William Johnson Sollas (Fellow 1901-36)

William Johnson Sollas (1849-1936) read Natural Science at St. John's, Cambridge, getting a First there in 1873.

After a varied career, which included lecturing at Cambridge, being Fellow of St. John's from 1882–4, and Professorships at Bristol and Trinity College Dublin, he was appointed Professor of Geology and Palaeontology at Oxford in 1897. In 1901 he was elected a Fellow of University College, and he held both these posts until his death in 1936. University College gave the university funds to help endow the Professorship, and Sollas himself left money to the College to endow a Geology Fellowship (see University College Record 1936 p. 1).

The main body of Sollas' papers are kept in the University Museum, but some other papers of his are preserved at the Bodleian Library (MS Eng lett d 329). Some copies of documents from the University Museum collection may be found at UC:P181. This obituary of Sollas was found in the archives in the summer of 1993.

Catalogued in April 2004.

UC:S21/N1/1 1938
Offprint from Obituary Notices of the Royal Society of London, No.6, vol.2 (1938), pp.265–281, containing an obituary by A. Smith Woodward and W. W. Watts of William Johnson Sollas, with a list of his printed works. On p. 266 the writer gets the date of Sollas's election to University College wrong.