



*New York State Archives*

**New York State Engineer and Surveyor Office of Special  
Deputy State Engineer Correspondence Files B0227**

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## Overview of the Records

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<b>Repository:</b>	New York State Archives
<b>Summary:</b>	This series, arranged chronologically, documents the Special Deputy State Engineer's role in the early construction of the Barge Canal. The files consist of correspondence, magazine articles; diagrams, sketches, drawings, and blueprints; costs and "shop bills" of construction materials from private firms. Specific topics include construction methods and materials used; structural test results; damage claims; disposition of surplus water and excavation waste; proposed locations of the Barge Canal; water elevation, costs of electrical power, and contract violations.
<b>Creator:</b>	New York (State). State Engineer and Surveyor. Office of Special Deputy State Engineer
<b>Title:</b>	Correspondence files
<b>Quantity:</b>	8.5 cubic feet
<b>Inclusive Date:</b>	1904-1907, 1917-1918
<b>Series:</b>	B0227

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## Arrangement

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B0227-94: Alphabetical by last name of correspondent.

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## Administrative History

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Under the 1903 Barge Canal Law (Chapter 147), a Special Deputy State Engineer was charged to directly supervise the entire Barge Canal project. The Special Deputy State Engineer was appointed by and responsible to the State Engineer and Surveyor and carried out these duties until 1922.

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## Scope and Content Note

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B0227-94: This accretion consists of letters sent to the office of the State Engineer and Surveyor requesting publications or information on the state's canal system, and subsequent transmittal correspondence referring the requests for response by canal officials. Very few responses are included.

The correspondence dates from the time when Frank M. Williams was State Engineer and the Barge Canal was about to open. Thus it provides particular insight into early interest in, and advocacy of, the Barge Canal. The letters may constitute some of the raw material compiled in series A1275, State Engineer's Monthly Reports.

The majority of requests apply for issues, reprints of articles, or accompanying data (such as maps of canal routes) found in the Barge Canal Bulletin or reports of Barge Canal commissions or other offices. Letters come from state, federal, and local governments, other departments of New York State government, private companies, libraries, and private citizens. Correspondents include special deputy or assistant state engineers (such as Noble Whitford, William B. Landreth, D.B. LaDu, and chief clerk R.G. Finch).

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## Other Finding Aids

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### Available at Repository

B0227-94: Container list is available at the repository.

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## Use of Records

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### Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions regarding access to or use of the material.

## Access Terms

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- Administering canals
- New York (State)
- New York State Barge Canal System (N.Y.)
- Canals
- New York (State). Department of Transportation
- Whitford, Noble.