



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
P.O. Box 37012
Suite 1100, MRC 601
Washington, D.C. 20013-7012
archivescenter@si.edu
<http://americanhistory.si.edu/archives>

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Arrangement.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	2
Names and Subjects	3
Container Listing	4
Series 1: Biographical Materials, 1909-1915.....	4
Series 2: Correspondence, 1898-1956.....	5
Series 4: Patent Records, 1877-1914.....	6
Series 5: Articles and Printed Materials, 1905-1956.....	8
Series 6: Writing of C.H. Land, Jr., 1957.....	9
Series 7: Sermons, 1860-1863.....	10
Series 8: Photographs, undated.....	11

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Charles H. Land Papers
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0834
Date:	1860-1957
Extent:	0.5 Cubic feet (1 box, 1 oversized folder)
Source:	Science, Medicine and Society, Division of (NMAH, SI). Land, Charles H., 1847-1922 Lindbergh, Charles A. (Charles Augustus), 1902-1974
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.

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

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.

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:

- Science, Medicine and Society, Division of (NMAH, SI).

Occupations:

- Dentists

Container Listing

Series 1: Biographical Materials, 1909-1915

Box 1, Folder 1

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

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

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

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 Improvement in Composition of Matter for Veneers, 1877
Box 1, Folder 5	US Patent 230,707 Baby Jumper, 1880
Box 1, Folder 5	US Patent 271,476 Artificial Teeth, 1883
Box 1, Folder 5	US Patent 375,167 Filling Teeth, 1887
Box 1, Folder 5	US Patent 385,718 Operative Dentistry, 1888
Box 1, Folder 5	US Patent 379,966 Manufacture of Refractory Carbon, 1888
Box 1, Folder 6	US Patent 440,952 Manufacture of Compound Aluminum Plates, 1890
Box 1, Folder 6	US Patent 423,432 Hydrocarbon Burner, 1890
Box 1, Folder 6	US Patent 454,566 Process of Restoring Defective Teeth, 1891
Box 1, Folder 6	US Patent 569,210 Rest for Dental Engine Tools, 1896
Box 1, Folder 6	US Patent 1,087,669 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 Improvements in the Filling of Decayed Teeth, 1887
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Box 1, Oversize O/S Folder 1	Canadian Patent 35,898 Improvements in the Manufacture of a Compound Aluminum Plate, 1891
Box 1, Oversize O/S Folder 1	Canadian Patent 40,007 Improvements in a Muffle Furnace, 1892
Box 1, Oversize O/S Folder 1	French Patent 240,106, 1894

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 5: Articles and Printed Materials, 1905-1956

Box 1, Folder 7

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

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

Box 1, Folder 8

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 7: Sermons, 1860-1863

Box 1, Folder 9

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 8: Photographs, undated

Box 1, Folder 10

[Return to Table of Contents](#)