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War Memorial records6975377

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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>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Columbia University. Archives
Title:	War Memorial records
ID:	6975377
ID:	UA#0300
Date [inclusive]:	1984-2008
Physical Description:	1 linear foot 1 record carton
Language of the Material:	English .

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); War Memorial records; Box and Folder; University Archives, Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Columbia University Libraries.

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Historical Note

In 1995, James J. Lennon, Columbia College Class of 1943 and a WWII veteran, started a campaign to build a memorial on campus to honor Columbia undergraduates who died in the war. Over the years the scope of the memorial expanded to include all members of the Columbia community, not just undergraduates, and all the wars and conflicts since the founding of King's College. There was even a proposed monument that would be placed in a central part of campus (by the southwest corner of Low Library) with the hopes that it would offer a meditative space for remembrance. The design for the monument consisted of several short walls made of bronze bricks with names of the fallen alumni.

The final push for a memorial came from the members of the U.S. Military Veterans of Columbia (MilVets) who made their appeal to Provost Alan Brinkley in 2007. He convened the Working Group on War Remembrance. The preliminary list published in the Columbia College Today February 2000 issue included about 250 names of Columbians who had died in service. By the time the War Memorial Plaque at Butler Library was unveiled and the website was

launched in December 2008, there were about 460 known alumni. Led by Executive Producer Vivian Ducat and Researcher Minda Novek, the accompanying online memorial, [the Roll of Honor](#), was able to provide more context: about the wars, about Columbia at the time, and, for the fallen alumni, more than just a name. The researchers found images of many alumni, mostly in military dress but, for some, from their Columbia days. In addition to photographs, the site also invites family members, friends and others to submit "Tributes."

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Summary

This collection consists of materials related to a campaign for a campus war memorial. There are research files to help identify Columbians who died while serving their country. There are also committee files describing the proposals and plans considered over the years.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

Content list added. (JR) 2021-11-12

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.

Accruals

No additions are expected.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The Undergraduate Remembrance Group working papers were transferred by Jim Lennon to the University archives in 2000.

Processing Information

This collection was processed by Joanna Rios in November 2021.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Veterans
- War memorials
- Columbia University

Collection Inventory

Series I: War Memorial records, 1980s-2008

Scope and Contents

This series contains the records of two groups: the Undergraduate Remembrance Group and the War Memorial Committee. There are the research files related Columbia alumni who lost their lives in

conflicts starting from the American Revolution. And there are the working files of both groups as the plans for the memorial to honor these alumni changed and evolved.

Title/Description	Instances	
Research files by war, 1980s-1990s		
Scope and Contents		
Copies of alumni federation cards, alumni magazine listings, university publications and website searches.		
Revolutionary War	box 1	folder 1
War of 1812	box 1	folder 2
Civil War	box 1	folder 3
World War I	box 1	folder 4
World War II	box 1	folder 5
Korean War	box 1	folder 6
Vietnam War	box 1	folder 7
Lists and research - preliminary, 1996-2001	box 1	folder 8
Undergraduate Remembrance Committee		
Brochure for War Memorial, 2001	box 1	folder 9
Scope and Contents		
Fundraising brochure with drawing of the monument to be built on campus.		
Correspondence contributing names, 2000-2001	box 1	folder 10
Scope and Contents		
Replies to the Columbia College Today article in the February 2000 issue.		
Meeting notices and correspondence, 1995-2001	box 1	folder 11
Working files		
1995-1997	box 1	folder 12-13
<u>Physical Description:</u> 2 folders		
1998	box 1	folder 14
1999-2000	box 1	folder 15
2000 Fall	box 1	folder 16
2001 Spring	box 1	folder 17
2001-2002	box 1	folder 18
2001-2003		

box 1 folder 19

War Memorial Committee

Working files, 2004-2008

box 1 folder 20

War Remembrance presentation slides, 2008 April

box 1 folder 21

Scope and Contents

Includes articles from previous attempts to commemorate the fallen alumni.

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