



The New York Public Library
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

Carnegie Corporation of New York correspondence

1895-1943 [bulk 1901-1912]

MssCol 475

Compiled by Richard Salvato, 1985. Revised by Susan M. Kline, 2016.

Summary

Creator: Carnegie Corporation of New York

Title: Carnegie Corporation of New York correspondence

Date: 1895-1943 [bulk 1901-1912]

Size: .21 linear feet (1 box)

Source: City of New York via the Carnegie Corporation of New York, 1951

Abstract: The Carnegie Corporation was founded in 1911 by Andrew Carnegie to continue his philanthropic work after his death. In 1901 Carnegie offered the City of New York 5.2 million dollars to establish a branch library system. The collection consists of correspondence that chronicles the creation of these circulating libraries. The bulk of the letters dated 1901-1912 were sent to Andrew Carnegie by John Shaw Billings, Director of the New York Public Library. The correspondence discusses the Carnegie gift, cost estimates and specific sites for branches, library needs, and plans to finance ongoing library operations. Other correspondence pertains to branch libraries in Brooklyn and Queens including letters relating to the proposed merger of the Brooklyn Library and the Brooklyn Public Library.

Preferred citation: Carnegie Corporation of New York correspondence, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library.

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Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic
Correspondence

Subjects
Endowments
Libraries -- New York (State) -- New York

Library buildings -- New York (State) -- New York
Public libraries -- New York (State) -- New York

Geographic Names

New York (N.Y.)

Occupations

Philanthropists

Names

Billings, John S. (John Shaw), 1838-1913

Carnegie, Andrew, 1835-1919

Brooklyn Public Library

New York Public Library

Queens Borough Public Library

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 1895-1900
Chiefly requests for funds from the Free Circulating Library (New York City), the Boys Free Reading Room of the Loyal Legion Temperance Society in Pennsylvania, and news clippings about the founding of the New York Public Library.
- b. 1 f. 2 1901
- b. 1 f. 3 1902-1911
- b. 1 f. 4 1912-1943
Chiefly correspondence regarding libraries in Queens
- b. 1 f. 5 1901-1920
Correspondence regarding libraries in Brooklyn