Table of Contents

Collection Overview................................................................. 1
Administrative Information ...................................................... 1
Descriptive Entry................................................................. 1
Names and Subject Terms ....................................................... 1
Container Listing....................................................................... 3
Collection Overview

Repository: Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., osiaref@si.edu
Creator: Abbott, Jackson Miles.
Title: Jackson Miles Abbott Papers
Dates: circa 1931-1988
Quantity: 12 cu. ft. (12 record storage boxes)

Administrative Information

Prefered Citation
Smithsonian Institution Archives, Accession 92-117, Jackson Miles Abbott Papers

Descriptive Entry

These are the papers of Jackson Miles Abbott, noted bird watcher and authority on the American bald eagle. Papers include records of his bird sightings, his work on the preservation of the bald eagle, extensive notes on Virginia birds, as well as birds of other parts of the world, and his work to preserve Dyke Marsh.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:
- Birds -- Virginia.
- Birds -- Washington, D.C.
- Ornithologists
- Ornithology.

Types of Materials:
- Books
- Clippings
- Drawings
- Manuscripts
Names:
Abbott, Jackson Miles.
Container Listing

Box 1

Breeding Bird Atlas material (Virginia)

"Attracting Birds to Your Yard" - Abbott lecture and handouts

"Bird Migration" - Abbott lecture and handouts

Course in Ornithology, including material on wing and feather structure, why birds sing, bird anting, Audubon Society's Origin of Birds, bird development from beginning of time, photos, etc.

Notebook: Bird Banding Records 1960-1971 (1 of 2)

Box 2

Notebook: Bird Banding Records 1960-1971 (2 of 2)

Check Lists of Birds, 1960s to 1980s. Locations include Chincoteague, South Carolina, Bombay Hook, Fort Belvoir and local spots.

Blue Books - check lists of D.C. Region, Alexandria, Dyke Marsh, etc., 1948-1962

Bird Band Reports

Forms: Birds of Virginia Check List; Life List Data (Blank); Seasonal Abundances; How to Order Vireo Duplicate Slides; NVSO Park Birdlist Project; G.B. Heron & Sandhill Crane Info; Roadside Hawk Counts; Raptor Society of Metro Washington Nest Survey; Breeding Raptor Survey Project; International Shorebird Surveys (Manomet); Birds Frequenting SAV Beds: Hunting Creek Bay; Dyke Marsh and Overlook, Virginia Shoreline of Potomac River, Dyke to Mount Vernon (8 miles), Little Hunting Creek Bay.

Three cartons of eagle slides & Abbott's lecture "Bald Eagle Nest Sites in the Chesapeake Bay - A History" and "Bald Eagle Slides" numbered with comments.

Snapshots of various birds, many numbered on back.

"Articles to Write." Includes many or all rough drafts for "This Week's Migrant"; Coronary: What Mine was Like; plots for stories, etc.


Washington National Airport Bird Hazard Survey - December 1962 to December 1964 for U.S. Dept. of Interior. Includes all findings and periodic and final reports and recommendations. Abbott worked through the Audubon Naturalists' Society (ANS) on this project.
Chesapeake Bay - Abbott collection of materials on the health of the Bay.

Mason Neck - various maps and letters and clippings pertaining to Mason Neck including the last brochure with Abbott's eagle drawings in it.

U.K. Birders Visit April 1985 - Several letters from Steve Goodall, Don Peterson, and Abbott's workup of birding side trips in Florida.

Wildfowl Trust of North America

Huntley Meadows Park - maps, clippings, letters, etc. about H.M. and CASH.

Dyke Marsh - Letters, articles, clippings, bird check lists, maps, copies of "The Marsh Wren," etc.

Local Conservation/Environmentalists - Letters to/from Congressmen, etc.

Notebook: Abbott's Life Bird records; list of birds seen in D.C.; Alder and Willow Flycatchers seen at Dyke; "Birds of D.C." by Byron Swift; bird lists from Altadena, California, 1931; lists from Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Alexandria area, 1953. Also includes extensive migration records, 1938-1941; notes of birds seen by the month at Belvoir during the 1940s; notes on nests found in California, 1932 and Belvoir, 1955.

Miscellaneous - Abbott's letter during early 1950s to ANS asking to be qualified as senior field trip leader for birds, animals and plant life, and forms Abbott filled out detailing his knowledge and background and the resulting shoulder patch he received from ANS; List of life species, 1929-1973 (566); letters from Ray Chapman, Summerville, South Carolina, etc.

Box 3

Duck Hunting Along Potomac - clippings; letters to dignitaries, Endangered Species Act, etc.

Hydrilla - clippings about Abbott, about hydrilla, Abbott's report on hydrilla for the Waynewood Newsletter, September 1987; maps; publications.

SAV - Abbott's article "Dramatic Return of Waterfowl to the Potomac Estuary: January 1986; clippings and publications including US Fish & Wildlife, Annapolis, Maryland dated 5-16-1986 - An Ecological Study of Hydrilla in the Potomac River, Waterfowl Segment (Abbott and Ed Wiegel supplied information and are quoted).
Loon Sightings - Abbott's sighting October 27, 1983, Ft. Washington Overlook, George Washington Parkway of an Arctic Loon; Carl Carlson's writeup of Pacific Loon sighting at Ocean City, Maryland, 10 January 1971; Abbott's writeup of Arctic/Pacific/Black-throated Loon, Ocean City, Maryland on 3 April 1971; Abbott's writeup of Pacific Loon sighting at Assateague Island, Virginia, on 3 April 1976; Erika Wilson's letter to Abbott saying his Arctic Loon sighting 10-27-1983 was not accepted by the MOS Records Committee dated 18 August 1987; Abbott's hand-written pages of Records of Arctic Loons in Easter USA since 1968 and Abbott's letter to Teta Kan, VSO, dated 18 August 1987 requesting his sighting of the Arctic Loon be reconsidered for inclusion in the VSO checklist; the July 1987 VSO Newsletter; a copy of the March 1938 Massachusetts Audubon Society Bulletin mentioning Abbott as a new contributor and references to sightings of Pacific Loon by Ludlow Griscom.

Fort Belvoir - Abbott's "Birds of Fort Belvoir" checklist; Abbott's article, "Animal and Bird Life at Fort Belvoir" February 1971; Program for Earth Day, April 24, 1980, for dedication of Accotink Bay Wildlife Refuge with copies of photos' and General Kelly's remarks (Abbott was keynote speaker) and final staff study for the refuge; clippings about Abbott as "Bird Man of Fort Belvoir," articles Abbott wrote; maps, Natural Resources Conservation Reports, etc.

Clippings about Abbott, articles he wrote, illustrations for articles, letters, Duck Stamp materials, photos of Abbott paintings, copies of Christmas cards, author index of Abbott articles in Atlantic Naturalist, etc.

Publicity - Photos of Abbott; articles by and about him; letters; Abbott article, "World War II Service in England"; Abbott reviews of books about eagles; January 1979 Swarthmore Magazine with article about Abbott; Pennsylvania Game News Magazine of May 1951; bird charts by JBA; letters and Certificates of Appreciation for talks on birds; Virginia Wildlife Magazine June 1958 with article, "Death on the Highway" and of July 1961 with article, "The Effects of Owl Predation on Rodent Populations," etc.

Bird Artists - Slides, lecture notes, list of slides by number, list of type of work and dates for each artist.

Publications


Chesapeake Bay Bald Eagle Banding Project, 1981, National Wildlife Federation, 2 copies.


Maryland Rivers Study - National Park Service (NPS), Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources, 1985.


Book - "Birds of Trinidad, B.W.I, observed by Jackson M. Abbott 14 March 1942-26 May 1942; 14 Sept 1942 - 1 May 1945." Principal areas of observations: Port of Spain, Chacachacare Island, Green Hill, Icacos Point, Fort Read. Map of Trinidad - Birds, write-up and dates from #1-#171. Illustrations in colored pencil.

Notebook - Birds Seen in Australia & New South Wales. 28 September-10 October 1968; 9 October-29 October 1971; 14 January-25 January 1978; Notes and illustrations and lists of birds seen at SME, Casula, NSW & to be seen at NSW.

Box 4

Notebook - Dyke Marsh Observations for 1955, 1956 (1 page 1954). Reproduced form giving date, time, weather and code for showing on map (on reverse) all info on each bird by number (58 listed) and other symbols, including nesting info and other birds seen (not listed).


Articles on Communism

Copy of application and papers for the J. Paul Getty Wildlife Conservation Prize.

Waynewood Citizens' Association - Executive Board Meetings. Contains the first and some subsequent copies of the Waynewood Newsletter, and all of those during the time Abbott was President, early sixties.

Letters to Congress about the environment, etc.

Notebook - Combination List for Birds of North America - Abbott's life list, USA & worldwide, 986 species.

Notebook - VSO - Abbott on Board of Directors 1986-1988 and other mentions. By-laws, minutes, general correspondence including request for details of his sightings of Western Tanagers in May 1956 & April 1974. Also VSO Newsletters and Northern Virginia Chapter Newsletters. 5 July 1987 nesting record of a Pine Siskin was accepted 13 March 1988.

Bird Notes


Notebook: Bird Notes from Southern California 1931-1942 and Bird Notes from the Eastern States 1934-1939; notes, photos of birds/eggs/nests; map of Gilmanton, New Hampshire, where nests were found (1938); sketches, June 1939 column "A Royal of Swans" by Sam Scoville; "Index to Volume I 10/26/1931-12/31/1939; clippings from 1940 on the sighting of rare European white-eyed duck; watercolor by Abbott of White-winged Crossbills at Harrisville, New Hampshire 3/26/1941; list of birds seen in Southern California 1929-1931; etc.


Notebook: Bird Notes 1970-1984 - records, notes, sketches, letters, articles, clippings recording birds seen,

Notebook: Bird Notes 1985 - bird lists, records, articles, clippings relating to birds seen.
Virginia Birding Spots - Names, locations, maps, directions, habitats, birds to be seen, prepared by Abbott for the following Northern Virginia Birding Spots: Huntley Meadows Park current to 1984; Arlington National Cemetery current to April 1984 and May 1985; Mason Neck to April 1984 and March 1985; The Mount Vernon Trail and The Mount Vernon Estate to April 1984 and May 1985; Hunting Creek Bay and Jones Point Park to April 1984 and May 1985; Dyke Marsh to April 1984 & May 1985; Roaches Run to April 1984 and May 1984; Four Mile Run April 1984 and March 1985; Burke Lake Park April 1984 and March 1985; Daingerfield Island April 1984 and May 1984; Monticello Park April 1984 and March 1985; Chinquapin Park February 1984 and March 1985; Fort Hunt Park April 1984 and March 1985; Accotink Bay Wildlife Refuge, Fort Belvoir, to April 1984. Each has checklist with birds counted attached. A list of locations of unique or rare wildlife in Fairfax County is included. Also Virginia Birding Site Guide published 1985 by VSO and "Where to Bird in Virginia" published 1980 by VSO.

Box 5

Audubon Naturalist Newspapers, 1950-1987

Ravens and A Checklist of Birds of Virginia by J.J. Murray for 1952.

Ravens for May-June 1953; July-August 1953; May-June 1957 and June-July 1955.


Bird Study and Identification Talks using slides.


Sympathy Letters from Birding World - other announcements and awards.

ANS Retrospective Art Exhibit February 1989


Earth Day, 20 April 1990.
Signing Ceremony, early 1991 giving Fort Belvoir use of "Flight Over Belvoir" as its new symbol. Photos, General West's speech and wife's and newspaper with eagle.

Notebooks: Bald Eagle Nest Records - Maryland, east side of Chesapeake Bay and Coastal; Bald Eagle Nest Records - Maryland, west side of Chesapeake Bay and Potomac, Patuxent and Susquehanna Rivers

Box 6

Bald Eagle Nest Records - Virginia-Rappahannock, York, James Rivers & Coastal and Inland Counties; Bald Eagle Nest Records - Virginia-Potomac River.

Notebook: Bald Eagle Nest Records-Delaware, eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey

Notebook: Chesapeake Bay Bald Eagle Recovery Team (CBBERT)

Chesapeake Bay Bald Eagle Recovery Plan w/Abbott's eagle on cover. May 1982 (3 copies)

North American Nest Record Card Program, Cornell


Box 7

"Strictly For the Watchers" - Abbott's column on This Week's Migrant that ran in The Sunday Star during the early 1960s

Topo Maps-Virginia, Maryland, Delaware

Potomac River Map

Map-Chesapeake Bay Region

Map-Fall Line, etc.

Alexandria Birding Spots

World Map

E. Bird Forms

E. Bird List Forms

Life List Forms

Bird Song Records

American Bird Artists

Raptor Counts

Shorebird Survey
ABA - American Birding Association
Shorebird Survey
Bird-A-Thon
Partlow, Virginia, Breeding Bird Census
Color Banded Swan/Geese/Duck
State Birds
Letters to Congress
Sample Letters, etc.
Ecology
Eagle Count/Census Forms (and maps)


Maps
1956-1961 Eagle Nest Data
Bald Eagle Range and Population
Eagle Counts Along Potomac from Helicopter
Winter Eagle Count Form
Detailed Annual Eagle Nest Success Form
Flight Report Form
"Mich Reports"

Box 8

Eagle Data, General
Eagle Data - Chesapeake Bay, general
Year Folders
1988 (2)
1987
1986
1985
1984 Eagle Nest Data
1983 Bald Eagle Data (2)
1982
1981
1980
1979
1978

Box 9

1977
1976
1975 Bald Eagle Nest Survey
1966-1974 Bald Eagle Nest Data
1965 Bald Eagle Nest Survey
1964 Bald Eagle Nest Data
1964 Eagle Census
1963 Eagle Census
1963 Bald Eagle Nest Data
1962 Eagle Nesting Data
1962 Eagle Population Survey
1962 Eagle Nest Report
1936 Bald Eagle Nest Data (Bryant Tyrrel)

Pesticides vs. Eagles, etc.
Ospreys and Peregrines
Writing-Recovery Plan Part 1A
Recoveries of Banded Bald Eagles

Bald Eagle Nest Sites

Eagle Food

Non-Pesticide Disturbances (Eagles/Raptors)

Box 10
Animals Folders

Prehistoric
Currently Rare Animals
Predators and "Vermin"
Most Dangerous Animals
Animal Behavior
Animal Names
Animal Ages
Speed of Animals
Tracks
Natural Camouflage-Animal Coloration
Animal Censuses
Animals in Winter
Animals of Various Geographic Regions
Current Notes and Incidents on Animals
Domestic Animals
Wild Animals

Box 11

Felines
Weasels
Raccoons
Seals and Walruses
VSO By-Laws
Alexandria Sector Count and D.C. Christmas Count Notebooks
Chincoteague-Cape Charles Christmas Count Notebooks
VSO Rarities Committee, Actions from 1985 on
Bird Lore Vols. 6-19 (1902-1917)
Bird Lore 1918-1940
Bird Lore Christmas Census; 33rd - 40th

Audubon Field Notes - Christmas Bird Counts April 1962, Vol 16, No 2 - 62nd thru 70th

Audubon Magazine - January-February 1943, March-April 1943, May-June 1943

Audubon Magazine - Christmas Bird Count Issues 1949


Box 12

Abbott's Old Eagle Movie - Bought from National Audubon Society I think, years ago, and shown over and over to groups of all sorts who were interested in birds and especially in eagles.