

# Guide to the Edward Clark Streeter Collection

Ms Coll 25



Finding aid by Toby A. Appel

2008

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New Haven, CT 06520-8014  
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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Medical Historical Library, Cushing/Whitney Medical Library  
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New Haven, CT 06520-8014  
203-737-1192  
203-785-5636  
historical.library@yale.edu  
<http://historical.medicine.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** Ms Coll 25

**CREATOR:** Streeter, Edward Clark, -1947

**TITLE:** Edward Clark Streeter collection

**DATES:** 1921-1948

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.5 linear feet (1 box)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Edward Clark Streeter, 1874-1947, was a graduate of Yale College in 1898 who practiced medicine in Chicago in the early part of his career. After his move to Boston in 1907, he became a book collector, a historian of medicine, and a friend and collaborator of Harvey Cushing on historical projects. When he moved to Stonington, Connecticut in 1928, he was appointed from 1939 to 1933 visiting professor of history of medicine at Yale. In 1941, he donated his collection of weights and measures and pharmaceutical objects to the Historical Library part of the new Yale Medical Library. He served as curator of these collections until his death in 1947. The Edward Clark Streeter collection contains correspondence with Harvey Cushing from Cushing's Boston period, and with John F. Fulton and Madeline Stanton representing the Historical Library, as well as biographical material collected by Stanton and Elizabeth Thomson for John Fulton after Streeter's death.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/med.ms.0025>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/med.ms.0025>.

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

This collection was originally gathered by Madeline Stanton, Historical Librarian at the Cushing/Whitney Medical Library in 1947 and 1948 after Streeter's death and left in a box in the Historical Library.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

Yale owns copyright to letters by Cushing, Fulton, and Stanton, but may not own copyright to other materials.

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### Preferred Citation

Edward Clark Streeter Collection, Cushing/Whitney Medical Library, Yale University

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### Processing Information

These materials were originally packed in large folders and were processed for easier use by readers. Two photographs that were used in Fulton's obituary of Streeter were removed to the Historical Library photograph collection.

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## Biographical / Historical

Edward Clark Streeter was born in Chicago, Illinois, on November 10, 1874. He received degrees from Yale College (A.B., 1898) and Northwestern University (M.D., 1901). Streeter practiced medicine in Chicago at the homeopathic Streeter Hospital founded by his father John Williams Streeter. After his father's death in 1905, he moved to Boston where he undertook postdoctoral work and published several articles on bacteriology, and also became increasingly active as a book collector and historian of medicine. His special historical interest was Renaissance anatomists and art. He married Alice Chase of Connecticut in 1906. During World War I, he served in France as part of the Yale Mobile Hospital 39. He wrote several historical articles and edited with Harvey Cushing a reprint edition of Giovanni Battista Canani's anatomical work on muscles (1541?) in 1925. He served as lecturer in history of medicine at Harvard Medical School (1921-1933). In 1928 Streeter moved from Boston to his summer residence in Stonington, Connecticut. He served as visiting professor of the history of medicine at Yale University (1929-1933). Streeter collected extensively in the fields of medical literature, weights and measures, and pharmaceutical objects. His original book collection was sold in 1928, many of the books going to the New York Academy of Medicine. He donated his collection of weights and measures, related books, and pharmacy items to the Historical Library in 1941, and served as curator of the "museum" of the Historical Library from 1941 to 1947. He died in Stonington on July 17, 1947.

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## Scope and Contents

The collection includes correspondence of Edward C. Streeter with Harvey Cushing, John F. Fulton, and Madeline Stanton, and correspondence of Streeter's widow, Alice Chase Streeter, with Stanton and Fulton. There is also material on Streeter's biography of Giovanni Battista Canano written for a reprint edition

by Streeter and Cushing in 1925; Streeter's role as donor and Yale curator of the Streeter Collection of Weights & Measures and his pharmacy collection; plans for Streeter's seventieth birthday party arranged by Fulton; and John Fulton's obituary of Streeter, originally published in the *Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine* in 1947 and then revised and published by the Historical Library in conjunction of the 50th reunion of Streeter's Yale College class of 1898. A folder contains biographical information on Streeter gathered partly through correspondence by Stanton and Elizabeth H. Thomson for Fulton's use.

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## **Arrangement**

One series, roughly chronological.

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## Collection Contents

### Edward Clark Streeter Collection, 1921-1948

11 Folders

b. 1, f. 1	Correspondence of Streeter with Harvey Cushing	1921-1933
b. 1, f. 2	Miscellaneous correspondence of Streeter	1925 and n.d.
b. 1, f. 3	Drafts of Streeter's Canano essay	ca, 1925
b. 1, f. 4	Manuscript copies of Canano essay with cover letter from Harvey Cushing, 1925	ca. 1925
b. 1, f. 5	Correspondence of Streeter with John F. Fulton	1939-1947
b. 1, f. 6	Correspondence of Streeter with Madeline Stanton	1940-1947
b. 1, f. 7	Financial records (2 items)	1945
b. 1, f. 8	Historical Library correspondence regarding Streeter's 70th birthday dinner arranged by Fulton and Stanton	1944
b. 1, f. 9	Correspondence of Madeline Stanton and John Fulton and Mrs. Alice Streeter, 1947-1948	1947-1948
b. 1, f. 10	Biographical material on Streeter collected by Madeline Stanton and Elizabeth Thomson	1947-1948
b. 1, f. 11	Material related to Fulton's obituary of Streeter and its revision for the Yale College Class of 1898's 50th reunion and the visit of the class to see the Streeter Collection of Weights & Measures.	1948

## **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**

Medical historians  
Weights and measures

### **Names**

Canani, Giovanni Battista, 1515-1579  
Cushing, Harvey, 1869-1939  
Fulton, John F. (John Farquhar), 1899-1960  
Stanton, Madeline E. (Madeline Earle)  
Streeter, Alice Chase  
Streeter, Edward Clark, -1947  
Thomson, Elizabeth Harriet, 1907-

### **Corporate Bodies**

Yale College (1887- ). Class of 1898  
Yale Medical Library