



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Washington Society of Engineers Records

NMAH.AC.0972

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2017

Archives Center, National Museum of American History

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Collection Overview

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|--------------------|--|
| Repository: | Archives Center, National Museum of American History |
| Title: | Washington Society of Engineers Records |
| Date: | 1905-1985 (bulk 1930-1979) |
| Identifier: | NMAH.AC.0972 |
| Source: | National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Work and Industry (Collector) National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Mechanical and Civil Engineering (Collector) National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of History of Technology (Collector) |
| Creator: | Washington Society of Engineers (Creator) Remington, Charles E. (Author) Ellenberger, William J. (Donor) |
| Extent: | 13.1 Cubic feet (30 boxes) |
| Language: | English . |
| Summary: | The Washington Society of Engineers was founded in 1905 with the objective to advance engineering knowledge and maintain a high professional standard among members. Membership was open to all individuals who were actively engaged in any branch of the engineering profession. The records contain membership records, meeting minutes and reports, financial records, correspondence, projects and events details, as well as research documents. |

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Immediate source of acquisition unknown.

Provenance

Transferred from the Division of Work and Industry to the Archives Center in 2007.

Processing Information

Processed by Sara Wheeler, intern, July 2017; supervised by Alison Oswald, archivist.

Preferred Citation

Washington Society of Engineers Records, 1905-1985, Archives Center, National Museum of American History

Restrictions

Collection is open for research but is stored off-site and special arrangements must be made to work with it. Contact the Archives Center for information at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270.

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

The Washington Society of Engineers was formed in 1905 to represent local engineers in the Washington (DC), Virginia, and Maryland areas, as well as serve as a resource for sharing ideas and networking with others within the engineering profession. Membership was open to all persons actively involved in the practice of any branch of engineering. The Society became part of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers (AIEE) and was also affiliated with the Washington Academy of Sciences. Other engineering societies were able to form due to the assistance of the Washington Society of Engineers such as the engineers including the Engineers Joint Council, the Washington Academy of Sciences, the DC Council of Engineering and Architectural Societies, and the American Association of Engineering Societies. The Washington Society of Engineers was absorbed into different national professional societies, such as the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) and the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE), both of which have DC metro area branches.

Scope and Contents

The collection documents work conducted by the Washington Society of Engineers. A large portion of the papers are from the offices of Charles E. Remington, former treasurer of the Society. The collection includes administrative records, organizational information, financial records, business records such as meeting minutes, general correspondence, reprints, records of programs and events, academic papers, and reference files about members and activities of the Society.

Arrangement

The collection is divided into five series.

Series 1: Membership Records, 1905-1985

Series 2: Meeting Minutes and Reports, 1905-1980

Series 3: Financial Records, 1906-1984

Series 4: Correspondence, 1928-1980

Series 5: Project, Events, and Research Documents, 1931-1983

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Engineering
Societies -- Professional

Types of Materials:

Business records -- 20th century
Correspondence -- 20th century
Financial records -- 20th century
Ledgers (account books)
Minutes
Reports

Names:

National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of History of Technology
National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Mechanical and Civil Engineering
National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Work and Industry

Places:

Washington (D.C.)

Container Listing

Series 1: Membership Records, 1905 - 1985

Scope and Contents: Series 1 contains alphabetical biographical membership list, published membership lists, directory of officers and committee members, membership applications and solicitations, and membership statistics.

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Box 1, Folder 1 | Biographical-A, 1907 - 1961 |
| Box 1, Folder 2 | Biographical-B, 1907 - 1963 |
| Box 1, Folder 3 | Biographical-C, 1907 - 1963 |
| Box 2, Folder 1 | Biographical-D, 1907 - 1963 |
| Box 2, Folder 2 | Biographical-E and F, 1907 - 1963 |
| Box 2, Folder 3 | Biographical-G, 1907 - 1963 |
| Box 3, Folder 1 | Biographical Listing-H, 1907 - 1963 |
| Box 3, Folder 2 | Biographical Listing-I, J, and K, 1907 - 1963 |
| Box 3, Folder 3 | Biographical Listing-L, 1907 - 1963 |
| Box 4, Folder 1 | Biographical Listing-M, 1907 - 1963 |
| Box 4, Folder 2 | Biographical Listing-N, O, and P, 1907 - 1963 |
| Box 4, Folder 3 | Biographical Listing-Q and R, 1907 - 1963 |
| Box 5, Folder 1 | Biographical Listing-S, 1907 - 1963 |
| Box 5, Folder 2 | Biographical Listing-T, U, V, 1907 - 1963 |
| Box 5, Folder 3 | Biographical Listing-W, X, Y, and Z, 1907 - 1963 |
| Box 6, Folder 1 | By-laws and membership list, 1905 - 1913 |
| Box 6, Folder 2 | By-laws and membership list, 1914 - 1918 |
| Box 6, Folder 3 | By-laws and membership list, 1919 - 1923 |
| Box 6, Folder 4 | By-laws and membership list, 1924 - 1928 |
| Box 6, Folder 5 | By-laws and membership list, 1929 - 1933 |

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| Box 7, Folder 1 | By-laws and membership list, 1934 - 1939 |
| Box 7, Folder 2 | By-laws and membership list, 1933 - 1947 |
| Box 7, Folder 3 | By-laws and membership list, 1940 - 1947 |
| Box 7, Folder 4 | By-laws and membership list, 1949 - 1954 |
| Box 7, Folder 5 | By-laws and membership list, 1956 - 1970 |
| Box 8, Folder 1 | By-laws and membership list, 1971 - 1981 |
| Box 8, Folder 2 | By-laws and membership list, 1982 - 1985 |
| Box 8, Folder 3 | Officers, directors, and committee membership lists, 1906 - 1981 |
| Box 8, Folder 4 | Handwritten membership list, 1907 |
| Box 8, Folder 5 | Membership solicitations, 1945 - 1974 |
| Box 8, Folder 6 | Lifetime membership certificate, 1962 |
| Box 8, Folder 7 | Statistics, 1969 - 1974 |
| Box 8, Folder 8 | Changes of address, 1969 - 1974 |
| Box 8, Folder 9 | Applications, 1970 - 1974 |
| Box 8, Folder 10 | Dues collections, 1974 - 1979 |
| Box 9, Folder 1 | Membership recommendations, 1974 - 1979 |
| Box 9, Folder 2 | Statistics of members, 1975 - 1980 |
| Box 9, Folder 3 | Membership applications, 1975 - 1980 |
| Box 10, Folder 1 | Members roster, 1975 - 1981 |
| Box 10, Folder 2 | News clippings about members, 1975 - 1983 |
| Box 10, Folder 3 | List of members, 1978 October 7 |
| Box 10, Folder 4 | Roster file, 1978 |
| Box 10, Folder 5 | List of members, including lifetime members, 1981 |
| Box 28 | Index cards with deceased and resigned members' information, 1970 - 1983 |

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Series 2: Meeting Minutes and Reports, 1905 - 1980

Scope and Contents: Series 2 contains volumes of meeting minutes and reports, meeting notices, attendance reports, and committee reports.

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| Box 10, Folder 6 | Volume 1, 1905 - 1909 |
| Box 10, Folder 7 | Volume 2, 1910 - 1913 |
| Box 11, Folder 1 | Volume 3, 1914 - 1917 |
| Box 11, Folder 2 | Volume 4, 1918 - 1922 |
| Box 11, Folder 3 | Volume 5, 1923 - 1927 |
| Box 12, Folder 1 | Volume 6, 1928 - 1930 |
| Box 12, Folder 2 | Volume 7, 1931 - 1933 |
| Box 12, Folder 3 | Volume 8, 1934 - 1936 |
| Box 13, Folder 1 | Volume 9, 1937 - 1939 |
| Box 13, Folder 2 | Volume 10, 1940 - 1942 |
| Box 13, Folder 3 | Volume 11, 1943 - 1947 |
| Box 14, Folder 1 | Volume 12, 1948 - 1953 |
| Box 14, Folder 2 | Volume 13, 1954 - 1958 |
| Box 15, Folder 1 | Records, 1959 - 1961 |
| Box 15, Folder 2 | Records, 1962 - 1964 |
| Box 15, Folder 3 | Records, 1965 - 1967 |
| Box 16, Folder 1 | Records, 1968 - 1969 |
| Box 16, Folder 2 | Meeting minutes, 1911 - 1974 |
| Box 16, Folder 3 | Meeting notices, 1923 - 1974 |
| Box 16, Folder 4 | Meeting notices, 1929 - 1932 |
| Box 17, Folder 1 | Notice of meetings, 1933 |
| Box 17, Folder 2 | Notice of meetings, 1934 |

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| Box 17, Folder 3 | Notice of meetings, 1935 - 1936 |
| Box 17, Folder 5 | Notice of meetings, 1937 - 1938 |
| Box 17, Folder 5 | Committee reports, 1947 - 1974 |
| Box 17, Folder 6 | Suggestions for and about meetings, 1961 - 1974 |
| Box 17, Folder 7 | Attendance records, 1970 - 1974 |
| Box 17, Folder 8 | Notices, reports, and invitations, 1970 - 1971 |
| Box 18, Folder 1 | Notices, fliers, and correspondence about meetings, 1972 - 1976 |
| Box 18, Folder 2 | Board of Directors meeting notes, 1975 - 1980 |
| Box 18, Folder 3 | Attendance at meetings, 1975 - 1979 |
| Box 19, Folder 1 | Meeting notices, 1975 - 1979 |
| Box 19, Folder 2 | Officer's handbook, 1976 |
| Box 19, Folder 3 | Committee reports, 1976 - 1979 |

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Series 3: Financial Records, 1906 - 1984

Scope and Contents: Series 3 contains ledger books for deposits and withdrawals, bank statements, invoices, expenditure reports, check slips, and annual statement reports.

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Box 29, Item 1 | Ledger, 1930 - 1940 |
| Box 29, Item 2 | Ledger, 1941 - 1957 |
| Box 29, Item 3 | Ledger, 1957 - 1970 |
| Box 19, Folder 4 | Accounts ledger, 1906 - 1909 |
| Box 19, Folder 5 | Additions and separations, 1906 - 1928 |
| Box 19, Folder 6 | Accounts ledger, 1910 - 1914 |
| Box 20, Folder 1 | Accounts ledger, 1915 - 1919 |
| Box 20, Folder 2 | Ledger book, 1916 - 1920 |
| Box 20, Folder 3 | Annual reports, 1921 - 1975 |
| Box 20, Folder 4 | Financial data and dues, 1943 - 1974 |
| Box 20, Folder 5 | Treasurer reports, 1958 - 1977 |
| Box 20, Folder 6 | Ledger for dues, 1962 - 1972 |
| Box 20, Folder 7 | Monthly reports, 1968 - 1975 |
| Box 20, Folder 9 | Annual statements, 1975 - 1979 |
| Box 20, Folder 9 | Financial statements, 1975 - 1979 |
| Box 21, Folder 1 | Statement of receipts and expenditures, 1975 - 1976 |
| Box 21, Folder 2 | Monthly financial reports, 1975 - 1979 |
| Box 21, Folder 3 | Checking account statements and checks, 1976 - 1977 |
| Box 21, Folder 4 | Invoices, 1977 |
| Box 21, Folder 5 | Purchase orders, 1977 - 1982 |
| Box 21, Folder 6 | Bank statements and check receipts, 1978 |
| Box 21, Folder 7 | Bank statements and check receipts, 1979 |

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| Box 22, Folder 1 | Expenditure invoice records, 1979 |
| Box 22, Folder 2 | Expenditure invoice records, 1979 - 1980 |
| Box 22, Folder 3 | Bank statements and check receipts, 1980 |
| Box 22, Folder 4 | Expenditure records, 1980 - 1981 |
| Box 22, Folder 5 | Expenditure records, checks, and statements, 1981 - 1983 |
| Box 23, Folder 1 | Expenditure records, checks, and statements, 1981 - 1983 |
| Box 23, Folder 2 | Expenditures, checks, and statements, 1981 - 1983 |
| Box 23, Folder 3 | Deposit slips and copies of checks, 1983 - 1984 |
| Box 24, Folder 1 | Expenditure records, 1984 |
| Box 24, Folder 2 | Checking account and savings account summaries, 1984 |
| Box 30, Folder 1 | Ledger, 1920 - 1925 |
| Box 30, Folder 2 | Ledger, 1925 - 1929 |

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Series 4: Correspondence, 1928 - 1980

Scope and Contents: Series 4 contains correspondence related to the Young Engineer's Prize, other engineering societies, treasurer communications, and correspondence with members and potential members.

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|------------------|---|
| Box 24, Folder 3 | Assorted correspondence with members, 1928 - 1974 |
| Box 24, Folder 4 | Responses and submissions for Young Engineer's Prize, 1949 - 1950 |
| Box 24, Folder 5 | Treasurer communication, 1962 - 1969 |
| Box 24, Folder 6 | Communication sent to members, 1973 - 1978 |
| Box 24, Folder 7 | Related engineering societies, 1975 - 1979 |
| Box 25, Folder 1 | American Association of Engineering Societies, Inc., 1979 - 1980 |

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Series 5: Project, Events, and Research Documents, 1931 - 1983

Scope and Contents: Series 5 contains papers related to the American Bicentennial Project, awards given by the Society, annual banquet invitations, and research files about the metric system and engineering societies.

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| Box 25, Folder 2 | Bicentennial and Handbook of DC papers, 1931 - 1934 |
| Box 25, Folder 3 | Annual banquet, 1935 - 1974 |
| Box 25, Folder 3 | Address at the annual banquet, 1935 - 1974 |
| Box 25, Folder 5 | History of engineering societies, 1952 - 1961 |
| Box 25, Folder 6 | Metric file, 1968 - 1971 |
| Box 25, Folder 7 | Annual banquet invitations, 1969 - 1983 |
| Box 26, Folder 1 | Awards, 1970 - 1974 |
| Box 26, Folder 2 | Other societies, 1972 - 1974 |
| Box 26, Folder 3 | American Bicentennial Project, 1973 - 1975 |
| Box 26, Folder 4 | Committee for the American Bicentennial Project 1876 |
| Box 27, Folder 1 | Awards granted by Society, 1974 - 1979 |
| Box 27, Folder 2 | Annual banquet, 1975 - 1979 |
| Box 27, Folder 3 | Young Engineer's Awards, 1976 - 1980 |
| Box 27, Folder 4 | Papers submitted for Young Engineer's Prize, 1983 |

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