



Smithsonian Institution Archives

Records, circa 1854-1890

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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Historical Note.....	1
Descriptive Entry.....	1
Names and Subjects	1
Container Listing	3

Collection Overview

Repository:	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., osiaref@si.edu
Title:	Records
Identifier:	Record Unit 57
Date:	circa 1854-1890
Extent:	1.50 cu. ft. (3 document boxes)
Creator::	Smithsonian Institution. Assistant Secretary in charge of the United States National Museum
Language:	English

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 57, Smithsonian Institution, Assistant Secretary in charge of the United States National Museum, Records

Historical Note

Spencer Fullerton Baird was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution in 1850, with primary responsibility for the direction of the United States National Museum. The title "Assistant Secretary" was not reserved for the administrator of the museum; and throughout the history of the Institution there have been officials known as Assistant Secretaries who had other duties. During the 1940s the title, Assistant Secretary was permanently attached to other duties, and the responsibility for the museum fell to an official known as Director, United States National Museum.

Descriptive Entry

These records document the tenures of Assistant Secretaries Spencer Fullerton Baird, 1850-1881; and G. Brown Goode, 1881-1896, including the years 1881-1887 when he served as Assistant Director of the Museum without the title of Assistant Secretary.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Museums -- Administration
Museums -- Collection management

Types of Materials:

Manuscripts

Names:

Baird, Spencer Fullerton, 1823-1887
Henry, Joseph, 1797-1878
Langley, S. P. (Samuel Pierpont), 1834-1906
Smithsonian Institution -- Administration
Smithsonian Institution. Office of the Secretary
United States National Museum

Container Listing

Box 1

Box 1 of 3 Folders 1-4 Secretary, outgoing registers, circa 1860-1890

Box 1 of 3 Folder 5 Assistant Secretary, outgoing registers, January-September 1854

Box 2

Box 2 of 3 Folders 1-4 Assistant Secretary, incoming and outgoing registers, October 1854-July 1861

Box 3

Box 3 of 3 Folders 1-3 Assistant Secretary, incoming and outgoing registers, January 1862-June 1872