

# Guide to the Edward Maurice Cohart Papers

MS 1319



compiled by John Espy

June 1983

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1319

**CREATOR:** Cohart, Edward

**TITLE:** Edward Maurice Cohart papers

**DATES:** 1936-1978

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 7.75 linear feet (15 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The papers consist of office files and course material which document Edward M. Cohart's career as professor of public health. There is extensive material for two major projects: the development of a Cancer Control Program at Yale and a research project of time studies of public health personnel. These papers form part of the Contemporary Medical Care and Health Policy Collection.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1319>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1319>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

The papers were accessioned from the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, ca. 1971. Gift of Mary Cohart, 1995.

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## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

Copyright status for collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

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## Preferred Citation

Edward Maurice Cohart Papers (MS 1319). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Edward Maurice Cohart was born in 1909. He received a B.A. degree from Columbia University in 1928 and a M.D. in 1933. Cohart was in private practice from 1935-1942. He received a M.P.H. degree in 1947, and was a cancer control consultant for the United States Public Health Service from 1947-1948. Cohart was an associate professor of public health at Yale University from 1948-1956, a professor of public health from 1956-1960, and the C.-E.A. Winslow Professor of Public Health from 1960-1978.

### EDWARD MAURICE COHART, 1909 -

- 1909                      ○ born in Brooklyn, N. Y.; son of Maurice Abraham and Emma (Chess) Cohart
- 1928                      ○ received B. A. from Columbia University
- 1933                      ○ received M. D.
- 1933                      ○ married Mary Schleifer
- 1935-1942                ○ in private practice
- 1947                      ○ received M. P. H.
- 1947-1948                ○ cancer control consultant, United States Public Health Service
- 1948-1956                ○ Associate professor of public health, Yale University
- 1955-1956                ○ Deputy commissioner of Department of Health, New York City; also consultant in public health at Institute of Public Administration, N. Y.
- 1956                      ○ received Honorary M. A. from Yale University
- 1956-1960                ○ Professor of public health, Yale University
- 1960-1978                ○ Charles-Edward A. Winslow Professor of Public Health, Yale University
- 1961                      ○ Acting chairman, Department of Public Health, Yale University
- 1965-1968                ○ Secretary-Treasurer, Association of Schools of Public Health
- 1966-1967                ○ President, New England Public Health Association

**EDWARD MAURICE COHART, 1909 -**

- 1966-1968                   ○ Chairman, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, Yale University,
- 1978                         ○ Charles-Edward A. Winslow Professor Emeritus of Public Health, Yale University

-from *Who's Who in America*, 40th ed., 1978-1979, p. 635; *Historical Register of Yale University*, 1951-1968, p. 219

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## Scope and Contents

The Edward M. Cohart Papers consist of office files from the early part of his career as a professor of public health at Yale. They document his two major projects: the development of a Cancer Control Program at Yale, and a research project consisting of time studies of public health personnel. The Cancer Control Program approached cancer as a public health problem, to be dealt with on a community basis. The program involved both cancer research and special training for various types of public health workers. The personnel research project, co-directed by William R. Willard, used time studies to determine the content and requirements of public health jobs. The project studied 1648 people in six states. Both of these projects were supported by grants from the United States Public Health Service.

The office files consist of correspondence, writings, reports, research materials, samples of questionnaires and other forms from the personnel research project, grant materials and printed matter. They have been arranged in a single alphabetical sequence, by name of correspondent or by type of material. The central working files for the projects described above will be found under the headings "Yale Public Health Personnel Research Project" and "Yale University School of Medicine. Department of Public Health: Cancer Control Program," but most of the other papers also concern these two projects. There are two folders of correspondence with Ira V. Hiscock, the chairman of the Yale Department of Public Health during this period, but most of the exchanges concern routine departmental matters.

The papers were accessioned from the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, ca. 1971.

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## Arrangement

Arranged by inventory and additional material.

## Collection Contents

### Inventory, 1936-(1947-1958)

4.75 linear feet (12 boxes)

|                |   |                                     |
|----------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| b. 1, f. 1     | American Cancer Society   | 1948-1952                           |
| b. 1, f. 2     | American Heart Association  | 1951-1954                           |
| b. 1, f. 3     | American National Red Cross   | 1951                                |
| b. 1, f. 4     | American Public Health Association<br>see also: <a href="#">box 5, folder 45-46</a> | 1947-1951, 1954,<br>undated         |
| b. 1, f. 5     | Clippings   | 1948-1949                           |
|                | Connecticut Cancer Society  |                                     |
| b. 1, f. 6     | General   | 1948-1954                           |
| b. 1, f. 7     | Film attendance lists   | 1951                                |
| b. 1, f. 8     | Connecticut Health League   | 1954-1955                           |
| b. 1, f. 9     | Connecticut Public Health Association   | 1954-1955,<br>undated               |
|                | Connecticut State Department of Health<br>See: <a href="#">box 4, folder 44</a>     |                                     |
| b. 1, f. 10-13 | Correspondence, general   | 1948-1950<br>October                |
| b. 2, f. 14-22 | Correspondence, general   | 1950 November<br>- 1954 October     |
| b. 3, f. 23-25 | Correspondence, general   | 1954<br>November--<br>1955, undated |
| b. 3, f. 26-29 | Correspondence re: reprints   | 1948-1955,<br>undated               |
| b. 3, f. 30-31 | Council of Social Agencies  | 1949-1951, 1954,<br>undated         |
| b. 4, f. 32    | Fairfield Health Department, Fairfield, Connecticut                                 | 1951                                |
| b. 4, f. 32    | Fairfield Visiting Nurse Association, Fairfield, Connecticut                        | 1951                                |
| b. 4, f. 33-35 | Grace-New Haven Community Hospital: Rooming-in Time Study Committee                 | 1949-1953,<br>undated               |
| b. 4, f. 36    | Harvard School of Public Health   | 1949                                |
| b. 4, f. 37-38 | Hiscock, Ira V.   | 1948-1955                           |
| b. 4, f. 39    | Knapp, Margaret   | 1948-1949                           |

|                |  |                                   |
|----------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| b. 4, f. 40    | Massachusetts Department of Public Health                                  | 1948-1950                         |
| b. 4, f. 40    | Metropolitan Life Insurance Company  | 1948-1951                         |
| b. 4, f. 41    | National Cancer Institute<br>See also: <a href="#">box 5, folder 45-46</a> | 1948-1950                         |
| b. 4, f. 41    | National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis                                | 1951                              |
| b. 4, f. 41    | National Health Council  | 1951                              |
| b. 4, f. 42-43 | National Tuberculosis Association  | 1950-1952                         |
| b. 1, f. 6     | New Haven Cancer Society<br>see: Connecticut Cancer Society: General       |                                   |
| b. 4, f. 44    | New York Academy of Medicine   | 1949-1950                         |
| b. 4, f. 44    | Pollack, Earl S.   | 1950                              |
| b. 4, f. 44    | Public Administration Service  | 1950-1951                         |
| b. 5, f. 45-46 | Public Health Cancer Association of America                                | 1948-1952                         |
| b. 5, f. 47    | <i>Public Health Reports</i>   | 1954-1955                         |
|                | U. S. Public Health Service  |                                   |
| b. 5, f. 48    | General  | 1949-1952                         |
| b. 5, f. 49    | Grants<br>See also: <a href="#">box 4, folder 41</a>                       | 1953-1954                         |
| b. 5, f. 50    | University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill                                  | 1950-1952                         |
| b. 5, f. 51-55 | Writings by Cohart   | 1936-1954,<br>undated             |
| b. 5, f. 56    | Yale Alumni in Public Health   | 1948-1951                         |
| b. 5, f. 56    | Yale Medical Society   | 1948-1951                         |
|                | Yale Public Health Personnel Research Project                              |                                   |
| b. 6, f. 57-61 | Reports  | 1952-1954                         |
| b. 6, f. 62    | Administrative, general  | 1950-1955,<br>undated             |
| b. 6, f. 63-64 | Correspondence, general  | 1950-1951<br>August               |
| b. 7, f. 65-67 | Correspondence, general  | 1951 September<br>- 1955, undated |
| b. 7, f. 68-72 | Grant materials  | 1948-1954,<br>undated             |

## Yale Public Health Personnel Research Project (continued)

|                                    |   |                                     |
|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| b. 7, f. 73                        | Hiscock, Irene Gilbert  | 1951-1952                           |
| b. 7, f. 73-75                     | Hiscock, William McConway   | 1950-1955,<br>undated               |
| b. 7, f. 76-79                     | Job candidates: D-S   | 1950                                |
| b. 8, f. 80                        | Job candidates: T-Y   | 1950                                |
| b. 8, f. 81                        | Project Operations  | 1950-1952,<br>undated               |
| b. 8, f. 82                        | Sample posting sheets, 3x5" slips, code sheets  | 1951-1952,<br>undated               |
| b. 8, f. 83-84                     | Willard, William R.   | 1951-1955,<br>undated               |
| b. 8, f. 85-86                     | Wyatt, Laurence Reginald  | 1950-1952,<br>undated               |
| b. 8, f. 86                        | Wyatt, Muriel Ann<br>See also: <a href="#">box 5, folder 47</a>                             | 1950-1952,<br>undated               |
| Yale University School of Medicine |   |                                     |
| b. 9, f. 87                        | Administrative, general   | 1948-1949, 1955,<br>undated         |
| b. 9, f. 87                        | Atypical Growth Research Unit   | 1950-1951                           |
| b. 9, f. 88                        | Clinical Sciences Committee   | 1953                                |
| b. 9, f. 89                        | Curriculum Committee  | 1953, 1955                          |
| Department of Public Health        |   |                                     |
| b. 9, f. 90                        | Administrative, general   | 1948-1949,<br>1953-1955,<br>undated |
| b. 9, f. 91-96                     | Cancer Control Program  | 1948-1950 April                     |
| b. 10, f. 97-107                   | Cancer Control Program  | 1950 May - 1954                     |
| b. 10, f. 108-113                  | Cancer Control Program: grant materials   | 1947-1954 June                      |
| b. 11, f. 114                      | Committee on Essays   | [1946?], 1948-<br>1951, undated     |
| b. 11, f. 115                      | Course materials: Biostatistics   | 1949-1950,<br>undated               |
| b. 11, f. 116                      | Course materials: cancer: miscellaneous<br>See also: <a href="#">box 10, folder 108-113</a> | [ca. 1944-1950],<br>[1955?] undated |
| b. 11, f. 117                      | Course materials: cancer nursing  | 1948-1949,<br>undated               |



## Yale University School of Medicine &gt; Department of Public Health (continued)

|                   |  |                                   |
|-------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| b. 11, f. 117     | Course materials: preventive medicine and public health                      | [1951?], 1952                     |
| b. 11, f. 118     | Course materials: principles and practices of public health                  | [ca.                              |
| b. 11, f. 119     | Course materials: miscellaneous  | 1951, undated                     |
| b. 12, f. 120-121 | Curriculum<br>See also: <a href="#">box 10 folder 108-113</a>                | 1948-1951,<br>undated             |
| b. 12, f. 122     | Curriculum: term schedules   | 1948-1953,<br>undated             |
| b. 12, f. 123     | Personnel  | 1948-1951,<br>undated             |
| b. 12, f. 123     | Research projects  | 1950, undated                     |
| b. 12, f. 124-125 | Seminars, Journal Club   | 1947-1951,<br>undated             |
| b. 12, f. 126-127 | Staff meetings: minutes  | 1948-1950, 1958                   |
| b. 12, f. 128-129 | Students: lists, memos, correspondence, prospectuses                         | 1948-1951, 1954-<br>1955, undated |
| b. 12, f. 130     | Toxicology seminars: notices<br>See also: <a href="#">box 12, folder 131</a> | 1950-1951                         |
| b. 12, f. 130     | Tumor conferences: notices<br>See also: <a href="#">box 4, folder 37-38</a>  | 1950-1951                         |
| b. 12, f. 131     | Institute of Occupational Medicine and                                       | 1948-1950,<br>undated             |

**Accession 1995-M-138: Additional Material, Circa 1950-1978**

*3 linear feet (3 boxes)*

Received From: Mary Schleifer Cohart, 1995 April 25

|     |                               |                 |
|-----|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| b.1 | Personal and university files | Circa 1950-1978 |
| b.2 | Course material               | Circa 1950-1978 |
| b.3 | Course material               | Circa 1950-1978 |

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Cancer -- Research  
Educators  
Physicians  
Public health  
Public health -- Study and teaching  
Time study

### **Preferred Titles**

*Contemporary Medical Care and Health Policy  
Collection*

### **Names**

Cohart, Edward  
Hiscock, Ira V. (Ira Vaughan), 1892-

### **Corporate Bodies**

Yale Public Health Personnel Research Project  
Yale University. Dept. of Public Health. Cancer  
Control Program  
Yale University -- Faculty