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Andrew C. Imbrie Papers, 1895-1947: Finding Aid

Summary Information

Call number:	AC002
Location:	Princeton University Library. Department of Rare Books and Special Collections. Seeley G. Mudd Manuscript Library. Princeton University Archives. 65 Olden Street Princeton, New Jersey 08540 USA
Size:	1.26 linear feet (1 box)
Language(s) of material:	English.
Abstract:	The Papers of Andrew C. Imbrie, Class of 1895, (1875-1965) provide information on his undergraduate years, his service as an alumni trustee from 1907 until 1912 (including a period as Financial Secretary of the Princeton University Board of Trustees (1909-1912) during which he had charge of reorganization of the business management of the University leading to the creation of what became the Office of the Controller) and his family's genealogy.

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Biography of Andrew C. Imbrie

Biographical details may be obtained from Imbrie's alumni file. He was elected an alumni trustee in 1907, and in 1909 the Trustees created the office of Financial Secretary of the Board to oversee business interests in cooperation with the President, to attend meetings of the Committees on Finance, Grounds and Buildings, and Library and Apparatus in order to coordinate the business departments of the University. Following Imbrie's departure from the Board in 1912, the Financial Secretary's office was abolished and a new Office of Secretary of Business Administration was created to function as the executive for the Committee on Grounds and Buildings. Imbrie remained active on the Graduate Council following his departure from the Board of Trustees.

Description

Consists of papers of Imbrie (Princeton Class of 1895), including undergraduate letters sent home (1891-1895), Princeton University records (1906-1942), and an Imbrie family genealogy. Among subjects touched frequently in his student letters to his parents are housing, campus customs, campus organizations, buildings and grounds, the course of study, campus figures, honors, football, and skating on the local canal. Also among the papers are correspondence, clippings, and reports related to Imbrie's service as financial secretary; clippings, correspondence, and publications regarding the Graduate School controversy that occurred while Imbrie held his university office; records, correspondence, reports, publications, and clippings on Princeton architecture and the "Quad Plan"; and memoranda and reports on the progress of the reorganization of student social life at Princeton. In addition, the papers contain a four-volume compilation entitled *Family Record of Andrew Welsh Imbrie and Frances Frazer Imbrie*, written by Imbrie, which contains records of the Imbrie, Clerk, Welsh, and Frazer families.

Series 1: Student Correspondence, 1891-1895

Imbrie's letters home touch on a variety of subjects, most notably housing (boarding houses and dorms, including sketches of floor plans), interclass competition (including hazing and snowball fights), campus customs (the Rush, cane spree, painting the Cannon, step singing, top spinning in front of Reunion Hall by seniors), campus organizations (Philadelphian Society, New York Club, class elections, debates, Whig Society, eating clubs [O.D.V.], Nassau Lit, Monday Night Club), buildings and grounds (Alexander Hall, East Hall, Brokaw Pool, student telegraph system [including a map of system], installation of telephones on campus), the course of study (excuses, cuts at chapel, Patton's advice on specialization, creation of the honor system in 1893, essays, junior orations, disciplinary system), campus figures (faculty nicknames, Jimmy Stink, hiring of a proctor), honors (Baird Prize, sophomore essay prize, election as class secretary for life and its duties), football and skating on the canal. Of interest are Imbrie's attitudes toward blacks (especially the pot scrubbers who cleaned his room), Italians and Jews and his description of Coxey's Army's visit to Princeton in 1895.

Series 2: Princeton University Records, 1906-1947

This series includes files maintained by Imbrie regarding the University. They include correspondence, clippings and reports related to Imbrie's service as Financial Secretary; clippings, correspondence and publications regarding the Graduate School controversy which occurred while Imbrie held his University office; records, correspondence, reports, publications clippings on Princeton architecture and the "Quad Plan;" correspondence and records relating to the Graduate Council Freshman Honor Prize; and memoranda and

reports on the progress of reorganization of student social life at Princeton.

The portion of these papers related to the Office of Financial Secretary constitute the only official record of the functioning of that office.

Series 3: Imbrie Family Genealogy compiled, 1931-1945

This is a four-volume compilation entitled "Family Record of Andrew Welsh Imbrie and Frances Frazer Imbrie" written by Andrew C. Imbrie and presented to the Princeton University Library in 1946. Included are records of the Imbrie, Clerk, Welsh and Frazer families.

Arrangement

Organized into the following series:

Series 1: Student Correspondence, 1891-1895

Series 2: Princeton University Records, 1906-1947

Series 3: Imbrie Family Genealogy compiled, 1931-1945

Access and Use

Access

Access to the papers is open to all scholars who complete an access to manuscripts form.

Restrictions on Use and Copyright Information

Single photocopies may be made for research purposes. Permission to publish material from the collection must be requested from the University Archivist. The Library has no information on the status of literary rights in the collection and researchers are responsible for determining any question of copyright.

Acquisition and Appraisal

Provenance and Acquisition

The Papers were given to Princeton by Imbrie in 1945, 1946 and 1957.

Accession Numbers: AM 13141, 13490, 15919

Processing and Other Information

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Andrew C. Imbrie Papers, Box and Folder Number; University Archives, Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, Princeton University Library.

Encoding

Machine-readable finding aid encoded in EAD 2002 by Techbooks and Cristela García-Spitz on December 23, 2006.

Descriptive Rules Used

Finding aid content adheres to that prescribed by *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.

Subject Headings

These materials have been indexed in the [Princeton University Library online catalog](#) using the following terms. Those seeking related materials should search under these terms.

- Imbrie, Andrew C. (Andrew Clerk), 1875-1965.
- Princeton University -- Students -- 19th century.
- Princeton University. Graduate College -- Location.
- Princeton University -- Architecture.
- Princeton University -- Students -- Social conditions.
- College students -- Social conditions -- New Jersey -- Princeton.
- Genealogies.
- Letters.
- Reports.
- Princeton University

Contents List

Series 1: Student Correspondence, 1891-1895 (1 box)

Series Description

Imbrie's letters home touch on a variety of subjects, most notably housing (boarding houses and dorms, including sketches of floor plans), interclass competition (including hazing and snowball fights), campus customs (the Rush, cane spree, painting the Cannon, step singing, top spinning in front of Reunion Hall by seniors), campus organizations (Philadelphian Society, New York Club, class elections, debates, Whig Society, eating clubs [O.D.V.], Nassau Lit, Monday Night Club), buildings and grounds (Alexander Hall, East Hall, Brokaw Pool, student telegraph system [including a map of system], installation of telephones on campus), the course of study (excuses, cuts at chapel, Patton's advice on specialization, creation of the honor system in 1893, essays, junior orations, disciplinary system), campus figures (faculty nicknames, Jimmy Stink, hiring of a proctor), honors (Baird Prize, sophomore essay prize, election as class secretary for life and its duties), football and skating on the canal. Of interest are Imbrie's attitudes toward blacks (especially the pot scrubbers who cleaned his room), Italians and Jews and his description of Coxey's Army's visit to Princeton in 1895.

Series Arrangement

Arranged chronologically.

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>
Correspondence home from Princeton, 1891-1895	1	1-20

Series 2: Princeton University Records, 1906-1947 (1 box)

Series Description

This series includes files maintained by Imbrie regarding the University. They include correspondence, clippings and reports related to Imbrie's service as Financial Secretary; clippings, correspondence and publications regarding the Graduate School controversy which occurred while Imbrie held his University office; records, correspondence, reports, publications clippings on Princeton architecture and the "Quad Plan;" correspondence and records relating to the Graduate Council Freshman Honor Prize; and memoranda and reports on the progress of reorganization of student social life at Princeton.

The portion of these papers related to the Office of Financial Secretary constitute the only official record of the functioning of that office.

Series Arrangement

Arranged by subject.

Series 2: Princeton University Records, ... (Continued)

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>
Information re: appointment as Financial Secretary of the Board of Trustees, 1909-1912	2	1
Reports to the Trustees as Financial Secretary, 1912	2	2
Graduate School Controversy - Clippings, 1908-1910	2	3
Graduate School Controversy - Correspondence, 1908-1910	2	4
Graduate School Controversy - Publications, 1908-1910	2	5
Architectural Development at Princeton, 1906-1910	2	6
Quad Plan - Correspondence, 1907-1909	2	7
Quad Plan - Reports, Publications, Clippings, Drawings, 1906-1913	2	8
Memoranda and Reports on the Progress of a Reorganization of the Student Social Life at Princeton, 1907-1942,	2	9
Graduate Council Freshman Honor Prize, 1923-1947	2	10

Series 3: Imbrie Family Genealogy, compiled, 1931-1945 (1 box)**Series Description**

This is a four-volume compilation entitled "Family Record of Andrew Welsh Imbrie and Frances Frazer Imbrie" written by Andrew C. Imbrie and presented to the Princeton University Library in 1946. Included are records of the Imbrie, Clerk, Welsh and Frazer families.

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>
Compiled 1931-1945, Family Record of Andrew Welsh Imbrie, and Frances Frazer Imbrie (4 vols.)	3	1-8