

Guide to the Ithiel Town papers

MS 499



compiled by Janet Elaine Gertz

August 1981

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 499

CREATOR: Town, Ithiel, 1784-1844

TITLE: Ithiel Town papers

DATES: 1801-1855

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 2.75 linear feet (1 box, 1 folio)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Correspondence from John Allan, William Hayward and Theodore Strong, a notebook of mathematical exercises, photostatic copies of letters of patent for improvements on bridges and one architectural drawing of Jones Court, built in New York City for James I. Jones. Also included is a scrapbook assembled by Town's daughter, Etha Town Peters.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0499>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0499>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The papers were the gifts of William T. Peters, son-in-law of Ithiel Town, 1858, and of the Collector's Shop, New Haven, Connecticut, 1939. The negatives for the photostatic copies were loaned by C. W. Whittlesey in 1941.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

Ithiel Town Papers (MS 499). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

Ithiel Town (1784-1844), architect; first major work was Center Church in New Haven, Connecticut.; subsequently designed many buildings in New Haven, Hartford, New York City, Indianapolis, Raleigh, North Carolina.; worked in partnerships based in New York, 1827- ; in 1820 was granted a patent for a truss bridge and became known as the foremost bridge-builder in the United States.

Scope and Contents

Correspondence from John Allan, William Hayward and Theodore Strong, a notebook of mathematical exercises, photostatic copies of letters of patent for improvements on bridges and one architectural drawing of Jones Court, built in New York City for James I. Jones. Also included is a scrapbook assembled by Town's daughter, Etha Town Peters.

Collection Contents

Original accession

Correspondence

John Allan:

| | | |
|------------|--|-----------------|
| b. 1, f. 1 | 2 ALS to Ithiel Town | 1834, 1840 |
| b. 1, f. 1 | ALS to William T. Peters | 1847 |
| b. 1, f. 2 | William Hayward: ALS to Ithiel Town | 1831 |
| b. 1, f. 2 | Theodore Strong: 2 ALS to Ithiel Town | 1816 |
| b. 1, f. 3 | Mathematical exercises | 1801-? |
| b. 1, f. 4 | Letters of patent for improvements on bridges (photostatic copies) | 1820, 1855 |
| b. 2 | Architectural drawing of Jones Court | Circa 1826-1828 |
| b. 1, f. 5 | Etha L. (Town) Peters: scrapbook of drawings and engravings | 1838 January |

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Architects
Mathematics

Genres / Formats

Albums (Books)

Names

Allan, John, 1777-1863
Hayward, William
Peters, Etha L. Town, 1809-1871
Strong, Theodore, 1779-1855
Town, Ithiel, 1784-1844