

**Leason Heberling Adams Papers**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**2009**

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm81078279>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009312>

Prepared by Clarencetta Jelks

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2009

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Leason Heberling Adams Papers

**Span Dates:** 1919-1968

**ID No.:** MSS78279

**Creator:** Adams, Leason Heberling, 1887-1969

**Extent:** 500 items

**Extent:** 4 containers

**Extent:** 2 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

**Location:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm81078279>

**Summary:** Geophysicist, consultant, and educator. Correspondence, writings, notes and notebooks, and printed matter relating to Adams's research and publication in geophysics and earth sciences.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

### People

Adams, Leason Heberling, 1887-1969.

Cohen, Lewis H.--Correspondence.

Day, Arthur L. (Arthur Louis), 1869-1960--Correspondence.

Sosman, Robert B. (Robert Browning), 1881-1967--Correspondence.

### Organizations

Geological Society of America--Correspondence.

National Academy of Sciences (U.S.)--Correspondence.

### Subjects

Earth sciences.

Geophysics.

Nephelite.

Thermodynamics.

Wollastonite.

### Occupations

Consultants.

Educators.

Geophysicists.

## Provenance

The papers of Leason Heberling Adams, geophysical, science consultant, educator, and author, were given to the Library of Congress by his widow, Freda R. Adams, in 1972.

## Processing History

The papers of Leason Heberling Adams were arranged and described in 1980. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

## Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Leason Heberling Adams is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

## Access and Restrictions

The papers of Leason Heberling Adams are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Leason Heberling Adams Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

Date	Event
1887, 16 Jan.	Born, Cherryvale, Kans.
1906	B.S., chemical engineering, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, Ill.
1908	Married Jeannette Blaisdell
1910-1936	Physical chemist, Geophysical Laboratory, Carnegie Institution, Washington, D.C.
1924	Awarded Edward Longstreth Medal from the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, Pa.
1936-1952	Director, Geophysical Laboratory, Carnegie Institution, Washington, D.C.
1941	Sc.D., Tufts University, Medford, Mass.
1948	Awarded Presidential Medal for Merit
1950	Awarded William Bowie Medal by the American Geophysical Union
1956	Married Freda R. Ostraw
1958-1963	Visiting professor, geophysics, University of California, Los Angeles, Calif.
1963	Professor-in-residence, University of California, Los Angeles, Calif.
1969, 20 Aug.	Died, Silver Spring, Md.

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Leason Heberling Adams (1887-1969) span the years 1919-1968. The collection consists of personal and professional correspondence, notebooks, notes, published writings on scientific research, and miscellaneous printed matter that are organized into the following series: [Correspondence](#), [Writings](#), and [Miscellany](#).

The [Correspondence](#) concerns research and publication in the field of geophysics and earth science. Among the correspondents are Lewis Cohen, Arthur Day, Robert Sosman, the National Academy of Sciences, the Geological Society of America, and colleagues with whom Adams engaged in joint research and publication. The largest amount of correspondence is between Adams and Cohen pertaining to their research in relation to nepheline and wollastonite analyses and their joint authorship of a paper published by the *American Journal of Science* in 1966.

Typescripts, galley proofs, and reprint copies of published articles by Adams, as well as articles coauthored with other scientists, make up the bulk of the [Writings](#). These writings date from 1919 to 1966 and cover results of research in pressure measurements and control.

The Miscellany consists of directories, programs, and printed matter, but the most significant items in this file are the notes and notebooks, 1921-1922, related to Adams's research in thermodynamics and chemical thermodynamics. Also included in this series are the notes and drafts of Adams's published writings.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in three series:

- Correspondence, 1933-1968
- Writings, 1919-1966
- Miscellany, 1919-1966

## Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1	<p><b><u>Correspondence, 1933-1968</u></b></p> <p>Letters and memoranda from colleagues, scientific organizations, and institutions. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent and therein chronologically.</p>
BOX 1-2	<p><b><u>Writings, 1919-1966</u></b></p> <p>Typescripts, reports, and reprint copies of published writings coauthored with other scientists. Arranged chronologically by year of publication.</p>
BOX 2-4	<p><b><u>Miscellany, 1919-1966</u></b></p> <p>Notes and notebooks relating to Adams's early research and printed matter and writings by others. Arranged alphabetically by type of material.</p>

# Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	<b>Correspondence, 1933-1968</b> Letters and memoranda from colleagues, scientific organizations, and institutions. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent and therein chronologically.
BOX 1	Bassett, William A., 1965
BOX 1	Cohen, Lewis H., 1965-1966 (2 folders)
BOX 1	Day, Arthur L. and Ruth E., 1933, 1964
BOX 1	Geological Society of America, 1958-1961
BOX 1	Goranson, R. W., 1953-1958
BOX 1	McGraw-Hill Book Co., 1965
BOX 1	National Academy of Sciences, 1958-1964
BOX 1	National Science Foundation, 1965
BOX 1	Sosman, Robert B., 1960-1964
BOX 1	Miscellaneous, 1936-1968, undated
BOX 1-2	<b>Writings, 1919-1966</b> Typescripts, reports, and reprint copies of published writings coauthored with other scientists. Arranged chronologically by year of publication.
BOX 1	Articles
BOX 1	"Thermostats for Very High Temperatures," <i>Journal of the Optical Society of America and Review of Scientific Instruments</i> , Nov. 1924
BOX 1	"The Annealing of Glass as a Physical Problem," <i>Journal of The Franklin Institute</i> , July 1933
BOX 1	"Simplified Apparatus for High Hydrostatic Pressures," <i>The Review of Scientific Instruments</i> , Apr. 1936
BOX 1	"The Earth's Interior, Its Nature and Composition," <i>The Scientific Monthly</i> , Mar. 1937
BOX 2	Reports, "Preliminary Survey on Establishment of a High Pressure Scale," 1965
BOX 2	Miscellaneous untitled
BOX 2	Writings published with others
BOX 2	Davis, Briant L., 1962-1966
BOX 2	Goranson, R. W., 1933
BOX 2	Waxler, Roy M., 1960-1964
BOX 2	White, Walter P., 1919
BOX 2	Williamson, Erskine D., 1919
BOX 2-4	<b>Miscellany, 1919-1966</b> Notes and notebooks relating to Adams's early research and printed matter and writings by others. Arranged alphabetically by type of material.
BOX 2	Notes

## Miscellany, 1919-1966

<b>Container</b>	<b>Contents</b>
BOX 2	Thermodynamics, 1919-1920
BOX 2	Chemical thermodynamics, 1921-1922
BOX 3	"Enthalphy Changes from Melting Curves in Binary Silicate Systems," 1965
BOX 3	"Elliptically Prolonged Light"
BOX 3	Thermodynamics
BOX 3	Miscellaneous (3 folders)
BOX 3	Printed matter (1 folder)
BOX 4	(1 folder)
BOX 4	Proposals
BOX 4	Writings of others, 1951-1966