

**William A. H. Allen Papers**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**2023**

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm73010538>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms010046>

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Glenn R. Gardner, 2010  
Revised 2023 January

## Collection Summary

**Title:** William A. H. Allen Papers

**Inclusive Dates:** 1863-1884

**ID No.:** MSS10538

**Creator:** Allen, William A. H.

**Extent:** 14 items

**Extent:** 8 oversize containers

**Extent:** 4 linear feet

**Extent:** 3 microfilm reels

**Language:** Collection material in English

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

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm73010538>

**Summary:** Naval officer and engineer. Journals with photographs, sketches, and illustrations describing Allen's activities while serving in the United States Navy during the Civil War, subsequently on ships in the Mediterranean, Indian, and Pacific Oceans, and at stations on the east and west coasts of the United States and Europe.

## 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

Allen, William A. H.

### Organizations

Cayuga (Screw steamer)

Circassian (Iron screw steamer)

Lancaster (Sloop of war)

United States. Navy--Foreign service--Europe.

United States. Navy--Foreign service--Indian Ocean.

United States. Navy--Foreign service--Mediterranean Sea.

United States. Navy--Foreign service--Pacific Area.

United States. Navy.

United States. Navy. West Gulf Squadron.

### Places

Africa--Description and travel.

Asia--Description and travel.

China--Description and travel.

Egypt--Description and travel.

Fort Jackson (La.)--History.

Japan--Description and travel.

Lebanon--Description and travel.

Louisiana--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Malaya--Description and travel.

Middle East--Description and travel.

New Orleans (La.)--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

New York (State)--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Palestine--Description and travel.

Peru--Description and travel.

Singapore--Description and travel.

Syria--Description and travel.

Texas--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Blockades.

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Naval operations, American.

### **Occupations**

Engineers.

Naval officers.

## **Acquisition Information**

The papers of William A. H. Allen, naval officer and engineer, were given to the Library of Congress by Louisa Maris Newkirk Steeble (Mrs. William H. Steeble) in 1952.

## **Processing History**

The papers of William A. H. Allen were processed and prepared for microfilming by Joseph Sullivan in 1986. The finding aid was revised in 2009. The finding aid was updated in 2023 by Maria Farmer as part of a division-wide remediation project by the Inclusive Description Working Group.

## **Additional Guides**

A description of the collection was published in the Library's *Quarterly Journal of Current Acquisitions* 12 no. 24 (June 25, 1953): 5-6.

## **Copyright Status**

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of William A. H. Allen is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

## **Access and Restrictions**

The papers of William A. H. Allen 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.

## **Microfilm**

A microfilm edition of these papers is available on three reels. Consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition.

## **Preferred Citation**

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, William A. H. Allen Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## **Biographical Note**

William A. H. Allen (fl. 1863-1890) was a United States naval officer and engineer who in 1863-1864, as an assistant engineer on the *Cayuga* (ship), participated in the blockading of Gulf Coast ports. He traveled to India and the Far East between 1866 and 1869, to Peru in 1875, and made an around-the-world cruise aboard the *Lancaster* (sloop-of-war) between 1881 and 1884.

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of William A. H. Allen (fl. 1863-1890) span the years 1863-1884. The collection consists of journals with photographs, sketches, and illustrations describing Allen's activities while serving on the *Cayuga* (ship), 1863-1864, assigned to blockade duty on the Gulf Coast during the Civil War, and subsequently on ships in the Mediterranean, Indian, and Pacific Oceans, and at stations on the east and west coasts of the United States and Europe, including on an around-the-world tour in 1881-1884 on the sloop-of-war *Lancaster*.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged chronologically by journal.

# Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 19,595

<b>Container</b>	<b>Contents</b>
<b>BOX 1 REEL 1</b>	Blockade, Texas, 1863, 21 Mar.-1864, 31 May
<b>BOX 2 REEL 1</b>	Trip around the world, Boston, Mass., to Manila, Philippines, via Ireland; Portugal; Cape Town, South Africa; Ceylon; Malaya; and Singapore, 1866, 30 May-31 Dec.
<b>BOX 3 REEL 1</b>	Malaya and Singapore, 1866, Nov.
<b>BOX 4 REEL 1</b>	China and Japan, 1868-1869
<b>BOX 5 REEL 1</b>	Various cities; San Francisco, Calif.; Chicago, Ill.; Philadelphia, Pa.; Norfolk, Va.; Savannah, Ga.; Havana, Cuba; Key West, Fla.; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; and Valparaiso, Peru, 1869, 29 Aug.-1873, 6 Dec.
<b>BOX 6 REEL 2</b>	San Francisco, Calif.; Valparaiso, Peru; Panama; North Africa; Western Europe; Genoa, Italy; La Havre, France; and Copenhagen, Denmark, 1874, 3 Jan.-1883, 4 Aug.
<b>BOX 7 REEL 2</b>	Arica, Calloá, and Lima [Peru and Chile], 1875
<b>BOX 8 REEL 2</b>	Europe; Nice, France; Villegranche, Spain; Monaco; and Genoa, Livornó, and Naples, Italy, 1881-1884
<b>BOX 9 REEL 2</b>	Damascus, Syria, 1881-1884
<b>BOX 10 REEL 2</b>	Damascus, Syria, and Lebanon, 1881-1884
<b>BOX 11 REEL 2</b>	Beirut and Saida (Sidon), Lebanon; and Tsoor, Akka, and Haifa, Palestine, 1881-1884
<b>BOX 12 REEL 3</b>	Holy Land, Carmel, Jaffa, Jerusalem, Dead Sea, Jericho, Bethlehem, and Hebron, 1881-1884
<b>BOX 13 REEL 3</b>	Syria and Egypt (Cairo omitted), 1881-1884
<b>BOX 14 REEL 3</b>	Villegranche, Spain; Port Mahon, Minorca; Cadiz, Spain; Gibraltar; Malaga and Cartagena, Spain; Algiers, Algeria; Messina, Italy; Alexandria, Egypt; Lisbon, Portugal; and New York, 4 Sept. 1883-20 Aug. 1884