



Smithsonian Institution Archives

National Museum Building Construction  
Records, 1890, 1901-1916, 1923

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Smithsonian Institution Archives  
Washington, D.C.  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., <a href="mailto:osiaref@si.edu">osiaref@si.edu</a>
<b>Title:</b>	National Museum Building Construction Records
<b>Identifier:</b>	Record Unit 79
<b>Date:</b>	1890, 1901-1916, 1923
<b>Extent:</b>	6.1 cu. ft. (11 document boxes) (4 3x5 boxes)
<b>Creator::</b>	Smithsonian Institution. Assistant Secretary in charge of the United States National Museum
<b>Language:</b>	Language of Materials: English

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## Administrative Information

### Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 79, Smithsonian Institution. Assistant Secretary in charge of the United States National Museum, National Museum Building Construction Records

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## Historical Note

In 1903 Congress authorized the Board of Regents to begin a new museum building, construction to be under the direction of Bernard R. Green, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds of the Library of Congress. Construction began in June 1904 and ended in 1911. Richard Rathbun, Assistant Secretary, spent much of his time from 1901 to 1911 planning and supervising construction of the new building, including extensive consultation with foreign and domestic museum experts.

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## Descriptive Entry

These records, together with record units 80, 81, and 187 contain full documentation of construction of the 1911 National Museum Building, from internal planning and contracts to construction details and costs. Rathbun prepared a history of the museum construction, which was published as *A Descriptive Account of the Building Recently Erected for the Departments of Natural History of the United States National Museum*. United States National Museum Bulletin 80, Washington, 1913.

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Actions and defenses  
Architectural design  
Buildings -- Maintenance  
Buildings -- Repair and reconstruction  
Museum buildings  
Museums -- Administration  
Smithsonian buildings

Types of Materials:

Black-and-white photographs  
Manuscripts

Names:

Graham, Frank F.  
Green, Bernard R. (Bernard Richardson), 1843-1914  
Library of Congress. Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds  
National Museum of Natural History (U.S.)  
Rathbun, Richard, 1852-1918  
Thompson-Starrett Co.  
United States National Museum

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE, 1901-1916, 1923. ARRANGED CHRONOLOGICALLY.

This collection division consists of the main correspondence file of Richard Rathbun, as the Smithsonian official charged with overseeing the construction of the new museum building. The correspondence documents the day-to-day planning and construction of the building. Material of particular interest includes correspondence regarding the design and construction of foreign museums, and the role of the Smithsonian's Board of Regents and of the United States Congress in the planning and construction of the building. Correspondents include Bernard Richard Green; the architects Joseph C. Hornblower and John R. Marshall; Samuel P. Langley; Charles D. Walcott, Acting Secretary; Cyrus Adler; William deC. Ravenel, Administrative Assistant; Frederick William True, Head Curator, Department of Biology; George P. Merrill, Head Curator, Department of Geology; and James S. Goldsmith, Superintendent of Construction and Labor.

#### Box 1

- Box 1 of 15                      Folder 1 1901. Includes correspondence with Smithsonian Institution curators regarding allocation of space in the proposed building. Material of special interest includes: correspondence with William Harris Ashmead, Division of Insects (02/14/1901) concerning the space needs of the department; correspondence with Frederick William True, Department of Biology (05/10/1901) concerning floor space requirements; correspondence with George P. Merrill, Department of Geology, and Frederick William True (11/11/1901) concerning exhibition and storage space; correspondence with George P. Merrill (12/03/1901) concerning the appropriate size of the proposed building; list of storage from the Department of Anthropology.
- Box 1 of 15                      Folder 2 1902. Includes numerous correspondence concerning descriptions of foreign museums and the construction and maintenance cost of each. Material of special interest includes: transcripts of the hearings before the House of Representatives (03/08/1902, 04/12/1902); correspondence concerning the Sundry Civil Bill, especially the Congressional Record of the House of Representatives (03/31/1902) and correspondence with Sen. Platt (04/05/1902) regarding the cost of the proposed building.
- Box 1 of 15                      Folders 3-4 1903. Includes correspondence with heads of foreign museums regarding the physical structures and finances of their buildings. Includes correspondence between Samuel P. Langley, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, and John Brooks Henderson, Jr., Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents, (03/10/1903) proposing the formation of a special committee having the power to construct the new building. Also included: hearings before the subcommittee on appropriations for the National History Museum (01/24/1903, 02/21/1903); correspondence from Langley to the United States Congress (01/23/1903, 01/28/1903) concerning the recommendation for appropriation; correspondence to Sen. William B. Allison, Chairman on the committee for appropriations, and Senators O. H. Platt, Shelby Moore Cullom, and F. M. Cockrell (02/11/1903) suggesting an authorization for the construction of the building to be added to the Sundry Civil Bill for 1904;

and correspondence regarding the bonding of Bernard Richardson Green, Superintendent of Construction.

Box 1 of 15

Folders 5-6 1904. Includes correspondence regarding the approval of Prof. S. Homer Woodbridge as mechanical engineer for the proposed building. Includes correspondence regarding the anonymous gift to the Museum of a John Elliott painting. Also included: Rathbun's account of the ground breaking ceremony (06/15/1904); numerous correspondence on the subject of foreign museums; correspondence regarding the permanent establishment of a farmer's market directly south of the new building; correspondence from William deC. Ravenel (06/29/1904) regarding the annual amount of energy required by the National Museum, the Smithsonian building, and workshops attached to each project.

Box 2

Box 2 of 15

Folders 1-2 1905. Includes correspondence regarding reports from foreign museums on plans, publications, and finances. Material of special interest includes correspondence with Samuel P. Langley (05/29/1905) regarding the contents and placement of the cornerstone; correspondence between Green and Langley (08/22/1905) regarding the submission of the heating and ventilating system plans for approval, the artificial interior illumination, and the glazing of the windows; and correspondence with Hornblower and Marshall (09/19/1905) regarding the desirability of a dome and the alternatives to one.

Box 2 of 15

Folder 3 1906. Includes numerous correspondence concerning the development of an artificial green patina for the roof of the USNM.

Box 2 of 15

Folders 4-5 1907. Includes much correspondence regarding the delay of granite shipments due to poor transportation. Material of special interest includes: correspondence of Ravenel and James S. Goldsmith (02/08/1907) describing in detail the wiring, heating, and plumbing; correspondence with Green (01/19/1907) regarding the progress of the construction; correspondence between Green and Charles D. Walcott (12/28/1907) regarding the installation of an electrical plant.

[Image\(s\): Letter to Samuel Langley from Bernard Green, dated February 19, 1907 \(Folder 4\). \[Image Nos. SIA2013-02590 through SIA2013-02593\]](#)

Box 3

Box 3 of 15

Folders 1-7 1908. Includes correspondence regarding allocation of space to individual departments; correspondence regarding fire alarms, call boxes, and fireproofing; numerous correspondence describing the electrical apparatus and the installation of the electrical plant; and correspondence concerning the proposed telephone system. Material of special interest includes: correspondence between Bernard R. Green and Charles D. Walcott (04/06/1908) regarding the water system; correspondence between Cyrus Adler and Green (08/07/1908) regarding the meeting of the International Congress of Tuberculosis at the auditorium of the new building; correspondence between Walcott and Green (10/31/1908) critically detailing the construction of the new building; correspondence between Walcott and Green (12/21/08) regarding future work to be completed; and a resolution

passed by the House of Representatives establishing a permanent location for the Farmer's Market.

Box 4

Box 4 of 15                      Folders 1-6 1909. Includes correspondence regarding the doors, floors, and leaks in the roof of the USNM. Includes financial statements from Bernard R. Green (05/08/1909, 06/30/1909). Material of special interest includes: correspondence to Green (01/23/1909) containing a statement regarding the electrical installation for lighting and power.

Box 5

Box 5 of 15                      Folders 1-2 1910. Includes correspondence regarding locks, keys, and the numbering of rooms. Includes correspondence relative to roads, paths, and the lawn adjacent to the new building.

Box 5 of 15                      Folder 3 1911. Includes correspondence regarding the acoustics and slope of the aisles in the auditorium. Material of special interest includes: correspondence between Green and Charles D. Walcott (02/17/1911) announcing the completion of the building.

Box 5 of 15                      Folder 4 1912-1913. Includes correspondence with William DeC. Ravenel (01/26/1912) regarding electric lighting.

Box 5 of 15                      Folder 5 1914-1916; 1923. Includes correspondence regarding the total amount of weight one cubic foot of flooring can withstand (1915).

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## Series 2: SUBJECT FILES, 1890, 1901-1902.

This collection division consists of correspondence regarding general topics on the construction of the new museum building. Subjects include roof construction, mechanical and electrical plants, interior layout, and other details of construction.

### Box 5

- Box 5 of 15 Folder 6 General Plans. Includes correspondence regarding the preliminary plans, revisions, and adaptations of the new National History Building. Includes John R. Marshall's description of the plans and his notes on foreign museums. Also includes James Millar's report on the plans and mass of the building.
- Box 5 of 15 Folder 7 Roofs, Skylights. Includes correspondence regarding the various plans for the construction of the roof. Includes numerous correspondence regarding leaks found in the roof and skylights. Detailed descriptions by James Millar on the materials used and the construction of the roof and skylights.
- Box 5 of 15 Folder 8 Interior Structure and Finish. Includes correspondence regarding natural lighting, partitions, plastering, and the interior finish. Includes James Millar's interior descriptions of the new building.

### Box 6

- Box 6 of 15 Folder 1 Division of Space. Includes correspondence regarding the allotment of space to individual departments. Includes correspondence regarding this space, as areas of exhibition, storage, laboratories, and offices.
- Box 6 of 15 Folder 2 Cost and Area Estimates. Includes correspondence regarding financial estimates for the year 1890.
- Box 6 of 15 Folder 3 Grounds and Roads. Includes correspondence regarding the construction of roads and pathways surrounding the new National History Building.
- Box 6 of 15 Folder 4 Basement Layout. Includes correspondence regarding preliminary divisions of the basement. Includes correspondence regarding storage rooms, partitions, and entrances.
- Box 6 of 15 Folder 5 Vacuum Cleaning. Includes correspondence regarding the mechanics of the vacuum cleaning system and the location of its outlets.
- Box 6 of 15 Folder 6 Third Floor Layout. Includes correspondence regarding the partitions and divisions of space.
- Box 6 of 15 Folder 7 Ventilation. Includes detailed descriptions of the ventilation system by C. R. Denmark and James Millar.
- Box 6 of 15 Folder 8 Dates of Occupation. Includes correspondence regarding the transferring of storage from rented units into the new building. Includes correspondence concerning the estimation of storage space needed for each



department. Also includes correspondence regarding the occupation of the third floor and then of the main building itself.

- Box 6 of 15 Folder 9 Telephones, Clocks, etc. Includes correspondence regarding the locations of telephone conduits and fire alarm boxes and their installation process. Also includes Rathbun's description of the watch clock system and the master clock system.
- Box 6 of 15 Folder 10 South Pavilion, Approaches, Vault. Includes correspondence regarding specifications for the dome and the ceilings of the lobby and auditorium. Includes Millar's description of the south approaches and Rathbun's manuscript on the south pavilion, the rotunda, and the dome of the rotunda. Also includes the correspondence regarding the marble and limestone work, the south entrance doors, and the auditorium and its vaulting.
- Box 6 of 15 Folder 11 Fire Service. Includes correspondence regarding fire plugs, fire alarm boxes, and fire lines. Includes descriptions by Denmark and Goldsmith concerning the fire system.
- Box 7
- Box 7 of 15 Folder 1 Doors, Transoms. Includes correspondence debating the use of wooden or fireproof metal doors. Includes specifications for doors, the total number needed, and the different styles designed. Includes correspondence regarding the locks and master key system. Includes Millar and Rathbun's descriptions of the doors.
- Box 7 of 15 Folder 2 Furniture and Fixtures. Includes correspondence regarding exhibition and storage cases. Includes correspondence regarding office and laboratory furniture. Includes correspondence concerning scales, clocks, and electric lighting fixtures.
- Box 7 of 15 Folder 3 Plans of Doors Includes the mechanics and detailed sketches of the doors.
- Box 7 of 15 Folder 4 Corner Stone, Flag Staff. Includes correspondence regarding the ceremony for the placement of the corner stone. Includes a list of content placed within the stone. Includes correspondence regarding the placement of the flag staff.
- Box 7 of 15 Folder 5 Legislation. Includes drafts of the proposed amendment in the Senate concerning the Sundry Civil Appropriation Bill for 1904. Includes drafts of resolutions prepared for the meeting of the Board of Regents. Includes documents regarding the passage of bill H. R. 17202 making appropriations for sundry civil expenses. Includes several letters from Secretary Langley addressing the House of Representatives regarding the proposed building.
- Box 7 of 15 Folder 6 Lofts. Includes correspondence regarding the use of the loft as a storage area and its weight capacity. Includes correspondence regarding the openings between the wings and ranges and the resulting need of increased fire protection.

- Box 7 of 15 Folder 7 Electric Plant. Includes correspondence regarding electrical lighting, outlets, and wiring. Includes specifications for engines and dynamos. Includes correspondence regarding the individual needs of each floor and section of the new building. Also includes correspondence concerning placement of switches and overhead fixtures.
- Box 8
- Box 8 of 15 Folder 1 Mechanical Plant. Includes Rathbun's preliminary papers revised by Denmark on the character and layout of the mechanical plant and descriptions of the heating, ventilating, and electrical systems.
- Box 8 of 15 Folder 2 Elevators. Includes specifications for electrical elevators. Includes correspondence regarding dimensions and the possibility of freight elevators. Includes several descriptions about the elevators by Millar and Rathbun and revised by Denmark.
- Box 8 of 15 Folder 3 Water Supply, Plumbing, Toilets, etc. Includes correspondence regarding stop sinks, drinking fountains, and water pressure for fire protection. Includes description on water supply, plumbing, and toilets.
- Box 8 of 15 Folder 4 Windows, Ceiling Lights, Borrowed Lights. Includes correspondence debating ground versus clear glass. Includes correspondence regarding raising of the third story floor, partitions, and leaks in the skylight. Includes specifications for all window designs and all lights. Includes Millar's descriptions of windows and lights.
- Box 8 of 15 Folder 5 Floors. Includes correspondence regarding the laying of wooden and tile floors, and the debate concerning the wooden sleepers. Includes specifications for the flooring and lumber. Includes correspondence regarding the raising of the floor of the third story. Includes descriptions of all flooring by Rathbun and Millar.
- Box 8 of 15 Folder 6 Mechanical Plant. General & Miscellaneous. Includes correspondence regarding the mechanics of the heating and ventilating systems. Includes correspondence debating the possibility of one major power plant servicing all the Smithsonian buildings and the various possible placement of the radiators. Includes specifications for the ventilating system.
- Box 8 of 15 Folder 7 Auditorium. Includes descriptions of the auditorium, its dome, the plastering, and the lobby by Rathbun and Millar.
- Box 8 of 15 Folder 8 Exterior Walls. Includes descriptions of the basement granite, the exterior walls, and the court by Rathbun and Millar.

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## Series 3: PHOTOGRAPHS.

### Box 9

#### Box 9 of 15

##### Folder 1 Photographs for Bulletin 80.

Digital Content: United States National Museum Building. [Image No. SIA2009-1799]

Digital Content: The Vertebrate Paleontology Exhibit in the East Central Hall, First Floor, in Natural History Building, 1913. [Image No. 97-3049]

Digital Content: Natural History Building South Front, c. 1911. [Image No. 97-3041]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Building, West Court, c. 1913. [Image No. SIA2009-1800]

Digital Content: National Museum of Natural History North Entrance Lobby, c. 1911. [Image No. 97-3051]

Digital Content: South Entrance to the United States National Museum, c. 1911. [Image No. SIA2009-1802]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Central Hall, c. 1911. [Image No. 2002-32287]

Digital Content: National Museum of Natural History, South Pavilion, c. 1911. [Image Nos. SIA2009-1804 and 2002-32206]

Digital Content: North Entrance of the National Museum of Natural History, c. 1911. [Image Nos. SIA2009-1803 and 87-7886]

Digital Content: Baird Auditorium, Natural History Building, 1911. [Image Nos. 2002-12145 and 97-3050]

#### Box 9 of 15

##### Folder 1A Photographs for Bulletin 80.

Digital Content: United States National Museum (long hall view, showing wall of shelving, office doors), undated. [Image No. SIA2009-1809]

Digital Content: United States National Museum (long view of inside corridor of the U.S. National Museum), undated. [Image No. SIA2009-1810]

Digital Content: United States National Museum (interior, hallway. Walls lined with file cabinets), undated. [Image No. SIA2009-1811]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Alcoholic Specimen Room (hall of shelved, preserved fish and other specimens in jars), undated. [Image No. SIA2009-1808]

Digital Content: Storage Area, Division of Mammals, U.S. National Museum, c. 1920. [Image No. 2002-10671]

Digital Content: Vertebrate Paleontology Storage and Work Area, USNM, 1915?. [Image No. 97-3053]

Digital Content: Fossil Invertebrates Laboratory, USNM, c. 1911. [Image Nos. SIA2009-1806 and 97-3052]

Digital Content: Mineralogy Exhibit, Natural History Building, 1911. [Image Nos. SIA2009-1807 and 97-3054 and SIA-1274]

Digital Content: Anthropology Hall, USNM, c. 1911. [Image Nos. SIA2009-1805 and 97-3042 and SA-1270]

Digital Content: National Gallery of Art in the Natural History Building, 1911. [Image Nos. SIA2009-1814 and 94-12610]

Digital Content: Laboratory of Marine Invertebrates, c. 1911. [Image Nos. SIA2009-1813 and 94-12612]

Digital Content: U.S. National Museum Attic Storage in the West Wing, c. 1911. [Image Nos. SIA2009-1812 and 94-12611]

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Folder 2 Plates for Bulletin 80.

Digital Content: Plan of Smithsonian Park. [Image No. SIA2009-1817]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Plan of Ground Story. [Image No. SIA2009-1827]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, South or main front of building. [Image No. SIA2009-1815]

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Folder 2A Plates for Bulletin 80.

Digital Content: United States National Museum, East Elevation. [Image No. SIA2009-1845]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, North Elevation. [Image No. SIA2009-1846]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Plan of Attic Story. [Image No. SIA2009-1844]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Plan of First Story. [Image No. SIA2009-1840]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Plan of Ground Story. [Image No. SIA2009-1841]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Plan of Second Story. [Image No. SIA2009-1842]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Plan of Third Story. [Image No. SIA2009-1843]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Section of Building. [Image No. SIA2009-1847]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Section of the Building, through the East Court. [Image No. SIA2009-1848]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Section through South Pavilion and Rotunda. [Image No. SIA2009-1849]

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Folder 3 Etchings for Bulletin 80.

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Folder 4 Progress Photographs, 1908.

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction, November 28, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1875]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1852]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction, November 28, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1851]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction (southwest, looking north), November 28, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1853]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction, November 4, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1854]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction (southwest range, looking east), November 28, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1879]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction, November 28, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1880]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction (northwest center range, looking south), November 28, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1881]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction (southeast, looking north), November 28, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1882]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction, November 4, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1883]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction (southwest, looking east), November 4, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1884]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction (east center range, looking south), November 28, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1885]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction (northwest, looking south), November 4, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1887]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction (northeast, looking south), November 4, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1888]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction, November 4, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1889]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction (southwest, looking north), 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1890]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction, December 3, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1891]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction, December 3, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1892]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction, December 3, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1893]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction, December 3, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1894]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction, December 3, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1895]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction, December 3, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1896]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction, December 3, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1897]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction, December 3, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1898]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction, December 3, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1899]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction, December 3, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1900]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction, December 3, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1901]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction (northwest, looking south), November 28, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1902]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction (northeast, looking west), November 28, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1903]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction (northeast, looking south), November 28, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1904]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction, November 4, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1905]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction, November 4, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1906]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Attic of Ranges Construction, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1886]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction, December 2, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1858]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction, November 5, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1855]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction, November 5, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1856]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction (southeast, looking west), November 28, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1857]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction, December 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1859]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction (southwest, looking north), November 28, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1860]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction, November 28, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1861]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction (northeast, looking south), November 28, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1862]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction (northwest, looking south), November 28, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1863]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction (southwest, looking east), November 5, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1864]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction (northwest, looking east), November 5, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1865]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction (southeast, looking west), November 5, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1866]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction (northwest, looking east), November 28, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1867]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction (southeast, looking north), November 5, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1868]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction (northeast range, looking northwest), November 5, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1869]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction (northeast, looking south), November 5, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1870]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction, December 2, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1871]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction, December 2, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1872]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction, December 2, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1873]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction, December 2, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1874]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Floor Construction, November 4, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1876]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction, December 2, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1877]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction, December 2, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1878]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Basement Construction (northeast, looking west), November 28, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1907]

Digital Content: Wooden Section of South Front, National Museum of Natural History, 1904. [Image Nos. SIA2009-1850 and 16952 and 94-12609]

Digital Content: Construction of National Museum of Natural History Rotunda Dome, 1908. [Image Nos. 2004-10334 and MAH-21258]

Digital Content: Basement Construction, National Museum of Natural History, 1908. [Image Nos. MAH-22032 and 22032]

Digital Content: Third Floor Construction, National Museum of Natural History, 1908. [Image Nos. MAH-21543 and 21543]

Digital Content: Basement of United States National Museum (National Museum of Natural History), 1908. [Image Nos. MAH-21675 and 21675]

Digital Content: Basement of National Museum of Natural History while Construction is Still Going On, 1908. [Image Nos. MAH-21684 and 21684]

Digital Content: Third floor construction, National Museum of Natural History, 1908. [Image Nos. MAH-22017 and 22017]

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## Folder 5 Progress Photographs, 1904-1909.

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking northeast), September 7, 1905. [Image No. SIA2009-1951]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Breaking Ground for Construction, June 15, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1926]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking northeast), October 9, 1905. [Image No. SIA2009-1959]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking northwest), August 28, 1905. [Image No. SIA2009-1960]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking northeast), August 28, 1905. [Image No. SIA2009-1961]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Construction of Dome, June 1909. [Image No. SIA2009-1970]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Construction of Dome, March 18, 1909. [Image No. SIA2009-1971]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking east), October 31, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1950]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking northwest), September 7, 1905. [Image No. SIA2009-1952]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking southwest), September 13, 1905. [Image No. SIA2009-1953]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking north), September 13, 1905. [Image No. SIA2009-1954]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking west), September 20, 1905. [Image No. SIA2009-1955]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking northwest), September 20, 1905. [Image No. SIA2009-1956]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking northwest), June 2, 1905. [Image No. SIA2009-1957]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking southwest), October 9, 1905. [Image No. SIA2009-1958]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking southwest), August 28, 1905. [Image No. SIA2009-1962]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking northwest), August 7, 1905. [Image No. SIA2009-1963]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking northeast), August 7, 1905. [Image No. SIA2009-1964]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking northeast), September 20, 1905. [Image No. SIA2009-1965]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking northwest), October 30, 1905. [Image No. SIA2009-1966]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking northwest), October 30, 1905. [Image No. SIA2009-1967]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking northeast), October 30, 1905. [Image No. SIA2009-1968]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking east), September 12, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1969]

Digital Content: Construction of the United States National Museum Building, July 8, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1923]

Digital Content: Construction of the United States National Museum Building, July 8, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1924]

Digital Content: Construction of the United States National Museum Building, July 8, 1908. [Image No. SIA2009-1925]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Breaking Ground for Construction, June 15, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1927]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Breaking Ground for Construction, June 15, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1928]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Breaking Ground for Construction, June 15, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1929]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction, October 17, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1908]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking west, showing view of Washington Monument), October 31, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1909]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking north), October 7, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1910]



Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking west, showing view of Washington Monument), August 8, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1911]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking southwest), September 7, 1905. [Image No. SIA2009-1912]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking northwest, showing view of Old Post Office Building, laborers constructing ground floor), October 9, 1905. [Image No. SIA2009-1913]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking northwest), October 30, 1905. [Image No. SIA2009-1914]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking east, showing laborers and suited men at construction site), November 9, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1915]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking east, showing laborers, machinery), September 19, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1916]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking south), October 10, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1917]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking west, showing laborers, machinery), October 24, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1918]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking northeast), October 10, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1919]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking southeast), September 26, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1920]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking northeast), October 4, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1921]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking west showing Washington Monument, laborers, and horse-drawn wagons), August 15, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1922]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking east, showing laborers, horses), August 8, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1930]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking east, showing laborers, horses), August 8, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1931]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking east, showing cleared plot for building), August 15, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1932]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (laborers clearing out dirt for building foundation), July 9, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1933]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking west, showing view of Washington Monument), August 8, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1934]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking south, southeast), September 19, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1935]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking west), October 24, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1936]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking north, showing view of Old Post Office Building), October 24, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1937]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (laborers working at site), September 26, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1938]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking east), August 22, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1939]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking east), September 6, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1940]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking southeast), October 4, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1941]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking east), October 10, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1942]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking southeast), September 26, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1943]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking northeast), October 17, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1944]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking east), September 19, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1945]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking north), September 6, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1946]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking north), September 29, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1947]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking west, showing view of Washington Monument and cleared land for building), August 22, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1948]

Digital Content: United States National Museum Construction (looking northwest), November 7, 1904. [Image No. SIA2009-1949]

Digital Content: Construction of the U.S. National Museum Building, 1908. [Image No. MAH-20822]

Digital Content: Laying First Stone at United States National Museum Building, 1905. [Image No. MAH-19636]

Digital Content: Construction on Dome, NMNH, 1909. [Image No. 2004-10358]

Digital Content: Digging Foundation of the National Museum of Natural History, 1904. [Image Nos. 16229 and MAH-16229]

Digital Content: Old Post Office Pavilion, 1904. [Image Nos. 16235 and MAH-16235 and MHT-16235]

Digital Content: Old Post Office Pavilion, 1904. [Image Nos. 16236 and MAH-16236 and MHT-16236]

Digital Content: Digging the Foundation of National Museum of Natural History, 1904. [Image Nos. 16366 and MAH-16366]

Digital Content: Digging the Foundation of National Museum of Natural History, 1904. [Image Nos. 94-12608 and 16354]

Digital Content: Working on the Foundation of the National Museum of Natural History, 1904. [Image No. 2002-32286]

Digital Content: Construction of Foundation for U.S. National Museum Building, 1905. [Image Nos. 17526 and MAH-17526]

Digital Content: Construction of First Story of U.S. National Museum Building, 1905. [Image Nos. 17534 and MAH-17534]

Digital Content: Construction of Exterior Walls of U.S. National Museum Building, 1905. [Image Nos. 17735 and MAH-17735]

Digital Content: Construction of U.S. National Museum Building, 1905. [Image No. MAH-19634]

Digital Content: Construction of the U.S. National Museum Building, 1905. [Image No. MAH-19635]

Digital Content: Construction of the U.S. National Museum Building, 1908. [Image Nos. 20821 and MAH-20821]

Digital Content: North Front of U.S. National Museum Building Near Completion, 1908. [Image Nos. 20825 and MAH-20825]

Digital Content: Construction on front of National Museum of Natural History, 1909. [Image Nos. 2003-19551 and MAH-21569]

Digital Content: Construction on Front of National Museum of Natural History, 1909. [Image No. MAH-21571]

Digital Content: First Floor Construction, National Museum of Natural History, 1908. [Image Nos. MAH-21988 and 21988]

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Folder 6 Progress Photographs, 1907-1909.

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Exhibit Hall (Tribes of the Arid Region; Apache Man and Woman), March 1910. [Image No. SIA2009-1994]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Street Vendors at Central Market, October 9, 1909. [Image No. SIA2009-1995]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Vendors at Central Market Outside the Museum, October 16, 1909. [Image No. SIA2009-1993]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Alcoholic Storage, Fishes, January 15, 1911. [Image No. SIA2009-1973]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Anthropology Hall, March 1910. [Image No. SIA2009-1987]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Carpenter Shop, January 15, 1911. [Image No. SIA2009-1986]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Central Market Outside Museum (market and street view), October 16, 1909. [Image No. SIA2009-1988]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Corridor, January 15, 1911. [Image No. SIA2009-1977]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Main Floor, West Range, January 15, 1911. [Image No. SIA2009-1984]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Marine Invertebrates, January 15, 1911. [Image No. SIA2009-1976]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Marine Invertebrates (storage, wall of specimen shelving), January 15, 1911. [Image No. SIA2009-1985]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, New American Cases (middle wing, second floor, west side), January 15, 1911. [Image No. SIA2009-1974]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Physical Anthropology Corridor, January 15, 1911. [Image No. SIA2009-1975]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Street Vendors (Central Market, street vendors, wagons, horses), October 16, 1909. [Image No. SIA2009-1992]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Third Story, North End, January 15, 1911. [Image No. SIA2009-1978]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Vendors at Central Market Outside the Museum (Central Market, street vendors, horses and wagons), October 14, 1909. [Image No. SIA2009-1989]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Vendors at Central Market Outside the Museum (Central Market, street vendors, horses and wagons), October 9, 1909. [Image No. SIA2009-1990]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, Vendors at Central Market Outside the Museum (Central Market, street vendors, horses, wagons), October 9, 1909. [Image No. SIA2009-1991]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, View of Central Market (Central Market, view of street opposite the Museum, horse and wagon), August 13, 1907. [Image No. SIA2009-1979]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, View of Central Market (Central Market, view of street opposite the Museum, horses and wagons), August 13, 1907. [Image No. SIA2009-1980]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, View of Central Market (Central Market, wide view of both sides of street, horses and wagons, stores), August 13, 1907. [Image No. SIA2009-1981]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, View of Central Market (Central Market, view of street, horses and wagons, facing the Museum), August 13, 1907. [Image No. SIA2009-1982]

Digital Content: United States National Museum, View of Central Market (Central Market, view of street, horses and wagons), August 13, 1907. [Image No. SIA2009-1983]

Digital Content: Early Native American Exhibit in new United States National Museum, 1911. [Image Nos. 22188 and NHB-22188 and MNH-22188]

Digital Content: Exhibit Halls in the new U.S. National Museum, March 1910. [Image Nos. 22190 and NHB-22190 and MNH-22190]

Digital Content: Anthropology Hall in the New U.S. National Museum, 1910. [Image Nos. 22191 and MNH-22191 and 2002-10668]

Digital Content: Carpenter Shop, National Museum of Natural History, 1911. [Image Nos. MAH-24045 and 24045]

Digital Content: Storage in the Paleontology Laboratory, National Museum of Natural History, 1911. [Image Nos. 24046 and MAH-24046]

Digital Content: Department of Prehistoric Archaeology Storage, 1911. [Image Nos. 24047 and MNH-24047 and NHB-24047]

Digital Content: Department of Physical Anthropology Storage, 1911. [Image Nos. 24048 and MNH-24048 and NHB-24048]

Digital Content: Department of Mammals Storage, National Museum of Natural History, 1911. [Image Nos. 24052 and MNH-24052 and NHB-24052]

Digital Content: Installation of Exhibit in National Museum of Natural History, 1911. [Image Nos. 24053 and MAH-24053]

Digital Content: Bird Storage, National Museum of Natural History, 1911. [Image Nos. 24055 and MNH-24055 and NHB-24055]

Digital Content: Offices of Department of Birds, National Museum of Natural History, 1911. [Image Nos. 24056 and MAH-24056]

Digital Content: New Exhibit Cases on Second Floor, National Museum of Natural History, 1911. [Image Nos. 24059 and MAH-24059]

Digital Content: Installation of Mammal Bones, 1911. [Image Nos. 24060 and MNH-24060 and NHB-24060]

Digital Content: Department of Physical Anthropology, 1911. [Image Nos. 24061 and MNH-24061 and NHB-24061]

Digital Content: Division of Mollusks Storage, National Museum of Natural History, 1911. [Image Nos. 24062 and MAH-24062]

Digital Content: Installation of New Exhibit in National Museum of Natural History, 1911. [Image Nos. 24064 and MNH-24064 and NHB-24064]

Digital Content: Mammal Storage Area, U.S. National Museum, January 15, 1911. [Image Nos. 94-12564 and SIA2009-1972 and 24044]

Digital Content: The Center Market Outside the U.S. National Museum Building, 1907. [Image Nos. 20257 and MAH-20257]

Digital Content: Vendors at Center Market Outside National Museum of Natural History, 1909. [Image Nos. 21931 and MAH-21931]

Digital Content: Center Market Outside National Museum of Natural History, 1909. [Image Nos. 21935 and MAH-21935]

Digital Content: Center Market Outside National Museum of Natural History, 1909. [Image Nos. 21941 and MAH-21941]

Digital Content: View of the Center Market, 1909. [Image Nos. 21943 and MAH-21943]

Digital Content: Center Market Vendors Outside National Museum of Natural History, 1909. [Image Nos. 21959 and MAH-21959]

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## Series 4: NOTES, EXTRACTS, AND COMPILATIONS FROM THE CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS, 1901-1910.

### Box 10

- Box 10 of 15      Folder 1 Important extracts from the correspondence. This folder contains typewritten copies of sections of important correspondence presumably contained in collection division 1, mainly concerning revisions and approval of the preliminary plans. Includes: correspondence from Bernard Richardson Green (1/13/1905) regarding the need to increase the height, and consequently, the cost of the building; correspondence from Green (9/12/1905) regarding his plans for partitions to make the basement adaptable to laboratory space and storage areas; correspondence from Hornblower and Marshall (9/19/1905) regarding the advisability of a dome; correspondence to Charles D. Walcott (6/15/1908) regarding the need for workrooms and storerooms in the basement; correspondence from Green (10/26/1908) regarding the layout of the basement; correspondence to Walcott (4/05/1909) regarding the deficit created by the default of the granite contractors; correspondence to Walcott (7/09/1909) regarding the need for increased appropriations; correspondence to Green (8/23/1909) suggesting construction alternatives in order to avoid a deficit; and correspondence from Green (9/02/1909) resolving himself of improper handling of building funds.
- Box 10 of 15      Folder 2 Contracts between Green and Contractors, 1903-1908. Includes extract from contracts for the construction of the National History Building. Includes the recommendations of Superintendent Green and the approval of the Secretary.
- Box 10 of 15      Folder 3 Space Allocations. Includes tables proposing the dimensions of each floor. Includes tables proposing the division of each floor into the offices of the administration and into the departments of anthropology, biology, and geology. Includes tables proposing space allotments within each department for offices, exhibition halls, and storage areas.
- Box 10 of 15      Folder 4 Structural Description of MNH by James Millar, September 1910. Architectural description of the new building by an employee of the architects Hornblower and Marshall. Includes precise measurements and detailed descriptions of the building. It includes an individual survey of each floor, describing the engineering involved, the materials used, and its architectural design. It also includes a comprehensive description of the mechanical workings of the building.
- Box 10 of 15      Folder 5 Description of the Mechanical Equipment and installation by C. R. Denmark, June 25, 1910. Includes technical descriptions of the mechanics of the engines, dynamos, generators, and other electrical machines within the building.

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## Series 5: FRANK F. GRAHAM AND THOMPSON-STARRETT CO. LAWSUITS, 1907-1915.

During the construction of the new National Museum building the Smithsonian contracted with Frank F. Graham and the Thompson-Starritt Co. to supply cut granite for the building. Evidently both parties failed to fulfill the terms of their contracts and were sued by the Institution. These records document those suits.

### Box 10

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Box 10 of 15 | Folder 6 Frank F. Graham and Thompson-Garrett Co. Suits, 1907-1908.   |
| Box 10 of 15 | Folder 7 Frank F. Graham and Thompson-Garrett Co. Suits, 1909-1915.   |
| Box 10 of 15 | Folder 8 Papers prepared from the Graham trial. Includes correspondence regarding the duties and obligations of the Secretary of the Smithsonian to the Board of Regents. |
| Box 10 of 15 | Folder 9 Default on Graham contract and deficiency appropriations.  |

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## Series 6: SPACE ALLOCATION FILES, 1908-1911. ARRANGED ALPHABETICALLY.

### Box 11

- Box 11 of 15 Folder 1 A. Includes correspondence regarding alcoholic storage and correspondence regarding the attic as a possible storage area.
- Box 11 of 15 Folder 2 B. Includes correspondence regarding the arrangement of specimens for the Department of Biology, correspondence regarding criticisms and suggestions of the proposed building plan, and correspondence regarding the possible number of bookcases needed for each division.
- Box 11 of 15 Folder 3 C, D. Includes a tentative layout plan for the coral exhibition.
- Box 11 of 15 Folder 4 E, F. Includes correspondence regarding the proposed number of exhibition cases desired by each department, correspondence regarding the style and dimensions of the cases, and lists from each division regarding the office equipment needed for its operation.
- Box 11 of 15 Folder 5 G. Includes ground plans for the new building with the possible space dimensions of each department.
- Box 11 of 15 Folder 6 H, I, J. Includes correspondence regarding insect drawers, heaters, and exhibition jars.
- Box 11 of 15 Folder 7 K, L. Includes correspondence regarding the number and style of locks for the building.
- Box 11 of 15 Folder 8 M. Includes correspondence regarding map cases for individual divisions within each department and correspondence regarding the different motors necessary for the operation of the Department of Biology.
- Box 11 of 15 Folder 9 N, O. Includes correspondence regarding office space.
- Box 11 of 15 Folder 10 P, Q, R. Includes correspondence regarding the number of personnel in the Department of Biology.
- Box 11 of 15 Folder 11 S. Includes correspondence regarding the laboratory and office space either occupied or desired by each division, discussions on space assignments for each department, correspondence on storage quarters for several divisions and the collections stored elsewhere in other Smithsonian buildings from each department.
- Box 11 of 15 Folder 12 T-Z. Includes correspondence regarding windows and their ability to efficiently ventilate the rooms.

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## Series 7: JAMES MILLAR REPORTS, 1909-1912.

### Box 11

- Box 11 of 15                      Folder 13 Measurements of New Building, by James Millar, 1909-1912. Also includes Measurements of New Building made by R. Rathbun and others, May 12, 1912 (these are the measurements used in Bulletin 80).
- Box 11 of 15                      Folders 14-15 Description of the New Building of the National Museum from the Structural Standpoint, by James Millar, September 1910.

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## Series 8: CARD INDEXES TO CORRESPONDENCE.

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