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WILLIAM ROBERT WARE, 1832-1915.

Papers, 1826-1914.

Manuscript collection - MC 14

1 manuscript box
1 legal manuscript box
Accession numbers: 78-117, 79-16, 87-23, 89-46

Processed: 1979
By: Nora Murphy

ACQUISITION: The papers in box 2 were given to the Institute Archives by Annie Winsor Allen in 1978. See scope and content note for an explanation of the circumstances of the acquisition of box 1.

ACCESS: There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

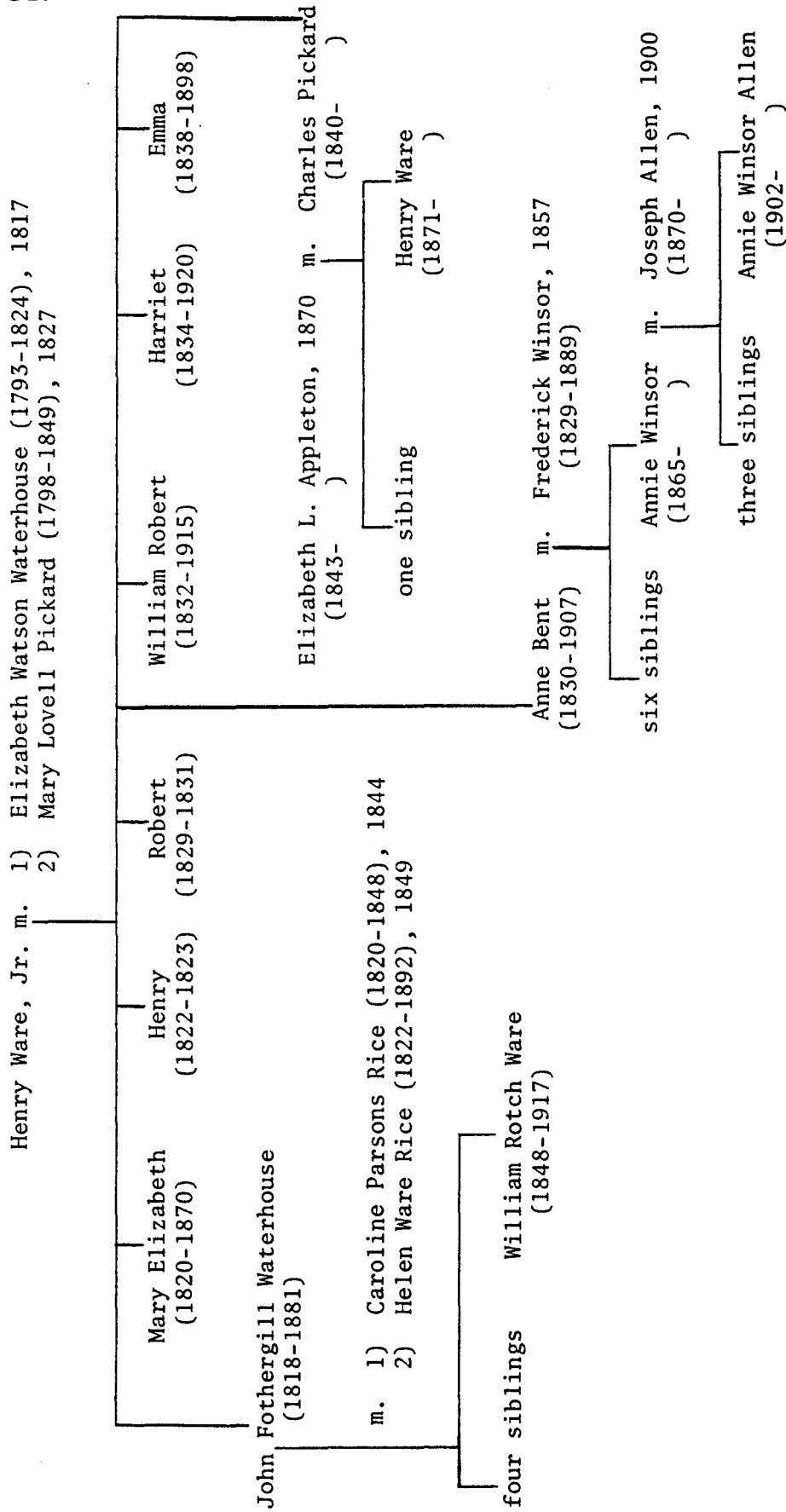
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GENEALOGY:

This "tree" shows only those members of William Robert Ware's family necessary to understand family correspondence and the provenance of the collections. An extensive genealogy of the Ware family can be found in The Ware Genealogy by Emma Forbes Ware, 1901.



BIOGRAPHY:

William Robert Ware was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts, into a well-known, established Massachusetts family. His forefathers had a strong religious bent, as evidenced by his father, Henry Ware, Jr. (1794-1843), a noted Unitarian divine and professor at the Divinity School of Harvard University, and his grandfather, Henry Ware (1764-1845), who was a Unitarian clergyman. Ware's religious feelings are more apparent in his personal writing than in his professional work.

Ware is best known as an educator and as the founder of the schools of architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Columbia University. He began his architectural career after graduating from the Lawrence Scientific School in 1856 with an S.B. degree. He first studied with James E. and Edward C. Cabot in Boston and then spent eight months as a student in the atelier of Richard M. Hunt in New York City where his fellow students included Charles Gambrill, George Browne Post, and Ware's future partner Henry Van Brunt. In 1860 Ware went into practice with E.S. Philbrick, an engineer. Several years later he formed a partnership with Henry Van Brunt which lasted until Ware left Boston for New York in 1881.

The partners established an atelier in their office and Ware strove to provide the students with a good background in both practical method and theory. His success is reflected by his appointment in 1865 as head of the proposed school of architecture in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the first American school of architecture. Ware traveled to Europe to study architectural education and to develop a program of study for MIT. For fourteen years he devoted himself to directing the fledgling program. Conflicts with the administration over the Milton Scholarship funds and an unpaid bill for architectural services rendered were the basis of Ware's growing dissatisfaction with MIT.

In 1881 Ware left MIT and moved to New York where he established the department of architecture in the School of Mines at Columbia University (then Columbia College). As at MIT, his guidance and insight were key factors in the development of an architectural program. He was aided by his previous experience, the establishment of other American schools of architecture in the intervening years, and the fact that Columbia as a college was already well-established when the decision was made to create a department of architecture. Ware's work has gained him the reputation of father of architectural education in America.

In addition to his role as an educator, he contributed to the establishment of the high standards of competition maintained by the American Institute of Architects, and wrote many significant papers and textbooks in the field. Ware is not as well known for his achievements as an architect, though he and Van Brunt designed and erected a number of noteworthy buildings, especially in the Boston and Cambridge areas.

Memberships:

Architectural League of New York
Archeological Institute of America
Committee on the American School of Classical Studies in Athens
Permanent Committee, School of Drawing and Painting of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts

Honorary:

Royal Institute of British Architects
Société Centrale des Architectes Français

Fellow:

American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Buildings designed, erected or renovated by Ware and Henry Van Brunt *include*:

First Church (Unitarian), Boston, Massachusetts
First Congregational Church, Boston, Massachusetts
Old Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts
Union Railroad Station, Worcester, Massachusetts
Universalist Church, North Cambridge, Massachusetts
Episcopal Seminary, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts
Sanders Theater/Memorial Hall, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts
Two dormitories, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts
Weld Hall, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts
Extension, Gore Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Ware served as a judge or advisor in competitions on the following projects:

Indianapolis Soldiers Monument
Philadelphia Art Club
Madison Square Garden
New York Public Library
D.A.R. building in Washington, D.C.
City Hall, St. Louis, Missouri

CHRONOLOGY:

- 1832 Born 27 May in Cambridge, Massachusetts, son of Henry Ware, Jr. (1794-1843), Unitarian clergyman, and Mary Lovell (Pickard) Ware (1798-1849).
- pre-1846 Attended Hopkins Classical School?
- 1846 Spent six months traveling in London and southern England.
- pre-1847 Attended Milton Academy.
- ca. 1847-1848 Student at Philips Exeter Academy.
- 1852 Graduated from Harvard College.
- 1852-1854 Tutor in private families in New York.
- 1854-1856 Attended Lawrence Scientific School and received degree of S.B.
- 1856-1859 Studied in office of James E. and Edward Clark Cabot of Boston, architects.
- 1859 Spent eight months as a student in the atelier of Richard M. Hunt in New York City.
- 1860 Began partnership with Edward S. Philbrick, engineer.
- 186?-1881 Partnership with Henry Van Brunt; they establish an atelier in their office.
- 1864 Became a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.
- 1865 Appointed head of the proposed architecture school at MIT.
Taught drawing and helped organize the department at MIT.
- ca.1866 Began collecting money for the Milton Scholarship.
- 1866 *An Outline of Architectural Instruction* printed; presented as a paper read before the Society of Arts of MIT in December 1865.
- Dec. 1866-
Dec. 1867 Traveled in Europe (England, Scotland, Italy, France, and the Low Countries) to study methods of architectural education.

"On the Condition of Architecture and Architectural Education in the United States." (Sessional Papers of the Royal Institute of British Architects, 1866-1867). Paper read before the Royal Institute of British Architects.
- 1867 September, attended the Universal Exposition in Paris, France.

- 1868 October, Department of Architecture at MIT opened with sixteen students under Ware's direction.
- 1871 Ware proposed postgraduate architectural course.
- 1873 Postgraduate course established.
- 1874 Ware did drawings for proposed new MIT building in Copley Square (not built); non-payment of bill by MIT provokes rift with MIT.
- 1876-1881 Served as Secretary of the School of Drawing and Painting of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts.
- 1877 Early use of stack system for book storage in American libraries implemented by Ware during alternations of old library building at Harvard University.
- 1878 *Greek Ornament* published.
- 1881 11 May, Ware's letter of resignation from MIT as head of the Architecture Department sent to William Barton Rogers, President of MIT.
- Fall, established the department of architecture in the School of Mines at Columbia College (University).
- 1883 Traveled in Europe to purchase a collection of books, photographs and equipment for the new architecture department at Columbia.
- Modern Perspective* published.
- 1885-1903 Served as Trustee of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.
- 1889-1890 Visited Spain, Greece, Turkey, Egypt, Italy and France.
- 1893 Elected Chairman of the Committee on Art Schools, Metropolitan Museum of Art.
- 1896 Received honorary degree of L.L.D. from Harvard University.
- 1899 "Competitions," *American Architect*, 30 December 1899.
- 1900 "The School of Architecture: Its Resources and Methods" reprinted from *Columbia University Quarterly*, June 1900.
- Member of the designing board of the Pan-American Exposition.
- 1902 Spring, breakdown.
- Trustees of Columbia University set apart Department of Architecture as a separate university school.

- 1903 June, Ware retired from Columbia University as Emeritus Professor.

 Traveled to Europe; returned to Milton, Massachusetts, to live with his sister Harriet.
- 1904-1906 *The American Vignola* (2 volumes) published. Part I "The Five Orders"; Part II "Arches and Vaults, Roofs, Doors and Windows, Walls and Ceilings, Steps and Stairs."
- 1905 "Saracenic Architecture," reprint, *Harvard Engineering Journal*, April 1905.
- 1909 "Drawing, Designing and Thinking," *Architectural Record*.
- 1912-1913 *Architectural Shades and Shadows* (textbook) published.
- 1915 9 June, Ware died at Milton, Massachusetts.
- 1940 "The Teaching of Architecture," abridgement of "An Outline of Architectural Instruction," *Technology Review*, April 1940.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:

Box 1

The provenance of the papers in this part of the collection is rather uncertain. The majority of the correspondence was given by Harriet Ware (sister of William Ware) to Harry W. Gardner (then Associate Professor and later Professor of Architecture at MIT) on 25 September 1917. In January 1943 Gardner gave the papers to the Rotch Architectural Library at MIT. The 1887 letter from Ware to Frederick Augustus Porter Barnard, President of Columbia College (later Columbia University), was given to the Rotch Architectural Library in 1938 by William Emerson, Dean of the School of Architecture. The unfinished biography of Ware was given to the Rotch Architectural Library by Dean Emerson in the summer of 1940. Each of these accessions has since found its way to the MIT Institute Archives. In March 1979, the Rotch Library transferred the remainder of the biography to the Institute Archives.

Because of the lack of information surrounding the origins of the documents, an arrangement was imposed based on Ware's life and career. The majority of the collection has been divided into chronological units reflecting Ware's academic affiliations. The sole exception is the MIT 1881-1889 correspondence. These are letters to and from Ware and members of the MIT faculty and administration and it was felt to be more appropriate to group them with MIT correspondence. The following series were created:

- I. Correspondence, 1863-1904
 - A. Pre-MIT, 1863-1864
 - B. MIT, 1865-1889
 - C. Columbia, 1887-1902
 - D. Post-Columbia, 1903-1904
- II. Reports and Memoranda, Columbia, 1892, 1893, 1898, 1901?
- III. Publications, 1865, 1900, 1909
- IV. Unfinished biography, ms, tps, n.d.

The collection is primarily composed of correspondence and reports written and received by Ware. These papers deal almost exclusively with Ware in his role as educator. The majority of the correspondence is between Ware and his colleagues, often of a personal nature, but including discussions of the architectural programs at MIT and Columbia. The reports and memoranda are from Ware to Seth Low, President of Columbia College, and explain the operation and progress of the programs under his (Ware's) direction.

These and the correspondence give a fairly clear presentation of the nature of Ware's relationship with each school. There is discussion of the causes of Ware's dissatisfaction with MIT and his plans for beginning the architectural school at Columbia College. Some correspondence includes a discussion of his theory of architectural education.

The collection includes an unfinished biography of Ware, possibly written by his nephew William Rotch Ware. This provides a good deal of information about Ware personally and professionally and thus is useful in understanding Ware. Throughout the biography are transcripts of some of Ware's correspondence used to illustrate areas of his life and career, from his publications to self appraisal of his accomplishments. The index of correspondents should be checked for extant letters located in MC 14 which are mentioned in the biography. Those letters for which there are only transcript versions were not included in the index.

There are also two typescript drafts of Ware's pamphlet *An Outline of Architectural Instruction* and printed copies of "Competitions," "Drawing, Designing and Thinking," and "The School of Architecture: Its Resources and Methods," all written by Ware.

Box 2 (formerly MC 19)

The papers of William Robert Ware in this part of the collection were given to the Institute Archives by Annie Winsor Allen, great niece of Ware, in September 1978. They were left to her by her mother, Annie Ware (Winsor) Allen. The papers were divided into the following series:

- I. Correspondence, Ware, 1846-1888, 1893
- II. Correspondence, Harriet Ware, 1915, 1917
- III. Journals, 1849-1871
- IV. Fables and Poems, 1859, 1870-1907
- V. Sketches, 5 pen and ink, n.d.
- VI. Obituaries and Memorials, 1915

The collection reflects the personal life and academic work of Ware, but the value and extent of the information in the documents varies. The correspondence sent by Ware to members of his family (mother, Mary Lovell [Pickard] Ware; sisters, Harriet, Emma; brother, Charles) is rich with discussions of family matters, opinions about American political life and the Civil War, and Ware's European travels. Sociologically, the papers reveal family life and interaction in the middle of the nineteenth century.

The bulk of the collection consists of the above mentioned correspondence. Included in the remainder of the collection are journals in which Ware expresses his feelings about religion and Unitarianism. A majority of the entries were written as a personal analysis of sermons heard by Ware during his years as a student at Harvard College. The journals also contain drafts of letters sent (one in the 1851-1857 volume revealing his architectural aspirations) and a lecture outline, dated 1871, for a course in design.

Ware's artistic inclinations are expressed in the fables, poetry, and pen and ink sketches also located in the collection. The fables, which appear to have been published at an undetermined date, provide an interesting insight into the breadth of Ware's intellectual pursuits. Most of the poems were written by Ware and seem to have been intended for specific friends or relatives. Two of the poems were sent to Ware from his nephew William Rotch Ware and there is a verse-game from Frank Dempster Sherman. The pen and ink sketches (possibly of English churches) are not signed, but were received with the rest of the papers and therefore have been retained as a part of the collection.

The final component of the collection includes obituaries, memorials, and letters of condolence sent to Harriet on the death of William Ware. These are all written by friends and former students. They not only provide biographical information but also show the esteem in which Ware was held by his close associates.

Additional information about Ware can be found by referring to the bibliography included in this finding aid (see Table of Contents) and in other collections housed in the Institute Archives. Ware correspondence can be located in the William Barton Rogers Collection (MC 1 and MC 2) and the papers of the Office of the President. The documents in these collections supplement the

information found in MC 14 and provide much fuller documentation of Ware's academic affiliations, and thus aid in creating a more complete picture of Ware. Seen together, these documents offer research material in several areas: the early years of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the development of American architectural education, the internal struggles faced by a growing university department and the founding of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Columbia University architectural schools.

In addition, papers by and about Ware and members of his family are available for research at several other repositories. The Columbia University Libraries holds a collection of letters written by Ware to Warren P. Laird, relating to the founding, activities, students, and finances of the American Academy in Rome, ca. 1894-1900. The papers of Henry Ware, Jr. (Ware's father) are held at the Harvard University Archives; the Schlesinger Library at Radcliffe College has the papers of Annie Winsor Allen, which contain family related material; and the Massachusetts Historical Society has papers of the Ware family.

Material received with the collection which did not relate specifically to Ware and was felt to be inappropriate in this collection was transferred to the Harvard University Archives, the Schlesinger Library, the Massachusetts Historical Society, and the Northborough Historical Collections.

Box 2, folders 18 and 19, consist of letters to William Ware, 1852-1897, including one from Booker T. Washington, 1897. Also included are family photographs and published pamphlets by the Rev. Henry Ware.

Box 2, folder 20, includes family correspondence to Ware, especially from his cousin George Lovell, 1826-1868.

Box

Folder

Correspondence, 1863-1914, n.d.

- | | | |
|---|----|---|
| 1 | 1 | Pre-MIT, 1863-1864 |
| | 2 | MIT, 1865-1866 |
| | 3 | MIT, 1881-1889 |
| | 4 | Columbia, 1887-1889 |
| | 5 | Columbia, 1890-1891 |
| | 6 | Columbia, 1892-1894 |
| | 7 | Columbia, 1896-1897 |
| | 8 | Columbia, 1898-1900 |
| | 9 | Columbia, 1902 |
| | 10 | Post-Columbia, 1903-1904, 1906 |
| | 11 | post-Columbia, 1909-1910 |
| | 12 | Post-Columbia, 1911, 1914 |
| | 13 | n.d. |
| | 14 | Reports and Memoranda, Columbia, 1892 1893, 1898, 1901? |

15 Publications, 1865, 1899, 1900, 1909

1865, *An Outline of Architectural Instruction*, 2 tps drafts

1899, "Competitions," reprinted from *American Architect* 1899

1900, "The School of Architecture: Its Resources and Methods," reprinted from *Columbia University Quarterly*

1909, "Drawing, Designing and Thinking," printed

Unfinished Biography, ms, tps, n.d.

16-18 Ms draft, n.d.

19 Tps, pp. 6-103

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>
1	Unfinished Biography, ms, tps, n.d. (con't.)
	20 Tps, "New York VI (pp. 104-162)"
	21 Tps, "Competitions VII (pp. 163-175)"
	22 Tps, "Aims VIII (pp. 176-209)"
	23 Tps, "Outside Activities IX (pp. 210-234)" Draft of letter to E.H.G., June 8, 1882
	24 Tps, "Books and Reading X (pp. 235-250)"
	25 Tps, "Appraisal XI (pp. 251-264)"
	26 Tps, "Aphorisms, Epigrams, Witticisms XII (pp. 265-276)"
2	Correspondence, WRW, 1846-1888, 1893
	1 1846-1853
	2 1854-1864
	3 1865
	4 1866-1867
	5 1868-1873
	6 1874-1877
	7 1878, 1882-1885, 1888
	8 1893
	Correspondence, Harriet Ware, 1915, 1917
	9 Condolences to Harriet, 1915
	10 Correspondence to Harriet, 1915, 1917
	Journals, 1849-1871
	11 Journal, 1849-1871
	12 Journal, 1851-1857

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	
2	Fables and Verses, 1859, 1870-1907	
13	Fables by WRW, n.d.	
14	Verses by WRW, 1870-1907, n.d.	
15	Verses by others, 1859-1877, n.d.	
16	Sketches, Pen and Ink, n.d.	
17	Obituaries and Memorials, 1915	
18	Poems, photographs (Ware family)	(was 87-23)
The following two folders are not included in the index of correspondents		
19	Correspondence, photographs	(was 87-23)
20	Correspondence, writings, WRW, 1826-1860	

Please note that MC 19 is now MC14, box 2

INDEX OF CORRESPONDENTS:

The following index is to the correspondence to and from Ware in MC 14 and MC 19.

Aldrich, (?) MC: 14: 7.	Snelling, Grenville Temple MC 14: 6.
Aldrich, Chester H. MC 19: 9.	Stebbins, Roderick MC 19: 9.
Barnard, Frederick Augustus Porter MC 14: 4.	Stone, N.H. MC 19: 9.
Bloor, A.J. MC 19: 9.	Van Amringe, John Howard MC 14: 6.
Brooks, W.F. MC 19: 9.	Walker, Francis Amasa (General) MC 14: 3.
Butler, Nicholas Murray MC 14: 9.	Ware, Charles Pickard MC 19: 4.
Carrere, John Mervin MC 14: 7.	Ware, Emma Forbes MC 19: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.
Chandler, Alice D. MC 19: 9.	Ware, Harriet MC 19: 3, 4, 5, 9, 10.
Chandler, Charles Frederick MC 14: 6, 7.	Ware, Mary Lovell (Pickard) MC 19: 1.
Comstock, Theodore Bryant MC 14: 12.	Ware, "Sister" (Anne?) MC 19: 2, 4.
Dana, Richard, Jr. MC 19: 9.	Ware, William Rotch MC 14: 10; MC 19: 15.
Dominick, William T. MC 14: 8.	Warren, H. Langford MC 19: 9.
Elliot, Huger MC 19: 9.	Welch, Alexander McM. MC 14: 8; MC 19: 9.
Emerson, William MC 19: 9.	Wheeler, (?) MC 14: 12.
Frohme, Henry W. MC 19: 9.	Whitney, Philip R. MC 19: 9.
Gambrill, Charles D. MC 14: 1, 2.	
Gamrett, W.G. MC 19: 9.	
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Gumaer, Alfred H. MC 19: 9.	
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Longfellow, A.W. MC 19: 9.	
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Nash, (?) MC 14: 8.	
Nichols, William Ripley MC 14: 3.	
Rantoul, Robert L. MC 19: 9.	
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Runkle, John Daniel MC 14: 2.	
Sabine, Wallace C. MC 14: 11.	
Schmerhorn, Frederick Augustus, Jr. MC 14: 8, 13.	
Sherman, Frank Dempster MC 14: 4, 5; MC 19: 9, 15.	
Singer, Madame M. MC 19: 9.	
Smith, Lucian E. MC 19: 9.	

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Hamlin, Alfred Dwight Foster, "William Robert Ware," *Columbia University Quarterly*, September 1915, pp. 376-380.

The National Cyclopaedia of American Biography, New York: James T. White and Company, 1924, v. VIII.

Pause, Michael, "Teaching the Design Studio, a Case Study: MIT's Department of Architecture," unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, MIT, June 1977.

"William Robert Ware, 1832-1915: Tributes of affection and appreciation from some of his friends and former pupils," *Technology Review*, v. 17, 1915, pp. 422, 460, 611.

Ware, Emma Forbes, *The Ware Genealogy*, 1901.

Ware, Henry, "The Family."

Ware, William Robert, *An Outline of Architectural Instruction*, 1866.

Ware, William Robert, "The Teaching of Architecture," *Technology Review*, April 1940, pp. 237.

Biographical information was also obtained from the obituaries and memorials in MC 14, the biography in MC 14, and the correspondence in MC 1, MC 2, and MC 14 and the Office of the President collection.