



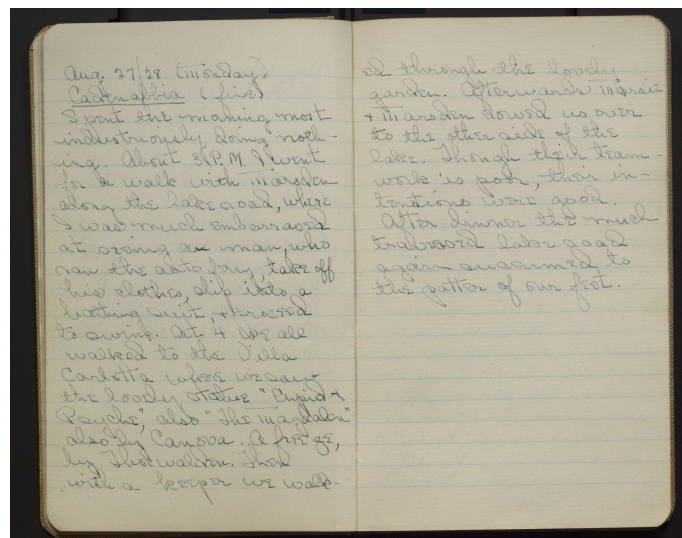
Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Dr. Joseph Underwood Hall Jr. Papers

NMAH.AC.1317

Vanessa Broussard Simmons

2017



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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Dr. Joseph Underwood Hall, Jr. Papers
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.1317
Date:	undated undated
Extent:	3 Cubic feet (12 boxes and 1 oversize folder)
Source:	Downs, Darian Hall, Joseph Underwood Jr.
Language:	English Collection text is in English.
Summary:	The collection primarily documents the personal life and medical career of Joseph Underwood Hall Jr. Hall was among the first to use the new X-ray technology and built his own X-ray machine.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated to the Archives Center in 2014 by Dr. Hall's granddaughter, Darian Downs.

Location of Originals

Box seven contains inactive mold present on the materials, which has been reduced with surface cleaning and vacuuming. Mold is dormant, but spores may spread and reactivate in certain conditions. Please practice the following hygiene guidelines to keep yourself and the collections safe. Photo-safe (nitrile synthetic, non-latex) gloves must be used when handling these materials. If you have difficulty writing or keyboarding notes, wear one glove on your non-dominant hand to turn pages while leaving the other ungloved. Avoid touching your eyes, mouth, and nose while and immediately after handling contents. Wash hands thoroughly after use. Persons with allergic sensitivities or breathing conditions should consider wearing an N-95 particulate mask when paging through these volumes. Gloves and masks are available from Reference staff. After use, gloves and masks should be discarded and surfaces should be cleaned.

Available Formats

Marian Spencer Hall travel diary (1928) digitized in 2014.

Processing Information

Processed by Vanessa Broussard Simmons, archivist, 2014.

Preferred Citation

Dr. Joseph Underwood Hall Jr. Papers, Archives Center, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Accruals

Additional materials were added to the collection in 2014.

Biographical / Historical

Dr. Joseph Underwood Hall Jr. was born on February 9, 1868 at Gold Hill, Story County, Nevada, the second child of Dr. Joseph Underwood Hall Sr. (1822-1898) and Katherine Bess White (1844-1918). Hall received his primary education at Gold Hill High School where he graduated in 1883 at the age of fifteen. Upon graduation, he left Nevada and travelled to San Francisco, California where he worked at a drug store while pursuing an education at the University of California School of Pharmacy. Following this phase of his education, he acquired a position at the Quicksilver Mining Company in New Almaden, California as a clerk and druggist for the Miners Fund Dispensary. In 1886, Hall studied medicine under Dr. S. E. Winn and assisted him in visiting patients, prescribing treatments and performing surgical procedures. In 1887, Hall attended Cooper Medical College and served as chief assistant at Dr. L. C. Lane's private clinic. Upon completion of this course of study, he moved to Philadelphia to attend Jefferson Medical College where he received his medical degree in April 1889.

Dr. Hall returned to California, in the summer of 1889, where he served as resident physician to the Quicksilver Mining Company in New Almaden, California, and remained there until 1894. He then pursued more medical training in Chicago and New York before returning to San Jose, California. He married Grace May Spencer (1871-1954), the daughter of Judge Francis Elias Spencer (1835-1898) and Mary Catherine Pray (1838-1903) on December 27, 1894 and opened a medical practice. To this union four children were born: Francis Spencer Hall (1896-1998), Joseph Underwood Hall III (1906-1907), Marshall Spencer Hall (1908-1990), and Marian Catherine Hall (1910-2003).

It was during this time that the doctor began working with the O'Connor Sanitarium and remained an important force for twenty-five years. On September 17, 1917, the United States Army appointed him Captain in the medical section of the Officer's Reserve Corps. He served on active duty at Fort Riley, Kansas until December 15, 1918. Upon his discharge, he opened a medical office in San Francisco, California. He continued to open offices throughout California during his medical career serving the local communities well. Dr. Hall's significance to the medical profession is his use of the new X-ray technology and the creation of his own X-ray machine, which is documented in in this collection.

Dr. Joseph Underwood Hall Jr. died on October 25, 1946 at the age of seventy-eight in San Francisco, California as the result of a rare type of bone cancer. He had assisted others for fifty-seven years in his medical practice.

Scope and Contents

The collection primarily documents the personal life and medical career of Dr. Joseph Underwood Hall Jr. There is a significant amount of material relating to both his paternal and maternal families and collateral relatives. The collection is arranged into two series. Series one contains the personal papers of Dr. Joseph Underwood Hall Jr. Series two documents the lives of his family.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into two series.

Series 1: Dr. Joseph Underwood Hall Jr., 1868-1967, undated

Series 2: Hall, White and Montague Families, 1780-1976, undated

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Mining -- California
Physicians -- California
X-rays

Names:

Downs, Darian

Container Listing

Series 1: Dr. Joseph Underwood Hall Jr. , 1868 - 1967, undated

Contains the personal papers of Dr. Joseph Underwood Hall, Jr. There are some material documenting his early education and later his medical training including graduation essays. A significant amount of correspondence dating from 1884-1945 covers most of his life and includes information about both his personal and profession activities. There is a small of information relating to his military career. A scrapbook compiled by Dr. Hall contains poetry; quotations; writings, including a one-paragraph statement written by him giving his opinion about women's suffrage; articles on medical subjects and about Dr. Hall, his X-Ray experiments, and people he knew in San Jose; articles about the New Almaden mine; speeches; announcements and invitations for events; items relating to Jefferson Medical College; and photographs of Dr. Hall, his family, his homes, his offices, the town of New Almaden, and his x-ray machine. Also included among these materials is a pocket diary containing accounting notes and addresses. A ledger book from the New Almaden Mine details accounting activities dating from 1890-1893. There are a number of cashbooks dating later in his life.

Box 7 contains inactive mold present on these materials, which has been reduced with surface cleaning and vacuuming. Mold is dormant, but spores may spread and reactivate in certain conditions. Please practice the following hygiene guidelines to keep yourself and the collections safe. Photo-safe (nitrile synthetic, non-latex) gloves must be used when handling these materials. If you have difficulty writing or keyboarding notes, wear one glove on your non-dominant hand to turn pages while leaving the other ungloved. Avoid touching your eyes, mouth, nose while and immediately after handling contents. Wash hands thoroughly after use. Persons with allergic sensitivities or breathing conditions should consider wearing an N-95 particulate mask when paging through these volumes. Gloves and masks are available from Reference staff. Gloves, masks should be discarded after use. Surfaces should be cleaned afterwards.

The materials are arranged in chronological order.

Box 9	Photographs, 1868 - 1942
Box 1, Folder 1	Report card, 1879 - 1880
Box 1, Folder 2	Essays and examination papers, 1879 - 1881
Box 7, Folder 1	Graduating essay and examination papers (original), 1879 - 1883
Box 1, Folder 3	Graduation essay and examination papers (copy), 1879 - 1883
Box 1, Folder 4	Notes, 1883 - 1919
Box 1, Folder 5	Correspondence, 1884
Box 1, Folder 6	Correspondence, 1885
Box 1, Folder 7	Correspondence, 1886
Box 1, Folder 8	Correspondence, 1887
Box 1, Folder 9	Diary, 1888 October 2

Box 1, Folder 10	Correspondence, 1888
Box 1, Folder 11	Correspondence, 1889
Box 2, Folder 1	Correspondence, 1890
Box 13, Folder 1	Expense book, March 1890
Box 2, Folder 2	Correspondence, 1891
Box 2, Folder 3	Correspondence, 1892
Box 2, Folder 4	Correspondence, 1892
Box 2, Folder 5	Correspondence, 1893
Box 2, Folder 6	Correspondence, 1894
Box 2, Folder 7	Business and membership cards, 1894-1924, undated
Box 2, Folder 8	Correspondence, 1895
Box 13, Folder 3	Scrapbook, 1895-1936, undated
Box 2, Folder 9	Correspondence, 1896
Box 2, Folder 10	Correspondence, 1898
Box 2, Folder 11	Correspondence, 1899
Box 2, Folder 12	Correspondence, 1900
Box 2, Folder 13	American Medical Association membership certificate, 1900
Box 2, Folder 14	Correspondence, 1901
Box 2, Folder 15	Correspondence, 1902
Box 2, Folder 16	Correspondence, 1903
Box 2, Folder 17	Correspondence, 1904
Box 2, Folder 18	Correspondence, 1908 - 1910
Box 2, Folder 19	Information relating to vision, 1911 - 1918
Box 2, Folder 20	Correspondence, 1912 - 1919
Box 3, Folder 1	Fourth Street property, 1912 - 1919
Box 3, Folder 2	Sixth Street property, 1913 - 1914

Box 3, Folder 3	American College of Surgeons, 1914
Box 3, Folder 4	Van Ness property papers, 1913 - 1919
Box 3, Folder 5	Announcements and license, 1918
Box 3, Folder 6	Dental Radiograph, 1919
Box 7, Folder 2	Medical Corps, United States Army letters and orders, 1918
Box 3, Folder 8	Information relating to health, 1924
Box 3, Folder 9	Oest Consolidated Mines Company, 1926
Box 3, Folder 10	Pennsylvania Railroad Itinerary, 1928 May 19
Box 3, Folder 11	Belmont Forums and Livestock Company, 1932
Box 3, Folder 12	Correspondence, 1933 - 1939
Box 3, Folder 13	Adjusted service certificate, Veterans Administration, 1936
Box 3, Folder 14	Materials relating to tobacco , 1938
Box 3, Folder 15	Cashbook, 1941
Box 3, Folder 16	Correspondence, 1942 - 1945
Box 3, Folder 17	Cashbook, 1942
Box 4, Folder 1	Cashbook, 1943
Box 4, Folder 2	Notebook, 1944
Box 4, Folder 3	Cashbook, 1944
Box 4, Folder 4	Cashbook, 1945
Box 4, Folder 5	American College of Surgeons, 1946
Box 5, Folder 1	Publication relating to Joseph Underwood Hall Jr., 1965
Box 5, Folder 2	Publications relating to Joseph Underwood Hall Jr., 1967
Box 5, Folder 3	Correspondence, undated

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Series 2: Hall, White and Montague Families, 1780 - 1976, undated

Includes the personal papers of the Hall, White, and Montague families. Most notable is a bound copy of the family history, based on a genealogy, written in 1898 by Joseph Underwood Hall Sr. In 1942 updates, comments and photographs were added by Joseph Underwood Hall Jr. A number of the documents and photographs included in this publication are also found among the personal papers of each family member. The family history begins with Judge John Hall who was born in Scotland in 1749. Judge Hall was a teacher, surveyor, mathematician, farmer, and sheriff in Barren County, Kentucky. Other materials not found in the published account of the family history include photographs, genealogies, travel diaries, baby books, correspondence between family members, financial documents, and property records. The materials are arranged first in chronological order and then by the creator or collector of the materials.

Box 5, Folder 4	Birthdates for Hall and White families, 1780 - 1881
Box 5, Folder 5	Michael Washington Hall, 1790 - 1820
Box 5, Folder 6	John Alexander Hall, 1802 - 1859
Box 5, Folder 8	Susannah Wellington Hall, 1820 - 1862
Box 5, Folder 9	Joseph Underwood Hall Sr., 1840 - 1870
Box 5, Folder 10	Joseph Underwood Hall Sr., 1871 - 1896
Box 5, Folder 11	Katherine Bess White Hall, 1871
Box 5, Folder 12	Household expenses, 1871 - 1872
Box 5, Folder 13	Leon Montague Hall, 1884 - 1924
Box 5, Folder 14	Body measurements, 1889
Box 5, Folder 16	Graily Hewitt Hall, 1893
Box 6, Folder 1	Sarah Francis Montague, 1893 - 1896
Box 6, Folder 2	Grace May Spencer Hall, 1895 - 1935
Box 6, Folder 3	Genealogy of Hall family written by Joseph Underwood Hall Sr., 1898
Box 6, Folder 4	Cypress Lawn Cemetery Association address, 1898 - 1928
Box 6, Folder 5	Hal Vernon Hall, 1898 - 1941
Box 6, Folder 6	Katherine Montague Hall, 1899
Box 6, Folder 7	Frances Spencer Hall, 1901
Box 6, Folder 8	Graily Hewitt Hall, 1901
Box 6, Folder 9	Marian Catherine Hall, 1910 - 1911

Box 6, Folder 10	Marian Catherine Hall, 1910 - 1925
Box 6, Folder 11	Grace Alexander Hall, 1915
Box 6, Folder 12	Marian Catherine Hall, 1918 - 1952
Box 6, Folder 13	[Marion Spencer Hall's Travel Diary], 1928 August 17 to 1928 September 14, 1928 <i>1 Item (8.5" x 7.1").</i> Image(s): Marian Spencer Hall (travel diary) Digital Content Hall, Joseph Underwood, 1881-1936, Author Travel diary written by Marion Spencer Hall while on a trip across Europe in 1928.. Ink on paper. Topic: Travel -- Europe Genre/Form: Diaries -- 20th century
Box 6, Folder 13	Marian Spencer Hall, 1919 - 1930
Box 6, Folder 14	Hall family history, 1942
Box 13, Folder 2	Notebook, 1943-1946
Box 6, Folder 15	Marshall Spencer Hall, 1976
Box 6, Folder 16	Miscellaneous correspondence, 1860, undated
Box 6, Folder 17	Montague family geneology, undated
Box 6, Folder 18	Expense account, undated
Box 6, Folder 19	Envelopes, undated
Box 8	Photographs, undated
Map-folder 1	Victoria, British Columbia and Island touring map , undated
Map-folder 2	World map, undated

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