

Wilbur G Downs Archives

ENTAR.001850



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2014

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History
170 Whitney Avenue
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<http://peabody.yale.edu/>

CALL NUMBER: ENTAR.001850

CREATOR: Downs, Wilbur G.

TITLE: Wilbur G Downs Archives

DATES: 1961-1990

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 5 linear feet

LANGUAGE: In English.

SUMMARY: The Archives of Wilbur G Downs.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/ymp.entar.001850>

Administrative Information

Cite As

Wilbur G Downs Archives, Entomology, Yale Peabody Museum

Biographical Sketch

Wilbur George Downs was a clinical professor of epidemiology and public health at the Yale University School of Medicine and an expert on tropical medicine. As a lieutenant colonel in the Pacific during World War II, Dr. Downs was chief of preventive medicine for the command in Okinawa. He was awarded the Bronze Star and also received several Presidential and military citations for his work with malaria and communicable diseases. After the war he was assigned by the Rockefeller Foundation to direct a malaria-control program in Mexico, where he was among the first to question the use of insecticides like DDT in trying to control the disease. In 1952, Dr. Downs was asked by the Rockefeller Foundation to establish a program in Trinidad investigating arthropod-borne viruses. He founded the Trinidad Regional Virus Laboratory, now the Caribbean Epidemiology Center in Port-of-Spain. There he trained arbovirologists and was part of a team that isolated and characterized more than 35 new viruses. In 1963 he negotiated the move of the Rockefeller Foundation Virus Laboratory from Manhattan to Yale University and became an associate director of the foundation. He was also director of the Yale Arbovirus Research Unit and professor of epidemiology at the Yale University School of Medicine. With his fellow scientists, he continued to isolate and characterize viruses, including the Lassa Fever virus, which was named for the Nigerian village where it originated, and was so virulent that it killed a laboratory worker in 1970, forcing a halt to research. He was a consultant to projects in the Caribbean, Asia and Africa, and a member or chairman of advisory committees for the World Health Organization, the United States Public Health

Service, the State Department, the Department of Defense and the National Academy of Sciences. He was born in Perth Amboy, N.J., and graduated from Cornell University in 1935 and from Cornell University Medical College in 1938. He received a Master of Arts from the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and Hygiene in 1941. (Excerpted from NY Times Obituary, 20 Feb 1991)

Description of the Material

The archives of Wilbur G Downs include correspondence, lab notes and collecting information.

Collection Contents

Series I: Field & Lab Notes

Drawings & Photographs. Drawings and plates by Wilbur G. Downs. EST number of items = 150+. Some drawings and plates by Shao-Win Ling circa 1938. EST number of objects = 25. In separate envelope. Estimated number of photographs = 50+.
001853

Notebooks. Notebooks containing field and lab information.
001852

Series II: Correspondence

Correspondence to and from Wilbur G Downs.

Aitken, T.H.G. EST number of items = 5+. 002391	1981-1985
Alexander, Charles. EST number of items = 10+. 002392	1976-1978
Anderson, John. EST number of items = 2. 002393	1976
Anderson, N.H. EST number of items = 2. Oregon State University. 002394	1986
Andrade, Rodrigo. EST number of items = 10+. 002395	1982-1984
Armitage, Brian D. EST number of items = 5. The Caddis Press. 002396	1983
Balslev, Henrik. EST number of items = 1. 002397	1982
Bates, Chip. EST number of items = 3. 002398	1984
Baumann, Richard W. EST number of items = 5+. Brigham Young University. 002399	1975-1988
Bednarik, Andrew. EST number of items = 5+. 002400	1980-1983
Bournaud, Michel. EST number of items = 5. 002401	1986
Boyle, Robert. EST number of items = 5+. Contains newspaper clippings. 002402	1980-1982
Burian, Steve. EST number of items = 2. 002403	1990
Campbell, George. EST number of items = 2. The International Cockroach Society, INC. 002404	1985
Carmichael, Peter. EST number of items = 5. 002405	1961-1963
Clements, A.N. EST number of items = 1. 002483	1966
Danks, H.V. EST number of items = 1. 002479	1977
Denning, Donald G. EST number of items = 5+. 002406	1981-1983

Dodds, Peter. EST number of items = 10+. UCONN. 002407	1976-1981
Dodge, Harold Rodney. EST number of items = 10+. 002408	1962-1973
Edmonds, George F. EST number of items = 5+. 002409	1976-1977
Ehlert, Fred. EST number of items = 1. 002478	1982
Elliot, Sarah M. EST number of items = 5. 002410	1987
Epler, John H. EST number of items = 2. 002411	1990
Fisher, Ben. EST number of items = 1. 002477	1979
Flint, Oliver. EST number of items = 10+. National Museum of Natural History. 002412	1981-1985
Godwin, Bert. EST number of items = 10+. 002413	1985-1989
Gordon, Elizabeth. EST number of items = 10+. 002414	1975-1985
Grant, Peter M. EST number of items = 1. 002480	1990
Greene, Charles. EST number of items = 2. 002415	1990
Hamilton, Steven. EST number of items = 15+. 002416	1980-1982
Herrmann, Scott. EST number of items = 5. 002417	1980-1982
Hevel, Gary F. EST number of items = 1. 002418	1984
Holzenthal, R. EST number of items = 1. 002484	1988
Hutchinson, Evelyn G. EST number of items = 5. 002419	1983
Kitzmiller, Jim. EST number of items = 2. 002420	1984-1984
Kondratieff, Boris. EST number of items = 3. 002421	1982
Krinsky, Bill. EST number of items = 5+. 002422	1986-1987

La Fontaine, Gary. EST number of items = 1. 002474	1984
Larson, David. EST number of items = 1. 002473	1986
Lavigne, Robert. EST number of items = 1. 002472	1984
Lehmkuhl, Dennis. EST number of items = 2. 002423	1975
Malicky, Hans. EST number of items = 1. 002471	1986
Manuel, Kenneth L. EST number of items = 1. 002482	1983
Martinez, Lee Anne. EST number of items = 1. 002424	1986
McCafferty, W.P. EST number of items = 2. 002425	1984
Miller, William. EST number of items = 1. 002470	1977
Morse, John. EST number of items = 3. 002426	1983
Nelson, Vernon. EST number of items = 25+. 002427	1983-1990
Nimmo, Andrew P. EST number of items = 1. 002481	1988
Passante, Jeff. EST number of items = 3. 002428	1983-1984
Pizzuto, Ernest. EST number of items = 1. 002469	1983
Pratt, Harry D. EST number of items = 5+. 002429	1984-1986
Price, Joan. EST number of items = 3. 002430	1977-1981
Rajagopalan, P.K. EST number of items = 2. 002431	1983
Remington, Charles. EST number of items = 20+. 002432	1979-1987
Ross, Ed. EST number of items = 1. 002468	1980
Ruiter, Dave. EST number of items = 15+. 002433	1984-1990

Schaefer, Carl W. EST number of items = 3. 002434	1984
Schmid, F. EST number of items = 5+. 002435	1980
Schneider, Katherine. EST number of items = 2. 002436	1990
Sherk, Truman. EST number of items = 5+. 002437	1983-1988
Shusda, Ed. EST number of items = 1. 002438	1983
Souza Lopes, Hugo. EST number of items = 5+. 002439	1976-1982
Stinson, Bill. EST number of items = 2. 002440	1986
Subak-Sharpe, H. EST number of items = 1. 002475	1961
Unknown. Correspondance between Wilbur G. Downs and an unknown reciever/sender due to illegible signiture or no name at all. EST number of items = 5+. 002485	
Unzicker, John D. EST number of items =10+. 002441	1978-1979
Weir, John M. EST number of items =2. 002442	1980
Welling, Eduardo C. EST number of items =2. 002443	1982-1983
Wiggins, Glenn B. EST number of items =5+. 002444	1978-1988
Wills-Flowers, R. EST number of items = 1. 002476	1977
Yekel, Steve. EST number of items =1. 002445	1980

Series III: United States Army

Awards. Documentation, pictures, and some badges of awards and honors that Wilbur G. Downs was decorated with for recognition of his service in the U.S. Army.
002449

Fiscal Information. Fiscal reports, pay and allowance accounts, receipts etc from Wilbur G. Downs time in the U.S. army. 1943-1946
002450

G.I. Certificates of service and clearance as well as other miscellaneous general information on Wilbur G. Downs service in the U.S. army.
002447

Orders. Orders and official appointment information from the war department and military district Regarding Wilbur G. Downs. 1942-1945
002448

Series IV: Biographical

A collection of biographies kept by Wilbur G. Downs on many friends and colleagues.

Biology. Biographies kept by Wilbur G. Downs on biology, entomology and other natural history associated colleagues.
002453

Medical. Biographies kept by Wilbur G. Downs on medical and paramedical colleagues.
002452

Series V: Collection Information

Information on the collecting process and identification of specimens Wilbur G. Downs collected while working for the Yale Peabody Museum department of Entomology.

Collectors License.
002455

1981-1985

Identification. Information on specimen identification, cross identification, locality info, etc.
002458

Miscellaneous. Miscellaneous archives such as drawings from class room visits and a Caddis Fly song.
002467

Pinned Specimens. Pinned specimen information.
002457

1976-1977

Protocol. Wilbur G. Downs protocol for collecting,
002456

Reference Check List.
002466

Series VI: Ultra Violet Light Trap Collecting, 1986-1990

1986. Ultra violet light collecting information from 1986. EST number of items= 75+. 002460

1987. Ultra violet light collecting information from 1987. EST number of items= 75+. 002461

1988. Ultra violet light collecting information from 1988. EST number of items= 30+. 002462

1989. Ultra violet light collecting information from 1988. EST number of items= 50+. 002463

1990. Ultra violet light collecting information from 1990. EST number of items= 50+. 002464

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Geographic Names

Connecticut
USA

Genres / Formats

Correspondence
Drawings (visual works)
Memorabilia
Notebooks

Corporate Bodies

Yale Peabody Museum
Yale University