

A Guide to the Paul B. Barringer Papers, 1881-1983 MS.34

Paul B. Barringer papers
1881-1983



Title Statement

A Guide to the Paul B. Barringer Papers, 1881-1983 MS.34

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2007

Notes

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Profile Description

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Language Usage: English

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

MS.34

Unit ID

[Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID

/repositories/7/resources/134

Unit Date

1881-1983

Language

English

Extent

.5 Linear Feet

Extent

1 box, 5" x 10.5" x 15.5," 0.5 linear feet, 47 items

Repository

Claude Moore Health Sciences Library

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

Collection is open to research.

Conditions Governing Use

There are no restrictions.

Preferred Citation

of Paul B. Barringer Papers, MS-34, Historical Collections, Claude Moore Health Sciences Library, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va.

Biographical / Historical

Paul Brandon Barringer was born in western North Carolina on February 13, 1857. He entered the University of Virginia as a student in 1875, received his medical degree in 1877, and earned his supplemental degree of doctor of medicine from the University of New York the following year. After graduation he practiced medicine in Gaston County, North Carolina for several years and then went on his "Grand Tour" to Europe in 1881. While there he visited medical centers in London, Edinburgh, Dublin, Paris, and Vienna. Returning to the United States in 1882, he settled in Charlotte, North Carolina, married, and practiced medicine. In 1886 he accepted a position as resident physician at Davidson College, a college founded by his maternal grandfather, Robert Hall Morrison. He founded his own "Preparatory School for Medical Students," giving courses in anatomy, histology, physiology, and biology.

In 1889 he was asked to succeed Dr. James Cabell as Professor of Physiology and Surgery at the University of Virginia; he held this position until 1907. He was Chairman of the Faculty from 1896 to 1903, and labored unceasingly for the construction of a University Hospital and for the development of clinical facilities for the School of Medicine. When the first unit of the University Hospital opened in 1901, Dr. Barringer became its superintendent. He was also instrumental in directing the addition of the Hospital's South Wing in 1905 and the North Wing in 1907. In 1907 he left the University to become President of Virginia Polytechnic Institute where he remained until his retirement in 1912.

The Barringer House in Charlottesville was built in 1894 and moved into by the Barringer family in 1897. It exemplifies the Queen Anne architecture popularized during the late nineteenth century while also reflecting High Gothic Victorian influences. Located close to the medical school, Barringer encouraged medical students to visit his home frequently and they willingly did. Avoiding proposed demolition in the early 1980s, the house was restored and became the French House for the University in 1986.

Both a writer and a teacher, Dr. Barringer authored a standard text on physiology and published papers on syphilis, cholera, typhoid fever, and poisonous reptiles. Like many other "Southern Progressives" of his time, Dr. Barringer was an outspoken advocate for white supremacy. In the early 1900s, he was best known outside of Virginia as the author of a series of essays that promoted racial inequality.

Dr. Barringer was a member of the Raven Society; elected honorary president of the University of Virginia Alumni Association; and a president of the Medical Society of Virginia, an organization in which he was a member for 50 years. The Barringer Wing of the University of Virginia Hospital was named after him. In 2019, the name of this wing was changed to the Collins Wing, in honor of Dr. Francis S. Collins. Barringer died on January 9, 1941, in Charlottesville.

Scope and Contents

The collection includes letters written to his parents in 1881 and 1882 while Dr. Barringer was traveling in Europe; a paper he wrote on death; a chapter in German from his memoir, "The Natural Bent;" other biographical material; and newspaper clippings regarding a proposed demolition of his home in 1983.

General

Arrangement

The box is arranged chronologically.

Description of Subordinate Components

Letter from Paul B. Barringer to his mother

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/32921

Unit Date 1881 April 21

Mixed Materials [3470565006] 01 (box)

Container 001 (folder)

Letter from Paul B. Barringer to his mother

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/32922

Unit Date 1881 September 9

Mixed Materials [3470565006] 01 (box)

Container 002 (folder)

Letter from Paul B. Barringer to his father

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/32923

Unit Date 1881 September 24

Mixed Materials [3470565006] 01 (box)

Container 003 (folder)

Letter from Paul B. Barringer to his father

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/32924

Unit Date 1881 October 18

Mixed Materials [3470565006] 01 (box)

Container 004 (folder)

Letter from Paul B. Barringer to his father

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/32925

Unit Date 1881 November 7

Mixed Materials [3470565006] 01 (box)

Container 005 (folder)

Letter from Paul B. Barringer to his father

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/32926

Unit Date 1881 November 16

Mixed Materials [3470565006] 01 (box)

Container 006 (folder)

Letter from Paul B. Barringer to his mother

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/32927

Unit Date 1881 January 4

Mixed Materials [3470565006] 01 (box)

Container 007 (folder)

Letter from Paul B. Barringer to his father

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/32928

Unit Date 1881 [1882] January 14

Mixed Materials [3470565006] 01 (box)

Container 008 (folder)

"Virginia Medical Monthly": Obituary Record: Dr. Paul Brandon Barringer

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/32929

Unit Date 1941 February

Mixed Materials [3470565006] 01 (box)

Container 009 (folder)

"Virginia Medical Monthly": Resolutions on Dr. Barringer

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/32930

Unit Date [1941] April

Mixed Materials [3470565006] 01 (box)

Container 010 (folder)

Victor Clay Barringer note

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/32931

Unit Date 1956

Mixed Materials [3470565006] 01 (box)

Container 011 (folder)

"UVa Medical Alumni Association News Letter": Dr. Barringer's Diplomas Presented to Medical Library

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/32932

Unit Date 1969 May June

Mixed Materials [3470565006] 01 (box)

Container 012 (folder)

Dr. Paul B. Barringer (1857-1941), A Biographical Sketch by Dr. W. Moll

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/32933

Unit Date 1977 June 22

Mixed Materials [3470565006] 01 (box)

Container 013 (folder)

Articles regarding the proposed demolition of the Barringer house

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/32934

Unit Date 1983

Mixed Materials [3470565006] 01 (box)

Container 014 (folder)

Activities reports

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/32935

Unit Date n.d.

Mixed Materials [3470565006] 01 (box)

Container 015 (folder)

Ein Medizinstudent in Wien, 1881

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/32936

Unit Date n.d.

Mixed Materials [3470565006] 01 (box)

Container 016 (folder)

"Our Old Friend Death" by Paul B. Barringer

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/7/archival_objects/32937

Unit Date n.d.

Mixed Materials [3470565006] 01 (box)

Container 017 (folder)