



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to the A. Harvey Schreter
papers, 1916-2015 (bulk 1960-2008)

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	A. Harvey Schreter papers
Date:	1916-2015 (bulk 1960-2008)
Identifier:	NAA.2016-37
Creator:	Schreter, A. Harvey
Extent:	10.25 Linear feet 3,943 Slides (35mm color) 5 Scrapbooks 19 Sound cassettes 9 Videocassettes (VHS) 1 DVD
Language:	English .
Summary:	A. Harvey Schreter (1916-2008) was a world traveler and collector of pre-Columbian, African, and Pacific art. The collection contains materials related to trips taken by Harvey and his wife Phyllis between 1960 and 2000, slide lectures based on these trips, and personal and professional papers.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Received from Harvey Schreter in 1985 and Carol Schreter in 2016.

Separated Materials

Video recordings in this collection have been transferred to the Human Studies Film Archives.

Related Materials

The Baltimore Museum of Industry holds the records of the Schreter Neckwear Company.

The Mid-Atlantic Regional Moving Image Archive Repository holds the A. Harvey Schreter Home Movies collection.

Processing Information

The bulk of the collection was organized prior to donation by Harvey Schreter's daughter, Carol. Lecture slide shows were stored in slide carousels. The archivist removed the slides from the carousels while maintaining the order of the slide shows. The archivist condensed some groupings of materials for clarity and to remove duplicates. Photo Lot 85-13 (A. Harvey Schreter photographs and audio tape of Jivaro peoples and region) was incorporated into the A. Harvey Schreter paper under World travel, lectures, and related documentation--Amazon--Jivaro peoples and region photographs and Jivaro peoples and region audio recording.

Processed and encoded by Gabrielle Sanchez, May 2022.

Preferred Citation

A. Harvey Schreter papers, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

Access to the A. Harvey Schreter papers requires an appointment.

Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

Biographical Note

A. Harvey Schreter (1916-2008) was the President of Schreter Neckware, a necktie manufacturer, as well as a world traveler and collector of pre-Columbian, African and Pacific art. Schreter became a member of the Explorers Club in 1982, frequently lecturing to the Washington Chapter about his travels with his wife, Phyllis Schreter.

Scope and Contents

The A. Harvey Schreter papers consist of correspondence, lecture notes, promotional materials, clippings, photographs (color 35mm slides and prints), scrapbooks, and audio and video recordings documenting his world travels, lecture series, and personal and professional life. The bulk of the collection contains material related to trips taken by Harvey and his wife Phyllis to North and South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Oceania between 1960 and 2000. These trips became the basis for lectures delivered by the Schreters monthly from the 1980s through the early 2000s. Also included are personal and biographical papers of Harvey Schreter, his wife Phyllis, their children and extended family; materials related to Harvey's membership in the Explorers Club; materials related to the Schreter Neckwear Company; and materials related to the "Schreter System," an exercise program for the pelvic floor muscles.

Please note that the contents of the collection and the language and terminology used reflect the context and culture of the time of its creation. As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today. The information within this collection does not reflect the views of the Smithsonian Institution or National Anthropological Archives, but is available in its original form to facilitate research.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into two series: (1) World travels, lectures, and related documentation and (2) Personal and professional papers.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Tourism
Voyages and travels

Names:

Explorers Club

Places:

Africa, East
Africa, North
Africa, Southern
Africa, West
Caribbean Area
East Asia
Europe
Middle East
North America
Oceania
South America
Southeast Asia

Container Listing

World Travels, lectures, and related documentation, 1960-2008

Scope and Contents: This series contains materials related to trips taken by Harvey and Phyllis Schreter between 1960 and 2000. The Schreters visited locations in North and South America, Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia. Many of these trips became the basis for lectures delivered by the Schreters for the Explorers Club, colleges and universities, and other institutions. The series contains 35mm color slides used in the lectures, lecture notes, audio and video recordings of lectures, additional slides not arranged into lecture slide shows, and other related material.

The slides depict landscapes, village and city life, tourist sites, and museums.

Arrangement: The series has been arranged into subseries by trip. The trips are arranged chronologically.

Europe, 1960-1968

Box 4	London, Paris, Rome, Venice, Florence Holland, 1960 85 Slides (color 35 mm)
Box 4	Portugal, Spain, France, Berlin, 1966 39 Slides (color 35 mm)
Box 4	Phyllis and Carol miscellaneous; Artist Schreter in France, 1968 15 Slides (color 35 mm)

Colorado River, 1963

Box 4	Lecture slide show--On the Colorado River with George White, 1963 39 Slides (35 mm color)
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Africa, 1967-1969

Box 4	East Africa Safari--Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, 1967 12 Slides (35mm color)
Box 4	Slides--African miscellaneous 15 Slides (35mm color)
Box 1, Folder 1	Correspondence and photographs, 1967

Chile and Easter Island, 1969

Box 4	Slides, 1969
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11 Slides (35mm color)

Virginia (Tangier Island), November 1969

Box 4 Slides, November 1969
21 Slides (35mm color)

Southeast Asia, April 1970

Box 4 Lecture slide show--Bali, Java, Thailand: Colorful, Charming, Unique, April
1970
275 Slides (35mm color)

Box 1, Folder 3 Lecture notes

Box 10 Scrapbook
1 Scrapbook

Afghanistan, 1973-2008

Box 4 Lecture slide show--Afghanistan and Pakistan: Land of the Khyber Pass, 1973
198 Slides (color 35 mm)

Box 1, Folder 2 Lecture notes

Box 4 Slides, 1973
30 Slides (color 35 mm)

Video recording of Exploring Afghanistan lecture, Fall 2002
1 Videocassettes (VHS)

Notes: Video recording of lecture on 1973 trip to Afghanistan given by
Schreter at Villa Julie College (now Stevenson University).

Box 9, Cassette 2 Audio recording of Exploring Afghanistan lecture, 6 March 2008
1 Sound cassette

Notes: Audio recording of lecture on 1973 trip to Afghanistan given by
Schreter at Towson Lunch and Learn.

Egypt, November 1975

Box 5 Lecture slide show--Egypt: Cairo to Abu Simbel, Much by Small Riverboat,
November 1975
229 Slides (35mm color)

Box 1, Folder 4 Lecture notes

New Guinea, 1977

Box 5 Lecture slide show--New Guinea: 5,000 Years Back in Time, 1977
199 Slides (35mm color)

Box 1, Folder 5 Lecture notes

Box 9, Cassette 3 Audio recording of New Guinea slide show, September-November 1985
1 Sound cassette
Notes: Audio recording of lecture on trip to New Guinea given by
Schreter at Chrysler Museum. Includes music.

China, June 1979

Box 5 Lecture slide show--China: The Many Faces of China, June 1979
251 Slides (35mm color)

Box 1, Folder 6 Lecture notes

Box 9, Cassette 4-5 Audio recording of The Many Faces of China lecture
2 Sound cassettes

West Africa, January 1981

Box 5 Lecture slide show--West Africa's Art Belt: Senegal, Cameroon, Mali, Togo,
Ivory Coast, January 1981
338 Slides (35mm color)

Box 1, Folder 7 Lecture notes

Big Horn River, Montana and Great Bear Lake, Northwest Territories, Canada, 1983

67 Slides (35mm color)

Box 6 Slides, 1983
67 Slides (35mm color)

Amazon, 1984-1985

Box 6	Lecture slide show--Amazon Jungle: A Visit with Headhunters and their Shaman, 1985 188 Slides (35mm color)
Box 1, Folder 8	Lecture notes
Box 6	Slides 22 Slides (35mm color)
Box 6	Jivaro peoples and region slides, 1985 18 Slides (35mm color) Notes: Photographs made by A. Harvey Schreter documenting ceremonies of Jivaro people, including the shaman Tukupi. The photographs depict Jivaro people, dwellings, basketmaking, a quiver with curare, and members of Schreter's expedition party. Also includes images of sacred falls in Miasal, Ecuador and a map of areas that Schreter visited in the Shuar region. Formerly Photo Lot 85-13. This material was incorporated into the A. Schreter papers at time of processing.
Box 9, Cassette 1	Jivaro peoples and region sound recording, 1985 1 Sound cassette Notes: Documents a shaman healing Schreter's injured leg and back. Formerly Photo Lot 85-13. This material was incorporated into the A. Harvey Schreter papers at time of processing.
Box 1, Folder 9	"The Jivaro (Shuar) Indians" in <i>Explorers Journal</i> , 1985-2001 Notes: Contains article written by Harvey and published in <i>Explorers Journal</i> and related documentation.
Box 1, Folder 10	Headhunters and Hummingbirds: An expedition into Ecuador by Robert McCracken Peck, 1987
Box 9, Cassette 6	Ecuador sound recording 1 Sound cassette Notes: Ecuador Highlands--9 Days. Oswaldo Daily Report.
Box 9, Cassette 7	Harvey Schuar Lecture (sound recording) Notes: Audio recording of lecture. Time and place of recording unknown.

Kenya, August 1988

Box 6	Lecture slide show--Africa: Pre-historic Man and the Nomads of Northern Kenya, August 1988
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	133 Slides (35mm color)
Box 1, Folder 11	Lecture notes
Box 1, Folder 12	"Richard Leakey's Search for Prehistoric man and the Land of the Turkana" in The Explorers Journal, 1988-1997 Notes: Contains article written by Harvey and published in <i>Explorers Journal</i> and related documentation.
	Video recording of Richard Leakey Land lecture, 18 February 1989 1 Videocassettes (VHS) Notes: Video recording of lecture presented by Harvey and Phyllis Schreter for the the Explorers Club Washington Group at the Cosmos Club.
Box 9, Cassette 8	Sound recording of Richard Leakey Land lecture 1 Sound recording Notes: Audio recording of lecture. Time and place of recording is unknown.
	Save the Elephant 1 Videocassettes (VHS) Notes: National Geographic and Richard Leakey.
	The Origin of Human Adaptability: New Evidence from East Africa and East Asia, 4 December 2004 1 Videocassettes (VHS) Notes: Video recording of lecture given by Rick Potts for the Explorers Club Washington Group.

Costa Rica, 1992

Box 9, Cassette 9	Howler monkey study, 22 April 1992 1 Sound cassette
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Syria and Jordan, April 1994

Box 6	Lecture slide show, April 1994 206 Slides (35mm color)
Box 1, Folder 13	Lecture notes
Box 9, Cassette 10	Sound recording of Syria and Jordan: Then and Now lecture 1 Sound cassette Notes: Audio recording of lecture. Time and place of recording unknown.

Canada, July 1984-August 1994

Box 6	Lecture slide show--Trout fishing in Spatsizi, British Columbia, July 1994 137 Slides (35mm color)
Box 1, Folder 14	Lecture notes--Trout fishing in Spatsizi, British Columbia
Box 6	Lecture slide show--British Columbia and Alberta, August 1994 159 Slides (35mm color)
Box 1, Folder 15	Lecture notes--British Columbia and Alberta
Box 9, Cassette 11	Lecture recording 1 Sound cassette Notes: Audio recording of lecture. Time and place of recording unknown.

Israel, 1995

Box 7	Lecture slide show--Israel: Its Art, Architecture, Archaeology and 3 Major Religions, 1995 209 Slides (35mm color)
Box 1, Folder 16	Lecture notes
Box 9, Cassette 12-13	Sound recording of Israel: Its Art, Architecture, Archaeology and 3 Major Religions lecture, May 1998 2 Sound cassettes Notes: Audio recording of lecture given at Baltimore Hebrew Congregation.
	Video recording of Exploring Israel lecture, 17 April 1999 1 Videocassettes (VHS) Notes: Video recording of lecture given for Explorers Club Washington Group.
Box 9, Cassette 14	Sound recording of lecture 1 Sound cassette Notes: Audio recording of lecture. Time and place of recording unknown.
Box 9, Cassette 15-16	Sound recording of Israel: Its Art, Architecture, Archaeology and 3 Major Religions lecture 2 Sound cassettes Notes: Audio recording of lecture. Time and place of recording unknown.

South Africa, 1997

Box 7	Slides, 1997 236 Slides (35mm color)
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Sardinia, May 1998

Box 7	Lecture slide show, May 1998 88 Slides (35mm color)
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Box 1, Folder 17	Lecture notes
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Sicily, May 1998

Box 7	Lecture slide show, May 1998 65 Slides (35mm color)
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Box 1, Folder 18	Lecture notes
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Portugal, 1998

Box 8	Slides 285 Slides (35mm color)
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Box 1, Folder 19	Certificate from Cabo do Roca, 2 November 1998
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Alaska, 2000

Box 8	Lecture slide show, 2000 128 Slides (35mm color)
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Box 8	Slides, 2000 35 Slides (35mm color)
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Box 1, Folder 20	Elderhostel itinerary
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Cuba, 2000

Box 8	Lecture slide show--Exploring Cuba: Under Castro, Off Limits to Americans, 2000 172 Slides (35mm color)
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Box 1, Folder 21	Lecture notes
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Box 8	Excess slides, 2000
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30 Slides (35mm color)

Box 9, Cassette 17

Sound recording of lecture
1 Sound cassette

Notes: Audio recording of lecture. Time and place of recording unknown.

Video recording of lecture
1 Videocassettes (VHS)

Notes: Video recording of lecture given by Harvey and Phyllis Schreter. Time and place of recording unknown.

Unidentified travel photographs, 1975-2003, undated

Box 8

Unidentified travel slides, 1979-1995
7 Slides (35mm color)

Box 1, Folder 22

Travels (photographic prints), 1975-2003, undated
41 Photographic prints (color)

Promotional materials for lectures, 1933-2006

Box 1, Folder 23;

A Life of Adventure, 1933-1990

Box 12, Folder 1

Box 2, Folder 1

Promotional materials, schedules, and related correspondence, 1978-2006, undated

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Personal and professional papers, 1916-2015

Arrangement: This series is arranged into four sub-series: (1) Personal and family papers, (2) Schreter Neckwear Company, (3) Explorers Club, and (4) The Schreter System.

Scope and Contents: This series contains personal, biographical, family papers, as well as materials related to the Schreter Neckwear Company, the Explorers Club, and the "Schreter System." It includes papers, photographs, scrapbooks, and audio and visual recordings.

Personal and family papers, 1916-2015

Box 2, Folder 2;	Biographical information about Harvey, 1916-2008
Box 12, Folder 1	
Box 2, Folder 3	The Impact of the Walters Art Gallery on the Life of Harvey Schreter, January 2001 Notes: Memoir written by Harvey Schreter.
Box 2, Folder 4	Biographical information about Phyllis, 1922-2015
Box 2, Folder 5	Extended Schreter family, 1994-2002, undated
Box 2, Folder 6	Letters from Harvey and Phyllis to family from overseas, circa 1960 - circa 1970
Box 2, Folder 7	Donations and charitable giving, 1968-2002, undated
Box 2, Folder 8	Fishing, 1963-2004
Box 10; Box 11	Scrapbooks 3 Scrapbooks Notes: Contains 3 personal scrapbooks: 1. Colorado River (1959), Gem Cutters Guild, Letter of Recommendation from American Jewish Congress 2. A. Harvey Schreter as a Young Man (to 1964) 3. Personal accomplishments (1963-1972)--travels, lectures, charitable activities, honors (Schreter Neckwear), newspaper articles
	Memory Lane, 1942-2001: Harvey and Phyllis Schreter and Family, 2014 1 DVD Notes: Edited video created by Harvey Schreter from 16mm family movies and 2001 oral history about the Schreter Neckwear Company. Original made on VHS; transferred to DVD by J. Lombardi in 2014.

Schreter Neckwear Company, 1950-2001

Box 3, Folder 1	Highlights and history, 1950-1992, undated
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Box 3, Folder 2	Cultures of Man collection, 1980-1981, undated
Box 12	Smithsonian Neckwear and Richard Leakey Skull Tie Editorials (Scrapbook) 1 Scrapbook
Box 9, Cassette 18-19	Oral history interview with Harvey Schreter, Schreter Tie Company, 2001 2 Sound cassettes

A. Harvey Schreter and Sons Company History: An interview with Harvey Schreter at the Baltimore Museum of Industry, May 2001
1 Videocassettes (VHS)

Explorers Club, 1982-2005

Box 3, Folder 3	Explorers Club application, correspondence, and photographs, 1982-2002, undated
	2005 Explorer Grants Program, 21 May 2005 1 Videocassettes (VHS) Notes: <i>A Lifetime of Exploration</i> by A. Harvey Schreter and <i>Acropolis of Umm el-Marra, Syria</i> by Adam Maskevich

The Schreter System, 2002-2007

Box 3, Folder 4	Promotional materials and correspondence, 2002-2007, undated
	The Schreter System "Isolates" the Sphincter and Pelvic Floor Muscles, 2003 1 Videocassettes (VHS) (12 min)

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