1927). 69 items.
Folder 13  Ward Memorial Dedication (1936). 91 items.
Folder 14  Ward Memorial Dedication [undated]. 22 items.

**Manuscripts**

Box 2  Manuscritps
Folder 1  Biographical Accounts (1934). 8 items.
Folder 2  Diary of George Clinton Ward (1887). 1 item.
Folder 3  Diary of George Clinton Ward (1888). 1 item.
Folder 4  Diary of George Clinton Ward (1897). 1 item.
Folder 5  Diary of George Clinton Ward (1898). 1 item.
Folder 6  Diary of George Clinton Ward (1900). 1 item.
Folder 7  Journal of Blaney Meadows Trip (1923). 3 items. Also includes George Clinton Ward’s resume and calling card.
Folder 8  Log of Jack Ass Meadows Camp (1922). 1 item.
Folder 9  Memorandum regarding Big Creek Project [undated]. 1 item.
Folder 10  Minutes of Called Meeting of the Trustees of the Collis P. and Howard Huntington Memorial Hospital (1933). 1 item.
Folder 11  Miscellaneous (1926-1933). 3 items.
Folder 12  Oberlin College Honorary Degree (1928). 1 item.

**Clippings, Documents, and Ephemera**

Box 3  Clippings, Documents, and Ephemera
Folder 1  Clippings: Boulder Dam Project (1925). 6 items.
Folder 3  Clippings: Miscellaneous (1925-1933). 15 items.
Folder 4  Clippings: Notices of Death (1933). 67 items.
Folder 5  Clippings: Notices of Death [undated]. 14 items.
Folder 6  Clippings: Oberlin College Honorary Degree (1928). 4 items.
Folder 7  Clippings: University of Southern California Honorary Degree (1927). 2 items.
Folder 8  Clippings: Ward Memorial Dedication [1936]. 1 item.
Folder 10  Documents: Ward Memorial Dedication Application (1934). 1 item.
Folder 12  Ephemera: Miscellaneous (1873-1934). 23 items.
Folder 13  Ephemera: Oberlin College Honorary Degree (1927-1928). 9 items.

**Oversize**


Note: Scrapbook measures 56 cm. and the cover is detached. Contains loose newspaper clippings and photographs.