

ALBANY INSTITUTE  
OF HISTORY & ART

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**A Guide to the**  
William Curtiss Carroll Collection

**Collection Summary**

**Collection Title:** William Curtiss Carroll Collection

**Call Number:** MG 197

**Creator:** William Curtiss Carroll

**Inclusive Dates:** 1862-1928

**Bulk Dates:** 1872-1928

**Abstract:** Personal diaries of William Curtiss Carroll, which chronicle his daily life from 1872 to his death in 1928.

**Quantity:** 2 Boxes, 56 items

**Administrative Information**

**Custodial History:** Kathleen Quinn, Drew Heady, items purchased from original owner.

**Preferred Citation:** William Curtiss Carroll Collection , MG 197. Albany Institute of History & Art Library, New York.

**Acquisition Information:**

Accession #: LIB.2009.197  
LIB.2009.317

Accession Date: Unknown

**Processing Information:**

Processed by Robbilee Luedtke completed on 3/17/210

**Restrictions**

**Restrictions on Access:** None

**Restrictions on Use: Permission to publish material must be obtained in writing prior to publication** from the Chief Librarian & Archivist, Albany Institute of History & Art, 125 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12210.

## **Index Term**

### **Persons**

Carroll, William Curtiss

### **Organizations**

### **Subjects**

Agriculture – NY (State)

Daily Life

Funerals

Ice Dams

Weather – NY (State)

### **Places**

Albany, NY

Coeymans, NY

Paner Island

Bethlehem, NY

Percell's Hotel

Baltimore, NY

East Hampton, MA

Coxsackie, NY

New Brunswick, NY

Cropseyville, NY

### **Document Types**

Diaries - Personal

### **Titles**

## **Biography/History of**

William Curtiss Carroll (1853-1928) was given his first diary in 1862 by his uncle William. Uncle William was going off to the U.S. Civil War and wanted William Curtiss and his sister Viola to have something to remember him by in case he did not return. William Curtiss chronicled his daily life in his diaries, the weather of the day, any important events that happened, births, deaths, funerals, and kept track of his finances. He lived with his parents, and then his sister Viola lived with him until her death in 1925. The bulk of the diaries start when he is 19 years old, at that time he worked in a mill and helped his father clear ice off the dam in the wintertime. In the back of most of the diaries he kept a list of the names and addresses of the people he sent a letter to that year.

He also had a pen pal from England who he corresponded with. In his later years he would take the bus to Albany every Friday for some light shopping. He appears to have been failing in health the last few years of his life, had dinner often with his neighbor, and frequent visits from his doctor. When he passed away it appears from the entries that it took a day or two for his friends to find him. The last entry remarks about his funeral and that he had been buried that day.

### **Scope and Contents of the Records/Papers/Collection**

The collection contains the diaries written by William Curtiss Carroll which chronicle his daily life from 1872 to his death in 1928.

### **Organization of the Records/Papers/Collection**

The collection is housed in two boxes, with each box being organized chronologically by year.

### **Related Material**

None

### **Separated Materials**

None

### **Other Finding Aids**

None

### **Detailed Description of the Records/Papers/Collection**

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

Box #	Folder #.	Title / Description
1		Diaries 1862, 1872,1874-1901
2		Diaries 1902-1928