

Trent, Clarence, Papers

Clarence Trent Papers

1958-1991



Title Statement

Trent, Clarence, PapersClarence Trent Papers, 1958-1991 Ms.1985.010

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.1985.010

Unit Date

1958-1991

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

The collection comprises the papers of Virginia Polytechnic Institute (VPI) alum and professor Clarence E. Trent (1904-1991), having to do with his involvement in American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the Lutheran Campus Ministry at VPI, and his engineering education.

Creator

Trent, Clarence E. (Clarence Elmore), 1904-1991

Extent

0.5 Cubic Feet 1 box

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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Source of Acquisition

The collection was donated to Special Collections and University Archives in February 1992.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Clarence Trent Papers was completed prior to 2003.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Clarence Trent Papers, 1958-1991, Ms1985-010, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

Clarence E. Trent was born on September 26, 1904. A native of Northfolk, West Virginia, Trent attended Bluefield Junior College in Bluefield, Virginia, where he earned a two-year academic diploma in 1925. In 1930 and 1931 he earned a BS and an MS in Electrical Engineering at Virginia Polytechnic Institute (now Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University). In 1935 and 1936 he earned BS and MME degrees in Mechanical Engineering at VPI. Trent was appointed an assistant professor at VPI in 1931, teaching at first in the Department of Mathematics. In 1932 he was sent to Bluefield to organize the VPI Engineering Branch School in cooperation with Bluefield College. He served as head of the Branch School for eleven years. He returned to VPI campus in 1943, where he remained until his retirement in 1973, teaching both electrical and mechanical engineering.

Trent played an active role in the history of the Virginia Section of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) from 1945 until his death in 1991. In 1981 he was awarded the grade of Life Fellow of the ASME. Serving on the History and Heritage Committee, Trent was a prime force in the selection of two national mechanical engineering landmarks: the Jackson Ferry Shot Tower at Fort Chiswell, Virginia, and Norfolk and Western Railway's 611 steam locomotive. Trent was the co-author (along with Earl B. Norris) of the book *Applied Thermodynamics* (New York: McGraw Hill, 1955).

Trent died on December 1, 1991, at the age of 87.

Scope and Content

The Clarence Trent Papers contain materials dealing with his activities in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the Lutheran Campus Ministry at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, and his engineering education. Further biographical information on Trent may be found in Folders 1 and 27, the latter of which deals with the Distinguished Alumnus Certificate which Bluefield College awarded him in 1986.

Keywords

Faculty and staff

Local/Regional History and Appalachian South

Railroad

Science and Technology

Students and alumni

University History

Virginia Polytechnic Institute (1944-1970)
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (1970-)
Bluefield College (Bluefield, Va.)

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Arrangement

The collection is arranged into three series according to subject matter:

Series I: Biographical, c.1982-1989

Series II: American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), 1958-1991, n.d.

Series III: General, 1968-1977, 1982-1986, n.d.

Description of Subordinate Components

Series I: Biographical

Unit Date c.1982-1989

Biographical Information

Unit Date c. 1982-1989

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Series II: American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)

Unit Date 1958-1991, n.d.

Correspondence

Unit Date 1958

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Correspondence

Unit Date 1971-1972

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Correspondence

Unit Date 1973-1981

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Correspondence

Unit Date 1982-1983

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Correspondence

Unit Date 1984-1991

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Nominations for Honors and Officers

Unit Date c. 1965-1979

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Norfolk and Western Railway Locomotive 2300

Unit Date 1979

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

History of Virginia Section of the ASME--Documents, Drafts, Etc.

Unit Date 1979-1983

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

"Comments on Prof. C.H. Long's Activities with the ASME"

Unit Date 1980

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Fink Truss Bridge Relocation

Unit Date 1980

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

ASME Fellow

Unit Date 1980-1981

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

National Historic Mechanical Engineering Landmarks--Publications, 2-13

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Regional Administration Committee

Unit Date 1982

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

History and Heritage Committee

Unit Date 1982-1986

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 15 (folder)

Jackson Ferry Shot Tower (Wythe County) ASME National Historic Landmark Dedication--Correspondence, Notes, Etc.

Unit Date 1980-1981

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 16 (folder)

Jackson Ferry Shot Tower (Wythe County)--Photographs

Unit Date 1981

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 17 (folder)

Jackson Ferry Shot Tower (Wythe County) ASME National Historic Landmark Dedication--Thank You Letters

Unit Date 1981

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 18 (folder)

Jackson Ferry Shot Tower (Wythe County) ASME National Historic Landmark Dedication--Newspaper Articles, Press Releases

Unit Date 1981-1982

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 19 (folder)

Jackson Ferry Shot Tower (Wythe County) Photocopied Formula Book

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 20 (folder)

Norfolk and Western Class J Locomotive No. 611 AMSE National Historic Landmark Dedication--Correspondence

Unit Date c. 1982-1985

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 21 (folder)

Norfolk and Western Class J Locomotive No. 611 ASME National Historic Landmark Dedication--Photographs

Unit Date 1984

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 22 (folder)

Norfolk and Western Class J Locomotive No. 611 ASME National Historic Landmark Dedication--Ceremony

Unit Date 1984

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 23 (folder)

Norfolk and Western Class J Locomotive No. 611 ASME National Historic Landmark Dedication--Publications

Unit Date c. 1984-1989

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 24 (folder)

Series III: General

Unit Date 1968-1977, 1982-1986, n.d.

Engineering Education Subject Files

Unit Date c. 1968-1977

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 25 (folder)

Lutheran Campus Ministry

Unit Date 1982-1986

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 26 (folder)

Bluefield College Distinguished Alumnus Certificate

Unit Date 1984-1986

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 27 (folder)

Unidentified Photographs

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 28 (folder)