Guide to the Wilson Compton Papers

MS 1175

compiled by Janet Elaine Gertz

August 1983

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New Haven, CT 06520-8240
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# Table of Contents

Collection Overview .................................................................................................................. 3  
Requesting Instructions ............................................................................................................. 3  
Administrative Information ....................................................................................................... 3  
  Immediate Source of Acquisition ............................................................................................ 3  
  Conditions Governing Access ................................................................................................. 3  
  Conditions Governing Use ...................................................................................................... 4  
  Preferred Citation .................................................................................................................... 4  
Biographical / Historical .......................................................................................................... 4  
Scope and Contents .................................................................................................................... 4  
Collection Contents ................................................................................................................... 5  
  Inventory ................................................................................................................................. 5  
Selected Search Terms .............................................................................................................. 6
Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1175

**CREATOR:** Compton, Wilson Martindale, 1890-1967

**TITLE:** Wilson Martindale Compton papers

**DATES:** 1924–1961

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.5 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Writings and speeches of Wilson M. Compton, relating to lumbering and logging, forest management, and housing construction; includes material prepared for the National Lumber Manufacturers Association.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1175

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1175.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box

f. folder

Administrative Information

**Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Gift of Elwood Maunder, 1968.

**Conditions Governing Access**

The materials are open for research.
**Conditions Governing Use**

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**Preferred Citation**

Wilson Martindale Compton Papers. Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

**Biographical / Historical**

Wilson Martindale Compton was born in Wooster, Ohio, on October 15, 1890. He attended Wooster College, receiving the degrees of Ph.B. in 1911, M.A. in 1912, and LL.D. in 1935. He also received a Ph.D. from Princeton in 1915. Compton was a fellow at Princeton between 1913 and 1915. He was appointed assistant professor at Dartmouth between 1915 and 1916. Between 1916 and 1918, he was an economist with the Federal Trade Commission. The majority of his working career, however, was spent as secretary and general manager at National Lumber Manufacturers Association, where he worked from 1918 until 1944. Between 1934 and 1941, he was also a professor at George Washington University. After leaving National Lumber, he was president of Washington State University and State Export Station. He was also a member and director of the Council of Financial Aid to Education, Inc., in New York City, between 1953 and 1967. He died on March 7, 1967.

**Scope and Contents**

This collection consists almost entirely of writings and speeches by Wilson Martindale Compton on the lumber and logging industry, on housing construction, and on forest management. Included are typescripts, some with extensive annotations, mimeographed reports, printed articles, and transcripts of Compton’s testimony before various government agencies on unemployment in the lumber industry and similar topics. A number of the reports were prepared for the National Lumber Manufacturers Association, of which Compton was secretary and general manager from 1918 through 1944. Several memoranda and minutes of the National Lumber Manufacturers Association and of the American Forestry Association are interfiled with Compton’s writings, which are arranged in chronological order.
## Collection Contents

### Inventory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Writings</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 1</td>
<td>1924-1928</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 2</td>
<td>1929-1930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 3</td>
<td>1931-1932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 4</td>
<td>1934-1937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 5</td>
<td>1938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 6</td>
<td>1939-1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 7</td>
<td>1942-1944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 8</td>
<td>1952-1961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 9</td>
<td>n.d.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Selected Search Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library’s online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects
Conservation of natural resources
Educators
Environmental protection
Forest management
Housing
Logging
Lumbering

Names
Compton, Wilson Martindale, 1890-1967

Corporate Body
National Lumber Manufacturers Association