



Smithsonian Institution Archives

Charles Rau Papers, 1859-1886

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., osiaref@si.edu
Title:	Charles Rau Papers
Identifier:	Record Unit 7070
Date:	1859-1886
Extent:	0.5 cu. ft. (1 document box) (1 oversize folder)
Creator::	Rau, Charles, 1826-1887
Language:	English

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 7070, Charles Rau Papers

Historical Note

Charles Rau (1826-1887), archeologist, was born in Belgium and attended the University of Heidelberg. In 1848, Rau emigrated to the United States, where he taught foreign languages at schools in Illinois and New York City. While teaching, he conducted anthropological research on aboriginal Americans. Rau was appointed Resident Collaborator in Ethnology, United States National Museum (USNM) in 1875, and was given the responsibility for setting up the Smithsonian Institution's anthropological exhibits at the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition. From 1881 until his death, Rau was Curator of the Department of Archeology, USNM. Rau wrote articles and books on native Americans and on archeology in general, and many of his works were printed in Smithsonian publications.

Descriptive Entry

These papers consist of correspondence from Joseph Henry, Spencer Fullerton Baird, and scientific organizations, colleges, and libraries concerning archeological specimens and Rau's articles sent to the Smithsonian for publication; membership certificates; acknowledgment for books sent; formal death notices; a memorandum of agreement between Rau and Harper and Brothers; and statutes of two European anthropological organizations. Oversize material consists of certificates, a pencil drawing, and two Asian documents.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Anthropology
Archaeologists
Archaeology

Types of Materials:

Drawings
Manuscripts

Names:

Baird, Spencer Fullerton, 1823-1887
Centennial Exhibition (1876 : Philadelphia, Pa.)
Harper & Brothers
Henry, Joseph, 1797-1878
Rau, Charles, 1826-1887
United States National Museum
United States National Museum. Department of Archeology
Universität Heidelberg

Container Listing

Series 1: Correspondence, Arranged Alphabetically, 1859-1886.

Box 1

Box 1 of 1	Folder 1 A
Box 1 of 1	Folder 2 Spencer Fullerton Baird, 1868-1880
Box 1 of 1	Folder 3 Bo - G
Box 1 of 1	Folder 4 Joseph Henry, 1859-1865
Box 1 of 1	Folder 5 Joseph Henry, 1866-1870
Box 1 of 1	Folder 6 Joseph Henry, 1871-1876
Box 1 of 1	Folder 7 K - P
Box 1 of 1	Folder 8 R - W

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Series 2: Memorandum of Agreement, Statutes, and Miscellaneous.

Box 1

Box 1 of 1 Folder 10 Memorandum of Agreement

Box 1 of 1 Folder 11 Statutes

Box 1 of 1 Folder 12 Miscellaneous

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Series 3: Large Format Materials.

Oversize

Oversize

Certificates, a pencil drawing, and two Asian documents

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