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NEW ENGLAND MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE

Papers, ca. 188? - 2004

Manuscript Collection - MC 616

1 manuscript box, 1 oversized photograph
0.33 cubic feet
Accession number: 2005-82

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By: Erin Edwards

ACCESS

Access to this collection is unrestricted.

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HISTORICAL NOTE

New England Mutual Life Insurance (later New England Financial) was founded in 1835 and has had several ties to MIT over the years. In 1844 Emma Savage, who later became Emma Savage Rogers, the wife of MIT's founder, William Barton Rogers, became the fifth person to hold a life insurance policy from the company. Her father, James Savage, Sr., was on the company's first board of directors. In 1937, New England Mutual purchased the original MIT building in Back Bay Boston (the Rogers Building, which opened in 1866), and in 1939 broke ground on the site to begin construction of a new home office, which opened in 1941

(<http://libraries.mit.edu/archives/exhibits/maps/index.html>). In 1948 New England Financial collaborated with MIT to construct the Eastgate apartment housing project to meet the need for post-World War II housing.

New England Financial is now owned by MetLife. For more information on the company, please visit <http://nef.metlife.com> or see the book *A Capital Ship* (in this collection), which details New England Financial's history.

PROVENANCE NOTE

Material was donated by Phyllis Steele (Consulting Archivist and Historian, New England Financial) in October 2004. Some materials are photocopies of items from New England Financial's library.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection is composed of various materials that illuminate the ties between New England Mutual Life Insurance Company and Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Box one holds four folders containing the following material: an actuary's talk, which gives information about Emma Savage Rogers; information on New England Mutual's purchase of the Rogers Building; the book *A Capital Ship: New England Life* (a history of New England Financial); and a timeline of New England Financial. Box two contains an oversized photograph of Back Bay taken in the 1880s. The collection is arranged chronologically by the dates of the material.

Box/Item	Folder	
1	1	Actuary's talk (containing information about Emma Savage Rogers), ca. 1910, photocopy
1	2	Rogers Building, 501 Boylston St., 1937-1969, articles
1	3	<i>A Capital Ship: New England Life</i> , 1985
1	4	Timeline, New England Financial (1843 – 1969), created in 2004
2		Oversized photograph of MIT buildings in Back Bay Boston, ca. 188?