

Johnson, William Martin, Papers

William Martin Johnson Papers

1932-1977



Title Statement

Johnson, William Martin, PapersWilliam Martin Johnson Papers, 1932-1977 Ms.1982.017

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.1982.017

Unit Date

1932-1977

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

The William Martin Johnson Papers include both personal and professional correspondence, ranging from November 1932 to March 1977. Johnson wrote to representatives at Public Works, American Society of Civil Engineers, the Department of Architectural Engineering at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, and the War Assets Administration, among others. Johnson (1904-1991) graduated from VPI in 1928 and worked as a Civil Engineer for Wiley and Wilson in Lynchburg, Virginia.

Creator

Johnson, William Martin, 1904-1991

Extent

0.6 Cubic Feet 3 boxes

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the William Martin Johnson Papers was completed in April 2015.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], William Martin Johnson Papers, Ms1982-017, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

William Martin Johnson was born to Ormond Watson and Minnie (Martin) Johnson on July 6, 1904. He graduated with B.S. in Civil Engineering in 1928 from Virginia Polytechnic Institute. He went on to work as a Civil Engineer for Wiley and Wilson, consulting engineers in Lynchburg, Virginia, eventually becoming chairman of the company board. He also wrote a book about the company, *A history of Wiley & Wilson, Inc. : a professional organization since 1901 / a first person narrative history by William Martin Johnson* ([s.i.]: W. M. Johnson, copyright 1986).

During World War II, Johnson served in the Construction unit of the Sanitary Corps from May 1943 until May 1946, rising to the rank of Captain.

Johnson died on December 8, 1991, and is buried alongside his family in the Spring Hill Cemetery in Lynchburg. He served at least 31 months in Mexico.

External sources:

Card for William Martin Johnson, Class of 1928 section, Box 5, V.P.I. Alumni Association World War II Alumni Cards, RG 29d, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

William Martin Johnson death certificate in the Virginia, U.S., Death Records, 1912-2014, Ancestry.com, <https://www.ancestrylibrary.com/discoveryui-content/view/4855641:9278>, accessed April 22, 2024.

"William Martin Johnson", Findagrave.com, https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/124169388/william_martin_johnson, accessed April 22, 2024.

Scope and Content

The William Martin Johnson Papers include both personal and professional correspondence, ranging from November 1932 to March 1977. Johnson wrote to representatives at Public Works, American Society of Civil Engineers, the Department of Architectural Engineering at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, and the War Assets Administration, among others. His letters discuss matters related to Civil Engineering. There are two photographs: one of Virginia Episcopal School, and one of Longwood College in Farmville, Virginia. This collection also features issues of *The Newcomen Bulletin for North America* from January 1963 to May 1973.

Keywords

Local/Regional History and Appalachian South

Science and Technology

Students and alumni

University History

Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College and Polytechnic Institute (1896-1944)

Virginia Polytechnic Institute (1944-1970)

Rights Statement for Archival Description

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Arrangement

The William Martin Johnson Papers is organized in three series by material type. **Series I: Correspondence** includes personal and professional correspondence to and from Johnson between 1937 and about 1977. The majority of the letters relating to civil engineering topics. **Series II: *The Newcomen Bulletin for North America*** contains a collection of bulletins dating between 1963 and 1973. This series includes most, if not all, issues between 1963 and 1969, as well as scattered issues between 1970 and 1973. **Series III: Papers and Ephemera** consists of reports, newspaper clippings, photographs, and other personal papers.

Description of Subordinate Components

Series I: Correspondence

Unit Date 1932-1977, n.d.

Unit Date November 17, 1932-December 16, 1936

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Unit Date January 18, 1937-December 18, 1937

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Unit Date January 12, 1938-December 20, 1939

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Unit Date January 1, 1940-May 16, 1940

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Unit Date June 5, 1940-April 12, 1944

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Unit Date May 23, 1944-April 1, 1947

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Unit Date April 7, 1947-September 25, 1947

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Unit Date October 9, 1947-November 21, 1949

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Unit Date January 3, 1950-June 13, 1951

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Unit Date June 20, 1951-March 7, 1952

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Unit Date March 18, 1952-October 8, 1952

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Unit Date October 15, 1952-January 9, 1961
box-folder 2 (box)
Container 3 (folder)
Unit Date September 15, 1961-March 28, 1977
box-folder 2 (box)
Container 4 (folder)

Undated
box-folder 2 (box)
Container 5-6 (folder)

Series II: The Newcomen Bulletin for North America

Unit Date 1963-1973
Unit Date January 24, 1963-December 5, 1963
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 2 (folder)
Unit Date January 17, 1964-December 3, 1964
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 3 (folder)
Unit Date January 28, 1965-December 2, 1965
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 4 (folder)
Unit Date January 20, 1966-December 1, 1966
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 5 (folder)
Unit Date January 20, 1967-December 7, 1967
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 6 (folder)
Unit Date January 25, 1968-December 5, 1968
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 7 (folder)
Unit Date January 23, 1969-December 4, 1969
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 8 (folder)
Unit Date January 2, 1970-May 23, 1973
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 9 (folder)

Series III: Papers and Ephemera

Reservation Coupons and Papers

box-folder 3 (box)
Container 1 (folder)

Newspaper Clippings and Letter from Nixon

box-folder 3 (box)
Container 10 (folder)

Photographs

box-folder 3 (box)
Container 11 (folder)

"Three Historic Documents of the Washington Family" Folder

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

"Environmental Considerations Related to the Army Package Power Reactor"

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 13 (folder)