



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Charles H. Land Papers

NMAH.AC.0834

Alison L. Oswald

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Archives Center, National Museum of American History

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Charles H. Land Papers
Date:	1860-1957
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0834
Source:	National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Science, Medicine, and Society
Creator:	Land, Charles H., 1847-1922 (Creator) Lindbergh, Charles A. (Charles Augustus), 1902-1974
Extent:	0.5 Cubic feet (1 box, 1 oversized folder)
Language:	Collection is in English. Some materials in French and German.
Summary:	The collection documents inventor and dentist Charles H. Land and consists of correspondence, financial records, patent records, articles, printed material, writings, sermons and photographs.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Gift of Charles A. Lindbergh, 1965.

Processing Information

Processed by Alison L. Oswald, archivist, May, 2003.

Preferred Citation

Charles H. Land Papers, dates, Archives Center, National Museum of American History

Restrictions

The collection is open for research use.

Physical Access: Researchers must handle unprotected photographs with gloves. Researchers must use reference copies of audiovisual materials.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Conditions Governing Use

The Division of Science, Medicine and Society transferred the collection to the Archives Center in 2003.

Biographical / Historical

Charles H. Land (1847-1922) was born in Simcoe, Ontario, Canada. Educated in New York, Land studied dentistry under J.B. Meacham of Canada and from 1864-1866 joined the offices of Drs. Sherwood, Haskell and Allport in Chicago, Illinois. From 1871 until his death in 1922, Land practiced dentistry in Detroit, Michigan. In 1875, he married Evangeline Lodge of Detroit and had two children, Charles H., Jr., and Evangeline. Land originated the "Land System of Dentistry" which included many of his patented processes, especially the adaptation of porcelain to dental restorations. Many of his patents deal with devices to aid porcelain work.

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of correspondence, financial records, patent records, articles, printed material, writings, sermons and photographs documenting the inventor and dentist Charles H. Land. The correspondence includes one letter written to Dr. Land, but the majority were written after Dr. Land's death and deal primarily with honors bestowed upon him and the Charles H. Land Museum. Two letters are in German. The financial materials consist of dental fees information and invoices from Baker & Company Gold, Silver and Platinum Refiners and Buffalo Dental Manufacturing Company. The patent records contain United States, Canadian, and French patents issued to Dr. Land. The writings deal exclusively with notes and letters written by Charles H. Land, Jr. in 1957. The notes describe issues surrounding the dental field. The sermons, 1860-1863, have no identified author, but three of the six sermons have titles: *A.U. The Memory of a Christian Departed*, *P.U. Godly Sorrow*, and *National Thanksgiving*. There are four photographs, two of which show Dr. Land working.

Arrangement

The collection is divided into eight series.

Series 1, Biographical Materials, 1909-1915

Series 2, Correspondence, 1898-1956

Series 3, Financial Materials, 1872-1891

Series 4, Patent Records, 1877-1914

Subseries 4.1, United States Patents, 1877-1914

Subseries 4.2, Canadian and French Patents, 1887-1894

Series 5, Articles and Printed Materials, 1905-1956

Series 6, Writing of C.H. Land, Jr., 1957

Series 7, Sermons, 1860-1863

Series 8, Photographs, undated

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Dental technology -- History

Dentistry -- History
Inventions -- 19th century
Inventors -- 19th century
Opium

Types of Materials:

Articles
Financial records -- 19th century
Financial records -- 20th century
Letters (correspondence) -- 1880-1890
Letters (correspondence) -- 20th century.
Patents
Photographs -- 19th century
Sermons
Writings

Names:

National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Science, Medicine, and Society

Occupations:

Dentists

Container Listing

Series 1: Biographical Materials, 1909-1915

Box 1, Folder 1

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Series 2: Correspondence, 1898-1956

Box 1, Folder 2

Series 3: Financial Records, 1872-1891

Box 1, Folder 2

Box 1, Folder 3 Dental Fees, 1872

Box 1, Folder 4 Invoices, 1888-1891

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Series 4: Patent Records, 1877-1914

Box 1

Subseries 4.1: United States Patents, 1877-1914

Box 1

Box 1, Folder 5	US Patent 186,483 Notes: Improvement in Composition of Matter for Veneers, 1877
Box 1, Folder 5	US Patent 230,707 Notes: Baby Jumper, 1880
Box 1, Folder 5	US Patent 271,476 Notes: Artificial Teeth, 1883
Box 1, Folder 5	US Patent 375,167 Notes: Filling Teeth, 1887
Box 1, Folder 5	US Patent 385,718 Notes: Operative Dentistry, 1888
Box 1, Folder 5	US Patent 379,966 Notes: Manufacture of Refractory Carbon, 1888
Box 1, Folder 6	US Patent 440,952 Notes: Manufacture of Compound Aluminum Plates, 1890
Box 1, Folder 6	US Patent 423,432 Notes: Hydrocarbon Burner, 1890
Box 1, Folder 6	US Patent 454,566 Notes: Process of Restoring Defective Teeth, 1891
Box 1, Folder 6	US Patent 569,210 Notes: Rest for Dental Engine Tools, 1896
Box 1, Folder 6	US Patent 1,087,669 Notes: Disinfecting Apparatus, 1914

Subseries 4.2: Canadian and French Patents, 1887-1894

Box 1

Box 1, Oversize O/S Folder 1	Canadian Patent 28,217 Notes: Improvements in the Filling of Decayed Teeth, 1887
Box 1, Oversize O/S Folder 1	Canadian Patent 35,898

	Notes:	Improvements in the Manufacture of a Compound Aluminum Plate, 1891
Box 1, Oversize O/S Folder 1	Canadian Patent 40,007 Notes:	Improvements in a Muffle Furnace, 1892
Box 1, Oversize O/S Folder 1	French Patent 240,106, 1894	

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Series 5: Articles and Printed Materials, 1905-1956

Box 1, Folder 7

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Series 6: Writing of C.H. Land, Jr., 1957

Box 1, Folder 8

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Series 7: Sermons, 1860-1863

Box 1, Folder 9

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Series 8: Photographs, undated

Box 1, Folder 10

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