

Guide to the Arthur Howe Jr. Papers

MS 1755



compiled by Tom Hyry and Robert Bartels

September 2000

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 1755

CREATOR: Howe, Arthur Jr.

TITLE: Arthur Howe Jr. papers

DATES: 1857-2012

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 9.17 linear feet (22 Boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The papers consist of correspondence, writings, and general files that document Arthur Howe Jr.'s service as Yale admissions dean, tenure on the Board of Directors of Hampton Institute, and family history.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1755>

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.1755>.

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

Gift of Arthur Howe Jr., 1999 and 2017.

Conditions Governing Access

The bulk of the materials are open for research. Accession 2018-M-0015 contains two student papers which are restricted until 1 January 2087 as established by Yale Corporation regulations <http://web.library.yale.edu/mssa/collections/research-use-of-yale-university-archives>.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

Arthur Howe, Jr. Papers (MS 1755). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

Arthur Howe, Jr. was born on July 19, 1921 in Watertown, Connecticut. He entered Yale University with the Class of 1943, obtaining a B.A. in 1947 after serving in the military during the Second World War. Howe held several administrative positions at Yale College, including assistant dean of freshman (1951-1953), director of admissions (1953-1955), and dean of admissions and student appointments (1955-1964). Beginning in 1964, Howe served as the president of the American Field Service. From 1955 to 1980, Howe also served on the board of trustees of Hampton Institute, which his grandfather, Samuel Chapman Armstrong, founded and his father, Arthur Howe, Sr., served as president. Howe was chair of the Hampton Institute board of trustees from 1957 to 1971. Arthur Howe, Jr. died in Essex, Connecticut on December 16, 2014.

Scope and Contents

The papers consist of correspondence, writings, and general files that document Arthur Howe Jr.'s service as Yale College admissions dean, tenure on the board of trustees of Hampton Institute, and family history. The collection includes an unpublished history of Hampton Institute by Edward Kidder Graham, articles and student papers on the history of Yale College admissions, and unpublished autobiographical writings and correspondence by Howe's grandfather, Samuel Chapman Armstrong.

Arrangement

Arranged in two series and one addition:

[I. Hampton Institute Files, 1902-1997.](#)

[II. Family Papers, 1857-1969.](#)

Collection Contents

Hampton Institute Files, 1902-1997

Arranged alphabetically, Hampton Institute (HI) Files include correspondence, memoranda, clippings, minutes, reports and other materials documenting Albert Howe Jr.'s tenure on the Board of Trustees of Hampton Institute, which he served from 1955 to 1980. As a member and chair (1957-1971) of the board, Howe was involved in and/or informed of many facets of the administration of Hampton, and the records in this series give substantive and substantial documentation of the school during this time period.

Nine folders of general correspondence are listed at the beginning of the series and arranged chronologically, but correspondence of a topical nature is interspersed throughout the records. Howe also kept separate files of correspondence and other materials for the presidents of Hampton with whom he served, including William Harvey, Jerome Holland, Roy Hudson, and Alonzo Moron, although letters to and from these men can also be found among the general correspondence. The general correspondence also includes letters to and from other Hampton officials and board members, including the anthropologist Margaret Mead, who served on the board with Howe. Other Mead materials are commingled among the Board of Trustees and "Howe Memorandum" sections of the series.

The bulk of the other records fall under one of the following headings: Board of Trustees; the "Howe Memorandum," and Graham, Edward Kidder. The most substantive records documenting the work of the Board of Trustees are located in the meetings and committee records. Other board materials are listed under the "Howe Memorandum." In 1976, Howe drafted a memorandum proposing that Hampton reorient its programs and mission towards the establishment of an academically rigorous preparatory school, aimed at readying African-American youth for admission to competitive colleges and universities. The idea was met with resistance and caused great controversy. The section includes materials that document the development of and reaction to the memorandum.

In the late 1960s, Edward Kidder Graham was commissioned to write a history of Hampton, which was not subsequently published. Filed under Graham, the series includes two drafts of the work, along with correspondence and research materials that give detailed information on the history of the institute.

b. 1, f. 1-9	General correspondence	1959-1987
b. 1, f. 10	Academic affairs committee	1980
b. 1, f. 11	Academic appeals	1960, 1961
b. 1, f. 12	Ad hoc committee on athletics	1975
b. 1, f. 13	Ad hoc task force on non-traditional self study	1977-1980
b. 1, f. 14	Benton, William	1958-1962
b. 1, f. 15	Black power and black identification [Hampton Institute position paper; includes correspondence with the NAACP]	1965-1983
	Board of Trustees	
	See:	
	Series I, folder 163	
b. 2, f. 16	Bylaws	1970, 1975, undated
	Committees	

Board of Trustees > Committees (continued)

b. 2, f. 17-21	Executive	1960-1980
b. 2, f. 22-25	Faculty/Board relationships	1959-1980
	Investment	
b. 2, f. 26-29	Correspondence, memoranda, and reports	1969-1975
b. 3, f. 30-32	Correspondence, memoranda, and reports	1976-1980
b. 3, f. 33	Special report on the permanent endowment investment record from 1944 to 1964	undated
b. 3, f. 34	Nominating	1974-1978
b. 3, f. 35-36	Student relationships	1967-1979
b. 3, f. 37	Financial contributions from members	1975-1978
b. 3, f. 38-40	Mailing lists and membership	1955-1984
b. 3, f. 41-46	Meetings [includes correspondence, memoranda, minutes, and reports]	1959-1979 June
b. 4, f. 47-48	Meetings [includes correspondence, memoranda, minutes, and reports]	1979 October-1980
	Photographs	
b. 4, f. 49	Retreat	1975-1977
b. 4, f. 50	Trusteeship	
b. 4, f. 51	Bodein, Vernon [minister of Hampton Institute]	1970
b. 4, f. 52	Budget and finance committee	1960, 1961, 1978
b. 4, f. 53	Buildings and grounds	1958, 1961, 1979
b. 4, f. 54	Camper, M. Arthur [minister of Hampton Institute]	1958-1959
b. 4, f. 55	Centennial Medallion Citation	1971
b. 4, f. 56	Chambers, Dwight [chair of Medieval Languages	1969
b. 4, f. 59-62	Committee on the instruction program	1956-1979
b. 4, f. 63-64	Convocation [correspondence and publications]	1960-1961
b. 4, f. 65	Development	1974, 1976
	Faculty	
b. 5, f. 66	Dismissals	1965-1970
b. 5, f. 67	Resignations	1957-1975
b. 5, f. 68	Statistics and racial diversity	1957-1958, 1978
b. 5, f. 69	Ford Foundation	1974-1975

b. 5, f. 70	Founder's Day	1956-1969
b. 5, f. 71	Frissell, Sydney Dodd [essay entitled "Camp Hampton," which recalls the early days of Hampton Institute]	undated
	Graham, Edward Kidder. "A Tender Violence: The Life of Hampton Institute in Relation to its Time" [centennial history of Hampton Institute]	
b. 5, f. 72-77	First draft	undated
b. 6, f. 78-84	Final draft	undated
	Correspondence See also: Series I, folders 59-60	
b. 6, f. 85-86	General	1966-1973
b. 7, f. 87-91	Howe, Margaret Armstrong	1966-1970
b. 7, f. 92-93	Research materials	undated
b. 7, f. 94	Miscellaneous	1967-1969, undated
	Hampton Institute Commission	
b. 7, f. 95	Charge	1969
b. 7, f. 96-100	Correspondence and memoranda	1969-1971
b. 8, f. 101-103	Meetings [agendas, minutes, and reports]	1969-1970
	Harvey, William [president of Hampton Institute]	
b. 8, f. 104-105	Clippings	1978-1991
b. 8, f. 106-107	Correspondence	1978-1988
b. 8, f. 108	Hill, Carl M.	1976
b. 8, f. 109	History [correspondence and notes on the history of Hampton Institute]	1962, 1975
	Holland, Jerome [president of Hampton Institute]	
b. 8, f. 110	Appointment as ambassador to Sweden	1970-1971
b. 8, f. 111	Inauguration	1961
	Resignation	
b. 8, f. 112	General	1969
b. 8, f. 113	Clippings	1969
b. 8, f. 114	"The Fulfillment of a Pledge: A Decade (1960-1970) at Hampton Institute" English	1969

Holland, Jerome [president of Hampton Institute] > Resignation (continued)

b. 8, f. 115	Letters of support	1969
b. 8, f. 116	Honors Day program	1976, 1978
b. 8, f. 117	Hospital board	1960
"Howe Memorandum"		
b. 9, f. 118	General [includes the memorandum]	1976
b. 9, f. 119	Adams Consultants meeting	1979, 1982
Background material		
b. 9, f. 120	Correspondence	1976-1982
b. 9, f. 121-124	Clippings	1932, 1976-1997
b. 9, f. 125	Notes	1968-1996
b. 9, f. 126-127	Publications	1975-1996
b. 10, f. 128-130	Reports	1926, 1971-1982
b. 10, f. 131	Study committee	1975-1976
Reaction to memorandum		
b. 10, f. 132	Board of Trustees memoranda	1976-1977
b. 10, f. 133	Clippings	1976
b. 10, f. 134-136	Correspondence	1976
b. 10, f. 137	Notes	1975-1979
b. 10, f. 138	Howe, Arthur Sr. [memorandum on the establishment of a vocational junior college], ca. 1938	
Hudson, Roy [president of Hampton Institute]		
b. 10, f. 139	General	1970-1975
b. 10, f. 140	Resignation	1975
b. 11, f. 141	Indiana Conference on Higher Education	1967
b. 11, f. 142	James Foundation	1958-1964
b. 11, f. 143	Letters of complaint	1959-1971
b. 11, f. 144	Letters of encouragement	1960-1976
b. 11, f. 145	Lindsay, Donal	1970-1986
b. 11, f. 146	Long-range Planning Council	1978
b. 11, f. 147	Martin, William [acting president of Hampton Institute]	1959-1960
Moron, Alonzo G.		

Moron, Alonzo G. (continued)

Resignation

b. 11, f. 148	Clippings	1959
b. 11, f. 149-155	Correspondence and notes	1957-1959
b. 11, f. 156	Virgin Island Leadership Training Program	1959-1960
b. 11, f. 157	National Hampton Alumni Association	1959-1962, 1975, 1978
b. 11, f. 158	Notes [miscellaneous]	1958, 1987
b. 11, f. 159	"Official Hampton" [publication listing trustees, officers, faculty, student organizations, and enrollment figures] English	1958
b. 11, f. 160	The Oram Group	1975-1979
b. 11, f. 161	Patterson, Frederic [proposal to increase school endowment]	1972
	Photographs See also: Series II, folder 58	
b. 12, f. 162	General	1950, undated
b. 12, f. 163	Board of Trustees	undated
b. 12, f. 164	Howe, Arthur Sr.	1937, 1940, undated
b. 12, f. 165	Postcards	undated
b. 12, f. 166	President's report	1960-1961
b. 12, f. 167	Price Waterhouse and Co. [fundraising information]	1975-1987
b. 12, f. 168	Profile of Hampton Institute	undated
b. 12, f. 169	Publications	1956-1989
b. 12, f. 170-171	Retirement of Arthur Howe Jr. as chairman of the Board of Trustees [tributes]	1972
b. 12, f. 172	Roosevelt, Eleanor [visit to Hampton Institute]	1938, 1949
b. 12, f. 173	St. Cyprian's Church	1957-1959
b. 12, f. 174	Salary and pension disputes	1966-1976
b. 12, f. 175	Scholarships	1958-1976
b. 12, f. 176-178	Search committee for president of Hampton Institute	1976-1979
b. 12, f. 179	Secretary of the college	1961-1967
b. 12, f. 180	Southern Association of Colleges and Schools	1968, 1977

b. 13, f. 181-182	Speeches and notes	1938-1997
b. 13, f. 183	Student enrollment	1974-1980
b. 13, f. 184	Student government	1968-1970
b. 13, f. 185-188	Student protests at Hampton Institute	1969, 1971
b. 13, f. 189-191	Student protests nationwide	1968-1970
b. 13, f. 192	Student publications	1969-1986
b. 13, f. 193	Thomas, Edgar R.	1969
b. 13, f. 194	Visits to Hampton Institute [correspondence and itineraries]	1962, 1973
b. 13, f. 195	White, Alfred T.	1989
b. 13, f. 196	Whiteman, Harold B.	1978

Family Papers, 1857-1969

Arranged alphabetically by name of family member, the series includes correspondence (both photocopies and originals), photographs, writings, and other materials primarily documenting the ancestors of Arthur Howe Jr. The most substantial and substantive material relates to Howe's grandfather, Samuel Chapman Armstrong, Civil War general and founder of Hampton Institute. The series includes a small amount of Armstrong's correspondence with family and associates, manuscript and typescript copies of the unpublished "Personal Memories and Letters of General Samuel Chapman Armstrong" (edited posthumously by Helen Ludlow), journal fragments, and other writings.

The series also holds materials relating to Clarissa Chapman Armstrong (great-grandmother), Arthur Howe Sr., and Margaret Armstrong Howe (mother). Five folders of miscellaneous and unidentified correspondence, clippings, and photographs are listed at the end of the series.

See also:

[Series II, folder 13](#)

b. 14, f. 1	Inventory of family papers [prepared by Edward K. Graham]	1969
	Armstrong, Clarissa Chapman	
	See:	
	Series II, folder 8	
b. 14, f. 2	"Clarissa Chapman Armstrong" [biographical pamphlet by Helen Ludlow] English	undated
	Correspondence	
b. 14, f. 3	Journal entries [typed transcript of 1831 original]	undated
b. 14, f. 4	Photograph	undated
	Armstrong, Richard	
b. 14, f. 5	Journal entries [typed transcript of 1831-1832 original]	undated
b. 14, f. 6	Photograph and obituary	undated
	Armstrong, Samuel Chapman	
	Correspondence	
b. 14, f. 7	Armstrong, Carrie [sister]	1884, 1890
b. 14, f. 8	Armstrong, Clarissa Chapman	1885-1888
b. 14, f. 9	Folsom, Cora	1885
b. 14, f. 10	Foote, Henry W. [includes two letters to Mrs. Foote]	1880-1889
b. 14, f. 11	Gassman, John G.	1885
b. 14, f. 12	Hopkins, Archibald	1865-1868, undated
b. 14, f. 13	Howe, Albert	1870, 1891
b. 14, f. 14	King, Josiah [photocopy]	1867

Armstrong, Samuel Chapman > Correspondence (continued)

b. 14, f. 15	Lyons, Lucia	1890
b. 14, f. 16	Washington, Booker T. [photocopies]	1889, 1892
b. 14, f. 17	Weaver, Ellen Armstrong [includes one letter to Phillip Weaver]	1862, 1881-1891
b. 14, f. 18	"Impressions of General Armstrong" [written by George Davis English]	undated
b. 14, f. 19	Journal	1857-1858
	"Personal Memories and Letters of General Samuel Chapman Armstrong" [edited by Helen Ludlow]	
	Manuscript	
b. 14, f. 20	Table of contents	undated
b. 14, f. 21-28	Introduction-Chapter 15	undated
b. 15, f. 29-35	Chapter 16-22	undated
	Typescript	
b. 15, f. 36-39	Introduction-Chapter 10	undated
b. 16, f. 40-49	Chapter 11-22	undated
b. 16, f. 50	Photographs	undated
b. 16, f. 51	"Reminiscences" English	undated
b. 16, f. 52	Testimonials	1886-1893
b. 16, f. 53	Hawaiian Mission Children's Society [includes photocopies of letters from 1848 and 1867 detailing the family's missionary work in Hawaii]	1967, undated
b. 17, f. 54	Howe, Albert	1890, 1891
	Howe, Arthur Sr. See also: Series I, folder 164	
b. 17, f. 55	"Address at Meeting of the Boston Chapter of the N.A.A.C.P." English	1936
b. 17, f. 56	Clippings	1936, 1937
b. 17, f. 57	Memorabilia	1916
b. 17, f. 58	Photograph	undated
	Howe, Margaret Armstrong See also: Series I, folders 87-91	

Howe, Margaret Armstrong (continued)

b. 17, f. 59-60	Correspondence [primarily with Suzanne Carlson and Sydney Frissell]	1950-1966, undated
b. 17, f. 61	Writings	1913
b. 17, f. 62	Scoville, Samuel A. [correspondence relating to other Armstrong family related materials]	1953
b. 17, f. 63	Clippings [miscellaneous]	1966, undated
b. 17, f. 64-65	Correspondence [unidentified and miscellaneous], 1894	1931-1940, undated
b. 17, f. 66-67	Photographs [unidentified and miscellaneous]	undated

Accession 2018-M-0015: Additional Material, 1890-2012*2.17 linear feet (4 boxes)*

The accession contains material documenting Arthur Howe's career in Yale College admissions, including his efforts to introduce coeducation to Yale undergraduates and admit a more diverse student body. Contains articles and two student essays on the history of admissions at Yale. Also includes material on the Hampton Institute, which was founded by Howe's grandfather, Samuel Chapman Armstrong, as well as citations from the Hampton Institute and the Commonwealth of Virginia for Arthur Howe Jr., as well as his father, Arthur Howe Sr., and his mother, Margaret Howe.

The materials are open for research. Two student papers on Yale College admissions and coeducation are restricted until 1 January 2087 as established by Yale Corporation regulations <http://web.library.yale.edu/mssa/collections/research-use-of-yale-university-archives>.

The accession is arranged into five groupings: Yale College admissions, correspondence, Hampton Institute files, research files and talks, and personal files.

Yale College admissions		
b. 1, f. 1	Antisemitism, Jewish enrollment at Yale College	2000–2006
b. 1, f. 2	Articles	1956–2012
b. 1, f. 3	Coeducation	1956–2009
b. 1, f. 4-8	General files	1954–2012
b. 1, f. 9	Notes on Southern Rhodesia interviews	1964
b. 1, f. 10	Selection- admissions and information	2003–2012
b. 4, f. 1-2	Student papers on Yale College admissions and coeducation Student records are restricted until 1 January 2087 as established by Yale Corporation regulations http://web.library.yale.edu/mssa/collections/research-use-of-yale-university-archives .	1990–2000
Correspondence		
b. 1, f. 11	Cory, Christopher	2001–2004
b. 1, f. 12	Department of Education (Civil Rights)	1982–1984
b. 1, f. 13	Farrell, Gregory	1963
b. 1, f. 14	Kabaservice, Geoffrey	1991–1995
b. 1, f. 15	Sleeper, Jim	2003–2012
Hampton Institute files		
b. 3, f. 1	Citation for Margaret A. Howe	1968
b. 3, f. 2	Citation presenting Arthur Howe Jr. as a candidate for the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters	1965
b. 3, f. 3	Citations for Arthur Howe Jr.	1968–1972
b. 1, f. 16	Early photographs	Circa 1890s

Hampton Institute files (continued)

b. 1, f. 17	Hampton Alumni Record	1961–1965
b. 1, f. 18	Howe, Arthur, Jr. file	1976–2004
b. 1, f. 19	Howe, Arthur, Sr., acceptance as president of institute	1926–1930
b. 2, f. 1	Howe, Arthur, Sr., resignation	1938–1940
Research files and talks		
b. 2, f. 2	Affirmative Action	1982–2010
b. 2, f. 3	In Memory of our Beloved Nellie P. Elliott	1977
b. 2, f. 4	Why Pomfret?	1975
Personal		
b. 3, f. 4	Citation for Arthur Howe Sr., representative to The Institute of Public Affairs, University of Virginia	1931
b. 3, f. 5	Citation for Arthur Howe Sr., to represent Virginia at National Negro Day at California Pacific International Exposition, San Diego, California	1935
b. 2, f. 5	Howe, Arthur, Jr., personal letters	1941–1955
b. 2, f. 6	Yale College and state house print	Circa 1930
b. 2, f. 7	Yale College class of 1961 50th reunion	2011

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

African Americans -- Education (Higher)
Reconstruction (U.S. history, 1865-1877)
Universities and colleges, Black

Names

Armstrong, S. C. (Samuel Chapman), 1839-1893
Howe, Arthur, 1890-1955
Howe, Arthur Jr.
Mead, Margaret, 1901-1978

Corporate Body

Hampton Institute