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New York Custom House9054905

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library

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Summary Information

Repository:	Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library
Creator:	Fraze, John, 1790-1852
Title:	New York Custom House
ID:	9054905
ID:	(NNC)9054905
Date [inclusive]:	1837-1842
Physical Description:	4 drawings ink on paper 64 x 97 4/5 cm and smaller
Language of the Material:	English .

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Biographical / Historical

John Fraze was a sculptor and architect from New York City. On July 22, 1835, Fraze was appointed "Architect and Superintendent" in the construction of the New York Custom House, taking over for Samuel Thomson who resigned from the position in April of that year. When Thomson resigned, he took with him all of the plans for the building, which were modified plans of the original design by Ithiel Town and Alexander Jackson Davis. Moreover, the foundation had been laid prior to Fraze's appointment, leaving Fraze to draw new plans based on the already completed construction.

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Scope and content

The four drawings include: Frieze detail (Anthemion Band) : ink and graphite on paper (33 x 49 cm) ; Plan and elevation for the fly-doors at the entrances of the New Custom House, N.Y. : pen and ink on paper, signed (33 x 40 1/2 cm) ; Plan of the Basement of the New Customs House, New York : Ink, brown wash, green wash on paper mounted on linen (64 x 97 4/5 cm) ; Plan of the Flagging of the Principal Floor of New Custom House, N.Y. : Ink on paper

mounted on linen (59 x 93 1/3 cm). Condition: The two larger drawings are heavily varnished and stained. A medium size portion of the "Plan and elevation for the fly-doors" has been cut.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library

Restrictions on Access

This collection is available for use by appointment in the Department of Drawings & Archives, Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library, Columbia University. For further information, please email avery-drawings@library.columbia.edu.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Method of acquisition--Purchased;; Date of acquisition--2011. Accession number--2011.017.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Architecture -- United States -- Designs and plans
- Greek revival (Architecture) -- United States
- Domes (architectural elements)
- Rotundas (buildings)
- Public buildings
- Government office buildings
- Architectural drawings -- American
- Detail drawings (drawings)
- Plans (drawings)
- Frazee, John, 1790-1852
- Federal Hall National Memorial (New York, N.Y.)
- Alexander Hamilton United States Custom House (New York, N.Y.)
- Custom House (New York, N.Y. : 1842-1962)

General Note

John Frazee's work on the New York Custom House and two drawings are cited in "John Frazee and the New York Custom House" by Louis Torres, *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*, Vol. 23, No. 3 (Oct., 1964), pp. 143-150

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Collection Inventory

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