

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION
ACCESSION SHEET

Accession # 82 M 24

Location 4-e-4(2)

Title WILLIAM MILLS IVINS. Papers

Approximate inclusive dates 1886-1907

Date of receipt April 19, 1982

Received from Barbara Ivins

Volume on arrival

Number of boxes (after reboxing) 1 FB, 2 AB

Condition Good

Restrictions None

Description William Mills Ivins (1851-1915) was a New York City lawyer and municipal reformer. In the nineteenth century he held several city offices, protested inadequate or wasteful municipal services and procedures, and was a founder of the Reform Club. In 1893, he had served as counsel for the Brazilian government in a boundary dispute with Argentina which was arbitrated by the United States. Ivins unsuccessfully ran for Mayor of New York City in 1905 on the Republican ticket. In addition, he frequently wrote about municipal problems and the history and theory of the law.

One half of this collection consists of Ivins' writings. These range from short notes to essays on many topics, but with political and legal theory predominating. There are also approximately 90 letters Ivins received as a mayoral candidate in 1905. Most of these offer congratulations on his nomination, but some make substantive comments about the campaign. In addition, the collection contains letters and legal papers concerning his work for the Brazilian government (1886-1893) and a legal brief by William N. Cromwell concerning legal fees for matters related to the Panama Canal (1907).

Container Listing

<u>Box</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	1905 Campaign Materials Photograph Writings and Essays	3	Brazil-Argentina Arbitration Case Panama Canal Brief

2 Writings

Special Formats Photographs Maps Audio Tapes Films Graphics
 Artifacts Machine-readable records
 Other (list) _____

Temporary catalog card added entries: Cromwell, William N.; Argentina; Brazil; Law--
History & Criticism; Municipal government; New York (City)--Politics and government;
Panama Canal; Photographs; Republican Party. New York (City); 1876-1900; 1901-1925

Accessioned by Robert Sink

Date 5/13/82

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION
ACCESSION SHEET

Accession # 86 M 34

Location Annex 25-L-3/6 (R)

Title Ivins Family Papers (Additions)

Approximate inclusive dates 1885-1961; bulk dates 1900-1946

Date of receipt 3-11-85

Received from Barbara Ivins

Volume on arrival 8 cartons

Number of boxes (after reboxing) 8 AB, 7 RC, 4 FB 12 Linear feet

Condition good

Restrictions none

Description Family members represented in the Ivins Family Papers include: (1881-1961) William Mills Ivins (see other accession sheet). William Mills Ivins, Jr. was the first Curator of Prints at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City from 1917-1946, Associate Director of the museum from 1933-1938, and Acting Director from 1938-1940. Trained as an attorney, Ivins was reared with a strong feeling for the importance of the arts, and developed a keen appreciation for prints as an amateur. Though he possessed no formal training in art history, he became a highly respected curator, authority on prints, printmaking and the book arts, and author of many articles and books including How Prints Look (1943) and the seminal Prints and Visual Communication (1953). After his retirement from the museum, he continued to write and lecture from his home in Connecticut. Mrs. Emma Yard Ivins, wife of William Mills Ivins, Sr. (ca.1857-1940) was active in the women's suffrage movement. Katherine Ivins, daughter of William Mills Ivins, Sr. was a teacher of piano and violin. The Ivins Family Papers are comprised of the correspondence, writings, notes, legal and financial records of William Ivin, Sr.; the correspondence, writings, notes and diaries of William Ivins, Jr. correspondence of other family members, family personal miscellany, photographs and graphic materials, and printed matter.

The correspondence (ca. 1890-1915) of William Ivins, Sr. concerns his activities as a prominent New York attorney and reform politician, his activity in the rubber business in South America, as well as his extensive travels there, other business ventures abroad, the National Civic Federation (Ivins was a member of the committee on Free Speech and Freedom of Assembly), the Equal Franchise Society, and his position as special counsel to the Public Utilities Commission, and the Public Services Commission, which both investigated New York City Subway and Transit service ca. 1910. Correspondents include Ralph M Easley, Benjamin Harrison, and John Quinn. (continued)

Special Formats Photographs Maps Audio Tapes Films Graphics
 Artifacts Machine-readable records
 Other (list) paintings

Temporary catalog card added entries
see attached sheets

Accessioned by CRK

Date 5-15-86

Ivins Family Papers
Continued

The writings of William Ivins, Sr. are largely unpublished include such subjects as the history of diplomacy, both in the US and abroad, commentaries on the philosophy of law, South American and New York politics, suffrage, religion, and the writings of Freidrich Wilhelm Nietzsche, as well as a multi-volume memo on the Sherman Anti-Trust Act. Also included in the papers of William Ivins Sr are personal legal and financial papers, as well as those relating to several of his associates, including W.R. Grace Company, and Joseph Flint Company.

The papers of William Ivins, Jr. include a small amount of family correpondence, but is mainly comprised of his articles, published and unpublished lectures, notes and diaries on the subject of the book arts and book illustration; the history of prints and print-making; his pioneering work on art, geometry, mathematics and the development of perspective; commentary on the Anatomy of Vesalius; and museum administration. His notes and diaries include his scholarly works, as well as reflections on his long career as the first Curator of Prints, and his terms as Associate and Acting Director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Other Ivins family correspondence is comprised of that of Mrs. Emma Yard Ivins Katherine Ivins. A portion of Mrs. Ivins' correspondence relates to political and suffrage issues in which she was active, but the bulk of the letters, as well as those of Katherine Ivins, are from William Ivins, Jr., and detail his career at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Included are his views on his colleagues at the museum, museum policy and administration, curatorshsip, the collecting of art in general and prints in particular, and the relationship of art and museums to society.

The remainder of the Ivins Family Papers consists of Personal Miscellany: songbooks and lyric sheets; Photographs and Graphic Materials: family portraits and snapshots, and art work by family members; and Printed Matter: largely legal materials relating to the practice o William Ivins, Sr. , materials relating to his South American rubber business activities, and Mormon materials from Anthony Ivins, a cousin in Utah prominent in the Mormon Church.

Ivins Family Papers

Container Listing

Contents

William Ivins, Sr.

Box

1 Correspondence ca. 1885-1915
Writings ca. 1890-1915
2-4 Writings ca. 1890-1915
5-7 Notes
8 Financial and Legal Records ca. 1885-1900
Minutes, New York City Charter Commission, 1908
Awards, Cerificates, Diplomas

William Ivins, Jr.

9 Correspondence
10-11 Writings ca. 1925-1955
Lectures ca. 1925-1950
Notes and Diaries ca. 1900-1940

Ivins Family Correspondence

12 Mrs. E.Y. Ivins family correspondence ca. 1910-1935
13 Mrs. E.Y. Ivins family and political correspondence,
ca. 1910-1935
Ms Katherine Ivins, letters from William Ivins, Jr.
1930, 1958-1960
Unsorted Family Correspondence

Family Personal Miscellany

14 Songbooks, lyric sheets

Photographs and Graphic Materials

15 Photographs
16 Unframed graphic materials
17 Framed graphic materials

Printed Matter

18-19