



Smithsonian Institution Archives

Paul Louis Illg Interview, 1978

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., osiaref@si.edu
Title:	Paul Louis Illg Interview
Identifier:	Record Unit 9609
Date:	1978
Extent:	1 audiotape (reference copy).
Creator::	Illg, Paul L. interviewee
Language:	Language of Materials: English

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 9609, Paul Louis Illg Interview

Use Restriction

Restricted.

Historical Note

Paul Louis Illg (1914-1998) received his B.A. in 1936 and M.A. in 1941 from the University of California at Berkeley. He began his Ph.D. program at Berkeley but his studies were interrupted by World War II. After completing his wartime service, Illg was appointed Associate Curator of Invertebrate Zoology in the National Museum of Natural History from 1947 to 1952, while completing his Ph.D. at The George Washington University in 1952. Illg spent the remainder of his career at the University of Washington teaching zoology, as Assistant Professor in 1952, then Associate Professor, and Professor from 1969 to 1982. He specialized in the systematics and evolution of Crustacea, conducting field work from the Friday Harbor Laboratories. Illg published prodigiously for more than fifty years on parasitic copepods, particularly those living in ascidians. His research on microscopic ascidicolous copepods greatly extended biological and taxonomic knowledge, and illuminated evolutionary processes in these extremely complex parasitic crustaceans.

Introduction

The Oral History Program is part of the Smithsonian Institution Archives. The purpose of the program is to conduct interviews with current and retired members of the Smithsonian staff who have made significant contributions, administrative and scholarly, to the Institution. The project's goal is to supplement the published record and manuscript collections in the Archives, focusing on the history of the Institution and contributions to the increase and diffusion of knowledge made by its scholars.

The Paul L. Illg interview was accessioned into the Oral History Collection to capture his reminiscences of the staff of the Department of Invertebrate Zoology at the National Museum of Natural History, especially Waldo LaSalle Schmitt, Fenner A. Chace, and Theodore Bayer.

Descriptive Entry

The Paul Louis Illg Interview was conducted on 23 March 1978 by Smithsonian Archives Historian Pamela M. Henson. The interview discusses his years at the Smithsonian and reminiscences of the staff. The collection consist of approximately 1.0 hour of audiotape, 38 pages of transcript, and occupies 0.25 cubic feet of shelf space. There are two generations of each recording, one original reel-to-reel audiotape and one cassette reference copy. Box 1 contains transcript of the interview and cassette copy of the original recording, which is in security storage.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Employees
- Invertebrates
- Marine invertebrates
- Museum curators -- United States -- Interviews

Types of Materials:

- Audiotapes
- Interviews
- Oral history

Names:

- Bayer, Ted
- Chace, Fenner Albert
- Department of Invertebrate Zoology (NMNH)
- Division of Marine Invertebrates (NMNH). Department of Invertebrate Zoology (NMNH)
- Henson, Pamela M. interviewer
- Illg, Paul L.
- National Museum of Natural History (U.S.)
- Schmitt, Waldo L. (Waldo Lasalle), 1887-1977
- United States National Museum

Container Listing

Box 1

Transcripts of Interviews

Box 1 of 1

Interview 1: 23 March 1978

Audio Recordings of Interviews

Box 1 of 1

Interview 1: 23 March 1978