

John Merven Carrère 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/mm81059873>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms010056>

Prepared by David Mathisen

Finding aid encoded by Glenn R. Gardner, 2010

Collection Summary

Title: John Merven Carrère Papers

Span Dates: 1894-1911

ID No.: MSS59873

Creator: Carrère, John Merven, 1858-1911

Extent: 3 items

Extent: 1 container

Extent: .4 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm81059873>

Summary: Architect. Bound volumes of correspondence, telegrams, transcripts of diary notes, clippings, photographs and other papers relating chiefly to a controversy involving Carrère and the architect of the United States Capitol.

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

Burnham, Daniel Hudson, 1846-1912--Correspondence.

Carlisle, John Griffin, 1835-1910--Correspondence.

Carrère, John Merven, 1858-1911.

McKim, Charles Follen, 1847-1909--Correspondence.

Price, Bruce, 1845-1903--Correspondence.

Organizations

United States. Architect of the Capitol.

Subjects

Architecture.

Occupations

Architects.

Provenance

The papers of John Merven Carrère, architect, were purchased by the Library of Congress in 1981.

Processing History

The collection was processed in 1984. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of John Merven Carrère is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of John Merven Carrère 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, John Merven Carrère Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

John Merven Carrère, American architect, was born in 1858 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Educated in Switzerland, he later graduated from the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris, and moved to New York, where his American family had resettled from Brazil. He worked first as a draughtsman with the firm of McKim, Mead, and White in New York City, and joined in architectural partnership with Thomas Hastings after 1885. Among the important works of Carrère and Hastings are the Manhattan Bridge, New York Public Library, office buildings of the Senate and House of Representatives, and the Carnegie Institution in Washington, D.C. He was instrumental in controversial legislation persuading Congress and the Treasury Department to award architectural commissions for federal buildings through open design competitions. As a city planner, he wrote and lectured on the subject and produced plans for various cities, including Cleveland, Baltimore, Grand Rapids, Michigan, and Hartford, Connecticut. He died on March 2, 1911 in New York City.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of John Merven Carrère (1858-1911) span the years 1894-1911. The collection consists of one volume of correspondence, telegrams, notes, clippings, photographs, and other papers relating to a controversy involving Carrère and the architect of the United States Capitol. Also included are two volumes of typescript diary notes with letters, clippings, and other matter laid in. Correspondents include Daniel Hudson Burnham, John Griffin Carlisle, Charles Follen McKim, and Bruce Price.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged by bound volumes.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	“John M. Carrère and the Office of Supervisor of the Architect of the U.S., A.D., 1885,” 1894-1895 Bound vol. including correspondence, clippings, printed matter and other documents
BOX 1	Journals, including notes, invitations, clippings, printed matter, and photographs
BOX 1	Vol. 1, 1907, 9 July-1908, May 16
BOX 1	Vol. 2, 1910, 1 Aug.-1911, Feb. 11