



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Charles T. Main, Inc. Photographs

NMAH.AC.1053

Alison 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
Business Number: Phone: 202-633-3270
Fax Number: Fax: 202-786-2453
archivescenter@si.edu
<https://americanhistory.si.edu/archives>

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	
Administrative Information	1
Biographical / Historical	2
Scope and Contents	2
Arrangement	2
Names and Subjects	
Container Listing	

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Charles T. Main, Inc. Photographs
Date:	1910-1953 (bulk 1910)
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.1053
Creator:	Main, Charles T., Inc.
Source:	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
Extent:	0.3 Cubic feet (2 boxes)
Language:	English .
Summary:	Collection contains photographs of factories, mills, and other projects undertaken by Charles T. Main Inc.

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Collection donated by Charles T. Main, Inc. through R.X. Oliveri, circa 1962.

Ownership and Custodial History

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

Related Materials

Materials at Other Organizations

Northeastern University, Archives and Special Collections

Chas. T. Main, Inc. records, 1975-[1977+]

Processing Information

Collection processed by Alison Oswald, archivist, 2018.

Preferred Citation

Charles T. Main Photograph Collection, ca. 1908-1910, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions on Access

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.

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Biographical / Historical

Chas. T. Main, Inc. was a Boston engineering company founded by Massachusetts Institute of Technology graduate Charles T. Main in 1893. Main was a mechanical engineer working in the textile mills of New England and a major developer in the new field of hydroelectric power. He also served as the American Society of Mechanical Engineers' President from 1918-1919. In 1926, the company was incorporated as Chas. T. Main, Inc. Main and his associates decided that all stock would be privately owned by senior engineers so that the company was free of outside influence and only those who knew the industry best would make decisions. By the 1950s, Chas. T. Main Inc. consulted or worked internationally on projects, including building a hydro-electric plant in Turkey and developing a plan to unify development of the water resources of the Jordan River Valley for its surrounding countries, Jordan, Syria, and Israel. Domestically, Chas. T. Main, Inc. began an association with the Atomic Energy Commission in 1949 and was responsible for supporting plutonium production reactors facilities, water treatment plants, and reactor coolant activities, among other nuclear projects. In 1956, a rock slide in the Niagara River New York destroyed two-thirds of the Niagara power capacity. Chas. T. Main, Inc. was contracted to create a power plant to compensate for the loss of power and save the area's economy. In the late 1980s, suffering management problems, the company was bought by Parsons Corporation of Pasadena, California. In 1992, the company's name was changed to Parsons Main, Inc., located in Canton, Massachusetts as a subsidiary of Parsons Corporation.

Source

Northeastern University, Archives and Special Collections

Scope and Contents

This collection contains photographs of factories, mills, and other projects undertaken by Charles T. Main Inc., Boston civil and plant engineers.

Arrangement

Collection is arranged into one series by project.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Civil engineers
- Factories
- Mills and mill-work

Types of Materials:

Photographs -- Black-and-white photoprints -- 1900-1910

Names:

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

Container Listing

Box 1, Folder 1	Sariyar Power Plant, bid form, 1951
Box 1, Folder 1	Correspondence, 1953-04-22
Box 1, Folder 2	American Woolen Company, Fulton, New York, undated
Box 1, Folder 3	American Woolen Company, Woolen Store House, Lawrence, Massachusetts, undated
Box 1, Folder 4	Assacet Woolen Mill, Sudbury, Massachusetts, undated
Box 1, Folder 5	Beverly Gas and Electric, Generator House, undated
Box 1, Folder 6	Bigelow Carpet Company, Clinton, Massachusetts, undated
Box 1, Folder 7	Boston Army Supply Base, undated
Box 1, Folder 8	CLinton Wire Cloth Company, Clinton, Massachusetts, undated
Box 1, Folder 9	Dwight Manufacturing Company, Chicopee, Massachusetts, undated
Box 1, Folder 10	H. Fendrich Cigar Factory, Evansville, Ohio, 1929
Box 1, Folder 11	Franklin Felt Company, 1910
Box 2, Folder 1	Fulton Mills, Fulton, New York, undated
Box 2, Folder 2	F.W. Bird and Son, Box Shop, undated
Box 2, Folder 3	Wm H. Grundt, Bristol, Pennsylvania, undated
Box 2, Folder 4	H.T. Hayward, undated
Box 2, Folder 5	Hockanum Mills, Rockland, Connecticut, undated
Box 2, Folder 6	H.P. hood and Sons, Charlestown, Massachusetts, undated
Box 2, Folder 7	Lowney Chocolate Factory, Mansfield, Massachusetts, undated
Box 2, Folder 8	Ludlow Mill, Ludlow, Massachusetts, undated
Box 2, Folder 9	Ludlow Storehouse, undated
Box 2, Folder 10	Nashua Manufacturing, No. 7 Mill, undated

Box 2, Folder 11	Pacific Mills, Power Station, undated
Box 2, Folder 12	United States Worsted Company (USWOCO) Mills, South Lawrence, Massachusetts, undated
Box 2, Folder 13	Washington Mills, Dye House, 1910
Box 2, Folder 14	Unidentified, undated
Box 2, Folder 15	Photostat negatives, undated