

George Peabody Wetmore Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2011

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm81045211>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms012025>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

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Collection Summary

Title: George Peabody Wetmore Papers

Span Dates: 1885-1916

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1895-1913)

ID No.: MSS45211

Creator: Wetmore, George Peabody, 1846-1921

Extent: 2,000 items

Extent: 15 containers

Extent: 5.2 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm81045211>

Summary: Governor and United States representative and senator from Rhode Island. Correspondence related mainly to the United States Commission of Fine Arts.

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

Alger, R. A. (Russell Alexander), 1836-1907--Correspondence.

Borglum, Gutzon, 1867-1941--Correspondence.

Grant, Ulysses S. (Ulysses Simpson), 1822-1885--Monuments.

Hay, John, 1838-1905--Correspondence.

Lincoln, Abraham, 1809-1865--Monuments.

Mackay-Smith, Alexander, 1850-1911--Correspondence.

Root, Elihu, 1845-1937--Correspondence.

Saint-Gaudens, Augustus, 1848-1907--Correspondence.

Taft, William H. (William Howard), 1857-1930--Correspondence.

Wetmore, George Peabody, 1846-1921.

Organizations

United States. Commission of Fine Arts.

Subjects

Art and state--United States.

Art, Municipal--Washington (D.C.)

City planning--Washington (D.C.)

Historic sites--Washington (D.C.)

Monuments--Washington (D.C.)

Parks--Washington (D.C.)

Public works--Washington (D.C.)

Places

Mall, The (Washington, D.C.)

Occupations

Governors--Rhode Island.

Representatives, U.S. Congress--Rhode Island.

Senators, U.S. Congress--Rhode Island.

Provenance

The papers of George Peabody Wetmore, governor and United States representative and senator from Rhode Island, were given to the Library of Congress by his wife, Edith Wetmore, in 1925.

Processing History

The papers of George Peabody Wetmore were arranged and described in 1970. The finding aid was revised in 2011.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of George Peabody Wetmore is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of George Peabody Wetmore 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, George Peabody Wetmore Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1846, Aug. 2	Born, London, England
1867	Graduated, Yale College, New Haven, Conn.
1869	Graduated from law department, Columbia College, New York, N.Y., and admitted to Rhode Island bar
	Married Edith Malvina Keteltas
1885-1886	Governor of Rhode Island
1895-1913	Republican senator from Rhode Island
1921	Died, Boston, Mass.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of George Peabody Wetmore (1846-1921) span the years 1885-1916, with bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1895-1913. Included is correspondence related to the United States Commission of Fine Arts and bills, reports, printed matter and other material concerning the commission and memorial statues and historical places in the District of Columbia. As a senator from Rhode Island, Wetmore was particularly identified with legislation creating the commission and with the improvement and development of Washington, D.C., including artistic plans for the National Mall and the building of memorials to Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant, and other historical figures.

Correspondents in the collection include R. A. Alger, Gutzon Borglum, John Hay, Alexander Mackay-Smith, Elihu Root, Augustus Saint-Gaudens, and William H. Taft.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is organized by name of organization or office, subject matter, or memorial statue

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Candidates for the Fine Arts Commission, 1910
BOX 1	Commission of Fine Arts, 1909-1913
BOX 1	Correspondence (3 folders)
BOX 1	Art Commission of the City of New York
BOX 1	Bills and reports (2 folders)
BOX 1	Clippings
BOX 2	Departmental buildings, 1899-1906
BOX 2	Correspondence
BOX 2	Bills and reports (3 folders)
BOX 2	Drawings
BOX 2	Equestrian statues of generals of the Civil War in Washington
BOX 2	Mall, Washington, D.C., 1896-1911
BOX 2	Correspondence
BOX 2	Bills and reports
BOX 2	Clippings
BOX 2	Invasion of the mall
BOX 2	"The Mall Parkway"
BOX 3	Pennsylvania Avenue
BOX 3	Plans (3 folders)
BOX 3	Marking historical places in District of Columbia, 1906-1913 (2 folders)
BOX 3	Memorial statues
BOX 3	Barry, John, 1906-1912
BOX 3	Correspondence (2 folders)
BOX 4	(3 folders)
BOX 4	Bills and reports
BOX 4	Clippings
BOX 4	Butt, Archibald W., and Francis Davis Millet, 1912
BOX 4	Columbus, Christopher, 1907-1912
BOX 4	Correspondence (2 folders)
BOX 4	Articles and Clippings
BOX 4	Invitations and program
BOX 5	Grant, Ulysses S., 1900-1914
BOX 5	Correspondence (6 folders)

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 6	Bills and reports (2 folders)
BOX 6	Clippings
BOX 6	Invitations, pamphlet and program
BOX 6	Petitions
BOX 6	Photographs
BOX 6	Hahnemann, Samuel, 1900
BOX 6	Jefferson, Thomas, 1904-1909
BOX 6	Jones, John Paul, 1902-1911
BOX 6	Correspondence
BOX 7	Correspondence
BOX 7	Invitations
BOX 7	Lafayette, Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roche Gilbert Du Motier, marquis de, 1902-1906
BOX 7	Correspondence
BOX 7	Minutes of Lafayette Monument Commission, 1885, Mar. 16-1892, July 15
BOX 7	Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth, 1903-1908
BOX 7	Correspondence
BOX 7	Bills and reports
BOX 7	Kosciuszko, Taduusz, 1904-1913 (2 folders)
BOX 8	McClellan, George Brinton, 1901-1910
BOX 8	Correspondence (5 folders)
BOX 8	Bills and reports
BOX 8	Clippings
BOX 9	Pulaski, Kazimierz, 1902-1910
BOX 9	Correspondence (2 folders)
BOX 9	Bills and reports
BOX 9	Clippings
BOX 9	Invitations
BOX 9	Rochambeau, Donatien Marie Joseph de vimeur, vicounte de, 1900-1910
BOX 9	Correspondence
BOX 9	Clippings
BOX 10	Invitations
BOX 10	Senate reports and resolutions
BOX 10	Sheridan, Philip H., 1888-1908
BOX 10	(2 folders) Stephenson, Benjamin F., 1907-1910
BOX 10	Von Steuben, Frederick
BOX 11	Correspondence
BOX 11	1902-1905
BOX 11	1906-1912
BOX 11	Bills and reports
BOX 11	Clippings
BOX 11	Invitations and program
BOX 11	Monument laws enacted during the 61st Congress, 1910-1911
BOX 11	Monuments in Washington, D.C., presented by societies and individuals

Container List

Container	Contents
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BOX 11	Monuments outside of District of Columbia
BOX 11	National Mall and Memorial Parks <i>See Containers 2-3, Mall</i>
BOX 11	U.S. Botanical Garden, Rock Creek Park, Washington, D.C., 1909-1916
BOX 11	Correspondence (2 folders)
BOX 12	(1 folders)
BOX 12	Bills and reports (4 folders)
BOX 12	Clippings
BOX 13	Maps
BOX 13	Questionnaire (7 folders)
BOX 14	Departmental buildings (1 vol. and loose printed matter)
BOX 15	(1 vol.)