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Guide to MS018 Stone & Webster, Inc. Records

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Guide to

MS 018

Stone & Webster, Inc. Records

Span Dates: 1921-1928
Bulk Dates: 1923-1924

5 linear inches

Prepared by Lisa M. Borden
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Donation by Harlan Hugg in 1967.

Citation: Stone & Webster, Inc. Records, 1921-1928, MS 018, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, The University of Texas at El Paso Library

C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department
The University of Texas at El Paso Library

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Engineering contractors Stone & Webster, Inc. of Boston, Massachusetts, working in conjunction with the El Paso Electric Railway Company, replaced the old International Bridge on Stanton Street between Ciudad Juárez, Mexico and El Paso, Texas with a new structure of reinforced concrete in 1924. The existing wooden bridge, built in 1902, was no longer adequate to support the increased amount of traffic, including the electric trolley cars in use at that time. Mexico contributed the engineering plus the concrete used in the pilings, while the financing for the actual construction was supplied by the United States. The bridge was replaced again during the Chamizal settlement of the 1960s.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

The Stone & Webster, Inc. Records are arranged in four series according to importance of materials.

Series I. Correspondence, 1922-1925. 3.25 linear inches (14 folders).

Arranged chronologically. Includes memos, letters, reports, telegrams, cost estimates, and handwritten field notes. Consists primarily of exchanges between Stone & Webster, Inc. and the El Paso Electric Railway Company dealing with the progress of and problems with the Stanton Street Bridge's construction.

Series II. Reports, 1921, 1923, ca. 1924, 1928, n.d. 1 linear inch (6 folders).

Arranged according to importance of materials. Consists of a 1921 report titled "Rulings Pertaining to Railways," construction plans, general specifications, field notes regarding concrete test piles, a listing of progress photographs (note that other listings of such photographs are contained in the "Correspondence" series), and a report written in Spanish about the related 1928 Santa Fe Bridge project.

Series III. Drawings & Plans, 1923, ca. 1923, n.d. .25 inches (1 folder).

Arranged according to importance of materials. Consists of construction plans and technical engineering drawings complete with mathematical formulas.

Series IV. Accounting Ledgers, 1924-1925, ca. 1924. .5 inches (3 folders).

Arranged chronologically. Consists of accounting ledger book sheets documenting expenses and labor costs on the Stanton Street Bridge construction project.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection of business records from the Boston-based engineering firm of Stone & Webster, Inc. focuses primarily on the construction of the International Bridge on Stanton Street between Ciudad Juarez, Mexico and El Paso, Texas from 1923 to 1924. The records are organized into four series according to importance of materials as follows: I. Correspondence (1922-1925); II. Reports (1921, 1923, ca. 1924, 1928, n.d.); III. Drawings & Plans (1923, ca. 1923, n.d.);

IV. Accounting Ledgers (1924-1925, ca. 1924).

Arrangement of materials within each series is according to their importance and/or chronological. Materials consist of typed and handwritten correspondence, field notes, technical engineering drawings, reports, memos, specifications, telegrams, accounting ledger book sheets, and cost estimates. Some materials are written in the Spanish language.

The material dates from 1921 to 1928, with the bulk consisting of correspondence dating from 1923 to 1924. Some gaps seem to exist in the collection as follows: 1) Lapses of up to one year within the "Correspondence" series; 2) Absence of photographs and engineering plans/drawings referred to in the "Correspondence" series.

PROVENANCE

Three folders of materials were donated by Harlan Hugg, building manager of the El Paso National Bank Building at the Corner of Texas and Oregon streets, in 1967. The old accession number is 541.

RESTRICTIONS

None.

LITERARY RIGHTS

Permission to publish material from the Stone & Webster, Inc. Records, 1921-1928, must be obtained from the C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, The University of Texas at El Paso Library.

NOTES TO RESEARCHERS

In an attempt to preserve some of the materials in this collection, certain highly-acidic documents such as carbon copies of correspondence and telegrams have been interleaved with sheets of alkaline buffered paper. Care should be taken when handling these materials as some of them are in delicate condition.

CORRESPONDENCE

1	1	01/05/22-06/09/23
1	2	06/11/23-07/11/23
1	3	07/12/23-08/09/23
1	4	08/10/23-09/18/23
1	5	09/26/23-12/18/23
1	6	12/18/23-01/26/24
1	7	01/28/24-02/12/24
1	8	02/12/24-03/05/24
1	9	03/06/24-03/15/24
1	10	03/15/24-04/21/24
1	11	04/22/24-05/16/24
1	12	05/21/24-07/03/24
1	13	07/07/24-08/07/24
1	14	08/14/24-01/30/25

REPORTS

1	15	Rulings Pertaining to Railways, 1921
1	16	Plans, n.d.
1	17	General Specifications, 1923
1	18	Concrete Test Piles, ca. 1924, n.d.
1	19	List of Progress Photographs, ca. 1924
1	20	Santa Fe Bridge, 1928

DRAWINGS & PLANS

1	21	Technical Engineering, 1923, ca. 1923, n.d.

ACCOUNTING LEDGERS		
1	22-23	Expenses, 1924-1925
1	24	Daily Labor Distribution, ca. 1924