



Smithsonian Institution Archives

Edwin Kirk Papers, 1783-1893,  
1905-1941 and undated

Finding aid prepared by Smithsonian Institution Archives

Smithsonian Institution Archives  
Washington, D.C.  
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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>	Edwin Kirk Papers
<b>Identifier:</b>	Record Unit 7245
<b>Date:</b>	1783-1893, 1905-1941 and undated
<b>Extent:</b>	0.5 cu. ft. (1 document box)
<b>Creator::</b>	Kirk, Edwin, 1884-
<b>Language:</b>	English

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## Administrative Information

### Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 7245, Edwin Kirk Papers

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## Historical Note

Edwin Kirk (1884-1955) was educated at Columbia University where he received his Ph.D. degree in 1911. While at Columbia, Kirk was an Assistant to Amadeus W. Grabau, one of America's foremost teachers of geology and paleontology. In 1907, Kirk left Columbia to become an Assistant Paleontologist with the United States Geological Survey (USGS). In 1909, he was promoted to Junior Geologist, and subsequently held positions as Assistant Geologist, 1911-1913; Associate Geologist, 1913-1914; Paleontologist, 1914-1920; Associate Geologist, 1921-1952; and Geologist, 1952-1954. In 1920, Kirk interrupted his service with the USGS to become a paleontologist with the Bolivia-Argentina Exploration Corporation.

When Kirk joined the USGS he was an Assistant to Edward Oscar Ulrich, studying Ordovician and Silurian sediments of the Appalachians. Later, Kirk made field trips to the Rocky Mountains, the Great Basin, and southeastern Alaska. Kirk also had an avocational interest in the history of science.

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## Introduction

This finding aid was digitized with funds generously provided by the Smithsonian Institution Women's Committee.

## Descriptive Entry

These papers consist of memoranda and correspondence concerning USGS publications, identification of specimens, and collection and field reports submitted to the USGS; miscellaneous writings; field and locality notes; a specimen list; and a small group of autograph letters of 18th and 19th century European scientists collected by Kirk.

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Geologists
- Geology
- Paleontologists
- Paleontology

Types of Materials:

- Manuscripts

Names:

- Bolivia-Argentina Exploration Corporation
- Columbia University
- Geological Survey (U.S.)
- Grabau, Amadeus W. (Amadeus William), 1870-1946
- Kirk, Edwin, 1884-
- Ulrich, E. O. (Edward Oscar), 1857-1944

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## Container Listing

Series 1: Correspondence and Memoranda, 1905, 1915, 1920-1933, 1941 and undated.

Box 1

Box 1 of 1

Folder 1 Correspondence, 1905, 1915, 1920-1933, 1941 and undated

Box 1 of 1

Folder 2 Memoranda, 1928-1932

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## Series 2: Miscellaneous Writings, 1926 and undated.

### Box 1

- Box 1 of 1                      Folder 3 Book Review of *An Upper Ordovician Fauna from the Rocky Mountains, British Columbia, 1926*
- Box 1 of 1                      Folder 4 Miscellaneous writings, undated. Includes "Notes on the Jefferson Limestone of the Rocky Mountains," an unpublished manuscript.

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## Series 3: Notes and Specimen List, 1905-1922 and undated.

### Box 1

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| Box 1 of 1 | Folder 5 Locality notes, 1905-1907, 1922 and undated. Includes notes from Utah, Idaho, Colorado, and British Columbia. |
| Box 1 of 1 | Folder 6 Field notes, 1911. Includes notes from Tennessee.   |
| Box 1 of 1 | Folder 7 Field notes, 1912   |
| Box 1 of 1 | Folder 8 Field notes, 1914-1915. Includes notes from the Grand Teton Quadrangle and Wyoming.                           |
| Box 1 of 1 | Folder 9 Field notes, 1914, 1920. Includes notes from British Columbia.  |
| Box 1 of 1 | Folder 10 Field notes, circa 1922. Includes notes from British Columbia.   |
| Box 1 of 1 | Folder 11 Specimen list, undated. Data includes locality, collector, and date of collection.                           |

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## Series 4: Autograph Letters, 1783-1893 and undated.

This series consists of autograph letters of 18th and 19th century European scientists collected by Edwin Kirk. The letters, written chiefly in French and German, are mostly of French and German scholars, although at the least one appears to be Dutch. In some cases, engraved portraits of the authors accompany the letters. The letters are arranged by the nationality of the author and alphabetically thereunder. Some of the signatures are difficult to read, thus the folder titles may be incorrect.

### Box 1

#### Dutch

Box 1 of 1 Folder 12 Reinwardt, Casper George Carl

#### French

Box 1 of 1 Folder 13 Arago, Dominique Francois Jean, 1844

Box 1 of 1 Folder 14 Beayes (?), 1826

Box 1 of 1 Folder 15 Berrier Fontaine (?), undated

Box 1 of 1 Folder 16 Bocoust (?), undated

Box 1 of 1 Folder 17 Bosc, Louis Augustin Guillaum, 1826

Box 1 of 1 Folder 18 Breschet, Gilbert, undated

Box 1 of 1 Folder 19 Brisseau Mirbel, Charles Francis, 1839

Box 1 of 1 Folder 20 Brisson, Mathurin-Jacques, undated

Box 1 of 1 Folder 21 Brule, A. M., 1862

Box 1 of 1 Folder 22 Chen (?), 1832. Name incomplete.

Box 1 of 1 Folder 23 Daubenton, Louis Jean-Marie, 1783

Box 1 of 1 Folder 24 DeBrebisson (?), 1836

Box 1 of 1 Folder 25 Hamy, Jules Theodore Ernest, 1889

Box 1 of 1 Folder 26 Haug, Rene F., 1811

Box 1 of 1 Folder 27 Lommed, M. C., 1833

Box 1 of 1 Folder 28 Vauquelin, Louis Nicolas, 1820

Box 1 of 1 Folder 29 Zeiller, Rene Charles, 1893



German

Box 1 of 1	Folder 30 Germar, Ernst Friedrich, 1830
Box 1 of 1	Folder 31 Hoepfner (?), 1833
Box 1 of 1	Folder 32 Jacobi, Carl Gustav Jacob, 1838
Box 1 of 1	Folder 33 Lippold, F. F. (?), 1829
Box 1 of 1	Folder 34 Schroter, Johann Samuel, 1808
Box 1 of 1	Folder 35 Waltershausen, W. S. (?), 1846
Box 1 of 1	Folder 36 Unidentified

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