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.
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

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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1872, Nov. 4</td>
<td>Born, Riverton, N.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1893-1894</td>
<td>Secretary to Ambassador Thomas F. Bayard, London, England</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1895</td>
<td>Student, New York Law School, New York, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1896</td>
<td>Admitted to New York bar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1897</td>
<td>Deputy district attorney, New York, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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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 Diplomatically Speaking. 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.”


Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is organized by type of material.
## Container List

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