



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Anders K. Bak Papers

NMAH.AC.1065

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Anders K. Bak Papers
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.1065
Date:	1923-1970
Extent:	0.6 Cubic feet (2 boxes)
Source:	Mechanical and Civil Engineering, Division of [former name], NMAH, SI. Detroit Edison Company. Bak, Anders K., 1892-
Language:	English Collection text is in English.
Summary:	The collection contains papers assembled by Anders K. Bak, a Danish mechanical engineer and employee of the Detroit Edison Power Company. The papers include personal correspondence concerning the American Society of Mechanical Engineers; papers on the Parsons Steam Turbine; papers and blueprints on work done at the Barton Power Station in Manchester, England; and Detroit Edison Company background material, blueprints, articles, power plant test reports, information and data.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated to the Museum's Division of Civil and Mechanical Engineering (now the Division of Work and Industry) in the 1970s by the Detroit Edison Company.

Provenance

The collection was transferred to the Archives Center in 2007.

Processing Information

Processed by Kendra Ciccone (intern), April 2010; supervised by Alison Oswald, archivist.

Preferred Citation

Anders K. Bak Papers, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research. Researchers must handle unprotected photographs with gloves.

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

Anders K. Bak was a Danish mechanical engineer and employee of the Detroit Edison Power Company. The Detroit Edison Company was incorporated on January 17, 1903, for the purpose of engaging in the manufacture, distribution and sales of electricity in the City of Detroit, the State of Michigan, and elsewhere. Construction at Conners Creek, Michigan, was begun in 1913. The site was located on the Detroit River at the outflow of Lake St. Clair and had the Detroit Terminal railway on its eastern side. In 1918 the company started work on a power plant site, the Trenton Channel Power Plant, which acquired the Trenton Channel of the Detroit River.

Scope and Contents

Correspondence concerning the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, 1945, 1968, 1970; papers on the Parsons Steam Turbine, 1933; papers and blueprints on work done at the Barton Power Station, Manchester, England, 1925-1934; photographs of buildings, staff, and equipment at the Mason Laboratory of Yale University; and material on the Detroit Edison Company, including a corporate history, 1903-1923, research and operations reports, 1923-1926, and copy for a pamphlet.

Arrangement

Collection is arranged into three series.

Series 1: Historical Background Materials, 1923-1970

Series 2: Power Plant Materials, 1917-1932

Subseries 2.1: Conners Creek Power Plant, 1917-1924

Subseries 2.2: Trenton Channel Power Plant, 1923-1925, undated

Subseries 2.3: Test Reports, 1920-1926

Subseries 2.4: Other, 1927-1932

Series 3: Miscellaneous, 1919-1933

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Power (Mechanics)
Turbines

Types of Materials:

Blueprints -- 20th century
Correspondence -- 20th century

Names:

American Society of Mechanical Engineers.
Barton Power Station (Manchester, England).
Mechanical and Civil Engineering, Division of [former name], NMAH, SI.

Container Listing

Series 1: Historical Background Materials, 1923-1970

Box 1, Folder 1	Articles and company history, 1923-1950
Box 1, Folder 2	Correspondence, 1968 - 1970, 1945

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Series 2: Power Plant Materials, 1917-1932

Subseries 2.1: Conners Creek Power Plant, 1917-1924

Box 1, Folder 3 Conners Creek Power Plant, 1917-1924

Subseries 2.2: Trenton Channel Power Plant, 1923 - 1925

Box 1, Folder 5 Trenton Channel Power Plant, 1923 - 1925

Subseries 2.3: Test Reports, 1920-1926

Box 1, Folder 4 Conners Creek Plant, 1920 - 1923

Box 1, Folder 6 Trenton Channel Power Plant, 1924

Box 1, Folder 7 Trenton Channel Power Plant, 1925

Box 1, Folder 8 Trenton Channel Power Plant, 1925-1926

Box 1, Folder 9 General plant, 1921-1925

Subseries 2.4: Other, 1927-1932

Box 2, Folder 1 Other, 1927-1932

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Series 3: Miscellaneous, 1919-1933

Box 2, Folder 2	Data, undated
Box 2, Folder 3	Barton Power Station, 1930
Box 2, Folder 4	Copenhagen papers, 1933

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