

Drumeller, William F., Jr., Collection

William F. Drumeller, Jr., Collection

1909-1991



Title Statement

Drumeller, William F., Jr., Collection William F. Drumeller, Jr., Collection, 1909-1991 Ms.2013.007

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Profile Description

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Revision Description

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 2020-09-10 | I added the painting purchased in 2020 to the collection, but did not update the finding aid in VH. I'm waiting on the automated harvesting of ASpace, since this is not an item that is in high demand. 9/10/2020 kad |
| 2023-07-05 | LM Rozema made minor corrections, added info about 2020 accession in description notes, added agents and subject for Students and alumni, updated bio note, and updated notes to new standards. |

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2013.007

Unit Date

1909-1991

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

The William F. Drumeller, Jr., Collection, 1909-1991, includes Virginia Polytechnic Institute (VPI) publications, school papers (including notes and notebooks), ephemera, engineering publications and reports, correspondences, and photographs of Drumeller, a student and cadet at VPI from 1942-1943 and 1946-1949. Materials describe the railway and coal industries in West Virginia in the mid- to late twentieth century.

Creator

Drumeller, William F., Jr., 1923-2006

Extent

1.4 Cubic Feet 3 box and 2 oversize items

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

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Source of Acquisition

The William F. Drumeller, Jr. Collection was purchased by Special Collections in November 2012, August 2015, November 2019, August 2020, and April 2024.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the William F. Drumeller, Jr., Collection was completed in February 2013. Additional materials were integrated in 2020 and description updated in 2023. Additional materials were integrated in 2024 and description updated in 2024.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: William F. Drumeller, Jr., Collection, Ms2013-007, Special Collections, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

William F. Drumeller, Jr., was born January 23, 1923, to William and Elizabeth Drumeller. Studying as a civil engineer, Drumeller attended Virginia Polytechnic Institute as a cadet from 1942-1943 and 1946-1949, taking a leave of absence in 1943 to fight in the U. S. Army during World War II, rising to the rank of Sergeant and earning a Purple Heart and Bronze Star. He worked as a civil engineer with CSX Railway. Drumeller died March 25, 2006, and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

External sources:

"Sgt William F. Drumeller Jr.", Findagrave.com, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/15782743/william-f-drumeller>, accessed July 5, 2023.

Obituary for William F. Drumeller Jr., *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, March 28, 2006, <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/timesdispatch/name/william-drumeller-obituary?id=5404181>, accessed July 5, 2023.

Scope and Content

The collection includes Virginia Polytechnic Institute (VPI) publications, school papers (including notes and notebooks), ephemera, painting, and photographs of William F. Drumeller, Jr., a civil engineering student and cadet at VPI from 1942-1943 and 1946-1949. The majority of the collection consists of student notebooks and paper relating to math and engineering courses. Publications and ephemera were collected by him during his tenure as a student and, presumably, as an alumni.

The collection also consists of materials from his time as an engineer in West Virginia. The reports, studies, correspondences, and notes provide insight into the railway and coal industries in southern West Virginia. One report describes surface coal mining, also known as mountaintop removal.

Related Archival Materials

See the ,VPI Poster by William F. Drumeller, Jr., also at Virginia Tech Special Collections and University Archives in the Art Collection.

Keywords

Students and alumni

University History

Railroad

Coal mines and mining

West Virginia

Engineering Drawings

Local/Regional History and Appalachian South

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

Virginia Polytechnic Institute (1944-1970)

Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College and Polytechnic Institute. Corps of Cadets (1896-1944)

Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Corps of Cadets (1944-1970)

Rights Statement for Archival Description

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Arrangement

The collection is arranged into two series:

Series I: Student Work and Notebooks includes academic records, drawings, notebooks, course work, and lectures notes, relating to Virginia Polytechnic Institute (VPI) engineering, math, and physics courses taken by William F. Drumeller, Jr., in the 1940s.

Series II: Personal Papers includes alumni materials, photographs, VPI memorabilia, an engineering report for Norfolk & Western, an ROTC manual, correspondences, newspaper clippings, rental lease, and a resume.

Series III: Professional papers includes materials related to his professional engineering work, primarily with the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway. These include agreements, leases, contracts, bills, organization charts of C&O, correspondences, notes, design drawings, and reports and studies. The reports and studies includes a list of items, and many of the pieces focus on the Kanawha Valley and James River in southern West Virginia. Another report is a study on surface coal mining, also known as mountaintop removal mining. His papers provide insight on the coal mining and railway industries in the mid- to late twentieth century.

Description of Subordinate Components

Series I: Student Work and Notebooks

Unit Date 1942-1943, 1946-1949

Academic Records

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 24 (folder)

Calculus

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

CE 421 Structures: Deck Plate Girder Design

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Civil Engineering Problems 1

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Civil Engineering Problems 2

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Concrete

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Design Drawings

Unit Date 1947-1948

oversize 4

Container 1 (folder)

Graphics III

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Highway Materials and Soil Mechanics 1

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Highway Materials and Soil Mechanics 2

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Physics 1

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Physics 2

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Physics Notebook

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Sanitary Engineering 1

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Sanitary Engineering 2**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 13 (folder)**Solid Geometry****box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 14 (folder)**Stress Analysis 1****box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 15 (folder)**Stress Analysis 2****box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 16 (folder)**Structures 1****box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 17 (folder)**Structures 2****box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 18 (folder)**Series II: Personal Papers****Unit Date** 1909-1991, n.d.**Alumni Materials****box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 19 (folder)**Certificates****Unit Date** 1909-1969**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 25 (folder)**Correspondences****Unit Date** 1940-1991**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 26 (folder)**Correspondences****Unit Date** Undated**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 27 (folder)**Correspondences, Envelopes****box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 28 (folder)**Miscellaneous Documents**

box-folder 1 (box)
Container 29 (folder)

Newspaper Clippings

box-folder 1 (box)
Container 30 (folder)

Photographs

box-folder 1 (box)
Container 20 (folder)

Report Upon Proposed Spur Track Serving VPI

box-folder 1 (box)
Container 21 (folder)

R.O.T.C. Manual: Engineers Basic

box-folder 1 (box)
Container 22 (folder)

VPI Memorabilia

box-folder 1 (box)
Container 23 (folder)

Painting of VPI "Fightin Gobblers," created while Drumeller was a student at VPI

Unit Date 1942
item 1

Rental Lease

Unit Date 1949
box-folder 1 (box)
Container 31 (folder)

Resume

box-folder 1 (box)
Container 32 (folder)

Series III: Professional Papers

Agreements

Unit Date 1976
box-folder 2 (box)
Container 1 (folder)

Bills

box-folder 2 (box)
Container 2 (folder)

Business Cards

box-folder 2 (box)
Container 3 (folder)

Chesapeake and Ohio Organization Charts - Operating Department

Chesapeake and Ohio, Organization Charts - Operating Department

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Contracts, Architecture and Planning

Unit Date 1973-1975

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Correspondences

Unit Date 1964-1978

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Lease Agreements

1928

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

1938

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

1939

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Notes

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Publications

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Bibliography

"Baseboard Electric Heater: Installing and Operating Instructions with Parts List," Sears, "Capital Square Intelligence Newsletter," Virginia State Chamber of Commerce, 1969/1970 "The Engineers Club of Huntington: Directory and Yearbook," 1974 "Portable Parking Structures International"

Railway Design Drawings

Unit Date 1963-1964

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Reports and Studies

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Bibliography

"Before the Interstate Commerce Commission in the Matter of the Application of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company," 1970 "Brief History of the James River and Kanawha Coal," 1933 "Council for Reorganization of Washington State Government: Survey Report and Recommendations," 1965 (excerpt)

"Directory of Offices, Shop Facilities and Gasoline Supply Points," The State Road Commission of West Virginia, 1966 "Governor's Management Task Force: West Virginia State Government," 1969 "Outline of the Jame River and Kanawha Canal and the Principal Agreements and Leases for Water Rights in the Canal," 1960 "Recommendation for Gasoline Pump Stations" "Report on James River Canal Owned by the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company Between Richmond and Clifton Forge, on the Waters of James River and Its Tributaries" "Report Writing Guide: Governor's Management Task Force," 1967 "A Study of Surface Coal Mining in West Virginia," Stanford Research Center, 1972