



Smithsonian Institution Archives

## Mammal Identification Service Records, 1966-1976

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., <a href="mailto:osiaref@si.edu">osiaref@si.edu</a>
<b>Title:</b>	Mammal Identification Service Records
<b>Identifier:</b>	Record Unit 407
<b>Date:</b>	1966-1976
<b>Extent:</b>	1 cu. ft. (1 record storage box)
<b>Creator::</b>	National Museum of Natural History. Mammal Identification Service
<b>Language:</b>	English

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## Administrative Information

### Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 407, National Museum of Natural History.  
Mammal Identification Service, Mammal Identification Service Records

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## Historical Note

The Mammal Identification Service (MIS) was established in 1966. It was located in the Division of Mammals, National Museum of Natural History, and supported jointly by the Smithsonian and the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Charles O. Handley, Jr., Curator in the Division of Mammals, was Principal Investigator of the project. Gary L. Ranck was appointed Curator of MIS in 1966. Ranck resigned the following year and was replaced by Ronald H. Pine, who served until 1973. The MIS was terminated in 1974 when NIH support ceased.

The primary purpose of MIS was to provide rapid identifications of mammals of medical and epidemiological importance. In addition to providing identifications, MIS published manuals on the classification and identification of mammals, and trained paramedical workers in techniques for the collection and field preservation of specimens.

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## Descriptive Entry

These records document the eight-year history of MIS and consist of correspondence of Handley, Ranck, and Pine concerning the creation of the project, the identification of mammal specimens, professional activities, and administrative matters; proposals submitted to NIH to provide funding for MIS; annual reports and a final report of the project; and administrative records.

## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Mammalogy  
Mammals -- Identification

Types of Materials:

Manuscripts

Names:

Handley, Charles O. (Charles Overton), 1924-2000  
National Institutes of Health (U.S.)  
National Museum of Natural History (U.S.). Division of Mammals  
Pine, Ronald H.  
Ranck, Gary L. (Gary Laval), 1933-

## Container Listing

### Box 1

Box 1 of 1	History of the Mammal Identification Service (MIS), 1966-1974
Box 1 of 1	MIS, 1966-1976 (9 folders)
Box 1 of 1	MIS - Current Status
Box 1 of 1	MIS News Releases
Box 1 of 1	MIS Finances
Box 1 of 1	Budget - Accounts
Box 1 of 1	Work Orders - MIS Prop.
Box 1 of 1	Requisitions, Equipment, Supplies - MIS Prop.
Box 1 of 1	Holdings in Collection - MIS Prop.
Box 1 of 1	Use of Computer - MIS Prop.
Box 1 of 1	Specimens - Taken to New York, Chicago - MIS Prop.
Box 1 of 1	Ranck's Bolivian Travel Hassle - MIS Prop.
Box 1 of 1	Job Applicants
Box 1 of 1	Exhibits
Box 1 of 1	Requisitions - Stock and Service - MIS Prop.
Box 1 of 1	Literature Ordered - Not Received - MIS Prop.
Box 1 of 1	Literature Ordered - Received - MIS Prop.
Box 1 of 1	MIS Correspondence, A-Z (20 folders)