

Cottrell, Benjamin, Papers

Benjamin Cottrell Papers

1910-1983



Title Statement

Cottrell, Benjamin, Papers Benjamin Cottrell Papers, 1910-1983 Ms.1994.035

Author: Adrienne Glenney, Student Assistant, and Kira A. Dietz, Archivist

Publication Statement

Publisher: Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Special Collections and University Archives, University Libraries (0434)

560 Drillfield Drive

Newman Library, Virginia Tech

Blacksburg, Virginia 24061

Business Number: 540-231-6308

specref@vt.edu

URL: <http://spec.lib.vt.edu>



2013 (CC0 1.0)

Profile Description

Creation: This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2025-06-06 07:02:00 -0400.

Language Usage: Description is written in: English, Latin script.

Descriptive Rules: Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.1994.035

Unit Date

1910-1983

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

This collection contains the papers, photographs, diplomas, certificates, correspondence, and scrapbooks of Benjamin Cottrell from 1910-1983. Cottrell, a 1916 VPI graduate with a degree in Civil Engineering, spent part of his career working on railroads and highways in Central and South America.

Creator

Cottrell, Benjamin, d.1972

Extent

1.7 Cubic Feet 7 boxes, 2 oversize folders

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

The copyright status of this collection is unknown. Copyright restrictions may apply. Contact Special Collections and University Archives for assistance in determining the use of these materials.

Reproduction or digitization of materials for personal or research use can be requested using our reproduction/digitization form: <http://bit.ly/scuareproduction>. Reproduction or digitization of materials for publication or exhibit use can be requested using our publication/exhibition form: <http://bit.ly/scuapublication>. Please contact Special Collections and University Archives (specref@vt.edu or 540-231-6308) if you need assistance with forms or to submit a completed form.

Source of Acquisition

This collection was donated to Special Collections in October 1993.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Benjamin Cottrell Papers was completed in September 2013.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Benjamin Cottrell Papers, Ms1994-035, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

Benjamin Cottrell graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1916 with a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering. He spent most of his life working in railroad and highway development in South America. He was a member of the VPI Alumni Century Club. Cottrell died in 1972.

Scope and Content

This collection contains the papers, photographs, diplomas, certificates, correspondence, and scrapbooks of Benjamin Cottrell. Cottrell graduated from VPI in 1916 and spent his career working as a highway and railroad engineer in Costa Rica and Bolivia. Much of the newspapers, scrapbooks, photographs, and other papers in the collection relate to his work abroad. Other materials relate to his activities as a VPI alumnus.

Keywords

Students and alumni

University History

Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College and Polytechnic Institute (1896-1944)

Virginia Polytechnic Institute (1944-1970)

Rights Statement for Archival Description

The guide to the Benjamin Cottrell Papers by Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, is licensed under a CC0 (<https://creativecommons.org/share-your-work/public-domain/cc0/>).

Arrangement

The collection is organized by material type.

Description of Subordinate Components

Papers

Unit Date 1910-1972

Address Books

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Blank Postcards

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Certificates and Awards

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Correspondence

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Watercolor Print of South American Church

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Awards and Plaques

Unit Date 1951-1983, n.d.

Century Club Member Brass Plaques

Unit Date 1975-1983

box 2

VPI Alumni Century Club Framed Award of Appreciation

Unit Date n.d.

box 3

Carved Wooden Name Plaque

box 7

Commemorative Medal

box 7

Awards

Unit Date 1951-1954

folder 3

Artifacts

Unit Date 1960, n.d.

American Legion Philippines Cap

box 7

Fez Freemason Cap

box 7

"Last Spike Ceremony" Commemorative Railroad Peg

Unit Date December 1960
box 7

Photographs

Unit Date 1916-1968

Photographs

Unit Date 1916-1968

box 4

Scrapbooks

Unit Date n.d.

Scrapbook

box 5

Scrapbooks (2) of Brazil

box 6

Newspapers and Magazines

Unit Date 1954

Life Magazine (Spanish edition)

Unit Date November 1954

folder 1

Life Magazine

Unit Date November 1954

folder 1

El Dario Newspaper

Unit Date September 26th, 28th, 29th, and 30th, 1954

folder 2