

# Guide to the Downes Family Papers

MS 962



compiled by Janet Elaine Gertz

July 1983

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  
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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 962

**CREATOR:** Downes family

**TITLE:** Downes family papers

**DATES:** 1874-1903

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.25 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Family and business correspondence of the Downes family of New York and of the Clark family.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0962>

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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.0962>.

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

Gift of Timothy A. Clark and Mrs. Earl E. McIntosh, 1966.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

Downes Family Papers (MS 962). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Stancliff Bazen Downes was born in New York City on December 5, 1859. He was educated at the Columbia University School of Mines, from which he graduated in 1882. He became a civil engineer in New York City and prepared a set of tax maps for parts of that city. He died from a combination of illnesses in New York City, on April 21, 1895, thirteen years before his father, Anson Treat Downes, who lived until July 22, 1908.

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## Scope and Contents

This collection is made up of approximately seventy-five family letters and other papers, 1875-1903. The bulk of the correspondence pertains to Anson T. and Eliza Downes of New York City and Yonkers, New York, their daughter, Bazena Treat (Downes) Merriman, and their son, Stancliff B. Downes, and was written for the most part during summer trips to upstate New York. While a few letters deal with business and financial matters, most discuss family news and events.

Also in the collection are several business letters and papers and a few family letters of the Clark family and other unrelated individuals. The connection between the Downes family and the Clarks is unclear. Finally, the collection includes an unidentified photograph and miscellaneous printed items.

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## Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1 - 3	Downes family	1874-1896, undated
b. 1, f. 4	Clark family and others	1881-1885
b. 1, f. 5	Photograph and printed matter	1903, undated

## **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**

Families

### **Geographic Names**

New York (N.Y.)

### **Names**

Downes, Anson T.

Downes, Eliza

Downes, Stancliff B.

Merriman, Bazena Treat Downes

### **Families**

Clark family

Downs family