

Guide to the Herman Haupt Papers

MS 269



compiled by Diane E. Kaplan and William E. Brown, Jr.

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 269

CREATOR: Haupt, Herman, 1817-1905

TITLE: Herman Haupt papers

DATES: 1800-1984

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 10 linear feet (23 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The papers consist of Herman Haupt's business and personal correspondence, financial and legal papers, and writings, which were collected by Herman Haupt Chapman during his research on his grandfather's life. In addition, the papers include the manuscript of Chapman's unpublished biography, as well as transcripts of documents, photographs, additional family correspondence, diaries, and other family papers, and Chapman's own correspondence files which relate to his research and biographical writings. The papers highlight Haupt's career as a civil engineer, particularly his work on the Hoosac Tunnel and his subsequent legal contests with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and his service to the Union during the Civil War.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0269>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0269>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gifts of Herman Haupt Chapman, 1957-1959; Mrs. Herman Haupt Chapman, 1964; and others, 1974-1984.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Copyright status for collection materials is unknown, though much of the material in this collection is likely in the public domain. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

Preferred Citation

Herman Haupt Papers (MS 269). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Existence and Location of Copies

Journal of Anna Cecilia Keller Haupt is available on microfilm (52 frames on 1 reel, 35mm.) from Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library, at cost. Order no. HM56.

Associated Materials

Related material: Herman Haupt Chapman Papers (MS 134), (Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.)

Biographical / Historical

Herman Haupt was born in Philadelphia in 1817 and graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1835. He resigned his commission to become a civil engineer. He was employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad and in 1856 undertook work on the Hoosac Tunnel for the Troy and Greenfield Railroad in Massachusetts. From 1862 to 1863 he served as chief of construction and transportation on the United States military railroads and retired with the rank of brigadier-general of volunteers. In 1876 he undertook construction of an oil pipeline for the Pennsylvania Transportation Company. From 1881 until 1884 he served as general manager of the Northern Pacific Railroad, was president of General Compressed Air and Power Company from 1892 to 1905, and was president of the National Nutrient Company from 1899 until his death in 1905.

Scope and Contents

The Herman Haupt Papers consist of business and personal correspondence, financial and legal papers, and writings of Herman Haupt, which were collected by Herman Haupt Chapman during his research on his grandfather's life. In addition the papers include the manuscript of Chapman's unpublished biography, as well as transcripts of documents, photographs, additional family correspondence, diaries, other family papers, and Chapman's own correspondence files which relate to his research and biographical writings.

The papers highlight Haupt's career as a civil engineer, particularly his work on the Hoosac Tunnel and his subsequent legal contests with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and his service to the Union during the Civil War.

Herman Haupt Chapman and his wife donated the bulk of the material to the Yale Library between 1957 and 1964. A few additional items were added to the papers between 1974 and 1980. Additional papers concerning Herman Haupt Chapman's career as a member of the Yale School of Forestry faculty are located in the Herman Haupt Chapman Papers (MS 134). The Haupt Papers are arranged in three series: I. CORRESPONDENCE, 1800-1960; II. PERSONAL PAPERS, 1840-1955; and III. HERMAN HAUPT CHAPMAN FILES, 1845-1984.

Series I includes correspondence and other papers of Haupt, Chapman, and other family members, while Series II is composed mainly of Haupt's legal and financial papers. Series III contains Chapman's manuscript, notes, and other research material gathered for a projected biography of Herman Haupt. In quantity the papers are nearly equally divided between those of Haupt and his contemporaries and those relating to Chapman's research and writing.

Series I includes correspondence and other papers of several members of the Haupt family as well as transcripts of material copied by Herman Haupt Chapman, which are scattered throughout the series and concentrated in box 10. The series, which is arranged in chronological order, begins with business correspondence and papers of Haupt's father, John Jacob Houpt, a merchant in Philadelphia. Material of Herman Haupt begins in folder 3 and a diary of his wife Anna Cecilia Keller Haupt is in folder 4. This diary, which dates from 1842 to 1843, describes family life in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania where Herman Haupt was serving as principal of the Oakridge Select Academy. The diary is also available on microfilm (HM 56). During periods of separation Herman Haupt wrote to his wife and provided descriptions of his work, addressing her as "dear Sis". Some letters after 1847 relate to Haupt's work as an assistant to J. Edgar Thomson on the Pennsylvania Railroad.

The files become increasingly more abundant and substantive after the commencement of Haupt's work for the Troy and Greenfield Railroad on the Hoosac Tunnel in 1856. The files include agreements, resolutions, and acts of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as well as correspondence with financial supporters and creditors such as Henry Cartwright, William A. Galbraith, Henry D. Steever, Samuel Lane, and Edward W. Serrell. The correspondence relates more to Haupt's financial problems and less to tunnel engineering. There are also exchanges with Haupt and Keller family members in Pennsylvania. Letterpress copybooks (folders 173-174) contain copies of Haupt's outgoing letters concerning work on the tunnel.

The state of Massachusetts took over the work on the tunnel in 1862, at about the same time that Haupt joined the staff of General Irvin McDowell. Haupt's letters to his wife and family in Cambridge, Massachusetts describe his activities. The files at this point also contain transcripts of correspondence and documents located in other repositories, relating to Haupt's Civil War service, particularly Haupt's role in the Gettysburg victory. Files after Haupt's return to Massachusetts in 1863 focus on Haupt's continuing legal battles with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for payment of debts incurred on the Hoosac Tunnel. During the winter of 1866 there are almost daily letters to Anna Cecilia Haupt concerning hearings on the matter.

Folder 74 contains another piece of Anna Cecilia Haupt's diary, which details a trip to England and Scotland during which Herman Haupt delivered a paper on the application of machinery to tunnelling. A copy of the paper is in folder 75. Correspondence in the 1870s documents Haupt's new business ventures in Virginia. The purchase and work of the Old Dominion Granite Company is discussed in exchanges with Thomas Ackley and son Lewis Muhlenberg Haupt, while the operation of a resort in Giles County, Virginia at Mt. Lake is the subject of family correspondence. The files also contain references to Haupt's work on the Piedmont Air Line Railway.

Files in the 1880s, containing affidavits, resolutions, claims, articles of agreement, and correspondence, mainly document the negotiations to reach a final settlement with the state of Massachusetts. The files contain much less detail on Haupt's activities for the last twenty-five years of his life. There is some correspondence with Edward Appleton and Robert Lenox Belknap concerning Haupt's employment by the Northern Pacific Railroad and exchanges with Frank Woodman concerning the Mt. Lake Land Company.

After 1900 files concern Haupt's investments in the National Nutrient Company, which had perfected a process for producing powdered milk.

Files after Haupt's death in December, 1905 contain records kept by Lewis M. Haupt as executor of his father's estate. By the mid 1920s the correspondence is mainly that of Herman Haupt Chapman and concerns the Haupt family and his research on Herman Haupt. There is correspondence with the fledgling Colonial Haupt Association. Letters from Ethel M. Hughes and Florence H. Urren concern Chapman's research and manuscript, while correspondence with several historians and editors relates to Chapman's interest in publishing his research. Several librarians write to acknowledge receiving copies of Chapman's typescript of the "Unpublished Correspondence of Brigadier General Herman Haupt, July 1861-September 1862".

Series II contains numerous financial and legal documents such as agreements, testimony, affidavits, minutes, exhibits, contracts, payment schedules, patents and accounts relating to Haupt's work on the Hoosac Tunnel. There are also smaller but similar files for Haupt's involvement with the National Nutrient Company. Folders [illegible]217-218 contain photostats of circulars issued by Haupt as general manager of the Northern Pacific Railroad. The series also includes a diary and school notebook kept by Haupt's seventeen year old sister Mary E. Haupt while teaching school in Gettysburg and studying in Philadelphia. Among the legal documents in box 12 is a copy of Anna Cecilia Haupt's will detailing her philanthropic bequests and her charitable interests in Giles County, Virginia.

Series III contains the manuscript for Herman Haupt Chapman's biography of his grandfather and typed transcripts of documents made for his research. The transcripts exist in multiple copies and are arranged chronologically and by topic. Photographs (or photostats) and print negatives of documents, Haupt, family members, residences, railroads, bridges, and tunnels are found in folders 331-348. There are only a few original photographs among them. Material in folders 349-381 was integrated into folders 331-348.

Folders 382-401 include additional resource material on Herman Haupt's life. They contain catalogues from the schools at which Haupt taught, Haupt's books and articles on engineering, steam heating, river improvements, compressed air, politics, and power transmission, and reports concerning the Pennsylvania Transportation Company pipeline and the Old Dominion Granite Company. Folders 289-291 contain a manuscript of Haupt's reminiscences of his Civil War experiences. Folders at the end of the series also include family histories, memorabilia, and additional transcripts by Herman Haupt Chapman.

Arrangement

Arranged in three series: Correspondence, 1800-1960. II. Personal Papers, 1840-1955. III. Herman Haupt Chapman Files, 1845-1984.

Collection Contents

Series I: CORRESPONDENCE, 1800-1960

This series is arranged in chronological order. Letterpress copybooks and transcripts are filed at the end of the series.

b. 1, f. 1-20	1800 - 1859 March	1800 - 1859 March
b. 2, f. 21-42	1859 April - 1862	1859 April - 1862
b. 3, f. 43-64	1863 - 1866 April	1863 - 1866 April
b. 4, f. 65-86	1866 May - 1876	1866 May - 1876
b. 5, f. 87-108	1877 - 1885 July	1877 - 1885 July
b. 6, f. 109-134	1885 August - 1907 December	1885 August - 1907 December
b. 7, f. 135-160	1908 - 1956	1908 - 1956
b. 8, f. 161-172	1957 - 1960, undated	1957 - 1960, undated
b. 9, f. 173-174	Letterpress copybooks	1861-1967
b. 10, f. 175-189	Typescripts	[ca. 1950s]

Series II: PERSONAL PAPERS, 1840-1955

This series is arranged alphabetically by record type.

b. 11, f. 190-193	Business papers See also: box 23	1856-1898, undated
b. 11, f. 194-196	Contracts	1854-1884, undated
b. 11, f. 197-210	Financial papers	1840-1910, undated
b. 12, f. 211	Legal documents	1888-1955, undated
b. 12, f. 212	Memoranda book	1860-1865
b. 12, f. 213	Statements by Haupt	undated
	Topical files	
b. 12, f. 214-216	National Nutrient Company	1895-1916, undated
b. 12, f. 217-218	Northern Pacific Railroad	1881-1883, undated
	Volumes	
b. 12, f. 219	Diary: Mary E. Haupt	1846-1847
b. 12, f. 220	Ledger	1856-1861

Series III: HERMAN HAUPT CHAPMAN FILES, 1845-1984

This series is arranged by topic or record type.

b. 13, f. 221-240	<i>The Complete Biography of General Haupt</i>	[ca. 1950s]
b. 14, f. 241-248	<i>The Complete Biography of General Haupt</i>	[ca. 1950s]
b. 14, f. 249-255	Chronological notes, 1817-1863	[ca. 1950s]
b. 15, f. 256-269	Chronological notes, 1864-1889	[ca. 1950s]
b. 16, f. 270-291	Civil War	[ca. 1950s]
b. 17, f. 292-295	Haupt family records	[ca. 1950s]
b. 17, f. 296-309	Hoosac Tunnel	[ca. 1950s]
b. 18, f. 310-323	Hoosac Tunnel	[ca. 1950s]
b. 19, f. 324-330	Hoosac Tunnel	[ca. 1950s]
Photographs		
b. 20, f. 331	Haupt, Herman	1863-1899, undated
b. 20, f. 332-333	Haupt family members	1848, 1852, 1905, undated
b. 20, f. 334	Haupt family burial plots	Circa 1890, undated
b. 20, f. 335	Haupt family residences	1974, undated
b. 20, f. 336	Haupt medals and memorials	1867, undated
Haupt projects		
b. 20, f. 337-338	Civil War	Circa 1863
b. 20, f. 339-340	Diagrams and drawings	undated
b. 20, f. 341-342	Railroad	1863, 1954, undated
b. 21, f. 343	Individuals, A - M	undated
b. 21, f. 344	Letters and certificates	1852-1897, undated
b. 21, f. 345	Mountain Lake Hotel and environs, Mountain Lake, Va.	1915, undated
b. 21, f. 346	Printed material	1857, 1866
b. 21, f. 347	Railroad maps	undated
b. 21, f. 348	Railroad-related cartoon drawings	undated
b. 21, f. 382-385	Printed material	1845-1867

b. 22, f. 386-396 Printed material

1870-1984,
undated

b. 22, f. 397-403 Miscellanea

OVERSIZE

Herman Haupt papers
MS 269

OVERSIZE

b. 23

Patents, land records

1853-1872

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.

Subjects

Boring machinery
Engineering
Railroads -- United States
Railroad tunnels -- Massachusetts

Corporate Bodies

Colonial Haupt Association
National Nutrient Co
Northern Pacific Railway Company
Old Dominion Granite Co
Troy and Greenfield Railroad Company

Geographic Names

Gettysburg (Pa.)
Hoosac Tunnel (Mass.)
Mountain Lake (Va.)
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
-- Transportation

Genres / Formats

Diaries
Patents (license)

Occupations

Civil engineers

Names

Ackley, Thomas W.
Appleton, Edward
Belknap, Robert Lenox, 1848-1896
Cartwright, Henry
Chapman, Herman Haupt, 1874-1963
Galbraith, William A.
Griswold, John Augustus, 1822-1872
Haupt, Ann Cecelia, 1821-1891
Haupt, Herman, 1817-1905
Haupt, John Jacob, 1776-1828
Haupt, Lewis M. (Lewis Muhlenberg),
1844-1937
Haupt, Mary Elizabeth, 1828-
Hughes, Ethel Mary, 1875-
Keller, Benjamin, 1794-1864
Lane, Samuel M.
McDowell, Irvin, 1818-1885
Steever, Henry D.
Thomson, J. Edgar (John Edgar), 1808-1874
Urner, Florence H.
Woodman, Frank