

Guide to the Papers of William Otis Crosby MC.0068

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Summary Information

Repository	Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Institute Archives and Special Collections
Creator -	Crosby, Alice Ballard
Creator	Crosby, William Otis, 1850-1925
Title	William Otis Crosby papers
Date [inclusive]	1873-1931
Extent	9.0 cubic feet (25 manuscript boxes, 1 oversize folder)
Location	Materials are stored off-site. Advance notice is required for use.
Language	English

Citation

William Otis Crosby Papers, MC 68, box X. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Institute Archives and Special Collections, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Biography

William Otis Crosby, 1850-1925, SB 1876, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, served as instructor in the Department of Geology, 1878-1883; assistant professor, 1883-1902; associate professor, 1902-1906; and professor, 1906-1907. He consulted on subways and tunnels for the Boston Transit Commission; advised on the Boston dry dock; acted as advisor to the Charles River Dam Commission for the development of the Charles River Basin Project; and conducted an investigation of the foundation conditions for the new MIT buildings in Cambridge. Crosby's research focused on engineering geology. A son, Irving B. Crosby, joined him in his consulting practice.

Scope and Contents of the Collection

The bulk of the collection of the papers of William O. Crosby consists of correspondence and geological research as well as reports of consulting projects on sites in Boston, New England, Long Island, Colorado, Alaska, western United States mines, and other US locations, maps of the Massachusetts area by Crosby, bibliographies, reports, reprints, and printed material. Plans and maps of the "New Technology," the new campus for the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, made by Crosby, John R. Freeman, and others are included in the collection. There is also personal material including a diary kept by his widow, Alice B. Crosby, relating to a world cruise she took from 1930 to 1931.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Institute Archives and Special Collections

Revision Description

2013

Access note

The collection is open for research.

Intellectual Property Rights

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Source of Acquisition

Materials were given to the Institute Archives and Special Collections in 1977 by Irving Ballard Crosby, transferred by Robert R. Shrock.

Related Materials

Related Materials

Irving B. Crosby papers, MC 81, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Institute Archives and Special Collections

John R. Freeman papers, MC 51, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Institute Archives and Special Collections

Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)

- Diaries.

Geographic Name(s)

- Charles River basin (Mass.)

Personal Name(s)

- Crosby, Irving B. (Irving Ballard), 1891-1959
- Crosby, William Otis, 1850-1925

Subject(s)

- Civil engineering.
- Consulting engineers.
- Geologists--Massachusetts.
- Geology--Field work.
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology--Faculty.
- Water resources development.
- Water-supply engineering.

Collection Inventory

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Alice B. Crosby's diary of world cruise on S.S. <i>Belgenland</i> 1930-1931	1
Alice B. Crosby's Log Book of the Red Star Line S.S. <i>Belgenland</i> World Cruise 1930-1931	1
Loose photograph from Logbook, Albert Einstein on board ship between December 15 and December 31, 1930	1
Loose photographs from Logbook, "Batavia, Island of Java" and others 1931	1
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