



Smithsonian Institution Archives

Charles Elmer Resser Papers,
1912-1942 and undated

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Washington, D.C.
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., osiaref@si.edu
Title:	Charles Elmer Resser Papers
Identifier:	Record Unit 7232
Date:	1912-1942 and undated
Extent:	4.58 cu. ft. (8 document boxes) (1 tall document box)
Creator::	Resser, Charles Elmer, 1889-1943
Language:	English

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 7232, Charles Elmer Resser Papers

Historical Note

Charles Elmer Resser (1889-1943), paleontologist, was born in East Berlin, Pennsylvania. He was educated at Pennsylvania State Teachers College, B. Ped., 1912; Franklin and Marshall College, B.A., 1913; Princeton University, M.A., 1915; and The George Washington University, Ph.D., 1917. Resser's interest in Cambrian fossils was developed while a student of H. Justin Roddy at Franklin and Marshall.

In 1914 Resser came to the United States National Museum as an assistant to Charles D. Walcott. In 1915 he was appointed Assistant Curator in the Division of Paleontology and subsequently held positions as Assistant Curator, Division of Stratigraphic Paleontology, 1923; Associate Curator, Division of Stratigraphic Paleontology, 1924-1928; Curator, Division of Stratigraphic Paleontology, 1929-1940; and Curator, Division of Invertebrate Paleontology and Paleobotany, 1941-1943. Resser was also a part-time faculty member at The George Washington University, 1915-1932. Resser also taught geology at the University of Maryland for several years.

Descriptive Entry

These papers consist of Resser's professional correspondence, 1912-1940 and undated; notebooks from field trips in the United States and museum collection study trips in Europe; a manuscript on Wisconsin localities at the Milwaukee Public Museum; and photographs from his field trips.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Geology
- Paleontologists
- Paleontology

Types of Materials:

- Black-and-white photographs
- Diaries
- Exhibition catalogs
- Field notes
- Journals (accounts)
- Manuscripts
- Scrapbooks

Names:

- Franklin and Marshall College
- George Washington University
- Milwaukee Public Museum
- Pennsylvania State Teachers College
- Princeton University
- Resser, Charles Elmer, 1889-1943
- Roddy, H. Justin (Henry Justin), 1856-1943
- United States National Museum. Division of Invertebrate Paleontology and Paleobotany
- United States National Museum. Division of Paleontology
- United States National Museum. Division of Stratigraphic Paleontology
- University of Maryland at College Park
- Walcott, Charles D. (Charles Doolittle), 1850-1927

Container Listing

Series 1: GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE, 1912-1940 AND UNDATED.

This series consists of Resser's incoming and outgoing correspondence as a student and later while employed at the Smithsonian's United States National Museum with national and international geologists. Correspondence concerns the identification and exchange of specimens; administration of the Department of Geology; and the continuation of Charles D. Walcott's Cambrian studies.

Box 1

- Box 1 of 9 Folder 1 Baker, Fred, 1923-1924
- Box 1 of 9 Folder 2 Beckwith, Frank, 1928-1933
- Box 1 of 9 Folder 3 Cobbold, Edgar S., 1914, 1921-1936
- Box 1 of 9 Folder 4 Edwards, Ira, 1925-1934
- Box 1 of 9 Folder 5 Ehman, Philip, 1926-1931
- Box 1 of 9 Folder 6 Endo, Riuji, 1925-1934
- Box 1 of 9 Folder 7 Foerste, August F., 1920-1925
- Box 1 of 9 Folder 8 Geological Society of America, 1927-1938
- Box 1 of 9 Folder 9 Guggenheim Fellowships, 1928-1929
- Box 1 of 9 Folder 10 Harcourt, Brace and Co., 1925-1931
- Box 1 of 9 Folder 11 Howell, Benjamin F., 1915-1919
- Box 1 of 9 Folder 12 Howell, Benjamin F., 1920-1922

Box 2

- Box 2 of 9 Folder 1 Howell, Benjamin F., 1923
- Box 2 of 9 Folder 2 Howell, Benjamin F., 1924
- Box 2 of 9 Folder 3 Howell, Benjamin F., 1925-1926

Box 2 of 9 Folder 4 Howell, Benjamin F., 1927-1928

Box 2 of 9 Folder 5 Howell, Benjamin F., 1929

Box 2 of 9 Folder 6 Howell, Benjamin F., 1930-1931

Box 2 of 9 Folder 7 Howell, Benjamin F., 1932-1933

Box 3

Box 3 of 9 Folder 1 Howell, Benjamin F., 1934-1935

Box 3 of 9 Folder 2 Howell, Benjamin F., 1936-1937

Box 3 of 9 Folder 3 Howell, Benjamin F., 1938-1939

Box 3 of 9 Folder 4 Hurlbut Collection, 1934-1935

Box 3 of 9 Folder 5 Keyte, I.A., 1922-1927

Box 3 of 9 Folder 6 Kindle, E.M., 1920-1937 and undated

Box 3 of 9 Folder 7 Koch, Lauge, 1924-1931

Box 3 of 9 Folder 8 Koch, Lauge - First Tour, 1929-1930

Box 3 of 9 Folder 9 Koch, Lauge - Second Tour, 1930

Box 3 of 9 Folder 10 Koliha, Jan, 1925-1935

Box 3 of 9 Folder 11 McKee, Edwin D., 1930-1933

Box 3 of 9 Folder 12 Maryland University, 1928-1933

Box 3 of 9 Folder 13 National Research Council, 1938-March, 1939

Box 4

Box 4 of 9 Folder 1 National Research Council, April, 1939-1940

Box 4 of 9 Folder 2 Pack, Frederick J., 1927-1930

Box 4 of 9 Folder 3 Poor, Henry Warren, 1927-1929

Box 4 of 9	Folder 4 Reeds, Chester A., 1934-1935
Box 4 of 9	Folder 5 Roddy, H. Justin, 1912-1927
Box 4 of 9	Folder 6 Roddy, H. Justin, 1928-1936
Box 4 of 9	Folder 7 Smithsonian Committees, 1925-1926 and undated
Box 4 of 9	Folder 8 Walker, R.T., 1924
Box 4 of 9	Folder 9 Wetmore, Alexander (Museum), 1920, 1925-1931, 1937, 1940
Box 4 of 9	Folder 10 White, David, 1929-1932
Box 4 of 9	Folder 11 WPA, 1936-1940

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Series 2: FIELD NOTEBOOKS, DIARIES, ACCOUNT BOOKS, AND MISCELLANEOUS NOTEBOOKS, 1913-1942 AND UNDATED. ARRANGED CHRONOLOGICALLY.

This series consists of field notebooks, diaries, account books, and other notebooks maintained by Resser while on various field trips, including his study of European museum collections in 1925 and 1931.

Box 5

- Box 5 of 9 Folder 1 Field Notebook: Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, 1913, 1918, 1920.
Includes maps of Lancaster County.
- Box 5 of 9 Folder 2 Field Notebook: Montana, 1914
[Digital Content: Field Notebook: Montana, 1914](#)
- Box 5 of 9 Folder 3 Field Notebook: Virginia, Tennessee, and Alabama, 1923
[Digital Content: Field Notebook: Virginia, Tennessee, and Alabama, 1923](#)
- Box 5 of 9 Folder 4 Diary and Account Book: Virginia, 1923
- Box 5 of 9 Folder 5 Field Notebook: Nevada, Utah, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, and
Montana, 1923-1924, 1926
[Digital Content: Field Notebook: Nevada, Utah, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado,
and Montana, 1923-1924, 1926](#)
- Box 5 of 9 Folder 6 Diary: Rocky Mountain Trips, 1923-1924
[Digital Content: Diary: Rocky Mountain Trips, 1923-1924](#)
- Box 5 of 9 Folder 7 Account Book: Rocky Mountain Trips, 1923-1924
- Box 5 of 9 Folder 8 Diary: Europe, 1925
[Digital Content: Diary: Europe, 1925](#)
- Box 5 of 9 Folder 9 Account Book: Rocky Mountain Trips, 1926

Box 6

- Box 6 of 9 Folder 1 Account Book: Rocky Mountain Trips, 1927-1930
- Box 6 of 9 Folder 2 Record of Publications, 1927-1942
- Box 6 of 9 Folder 3 Account Book: Europe, 1930-1931
- Box 6 of 9 Folder 4 Field Notebook: Virginia and Tennessee, 1934-1941

[Digital Content: Field Notebook: Virginia and Tennessee, 1934-1941](#)

Box 6 of 9 Folder 5 Account Book: Virginia, Tennessee, and Canada, 1935, 1937, 1942

Box 6 of 9 Folder 6 Diary: Virginia, Central Pennsylvania, New York, Canada, and New England, 1936-1937, 1939

[Digital Content: Diary: Virginia, Central Pennsylvania, New York, Canada, and New England, 1936-1937, 1939](#)

Box 6 of 9 Folder 7 Account Book: Rocky Mountain Trips, 1940-1941

Box 6 of 9 Folder 8 Rocky Mountain Area Localities, undated

[Digital Content: Rocky Mountain area localities, undated](#)

Box 6 of 9 Folder 9 Cambrian Fossils in Europe, undated

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Series 3: UNPUBLISHED MANUSCRIPT ON WISCONSIN LOCALITIES, UNDATED.

This series consists of a typed manuscript on Wisconsin locality numbers and descriptions used by the Milwaukee Public Museum's Department of Geology. It is not known whether this manuscript was written by Resser.

Box 7

Box 7 of 9

Folder 1 Wisconsin Localities Manuscripts, undated

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Series 4: PHOTOGRAPHS, 1923-1940. ARRANGED CHRONOLOGICALLY.

This series consists of photographs taken by Resser on his field trips. Many of the photographs are identified and dated.

Box 7

Box 7 of 9 Volume 1 Photograph Album, 1923-1925

Box 8

Box 8 of 9 Volume 1 Photograph Album, 1923-1929

Box 8 of 9 Volume 2 Photograph Album, circa 1931-1940

Box 9

Box 9 of 9 Volume 1 Photograph Album, 1940-1941

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