



ArchivesSpace

a community served by  Lyrasis

Richmond B. Williams papers4079639

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on January 13, 2025.

Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.
New York, NY 10027
Business Number: (212) 854-5153
Fax Number: (212) 854-1365
rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu
URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical Note	3
Summary	4
Administrative Information	4
Related Materials	5
Controlled Access Headings	5
Collection Inventory	6
Series I: Richmond B. Williams papers	6

Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Williams, Richmond Barnes, 1903-1986
Title:	Richmond B. Williams papers
ID:	4079639
ID:	MS#1353
Date [inclusive]:	1904-1987
Physical Description:	0.42 linear feet 1 manuscript box
Language of the Material:	English .

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Richmond Barnes Williams papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical Note

Richmond Barnes Williams was born in Brooklyn in 1903. He was a student at Columbia College and the School of Journalism (BLitt, 1925). As a student, Williams wrote for the student newspaper, the Spectator, and served as the Editor-in-Chief in his senior year. He also wrote for the Varsity magazine, was an editor of the Blue Book, wrote a history of Columbia for the 1925 Columbian yearbook, and was a member of the Debate Team.

Williams was very active in alumni organizations. He was a member of the Alumni Association of Columbia College and the Society of Older Graduates. He received the Alumni Federation Medal in 1942, the Columbia College Dean's Award in 1969 and 1974, and was the Classmate of the Year in 1975. He was an American Telephone and Telegraph executive, having worked for AT&T from 1926 to 1968. He also wrote articles for the Columbia alumni magazines, travel magazines and newspapers.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Summary

Correspondence, manuscripts, subject files, drawings, printed materials and memorabilia documenting the life of Richmond B. Williams. Many of the letters relate to Columbia University. The manuscripts are mainly concerned with the President's House, John Jay Hall and the Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum. There are several photographs of Williams during his college years and with other members of the Victorian Society. There are several drawings and both Williams' BLitt degree certification and his Distinguished Classmate Award.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor

Columbia University, Mail Code 1127

535 W. 114th St.

New York, NY 10027

Business Number: (212) 854-5153

Fax Number: (212) 854-1365

rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu

URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

Revision Description

Finding aid published (JR) 2023-01-20

Restrictions on Access

This collection is located off-site. You will need to request this material at least three business days in advance to use the collection in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library reading room.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source of acquisition--Williams, Richmond B. via his executor Thomas Eyestone & Columbia College Dean's Office. Method of acquisition--Bequest; Date of acquisition--10/23/1989. Accession number--M-89-10-23.

Processing Information

Processed JHR 02/05/1990.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

Reproductions may be made for research purposes. The RBML maintains ownership of the physical material only. Copyright remains with the creator and his/her heirs. The responsibility to secure copyright permission rests with the patron.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Related Materials

There is file related to Williams in the [Historical biographical files \(UA#0004\)](#). There are some Class of 1925 donated from Williams' estate in the [University Artifacts collection \(UA#0046\)](#). Williams also donated Class of 1925 materials which can be found in the [Alumni class records \(UA#0259\)](#).

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Photographic prints
- Certificates
- Memorabilia
- Columbia University -- Students
- Columbia University. John Jay Hall
- Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum
- Columbia University -- Alumni and alumnae

Collection Inventory

Series I: Richmond B. Williams papers, 1904-1987

Title/Description	Instances	
Correspondence		
Scope and Contents		
The correspondence includes some letters from Williams's days as a Columbia student, but the majority of the letters relate to a draft of an article Williams was working on in 1960 about the President's House. An updated version of the article appeared in Columbia College Today in the Fall 1970 issue .		
Coffee, Joseph D., 1961	box 1	folder 1
Columbia University, 1924-1971	box 1	folder 2
Scope and Contents		
Includes materials related to the Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum		
Fackenthal, Frank D., 1925-1960	box 1	folder 3
Hocker, H.D., circa 1960	box 1	folder 4
"Jim", 1960	box 1	folder 5
Scope and Contents		
School of Architecture		
K1959-1961	box 1	folder 6
Michelfelder, Phyllis, 1961	box 1	folder 7
Proffitt, Ruth, circa 1960	box 1	folder 8
Seabury, Charles Ward, 1904-1940	box 1	folder 9
Scope and Contents		
Williams's godfather		
Thomas, Milton Halsey, 1960	box 1	folder 10
Williams, Richmond, 1932-1970	box 1	folder 11
Manuscripts, 1960s-1970s	box 1	folder 12

Scope and Contents

Includes manuscripts of articles on the President's House and Brander Matthews's legacy

Drawings, 1920s	box 1	folder 13
Subject Files		
Academic Transcripts, 1924-1942	box 1	folder 14
Scope and Contents		
Columbia College and School of Journalism		
Biographical, 1986-1987	box 1	folder 15
Scope and Contents		
Obituaries		
Dramatic Museum, circa 1970	box 1	folder 16
Scope and Contents		
Notes for an article		
John Jay Hall, 1928	box 1	folder 17
Oral History, 1970	box 1	folder 18
Photographs		
Scope and Contents		
Includes original prints, copy negatives and prints from the copy negatives		
The Great God Pan and the Victorian Society, 1920s	box 1	folder 19-20
<u>Physical Description</u> : 2 folders		
Scope and Contents		
The statue used to located near the southwest corner of 120th Street and Amsterdam Avenue.		
The Reading from Homer, 1920s	box 1	folder 21-22
<u>Physical Description</u> : 2 folders		
Scope and Contents		
Victorian Society members in front of the Great God Pan statue reading from a book		
The Victorians express horror at the Age of the Machine, 1920s	box 1	folder 23-24
<u>Physical Description</u> : 2 folders		

Scope and Contents

Victorian Society members pose with machinery on campus

Negatives, undated	box 1	folder 25
--------------------	-------	-----------

Scope and Contents

Copy negatives for the three prints

Certificate and Award, 1925-1975	box 1	folder 26
----------------------------------	-------	-----------

Scope and Contents

Certificate of degree of Bachelor of Literature and Distinguished Classmate award

Printed Materials, 1922-1969	box 1	folder 27
------------------------------	-------	-----------

Scope and Contents

Newspaper clippings from the 1920s and a George C. Marshall Research Library newsletter, 1969

Additions

Scope and Contents

These materials were donated by Richmond Williams to the Columbiana Collection. His Class of 1925 materials can be found in the [Alumni class records \(UA#0259\)](#).

Articles re: Columbia, 1954-1956	box 1	folder 28
----------------------------------	-------	-----------

Scope and Contents

Includes articles on Arden House, the American Assembly, Poughkeepsie Regatta

Columbia Alumni News, 1939-1948	box 1	folder 29
---------------------------------	-------	-----------

Scope and Contents

Issues of CAN: King's Visit in 1939, Nicholas Murray Butler's retirement, and Dwight D. Eisenhower's appoint to University President

International Debates, 1923-1924, 1966	box 1	folder 30
--	-------	-----------

Scope and Contents

Debate team materials, invitations to the President's House and a note from Jacques Barzun on remembering the 1923 Debate Team. The first Oxford-Columbia debate was held at Columbia in 1922. Money was raised to send the Columbia team to Great Britain in June 1923 on a ten-university

tour. When the Oxford team returned in 1924, Williams served as the Debate Manager.

King's College seal reproductions, 1958-1962	box 1	folder 31
Scope and Contents		
As a member of the Columbiana Committee, Williams looks into making reproductions of the King's College seal		
<hr/>		
Newspaper clippings, 1920s-1950s	box 1	folder 32
Scope and Contents		
Includes Class Day 1925 clippings		
<hr/>		
Spectator Banquet menus, 1922-1925	box 1	folder 33
Scope and Contents		
Spring dinner menus, held at hotels before the opening of Faculty House		
<hr/>		
Spectator re: Students Hall (now John Jay Hall), 1924-1925	box 1	folder 34
Scope and Contents		
Correspondence Williams received as Spectator Editor-in-Chief in response to this editorials on the need for a Students Hall. Includes a letter from Nicholas Murray Butler.		
<hr/>		
When Columbia Rowed at Henley, 1920s	box 1	folder 35
Scope and Contents		
Article by Williams published in the Columbia Varsity		

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)