

Elliot Snow Papers

A Finding Aid to the Papers in the Naval
Historical Foundation Collection in the
Library of Congress

Prepared by Ruth S. Nicholson



Manuscript Division, Library of
Congress

Washington, D.C.

2011

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

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Congress Manuscript Division, 2011

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Collection Summary

Title: Elliot Snow Papers

Span Dates: 1790-1942

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1920-1930)

ID No.: MSS52795

Creator: Snow, Elliot, 1866-1939

Extent: 9,450 items; 28 containers; 12 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: Naval officer. Correspondence, logbooks, speech, article, and book file, newspaper clippings, printed matter, and scrapbooks relating to the history and restoration of the *Constitution*. Includes papers of Horatio D. Smith (1845-1918), officer in the Revenue-Cutter Service, and a small group of papers of Josiah Fox (1763-1847), naval constructor.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People

Alcott, William--Correspondence.

Andrews, Philip, 1866-1945--Correspondence.

Bahn, George A.--Correspondence.

Barnes, James, 1866-1936--Correspondence.

Cannon, Jouett Taylor, 1865-1949--Correspondence.

Claus, Henry T.--Correspondence.

Foster, William E. (William Eaton), 1851-1930--Correspondence.

Fox, Josiah, 1763-1847. Josiah Fox papers.

Humphreys, Letitia A.--Correspondence.

Lathrop, Constance--Correspondence.

Nicholson, Paul C. (Paul Coe), 1888-1956--Correspondence.

Platt, Haviland Hull, 1889- --Correspondence

Smith, Horatio Davis, 1845-1918. Horatio Davis Smith papers.

Snow, Albert Sydney, 1845-1932--Correspondence.

Snow, Elliot, 1866-1939.

Spicer, William F.--Correspondence.

Vogel, Karl--Correspondence.

Wilbur, Curtis Dwight, 1867-1954--Correspondence.

Organizations

Constitution (Frigate)

United States. Navy.

United States. Revenue-Cutter Service.

Subjects

Shipbuilding--United States.

Warships.

Occupations

Naval officers.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Elliot Snow, naval officer, were deposited in the Library of Congress by the Naval Historical Foundation in 1949. An addition was deposited in 1963 and the collection was converted to a gift in 1998.

Processing History

The papers of Elliot Snow were arranged and described in 1969. The finding aid was revised in 2011.

Additional Guides

In 1969 the Library published *Elliot Snow [and] Leonard F. Cushing: A Register of Their Papers in the Library of Congress*.

Copyright Status

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

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Elliot Snow 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.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Elliot Snow Papers, Naval Historical Foundation Collection, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1866, June 27	Born, Salt Lake City, Utah
1883	Appointed to U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.
1887	Graduated, U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.
1887	Duty in USS <i>Adams</i>
1890-1893	Student at l'École d'application du génie maritime, Paris, France
1891	Transferred to Construction Corps in navy
1893	Duty in Mare Island Navy Yard, Calif.
1902	Duty in Hong Kong
1917	Duty with the Emergency Fleet Corp., Washington, D.C.

1917-1919	Superintending constructor, New York Shipbuilding Co., Camden, N.J.
1925	Published <i>Recent and Early Information about Ancient and Medieval Ships</i> . Washington, D. C.: National Capital Press
1925	Senior member, Army and Navy Munitions Board
1926	Promoted to rear admiral Retired from U.S. Navy
1932	Published <i>On the Decks of "Old Ironsides."</i> New York: Macmillan Co.
1939, Nov. 27	Died, Bryn Mawr, Pa.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Elliot Snow (1866-1939) span the years 1790-1942, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1920-1930. The papers relate primarily to the restoration of the USF *Constitution* in 1906 and 1926 and to the history of the USF *Constitution*. Included are a logbook and journal, correspondence, writings, newspaper clippings, printed matter, and scrapbooks. Also included are papers of Horatio Davis Smith (1845-1918), an officer in the United States Revenue Cutter Service, and a small group of papers of Josiah Fox (1763-1847), a naval constructor.

An authority on the USF *Constitution*, Snow was designated as a consultant for the film *Old Ironsides*, which Paramount Motion Pictures released in 1926. Topics of research include the frigate's steering wheel, figureheads, bell, battery, guns, sails, and rigging.

Prominent correspondents include William Alcott, Philip Andrews, George A. Bahn, James Barnes, Jouett Taylor Cannon, Henry T. Claus, William E. Foster, Letitia A. Humphreys, Constance Lathrop, Paul C. Nicholson, Haviland Hull Platt, Albert Sydney Snow, William F. Spicer, Karl Vogel, and Curtis Dwight Wilbur.

The miscellany in the collection contains the papers of Horatio Davis Smith and Josiah Fox. Smith's papers include notebooks, correspondence, and four scrapbooks. Correspondents include Francis Martin, John McGowan, George Henry Preble, and Sidney D. Shattuck. In the papers of Josiah Fox are correspondence, receipts, estimates and description of timber, estimates of materials to be used in the construction of frigates and gun boats, and contracts. Fox's correspondents include John Cassin, John Cock, Peter Gardner, William Hall, Jonathan Hopkins, and Henry L. Langdon

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged by type of material.

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BOX 1	Notebooks of Snow's examinations from the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., 1883-1889
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BOX 6	Drafts of an article, "The Algerine Crescent," 1927
BOX 6	Drafts of an article, "Battery of 'Old Ironsides,'" 1925
BOX 6	"Benjamin Franklin and the Navy"
BOX 6	Drafts of "Discussion of Vanishing Naval Tradition—the Figurehead," 1927
BOX 6	Unbound book, <i>Early History of the United States Revenue Marine Service</i> , 1789-1849, by Horatio D. Smith (Baltimore, Press of R. L. Polk Print. Co., 1932)
BOX 6	Drafts of a proposed book, <i>Famous Sea Anniversaries</i>
BOX 6	Drafts of an article, "The Ever-Faithful on 'Old Ironsides' (1807)," 1927
BOX 6	Drafts of an article, "How 'Old Ironsides' Lost and Gained a Bell," 1931
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BOX 6	Drafts of an article, "Incidents on a Cruise around the World in 'Old Ironsides'"
BOX 6	Drafts of a preface to the book <i>Life in a Man-of-War</i> by Henry J. Mercier, reprint. (Boston, Houghton Mifflin Co., 1927)
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BOX 6	"Old Ironsides" 1928, July 3
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BOX 7	Drafts of a book, <i>On the Decks of "Old Ironsides,"</i> 1932
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BOX 10	Newspaper clippings concerning the USF <i>Constitution</i> , 1834-1926
BOX 11	Printed matter
BOX 11	Magazines containing articles by Snow
BOX 11	Photostatic copy of Jesse E. Dow's "Sketches from the Log of Old Ironsides," <i>Burton's Gentleman's Magazine</i> , vol. 5, 1839
BOX 11	Benjamin F. Stevens' <i>A Cruise on the Constitution</i> (New York, 1904)
BOX 11	Magazine containing reviews of <i>Life in a Man-of-War</i>
BOX 12	Photostatic copy of James Fenimore Cooper's "Old Ironsides," <i>Putnam's Monthly</i> , May- June 1853
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BOX 12	Catalogs of marine collections, 1927-1938
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	(2 vols)
BOX 14	Portfolios
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BOX 20	Scrapbooks
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BOX 20	"Yachting and the Coast Guard," 1925-1928
BOX 21	"Spindrift," articles and reviews by Snow, 1915-1930
BOX 21	Technical index of bulletins 1-106, 1908-1921
BOX 21	Index of circular letters, 1908-1921
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BOX 23	Notebooks concerning the U.S. Revenue Cutter Service
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