

Lloyd Carpenter Griscom Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2016

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm79024208>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc/mss/eadmss.ms016067>

Prepared by Manuscript Division

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2016

Collection Summary

Title: Lloyd Carpenter Griscom Papers

Span Dates: 1898-1951

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1898-1919)

ID No.: MSS24208

Creator: Griscom, Lloyd Carpenter, 1872-1959

Extent: 900 items

Extent: 3 containers plus 1 oversize

Extent: 1.2 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm79024208>

Summary: Author, diplomat, lawyer, politician, and soldier. Diaries, family and general correspondence, memoranda, speeches, newspaper clippings, and miscellaneous personal and official items relating to Griscom's career as a diplomat between 1901 and 1909 and military service during World War I.

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

Boardman, Mabel Thorp, 1860-1946--Correspondence.

Griscom family--Correspondence.

Griscom, Lloyd Carpenter, 1872-1959.

Hill, David Jayne, 1850-1932.

Meeker, Arthur, 1866-1946--Correspondence.

Pershing, John J. (John Joseph), 1860-1948--Correspondence.

Pershing, John J. (John Joseph), 1860-1948.

Roosevelt, Theodore, 1858-1919.

Root, Elihu, 1845-1937--Correspondence.

Stetson, Francis Lynde--Correspondence.

Stout, Wesley Winans, 1890- --Correspondence.

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

William II, German Emperor, 1859-1941.

Wilson, Margaret Woodrow, 1886-1944.

Organizations

United States. Army. American Expeditionary Forces.

Subjects

Diplomatic and consular service, American--Germany.

Diplomatic and consular service, American--Iran.

Diplomatic and consular service, American--Italy.

Diplomatic and consular service, American--Japan.

Earthquakes--Italy--Messina.

World War, 1914-1918--France.

World War, 1914-1918--Peace.

World War, 1914-1918--United States.

Places

Germany--Foreign relations--United States.

Iran--Foreign relations--United States.

Italy--Foreign relations--United States.

Japan--Foreign relations--United States.
Messina (Italy)--Description and travel.
United States--Foreign relations--Germany.
United States--Foreign relations--Iran.
United States--Foreign relations--Italy.
United States--Foreign relations--Japan.

Occupations

Authors.
Diplomats.
Lawyers.
Politicians.
Soldiers.

Provenance

The papers of Lloyd Carpenter Griscom, author, diplomat, lawyer, politician, and soldier, were given to the Library of Congress by Audrey M. Griscom in 1962.

Processing History

The Griscom Papers were processed after being received by the Library in 1962. The collection was rehoused in the 1990s, and the finding aid was created in 2016.

Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Lloyd Carpenter Griscom in these papers and in other collections of papers in the custody of the Library of Congress has been dedicated to the public.

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Lloyd Carpenter Griscom 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, Lloyd Carpenter Griscom Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1872, Nov. 4	Born, Riverton, N.J.
1891	Ph.B., University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.
1891-1893	Student, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Philadelphia, Pa.
1893-1894	Secretary to Ambassador Thomas F. Bayard, London, England
1895	Student, New York Law School, New York, N.Y.
1896	Admitted to New York bar
1897	Deputy district attorney, New York, N.Y.

1898	Volunteer in Cuba, Spanish-American War
1899-1901	Charge d'affaires, Constantinople, Turkey
1901	Married Elizabeth Bronson (died 1914)
1901-1902	Minister to Iran
1902-1906	Minister to Japan
1906-1907	Ambassador to Brazil
1907-1909	Ambassador to Italy
1911	Became member of law firm, Beekman, Menken, and Griscom, New York, N.Y.
1912	Delegate, Republican National Convention, Chicago, Ill.
1917-1919	Liaison officer, staff of General John J. Pershing
1929	Bought the Tallahassee Democrat
1940	Published <i>Diplomatically Speaking</i> . Boston, Little, Brown and Co.
1959, Feb. 8	Died, Thomasville, Ga.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Lloyd C. Griscom (1872-1959) span the years 1898-1951, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1898-1919. The collection consists of diaries, family and general correspondence, memoranda, speeches, newspaper clippings, and miscellaneous personal and official items relating to Griscom's career as a diplomat between 1901 and 1909 and military service during World War I. The papers mainly concern his roles as minister to Iran (1901-1902), as ambassador to Japan (1902-1906) and Italy (1907-1909), and service as liaison officer to General John J. Pershing in France at the conclusion of the first war.

Events of prominence described in the collection include descriptions of a trip to Messina, Italy, where Griscom had been active in relief work after the earthquake of 1908, making preparations for a visit by former President Theodore Roosevelt, and a meeting with German Emperor William II in 1908 regarding the emperor's objections to the diplomatic appointment by Roosevelt of David Joyce Hill to Berlin. The conversation with Wilhelm II was related in communication with Elihu Root. Also in the collection are firsthand observations recorded in family letters of Griscom's experiences in wartime France with the American Expeditionary Forces. Included is a letter of November 11, 1918, to his mother describing the reaction of Pershing, the general's staff, and Margaret Woodrow Wilson, the daughter of President Wilson, at the moment news was received of the armistice. Wilson had sung for the general at his chateau the night before the announcement. Pershing, Griscom wrote, "has tremendous dignity at all times but he danced jig steps to the Victrola the night the war ended."

Correspondents include Mabel Thorp Boardman, Arthur Meeker, John J. Pershing, Elihu Root, Francis Lynde Stetson, Wesley Winans Stout, and William H. Taft.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is organized by type of material

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Diaries, 1900-1902, 1906, 1918, 1921 (4 folders)
BOX 1	Family correspondence
BOX 1	Griscom, Clement Acton (father), 1903-1909 (3 folders)
BOX 1	Griscom, Frances Canby Biddle (mother), 1902-1919
BOX 2	Griscom, Rodman (brother), 1898-1919 (7 folders)
BOX 2	Miscellaneous, 1902, undated
BOX 2	General correspondence
BOX 2	A-R, 1905-1945 (10 folders)
BOX 3	S-W, 1900-1951 (3 folders)
BOX 3	Unidentified
BOX 3	Subject file
BOX 3	Army War College
BOX 3	Biographical material
BOX 3	Certificates, 1905-1911 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 3	Memoranda
BOX 3	Miscellany (3 folders)
BOX 3	Newspaper clippings (2 folders)
BOX 3	Photograph of plane, signed by Katharine, Orville, and Wilbur Wright, Rome, Italy, Apr. 28, 1909
BOX 3	Printed matter
BOX 3	Speeches
BOX OV 1	Oversize
BOX OV 1	Certificates (Container 3)