

**Henry White Papers**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**2009**

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm78045328>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms010149>

Prepared by Frank Tusa

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2010

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Henry White Papers

**Span Dates:** 1812-1931

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1880-1928)

**ID No.:** MSS45328

**Creator:** White, Henry, 1850-1927

**Extent:** 31,500 items

**Extent:** 103 containers

**Extent:** 43 linear feet

**Extent:** 6 microfilm reels

**Language:** Collection material in English

**Location:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm78045328>

**Summary:** Diplomats. Correspondence, business records, conference proceedings, bulletins, memoranda, and notes relating to White's career in the foreign service and as a member of the American Commission to Negotiate Peace.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

### People

Baker, Ray Stannard, 1870-1946--Correspondence.

Baruch, Bernard M. (Bernard Mannes), 1870-1965--Correspondence.

Bliss, Tasker Howard, 1853-1930--Correspondence.

Bullitt, William C. (William Christian), 1891-1967--Correspondence.

Dulles, Allen, 1893-1969--Correspondence.

Dulles, John Foster, 1888-1959--Correspondence.

Hay, John, 1838-1905--Correspondence.

Herter, Christian Archibald, 1895-1966--Correspondence.

Hoover, Herbert, 1874-1964--Correspondence.

James, Henry, 1843-1916.

Lansing, Robert, 1864-1928--Correspondence.

Lincoln, Robert Todd, 1843-1926--Correspondence.

Lodge, Henry Cabot, 1850-1924--Correspondence.

Lowell, James Russell, 1819-1891.

Polk, Frank L. (Frank Lyon), 1871-1943--Correspondence.

Roosevelt, Theodore, 1858-1919--Correspondence.

Root, Elihu, 1845-1937--Correspondence.

White family.

White, Henry, 1850-1927.

White, Margaret Stuyvesant Rutherford, 1857-1916 Margaret Stuyvesant Rutherford White papers.

Wilson, Woodrow, 1856-1924--Correspondence.

### Organizations

Paris Peace Conference (1919-1920)

United States. American Commission to Negotiate Peace.

### Subjects

Authors, American.

Diplomatic and consular service, American--Argentina.

Diplomatic and consular service, American--Europe.

World War, 1914-1918--Peace.

## **Places**

Argentina--Foreign relations--United States.  
Europe--Economic conditions--1918-1945.  
Europe--Foreign relations--United States.  
Europe--Politics and government--1918-1945.  
Europe--Social conditions--20th century.  
France--Foreign relations--United States.  
Great Britain--Foreign relations--United States.  
Italy--Foreign relations--United States.  
United States--Foreign relations--19th century.  
United States--Foreign relations--20th century.  
United States--Foreign relations--Argentina.  
United States--Foreign relations--Europe.  
United States--Intellectual life.

## **Occupations**

Diplomats.

## **Provenance**

The papers of Henry White, diplomat, were deposited in the Library of Congress by his son, John Campbell White, and daughter, the Countess Seherr-Thoss, between 1928 and 1950, and converted to a gift in 1960.

## **Processing History**

The collection was processed beginning in 1970 and a portion prepared for microfilming in 1978. The finding aid was revised in 2009..

## **Transfers**

Henry White have been transferred to the Library's Geography and Map Division where they are identified as part of the Henry White Papers.

## **Copyright Status**

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Henry White is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

## **Access and Restrictions**

The papers of Henry White are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

## **Security Classified Documents**

Government regulations control the use of security classified material in this collection. Manuscript Division staff can furnish information concerning access to and use of classified materials.

## Microfilm

A microfilm edition of part of these papers is available on six reels. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition.

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Henry White Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

| Date          | Event   |
|---------------|---|
| 1850, Mar. 29 | Born, Baltimore, Md.  |
| 1879          | Married Margaret Stuyvesant Rutherford (died 1916)  |
| 1883          | Secretary, American legation, Vienna, Austria   |
| 1884-1886     | Second secretary, American legation, London, England  |
| 1886-1893     | First secretary, American legation, London, England   |
| 1896          | Unofficial agent for Secretary of State Richard Olney during the Venezuela Boundary dispute |
| 1897-1905     | First secretary, American legation, London, England   |
| 1905          | Ambassador to Italy   |
| 1906          | Senior delegate to International Conference at Algeciras, Spain                             |
| 1907          | Ambassador to France  |
| 1910          | Chairman, American Delegation to Fourth Pan-American Conference, Buenos Aires, Argentina    |
| 1918-1919     | Member, American Commission to Negotiate Peace, Paris, France                               |
| 1920          | Married Emily Vanderbilt Sloane   |
| 1927, July 15 | Died, Pittsfield, Mass.   |

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Henry White span the years 1812-1931, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1880-1928. Consisting chiefly of correspondence, supplemented by diaries, letterbooks, financial records, and material relating to the Paris Peace Conference of 1919, the collection documents White's long career in the diplomatic service, his personal life, and his business interests. The papers also include material concerning the interests and activities of his wife, Margaret Stuyvesant Rutherford White, a prominent American socialite. The collection is arranged in ten series: [Diaries](#), [Letterbooks](#), [Family Correspondence](#), [General Correspondence](#), [Selected Correspondence](#), [Business Correspondence](#), [Peace Conference File](#), [Financial Records](#), [Printed Matter](#), and [Miscellany](#).

[Diaries](#) in the collection are relatively brief and incomplete; they include diaries of Henry White for part of the period 1892-1894 as well as diaries of Mrs. White. Six volumes of [Letterbooks](#) make up the second series in the collection. These volumes, which are available on microfilm, contain a large number of letters relating to White's diplomatic activities as well as his personal and business interests during the period 1882-1909.

The four correspondence series constitute the largest and perhaps most valuable part of the collection. The [Family Correspondence](#) includes numerous letters from White to his wife, many of which contain his observations on American foreign policy. Copies of White's correspondence with his superiors in the diplomatic service are scattered throughout the [General Correspondence](#). Within the latter series are letters from many prominent Americans including Woodrow Wilson, Henry Cabot Lodge, Tasker Howard Bliss, Robert Lansing, Elihu Root, and Frank L. Polk. A number of revealing letters from Theodore Roosevelt as well as White's extensive correspondence with his friend and superior, John Hay, are

separated into a single container of [Selected Correspondence](#). White's business interests, particularly his extensive real estate holdings, constitute the substance of the [Business Correspondence](#) series.

Social prominence brought the White family into contact with many leading American literary figures, including Henry James (1843-1916) and James Russell Lowell. A partial index of their letters to both the Whites is appended to this register.

The [Peace Conference File](#) contains a wealth of material relating to the negotiations in Paris in 1919. It contains letters, cablegrams, and memoranda from several members of the American delegation at Paris and correspondence with American political figures including President Wilson, Henry Cabot Lodge (1850-1924), Tasker Howard Bliss, Robert Lansing, Frank L. Polk, John Foster Dulles, Allen Welsh. Dulles, William C. Bullitt, Christian Archibald Herter, Herbert Hoover, Bernard M. Baruch, and Ray Stannard Baker. Military intelligence reports and numerous cablegrams from American legations throughout Europe provide a vivid account political, economic, and social conditions in Europe after the war. The bulletins, minutes, resolutions, decisions, proceedings, treaties, and maps that supplement the correspondence offer a succinct, if incomplete, record of the activities and achievements of the Conference.

The collection concludes with a [Financial Records File](#), a [Printed Matter](#) series, and [Miscellany](#). The latter incorporates correspondence relating to the erection of a statue of Abraham Lincoln, 1917-1918, and includes several letters from Lincoln's son, Robert Todd Lincoln.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in ten series:

- [Diaries, 1852-1908](#)
- [Letterbooks, 1882-1909](#)
- [Family Correspondence, 1812-1928](#)
- [General Correspondence, 1850-1931](#)
- [Selected Correspondence, 1888-1917](#)
- [Business Correspondence, 1858-1928](#)
- [Paris Peace Conference File, 1918-1919](#)
- [Financial Records, circa 1868-1928](#)
- [Printed Matter](#)
- [Miscellany](#)

## Description of Series

| Container             | Series  |
|-----------------------|---|
| BOX 1 not filmed      | <p><b><u>Diaries, 1852-1908</u></b></p> <p>Diaries of White, his father, John Campbell White, and wife, Margaret Stuyvesant Rutherford White, and several sheets of unidentified diary fragments. All of the diaries are incomplete. Arranged alphabetically by name of person.</p>   |
| BOX 2-4 REEL 1-6      | <p><b><u>Letterbooks, 1882-1909</u></b></p> <p>Bound volumes of letters sent by White. Arranged chronologically by volume. Available on microfilm shelf no. 17,196.</p>   |
| BOX 5-11 not filmed   | <p><b><u>Family Correspondence, 1812-1928</u></b></p> <p>Mainly letters sent and received by Margaret Stuyvesant Rutherford White and correspondence of Henry White with family members. Arranged chronologically by month.</p>   |
| BOX 12-27 not filmed  | <p><b><u>General Correspondence, 1850-1931</u></b></p> <p>Letters received and some copies of letters sent by White supplemented by occasional memoranda and reports. Arranged chronologically by month.</p>  |
| BOX 28 not filmed     | <p><b><u>Selected Correspondence, 1888-1917</u></b></p> <p>Letters from Theodore Roosevelt and John Hay to White and from White to Hay. Arranged by name of correspondent and therein chronologically by month.</p>   |
| BOX 29-37 not filmed  | <p><b><u>Business Correspondence, 1858-1928</u></b></p> <p>Letters received and some copies of letters sent by White dealing with personal and family business affairs. Arranged chronologically by month.</p>  |
| BOX 38-82 not filmed  | <p><b><u>Paris Peace Conference File, 1918-1919</u></b></p> <p>Letters and cablegrams sent and received supplemented by memoranda, bulletins, reports, minutes, resolutions, decisions, proceedings, and treaties. The correspondence is organized in two groups, one arranged chronologically and the other alphabetically by country and region and therein chronologically within folders by month. The remainder of the material is arranged chronologically by day wherever possible or by number or type of material.</p> |
| BOX 83-96 not filmed  | <p><b><u>Financial Records, circa 1868-1928</u></b></p> <p>Account statements, deeds, leases, bills, receipts, canceled checks, and bound financial record books. Arranged by type of material.</p>   |
| BOX 97-101 not filmed | <p><b><u>Printed Matter</u></b></p> <p>Invitation books, appointment books, hunting journal, reports, studies, and documents. Arranged by type of material. Includes printed matter relating to the Algeciras Conference and the Paris Peace Conference.</p>  |

BOX 102-103 not  
filmed

**Miscellany**

Correspondence and memorabilia relating to the erection of a statue of Abraham Lincoln, as well as speeches, articles, wills, newspaper clippings, invitations, and memorabilia. Arranged by type of material. Includes miscellaneous matter relating to the Paris Peace Conference.

# Container List

| <b>Container</b>            | <b>Contents</b>   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>BOX 1</b> not filmed     | <b>Diaries, 1852-1908</b><br>Diaries of White, his father, John Campbell White, and wife, Margaret Stuyvesant Rutherford White, and several sheets of unidentified diary fragments. All of the diaries are incomplete. Arranged alphabetically by name of person. |
| <b>BOX 1</b>                | White, John Campbell (father), 1852-1853  |
| <b>BOX 1</b>                | White, Margaret Stuyvesant Rutherford (wife), 1896-1908   |
| <b>BOX 1</b>                | White, Henry, 1892-1894   |
| <b>BOX 1</b>                | Unidentified fragments, undated   |
| <b>BOX 2-4 REEL 1-6</b>     | <b>Letterbooks, 1882-1909</b><br>Bound volumes of letters sent by White.<br>Arranged chronologically by volume. Available on microfilm shelf no. 17,196.  |
| <b>BOX 2 REEL 1-2</b>       | 1882, Nov.-1888, Feb.   |
| <b>BOX 3 REEL 3-4</b>       | 1888, Feb.-1893, Apr.   |
| <b>BOX 4 REEL 5-6</b>       | 1893, Apr.-1909, Apr.   |
| <b>BOX 5-11</b> not filmed  | <b>Family Correspondence, 1812-1928</b><br>Mainly letters sent and received by Margaret Stuyvesant Rutherford White and correspondence of Henry White with family members.<br>Arranged chronologically by month.  |
| <b>BOX 5</b>                | 1812-1883   |
| <b>BOX 6</b>                | 1884, May-1892  |
| <b>BOX 7</b>                | 1892, June-1900   |
| <b>BOX 8</b>                | 1901-1905   |
| <b>BOX 9</b>                | 1906-1916   |
| <b>BOX 10</b>               | 1917-1928   |
| <b>BOX 11</b>               | Undated   |
| <b>BOX 12-27</b> not filmed | <b>General Correspondence, 1850-1931</b><br>Letters received and some copies of letters sent by White supplemented by occasional memoranda and reports.<br>Arranged chronologically by month.   |
| <b>BOX 12</b>               | 1850, Apr.-1888   |
| <b>BOX 13</b>               | 1888, Apr.-1890, Mar.   |
| <b>BOX 14</b>               | 1890, Apr.-1893, June   |
| <b>BOX 15</b>               | 1893, July-1896   |
| <b>BOX 16</b>               | 1897-1902, July   |
| <b>BOX 17</b>               | 1902, July-1905, Oct.   |
| <b>BOX 18</b>               | 1905, Oct.-1909, May  |

## General Correspondence, 1850-1931

| Container            | Contents  |
|----------------------|---|
| BOX 19               | 1909, June-1913, Mar.   |
| BOX 20               | 1913, Mar.-1915, Oct.   |
| BOX 21               | 1915, Oct.-1916, Sept.  |
| BOX 22               | 1916, Sept.-1918, Nov.  |
| BOX 23               | 1918, Nov.-1920, May  |
| BOX 24               | 1920-1924, June   |
| BOX 25               | 1925-1931   |
| BOX 26               | Undated   |
| BOX 27               | Undated   |
| BOX 28 not filmed    | <b>Selected Correspondence, 1888-1917</b><br>Letters from Theodore Roosevelt and John Hay to White and from White to Hay.<br>Arranged by name of correspondent and therein chronologically by month.  |
| BOX 28               | Roosevelt, Theodore, to White, 1894-1917  |
| BOX 28               | Hay, John, to White, 1888-1905  |
| BOX 28               | White, Henry, to John Hay, 1897-1902, undated   |
| BOX 29-37 not filmed | <b>Business Correspondence, 1858-1928</b><br>Letters received and some copies of letters sent by White dealing with personal and family business affairs.<br>Arranged chronologically by month.   |
| BOX 29               | 1858-1896   |
| BOX 30               | 1897-1903   |
| BOX 31               | 1904-1909   |
| BOX 32               | 1910-1912   |
| BOX 33               | 1913-1914   |
| BOX 34               | 1915-1917   |
| BOX 35               | 1918-1922   |
| BOX 36               | 1923-1924   |
| BOX 37               | 1925-1928, undated  |
| BOX 38-82 not filmed | <b>Paris Peace Conference File, 1918-1919</b><br>Letters and cablegrams sent and received supplemented by memoranda, bulletins, reports, minutes, resolutions, decisions, proceedings, and treaties.<br>The correspondence is organized in two groups, one arranged chronologically and the other alphabetically by country and region and therein chronologically within folders by month.<br>The remainder of the material is arranged chronologically by day wherever possible or by number or type of material. |
| BOX 38               | Correspondence  |
| BOX 38               | Chronological   |
| BOX 38               | 1918, Dec. 2-1919 Jan.  |
| BOX 39               | 1919  |
| BOX 39               | Jan. 20-Feb. 22   |
| BOX 40               | Feb. 23-Mar. 21   |
| BOX 41               | Mar. 22-Apr. 18   |

## Paris Peace Conference File, 1918-1919

| Container | Contents  |
|-----------|---|
| BOX 42    | Apr. 19-May 25  |
| BOX 43    | May 26-July 20  |
| BOX 44    | July 21-Oct. 3  |
| BOX 45    | 1919, Oct.4-Dec. 9 and undated  |
| BOX 46    | Alphabetical  |
| BOX 46    | Aaland Islands-Austria  |
| BOX 47    | Balkans-China   |
| BOX 48    | Columbia-Germany, 1919, Feb.  |
| BOX 49    | Germany   |
| BOX 50    | Greece-Italy, 1919, May   |
| BOX 51    | Italy, 1919, May, and Jugo-Slavia   |
| BOX 52    | Korea-Syria   |
| BOX 53    | Turkey-Ukraine  |
| BOX 54    | S-H Bulletins   |
| BOX 54    | Nos. 1-171  |
| BOX 55    | Nos. 172-271  |
| BOX 56    | Nos. 272-345  |
| BOX 57    | Nos. 346-420  |
| BOX 58    | Nos. 421-483  |
| BOX 59    | Nos. 484-537  |
| BOX 60    | Nos. 438-640  |
| BOX 61    | Nos. 641-680  |
| BOX 62    | Nos. 681-782  |
| BOX 63    | Nos. 783-871  |
| BOX 64    | Nos. 872-945  |
| BOX 65    | Nos. 946-1027   |
| BOX 66    | Nos. 1028-1136  |
| BOX 67    | Nos. 1137-1281  |
| BOX 68    | Nos. 1282-1412  |
| BOX 69    | Nos. 1413-1427  |
| BOX 69    | Reports on Germany, nationalism in Austria, and reclamation in Asiatic Turkey, 1919 |
| BOX 70    | Supreme Council minutes, 1919   |
| BOX 70    | Jan. 12-Feb. 7  |
| BOX 71    | Feb. 8-Mar. 6   |
| BOX 72    | Mar. 6-Apr. 23  |
| BOX 73    | Apr. 26-July 9  |
| BOX 74    | July 10-31  |
| BOX 75    | Aug. 1-Nov. 20  |
| BOX 76    | Nov. 21-Dec. 6  |
| BOX 76    | Resolutions adopted by Supreme Council  |
| BOX 76    | July 5-Aug. 2   |
| BOX 77    | Aug. 4-Oct. 28  |
| BOX 78    | Oct. 29-Dec. 6  |
| BOX 78    | Decisions of Council of Four  |
| BOX 78    | Nos. 1-69   |
| BOX 79    | Nos. 70-113   |

## Paris Peace Conference File, 1918-1919

| Container              | Contents   |
|------------------------|--|
| BOX 79                 | Proceedings, plenary sessions  |
| BOX 80                 | Minutes, meetings of American commissioners, 1919, Feb. 15-July 19 and Oct. 9  |
| BOX 80                 | Minutes, meetings of American commissioners and technical advisors, 1919, June 3-Sept. 24  |
| BOX 81                 | Treaties   |
| BOX 81                 | German and Austrian  |
| BOX 82                 | Notations and annotations on Germany treaty  |
| BOX 82                 | Observations of German delegation on peace treaty  |
| BOX 83-96 not filmed   | <b>Financial Records, circa 1868-1928</b><br>Account statements, deeds, leases, bills, receipts, canceled checks, and bound financial record books.<br>Arranged by type of material.   |
| BOX 83-88              | Loose items, circa 1880-1928   |
| BOX 89-90              | Bound items  |
| BOX 89-90              | Record of work completed at American Embassy, Paris, France, 1907-1908   |
| BOX 91-92              | Account books, checkbooks, and deposit books, circa 1868-1928  |
| BOX 93                 | Household account books, 1886-1892, 1904   |
| BOX 94-95              | Canceled checks and receipts, circa 1880-1928  |
| BOX 96                 | Miscellaneous  |
| BOX 96                 | Cash book, 1869-1871   |
| BOX 96                 | Household account books, 1899-1909   |
| BOX 96                 | Household expense account books, 1897-1909   |
| BOX 97-101 not filmed  | <b>Printed Matter</b><br>Invitation books, appointment books, hunting journal, reports, studies, and documents.<br>Arranged by type of material. Includes printed matter relating to the Algeciras Conference and the Paris Peace Conference.  |
| BOX 97                 | Invitation books, visiting books, appointment books, hunting, journal, business reports  |
| BOX 98-101             | Reports, studies, articles, speeches, and documents, including material relating to the Algeciras Conference and the Paris Peace Conference  |
| BOX 102-103 not filmed | <b>Miscellany</b><br>Correspondence and memorabilia relating to the erection of a statue of Abraham Lincoln, as well as speeches, articles, wills, newspaper clippings, invitations, and memorabilia.<br>Arranged by type of material. Includes miscellaneous matter relating to the Paris Peace Conference. |
| BOX 102                | Lincoln, Abraham, statue, correspondence and memorabilia   |
| BOX 102                | Speeches and articles  |
| BOX 102                | Family wills   |
| BOX 102                | Newspaper clippings  |
| BOX 102                | Memorabilia, including peace conference material   |
| BOX 103                | Invitations, acceptances, and guest lists  |