

# Guide to the Joseph Barrell Papers

MS 778



compiled by Nancy L. Fappiano

January 1979

Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
mssa.assist@yale.edu  
<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 778

**CREATOR:** Barrell, Joseph, 1869-1919

**TITLE:** Joseph Barrell papers

**DATES:** 1909-1920

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1.25 linear feet (3 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Correspondence, the manuscript for "The Piedmont Terraces of the Northern Appalachians" in various stages; manuscripts and typescripts for "The Genesis of the Earth," "Relations of Pleistocene Warping to Strength of Crust," "Significance of the Equatorial Acceleration in the Sun's Rotation," and "The Strength of the Earth's Crust" Part IX; notes; and miscellaneous items on geology originating during Barrell's service as secretary of the geological faculty at Yale University. The correspondence largely relates to university matters, except for that with Henry H. Robinson which pertains to "The Piedmont terraces of the Northern Appalachians."

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0778>

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## 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 <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0778>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](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

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

The provenance of the original accession is uncertain. Accession 2020-M-0022 was transferred from the Department of Geology, 2019.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

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### Preferred Citation

Joseph Barrell Papers (MS 778). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Joseph Barrell, geologist and engineer, was born in New Providence, New Jersey, on December 15, 1869. He received a BS degree from Lehigh University in 1892 and a mining engineer (EM) degree the following year. From 1893 to 1897, Barrell was an instructor in mining and metallurgy at Lehigh and was awarded his MS degree in 1897. He received his PhD from Yale University in 1900. That same year Barrell returned to Lehigh as an assistant professor of geology and chairman of the department of natural sciences. He left in 1903 to become assistant professor of geology at Yale. Barrell was appointed Professor of Structural Geology in 1908 and Silliman Memorial Lecturer from 1917 to 1918. Barrell was secretary of the Yale geological faculty from 1908 to 1919. Shortly before his death on May 4, 1919, Barrell was elected to the National Academy of Sciences.

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## Scope and Contents

The Joseph Barrell Papers consist of correspondence and manuscript material dating from 1909-1920. The correspondence is from Barrell's years at Yale (1903-1919) and is related primarily to his position as secretary of the geological faculty (1908-1919). Included among the manuscripts are Barrell's draft for his article "The Piedmont Terraces of the Northern Appalachians" and Henry H. Robinson's notes for editing the article, as well as manuscripts and typescripts for "The Genesis of the Earth," "Relations of Pleistocene Warping to Strength of Crust," "Significance of the Equatorial Acceleration in the Sun's Rotation," and "The Strength of the Earth's Crust" Part IX.

## Collection Contents

### Original accession

Correspondence, 1909-1919		
b. 1, f. 1 - 15	A-W	
b. 2, f. 16	Yale University, Geology Department: course descriptions, correspondence, memoranda, and government notices	1911-1918
b. 2, f. 17	Circular concerning thirteenth annual intercollegiate excursion of New England	1915 October 15-16
b. 2, f. 18	Outlines of paper and speech on "The Piedmont Terraces of the Northern Appalachians"	1912 December 30
b. 2, f. 19	Manuscript copy of "The Piedmont Terraces of the Northern Appalachians," with some notes by Henry R. Robinson	undated
b. 2, f. 20	Author's proof of "The Piedmont Terraces of the Northern Appalachians" and related papers	undated
b. 2, f. 21	Henry Hollister Robinson's TS annotated copy of "The Piedmont Terraces of the Northern Appalachians"	[ca. 1919]
b. 2, f. 22	Page proof of "The Piedmont Terraces of the Northern Appalachians" as edited by H. Robinson, for publication in the	1920 April
b. 2, f. 23	Correspondence between Henry H. Robinson and E. W. Shaw, of the U.S. Geological Society	1919 December 24-26
b. 2, f. 24	Miscellaneous papers of Henry H. Robinson concerning cost, figures, estimates, and notes for publication of "The Piedmont Terraces of the Northern Appalachians"	undated
b. 2, f. 25	Abstract of "Piedmont Terraces of the Northern Appalachians and their Mode of Origin;" abstract of "Post-jurassic history of the Northern Appalachians"	undated
b. 2, f. 26	Abstracts of remarks in reply by Joseph Barrell before the Geological Society of America	1912 December 30
b. 2, f. 27	Notes and rough drafts of figures to be used as illustrations	1913-1918
b. 2, f. 28	Geological notebook with entries for Maryland, 1912 and New York, 1915	
b. 2, f. 29	Photographs	1911-1912

**Accession 2020-M-0022: Additional material, 1914–1919**

Manuscript and typescript writings of Joseph Barrell.

Arranged alphabetically by title.

b. 1, f. 1	The Genesis of the Earth Typescript article, with manuscript annotations.	Circa 1917
b. 1, f. 2	Relations of Pleistocene Warping to Strength of Crust First and second manuscript drafts of Relations of Pleistocene Warping to Strength of Crust.	1914–1915
b. 1, f. 3	Significance of the Equatorial Acceleration in the Sun's Rotation Typescript article written by Barrell in advance of his study "Geological Relations of Earth Condensation and Resulting Acceleration in Relation." Accompanied by a 1925 letter from Ernest W. Brown to Charles Schuchert discussing the article.	1916
b. 1, f. 4	The Strength of the Earth's Crust, Part IX Manuscript essay, 1915, accompanied by letters between Barrell, T. C. Chamberlain, and Charles Schuchert, 1915-1919.	1915–1919

## **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**

Educators  
Geology  
Science

### **Occupations**

Geologists  
Mining engineers

### **Names**

Barrell, Joseph, 1869-1919  
Robinson, Henry Hollister, 1873-1925

### **Corporate Bodies**

Yale University. Department of Geology and  
Geophysics  
Yale University -- Curricula  
Yale University -- Faculty