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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History
170 Whitney Avenue
New Haven, CT 06511
peabody.permissions@yale.edu
http://peabody.yale.edu/

CALL NUMBER: IZAR.001692

CREATOR: Coe, Wesley Roswell, 1869-1960

TITLE: Wesley Roswell Coe Archives

DATES: 1895–1930

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 5 linear feet

LANGUAGE: In English.

SUMMARY: The archives of Wesley Roswell Coe accumulated over his lifetime, notably including Yale teaching and research materials.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/ypm.izar.001692

Administrative Information

Cite As
Wesley Roswell Coe Archives, Invertebrate Zoology, Yale Peabody Museum

Biographical Sketch

A student of Addison E. Verrill, Wesley Roswell Coe (b. 1869, d. 1960) received his Ph.D. in zoology in 1895, and joined the faculty as an instructor a year later following post-graduate work in Europe. Coe’s teaching career spanned 3 decades, and for 16 years he was Curator of Zoology at the Yale Peabody Museum.

Much of Coe’s scientific research was devoted to the biology and taxonomy of ribbon worms (nemerteans); he wrote several important monographs on this group and described many new species. In 1899, Coe accompanied other prominent scientists to Alaska as a member of the famed Harriman Alaska Expedition. During the 2-month voyage, Coe collected a wide array of invertebrates that were later documented by himself and other zoologists (including A.E. Verrill and Katharine J. Bush, both of Yale University) in a series of large monographs.

After his retirement from Yale, Coe eventually moved to California and was affiliated with Scripps Institution of Oceanography as a research associate. For many years he continued to publish articles on a variety of topics dealing with bivalves and nemerteans. His last paper, a detailed account of bathypelagic nemerteans, was published in 1954.
Description of the Material

These papers include correspondence, manuscript related material, field notes, and biographical material.
**Collection Contents**

**Series I. Correspondence**

These include correspondence with numerous researchers discussing systematics and zoology. Also included are correspondence from his day to day work as Curator.

| John Hiram Gerould Correspondence. Correspondence from J.H. Gerould to W.R. Coe. | 1906 |
| Call Number: 001694 |
| **John Hiram Gerould Correspondence. A letter from J.H. Gerould to Coe requesting a loan of a few specimens of Phascolosoma (Sipuncula) for comparison of specimens he has received from Woods Hole.** | 27 Sep 1906 |
| Call Number: 001695 |

| Thomas H. Montgomery Jr. Correspondence. Correspondence from T.H. Montgomery to W.R. Coe. | 1901 |
| Call Number: 001696 |
| **Thomas H. Montgomery Jr. Correspondence. A letter from T.H. Montgomery thanking Coe for his papers on the Alaska Nemerteans. He also asks if he could have a chance to examine Verrill’s collection of Gordiacea (Nematophora).** | 09 Apr 1901 |
| Call Number: 001697 |
### Series II. Manuscript Materials

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<tr>
<th>Nemertea.</th>
<th>1895–1930</th>
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<td>Call Number: 004606</td>
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Slide Box Annotations. Annotations transcribed verbatim from slide boxes. The numbers are reference numbers used for indexing only.
Call Number: 005700
Selected Search Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

**Geographic Names**
Alaska  
California  
Connecticut  
USA

**Genres / Formats**
Correspondence  
Field notebooks  
Manuscript materials

**Corporate Bodies**
Yale Peabody Museum  
Yale University