

Record Unit 9587

Oral History Interviews

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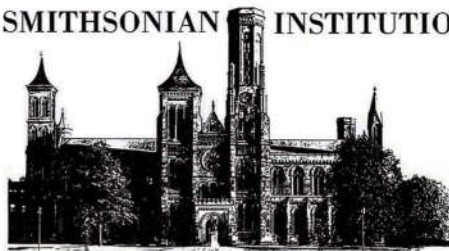
Helena M. Weiss, Registrar  
United States National Museum

January-May 1987

**ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

**OF THE**

**SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION**



**CITY OF WASHINGTON**

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## INTRODUCTION

The Oral History Program is part of the Smithsonian Institution Archives. The purpose of the project is to conduct and collect 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 Helena M. Weiss Interviews [RU 9587] were conducted by Historian of the Smithsonian Institution, Pamela M. Henson from January to May 1987. They consist of eight hours of original audio, 7" reel-to-reel tapes, preservation .wav files, reference .mp3 files, and 291 pages of transcript, and occupy 0.20 linear meters of shelf space. This interview is restricted.

Helena M. Weiss was interviewed for the Oral History Project because of her long and distinguished career at the Smithsonian and her role as one of the Institution's first female managers.

These interviews are held in the Smithsonian Institution Archives, located in the Capital Gallery building of the Smithsonian, 600 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D. C., 20024. The Archives is open to researchers from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for federal holidays. Written, telephone (202-633-5910), and email (SIHistory@si.edu) inquiries are also welcome.

Finding aids to other collections of Smithsonian oral histories, records and personal papers are available in the Archives, through our archives database at [collections.si.edu](http://collections.si.edu).

Tammy L. Peters  
Acting Director  
Smithsonian Institution Archives  
August 2018

Transcript Preface



Smithsonian Institution Archives

Institutional History Division

EJ 9587 Weiss, Helene M.

ORAL HISTORY COLLECTION

TRANSCRIPT PREFACE  
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION ARCHIVES

This manuscript is the result of one or more tape recorded interviews. The reader should bear in mind that he is reading a transcript of the spoken rather than written word.

It is my understanding that the Smithsonian Institution Archives will allow scholars to read and utilize this transcript in accordance with the Archives' general procedures. This transcript may be reproduced, published, and made available via the Internet.

(signed) *[Signature]*

(date)

See Archives for original.

See Archives for original.

(date)

*March 30, 2005*

See Archives for original.

(SIA director)

(date)

*March 30, 2005*

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Helena M. Weiss (1909-2004) was born on February 6, 1909 in Shipman, Illinois. She received her clerical degree in 1930 from Wheeler Business College and began her career as a stenographer for the Veterans Administration in Washington, D.C. that same year. In 1931, she was appointed Junior Clerk-Stenographer in the Office of Correspondence and Documents (renamed the Office of Correspondence and Records in 1947) of the United States National Museum at the Smithsonian. Weiss transferred to the Department of Geology in 1935. In 1948, she returned to the Office of Correspondence and Records as Administrative Assistant. Upon Herbert S. Bryant's retirement later that year, she was promoted to Chief. In 1956, Weiss' title was changed to Registrar, which was the position she held until her retirement in 1971.

One of the first women in the Smithsonian to advance to a management position, Weiss was responsible for the central filing system of the USNM, all public inquiries and correspondence, mail service, accession reports, loans and exchanges, shipping, foreign travel, customs regulations, insurance, and workman's compensation. She was involved in the acquisition of some of the Smithsonian's most famous specimens, including the Wright brothers' *Kitty Hawk* airplane, the Hope Diamond, and the Fénykövi elephant.

In 1971, Weiss was awarded the Secretary's Gold Medal for Exceptional Service for her many years of outstanding service to the Smithsonian Institution.

## DESCRIPTIVE ENTRY

Helena M. Weiss was interviewed in eight sessions between January and May 1987 by Pamela M. Henson, Historian of the Smithsonian Institution. The interview discusses her work at the Veterans Administration and career at the Smithsonian, including her employment as a stenographer for the Office of Correspondence and Documents, secretary for the Department of Geology, and Registrar for the USNM. Also included are reminiscences of many colleagues, notably Ray S. Bassler, Herbert S. Bryant, Louise M. Pearson, and Alexander Wetmore, and stories about some of the Smithsonian's most important artifacts and specimens.

Box 1 contains transcripts of the interviews and digital .mp3 reference copies of the original reel-to-reel recordings, which are in security storage. There are three generations of recordings: original reel-to-reel tapes, preservation .wav files, reference .mp3 files.

**Restrictions: Audio is restricted. Transcripts are available for research.**

### Box 1 Transcripts of Interviews

Interview 1: 21 January 1987: covers her reminiscences of arriving in Washington, D.C. as a young adult and commencing work as a stenographer at the U.S. National Museum (USNM), including:

- A brief family history
- Experience earning a degree from Wheeler Business College
- Life in Washington, D.C. in the 1930s
- First job working as a stenographer at the Veterans Administration
- Arriving at the Smithsonian and beginning work in the Office of Correspondence and Documents
- Washington, D.C. and the Smithsonian during the Great Depression
- Nature of work in the Department of Geology as private secretary to Dr. Ray S. Bassler
- Recollections of the Department of Geology, and the Divisions of Mineralogy and Invertebrate Paleontology
- Operating the Correspondence and Documents routing system
- Memories of Dr. Alexander Wetmore, Herbert S. Bryant, Dr. Walter Hough, Lester Commerford, Lewis Perry, and Louise Pearson

Transcript pages 1-34, Audio Recording 1 hour.

Interview 2: 3 February 1987: covers her reminiscences of employment in the Department of Geology (1935-1948) during the Great Depression and World War II, including:

- Reflections on wartime at the Smithsonian
- Memories of streetcars, the housing shortage, and city growth in the 1930s and 1940s
- Operational protocol at the Smithsonian with regard to the Works Progress Administration, scheduling, management, and budgeting
- The content of the radio program, *The World Is Yours*
- The nature of the many inquiries sent to Smithsonian curators
- Working for Dr. Bassler
- Facilitating the Hope Diamond's transport to the Smithsonian
- The death of Dr. Charles E. Resser
- The growth and expansion of the Geology Department

Transcript pages 35-67, Audio Recording 1 hour.

Interview 3: 11 February 1987: covers her reminiscences of the myriad tasks involved with handling correspondence, specimen intake, institutional loans, and accession records for Smithsonian museums, including:

- Her promotion to the Office of Correspondence and Records
- First aid protocol prior to the establishment of a formal health unit
- Processing mail sent to the Smithsonian
- Responding to inquiries from the American public, as well as assessing objects mailed to the Smithsonian for examination
- Receiving and processing shipments for collections
- Organizing and maintaining accession records for the Museum of History (MHT) and the Museum of Natural History (MNH)
- Tracking loans to and from the Smithsonian
- Memories of Dr. Wetmore, Mr. Bryant, Mr. Commerford, Ms. Pearson, and Virginia Beets

Transcript pages 68-104, Audio Recording 1 hour.

Interview 4: 10 March 1987: covers her reminiscences of arranging for the shipment of delicate, dangerous, valuable, and oversized items in her role as Registrar, including details about:

- Loan policies at the Smithsonian museums
- Making use of duplicate collections materials
- Support for schoolchildren, especially those attending rural schools
- Challenges of shipping delicate objects, such as a collection of glass from the John Frederick Amelung manufactory
- Receiving the Wright brothers' plane, *Kitty Hawk*
- The delivery of the Fénykövi elephant
- The arrival of Netherhall Swanky Dan prize bull and his

- preparation for exhibition
  - Collecting freeze-dried snakes at the airport
  - Shipping methods for various items, including Dr. G. Arthur Cooper's blocks
- Transcript pages 105-131, Audio Recording 1 hour.

Interview 5: 16 March 1987: covers her reminiscences of her role managing Smithsonian scientific expeditions, including:

- Receiving the moon rock and Lunar Module
- Acquiring passports and travel visas for Smithsonian scientists
- Arranging scientific expeditions around the world
- Obtaining permits for travel with special equipment
- Details of the travel preparations for Dr. Wetmore and Dr. S. Dillon Ripley
- Memories of Watson M. Perrygo and Gorman M. Bond
- Processing specimens collected on expeditions
- Shipping Yap money to the Smithsonian
- John Frederick Gates Clarke's harrowing travels in the Pacific
- Facilitating travel vaccinations for Smithsonian scientists
- The nature of various scientific expeditions around the world, including the Arnhem Land Expedition
- Her trip to Panama with Dr. Wetmore and his wife, Anna Beatrice Theilen Wetmore

Transcript pages 132-171, Audio Recording 1 hour.

Interview 6: 27 March 1987: covers her reminiscences of the expanding Smithsonian Institution and the responsibilities of the Office of the Registrar, including:

- Obtaining visas from the Russian Embassy during the Cold War
- The Smithsonian Satellite Tracking Program
- The Moonwatch Program
- The Smithsonian Bicentennial celebration
- The proliferation of Smithsonian departments and museums
- Maintaining accession records for multiple museums
- Addressing rising levels of correspondence

Transcript pages 172-208, Audio Recording 1 hour.

Interview 7: 20 April 1987: covers her reminiscences of overseeing the ever-expanding tasks of the Office of the Registrar, including:

- New Smithsonian publications
- Handling complex accessions
- Involvement with Marjorie Merriweather Post's donations
- Serving as a notary
- Addressing legal quandaries
- Managing the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service



- Opportunities to instruct and consult on registrar work
  - Orchestrating the daily demands of the Smithsonian mail room
  - Memories of Dr. Leonard Carmichael and John E. Anglim
- Transcript pages 209-246, Audio Recording 1 hour.

Interview 8: 12 May 1987: covers her reminiscences of the responsibilities of the Smithsonian to the general public and the end of her career, including:

- Radio Smithsonian and other Smithsonian programming
  - Public interest in meteorites, as reflected in correspondence
  - Increasing numbers of letters from the public
  - The donation of the Arthur M. Greenwood house to NMNH
  - Arranging the transport of the West Virginia post office to MHT
  - Serving in the Public Information Working Group
  - Memories of Mr. Perrygo
  - Establishing the Smithsonian Institution Archives
  - Happening upon undiscovered Mathew Brady negatives
  - Deciding to retire
  - Receiving the Secretary's Gold Medal for Exceptional Service
- Transcript pages 247-291, Audio Recording 1 hour.

#### Audio Recordings of Interview

Interview 1: 21 January 1987: Total Recording Time: 1:04:08  
 Original Masters: 2 7" reel-to-reel analog audiotapes  
 Preservation Masters: 2 digital audio .wav files  
 Reference Copies: 2 digital audio .mp3 files

Interview 2: 3 February 1987: Total Recording Time: 1:04:29  
 Original Masters: 2 7" reel-to-reel analog audiotapes  
 Preservation Masters: 2 digital audio .wav files  
 Reference Copies: 2 digital audio .mp3 files

Interview 3: 11 February 1987: Total Recording Time: 1:04:31  
 Original Masters: 2 7" reel-to-reel analog audiotapes  
 Preservation Masters: 2 digital audio .wav files  
 Reference Copies: 2 digital audio .mp3 files

Interview 4: 10 March 1987: Total Recording Time: 0:50:48  
 Original Masters: 2 7" reel-to-reel analog audiotapes  
 Preservation Masters: 2 digital audio .wav files  
 Reference Copies: 2 digital audio .mp3 files

Interview 5: 16 March 1987: Total Recording Time: 1:04:56  
Original Masters: 2 7" reel-to-reel analog audiotapes  
Preservation Masters: 2 digital audio .wav files  
Reference Copies: 2 digital audio .mp3 files

Interview 6: 27 March 1987: Total Recording Time: 1:04:59  
Original Masters: 2 7" reel-to-reel analog audiotapes  
Preservation Masters: 2 digital audio .wav files  
Reference Copies: 2 digital audio .mp3 files

Interview 7: 20 April 1987: Total Recording Time: 1:04:57  
Original Masters: 2 7" reel-to-reel analog audiotapes  
Preservation Masters: 2 digital audio .wav files  
Reference Copies: 2 digital audio .mp3 files

Interview 8: 12 May 1987: Total Recording Time: 1:05:45  
Original Masters: 2 7" reel-to-reel analog audiotapes  
Preservation Masters: 2 digital audio .wav files  
Reference Copies: 2 digital audio .mp3 files

Emily L. Bierman  
August 2018

## LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

Page 3: Portrait of a Young Helena M. Weiss. Smithsonian Institution Archives, RU 05-112, Box 2. Image Number SIA2013-02865.

Page 12: Photograph of Helena M. Weiss at work, acquired from her personal scrapbook, c. 1930s. Smithsonian Institution Archives, RU 12-184, Box 1. Image Number SIA2018-109866E.

Page 27: View from the office of Helena M. Weiss, probably at the Department of Geology, c. 1930s. RU 12-184, Box 1. Image Number SIA2018-109830C.

Page 42: Helena M. Weiss with her friends on a winter day in 1937, probably in Washington, D.C. Smithsonian Institution Archives, RU 12-184, Box 1. Image Number SIA2018-109845A.

Page 48: Helena M. Weiss standing on the steps outside the U.S. National Museum, c. late 1930s. Smithsonian Institution Archives, RU 12-184, Box 1. Image Number SIA2018-109861B.

Page 70: Helena M. Weiss with Dr. Ray Bassler in the Natural History Building Office, c. 1930s or 1940s, RU 05-112, Box 1. Image Number SIA2018-108353.

Page 82: Hand-drawn birthday card for Helena M. Weiss showing the range of her responsibilities from curators Edward A. Chapin, Ray S. Bassler, J.F. Gates Clarke, Clyde E. Bauman, and David H. Dunkle, date unknown, RU 05-112, Box 2. Image Number SIA2013-02862.

Page 114: Wright Flyer in the A & I Building, December 1948. Smithsonian Institution Archives, RU 95, Box 43, Folder 40. Image Number 2002-10643.

Page 117: Preparing the Fénykövi Elephant for Exhibit, 1958. Smithsonian Institution Archives, RU 82, Box 1, Folder 2. Image Number SIA2010-0608.

Page 150: Jack & Thelma Miesen Clarke, 1967. Smithsonian Institution Archives, RU 9555, Box 1. Image Number 91-14038.

Page 169: Bea Wetmore and Helena Weiss in Panama La Vieja, Panama, February 18, 1962. Smithsonian Institution Archives, RU 7006, Box 193, Album 1. Image Number SIA2016-008218B.

Page 183: Certificate Given to Helena Weiss by Secretary S. Dillion Ripley appointing her “Admiral of the Smithsonian Navy,” October 11, 1965. Smithsonian Institution Archives, RU 05-112, Box 2. Image Number SIA2013-02864.

Page 189: George B. Griffenhagen, Helena Weiss, and a man identified only as “Bane,” August 24, 1956, RU 95, Box 57, Folder 4. Image Number SIA2009-4253.

Page 196: Smithsonian staff at the opening of First Ladies' Hall in the Arts & Industries Building. Smithsonian Institution Archives, RU 05-112, Box 1. Image Number SIA2018-108351.

Page 226: Helena Weiss with the U.S. Navy's Martin KDM-1 Exhibit, c. 1949-1950s. Smithsonian Institution Archives, RU 05-112, Box 1. Image Number SIA2018-108350.

Page 286: Helena Weiss receives the certificate for the Secretary's Gold Medal for Exceptional Service from Under Secretary James Bradley, December 29, 1971. Smithsonian Institution Archives, RU 05-112, Box 1. Image Number 71-3364-12.

Page 290: Helena Weiss with Dr. Charles G. Abbot and Dr. Alexander Wetmore at her retirement party, December 29, 1971, RU 05-112, Box 1. Image Number 71-3364-7.

## NAME AND TERM LIST

### **Personal Names**

Abbot, Charles Greeley  
Abbott, R. Tucker  
Adams, E. James  
Ahlborn, Richard E. "Dick"  
Alexander, Georgia  
Ali, Sálim  
Allen, Dorothy Tonic  
Anglim, John E. "Jack"  
Baez, Anselmo  
Baker, J.  
Baker, James G.  
Bassler, Ray Smith  
Battison, Edwin A.  
Bauman, Clyde E.  
Beach, Jessie G.  
Beets, M. Virginia  
Beggs, Thomas M.  
Belote, Theodore T.  
Benn, James H.  
Block, Huntington T.  
Blumenthal, Theresa  
Bond, Gorman N.  
Boss, Norman  
Bowsher, Arthur Leroy Sr.  
Boyle, Ann  
Boyle, William E.  
Brady, Mathew  
Bradley, James C.  
Bridge, Josiah  
Brown, Roland Wilbur  
Brueggemann, Marie (mother)  
Bryant, Herbert S.  
Campbell, Ann S.  
Canu, Ferdinand  
Carmichael, Mrs. Pearl Kidston  
Carmichael, Leonard  
Carwithen, Bertha T.  
Case, Mary E.  
Cavanaugh, Eileen C.  
Chace, Fenner A. Jr.  
Chapin, Edward Albert  
Clark, Austin Hobart

Clarke, John Frederick Gates “Jack”  
Clarke, Roy S., Jr.  
Clarke, Thelma Miesen  
Cochran, Doris Mable  
Collins, Henry Bascom, Jr.  
Collins, Michael  
Commerford, Lester E.  
Connors, [James] Leo  
Cooper, Grace Rogers  
Cooper, Gustav Arthur “Gus”  
Cooper, Josephine P. Wells  
Copeland, Patricia  
Davis, Donald Ray “Don”  
Davis, Wayne  
Dawson, E. Yale  
Deignan, Herbert Girton “Bert”  
deSilva, P.H.D.H.  
Dixon, Nathaniel M.  
Dorsey, Harry W.  
Dorsey, Nicholas W.  
Douglas, Clarence  
Dudley, Dorothy H.  
Dunkle, David Hosbrook  
Dunston, Alice  
Etheridge, Dorothy P.  
Evans, Clifford Jr.  
Fehlmann, H. Adair  
Fénykövi, Joseph J.  
Foerste, August Frederick  
Ford, James Alfred  
Foshag, Merle Crisler (remarried: Merle Crisler Foshag Woodring)  
Foshag, William Frederick  
Foster, George McClelland Jr.  
Friedmann, Herbert  
Fyfe, Howard  
Gant, Lorenzo  
Garber, Paul E.  
Gardner, Paul V.  
Gazin, C. [Charles] Lewis  
Gilmore, C. W. [“Charles”]  
Girard, Thomas J.  
Gomez, Adela A.  
Gonzalez R., Jenaro  
Greenwell, Francis M. “Frank”  
Greenwood, Arthur M.  
Greenwood, Edna

Hampton, Barry  
Handley, Charles O. "Charlie" Jr.  
Haskin, Frederic Jennings  
Hawkins, Tilghman A.  
Henderson, Edward Porter  
Henry, Thomas R. "Tom"  
Hoemann, Maria M.  
Holland, Amy  
Hollister, Mabel P.  
Hough, Walter  
Humphrey, Philip Strong  
Jackson, Thurman T.  
Jameson, John F.  
Jefferson, Leroy  
Johnson, David H.  
Johnson, Lady Bird  
Johnson, President Lyndon Baines  
Johnson, Roscoe C.  
Johnston, S. Paul  
Kadarsan, Sampurno  
Keddy, John Lewis  
Kellett, Betty  
Kellogg, A. [Arthur] Remington  
Kennedy, President John Fitzgerald  
Killip, Ellsworth P.  
Kincaid  
Kirk, Edwin  
Kirk, Robert E.  
Klaphor, Margaret Brown  
Krieger, Herbert William  
Kushan, George P.  
Laughlin, Robert M.  
Leonard, E.C.  
Lerner, Abram  
Leyto, Steven  
Lewton, Frederick L.  
Lato, Stephen Edward  
Lodge, Ambassador John Davis  
Loeblich, Alfred Richard Jr.  
Love, J.J.  
Lytle, Richard H. "Dick"  
Mann, William M.  
Mason, Brian H.  
Maxon, William Ralph  
May, Herbert A.  
McCain, Lucile

McCoy, George D.  
McCoy, M. Garnett  
McGrory, Mary  
Mellon, Andrew W.  
Menon, A.G.K.  
Mesler, Rector Duvall  
Miller, Robert R.  
Miser, Hugh Dinsmore  
Mitman, Carl Weaver  
Moodey, Margaret W.  
Morgan, Betty J.  
Morrison, Joseph Paul Eldred  
Moynihan, Martin H.  
Murphy, Martin  
Neal, Arminta  
Nunn, Joseph  
Nylin, Ruth E.  
Oehser, Paul H.  
Oldfather, Mary  
Oliver, Lawrence L.  
Organ, R.M.  
Paine, Richard G.  
Pearson, Louise M.  
Perry, Lewis E.  
Perrygo, Watson M.  
Philips, Frederic M.  
Pope, Annemarie Henle  
Post, Marjorie Merriweather  
Pouliot, Leonard B. "Len"  
Reberholt, Bertel O.  
Reed, Theodore H.  
Reeside, John Bernard Jr.  
Rehder, Harald A.  
Reingold, Nathan "Nate"  
Resser, Charles Elmer  
Rice, Mary E.  
Richter, Anders  
Riesenberg, Saul Herbert  
Rinzler, Ralph C.  
Ripley, S. Dillon  
Ritterbush, Philip C.  
Robinson, Betty J.  
Robinson, Michael H.  
Roosevelt, President Franklin Delano  
Ross, Marvin Chauncey  
Roy, Edgar L. "Ed"



Rubinoff, Ira  
Santiago, Margaret A.  
Scheele, Carl H.  
Schmitt, Waldo LaSalle  
Schultz, Leonard Peter  
Setzler, Frank M.  
Shannon, Earl V.  
Sherwood, John  
Shuman, Mary B. C.  
Singer, Milo  
Smith, Helena  
Smithson, James  
Sohn, I. G. [Israel Gregory “Greg”]  
Solecki, Ralph S.  
Stanton, Timothy William  
Stejneger, Leonhard Hess  
Stem, Charles W.  
Stewart, T. Dale  
Stirling, Matthew Williams  
Strong, William Duncan  
Suratt, Samuel T.  
Switzer, George S.  
Taylor, Frank A.  
Thompson, Edward K.  
Tolman, Ruel P.  
Traylor, James G.  
True, Webster P. “Web”  
Ulrich, Edward Oscar  
Uphoff, Enna B.  
Van Arsdale, Dorothy T.  
Van Beek, Gus Willard  
Vanderbilt, George  
Wade, Erwin M.  
Wadsworth, Margaret B.  
Walker, Charlotte  
Wallen, I. Eugene “Gene”  
Ward, Herbert  
Warner, William W.  
Watkins, C. Malcolm  
Watkins, William M.N.  
Watson, George E. III  
Watson, George H.  
Weiss, Anna Leila (sister)  
Weiss, Eugene Herbert (brother)  
Weiss, Gerald Bisset (father)  
Weiss, Geraldine Marie (sister)

Weiss, Freda (stepmother)  
Wetmore, Alexander  
Wetmore, Annie Beatrice Thielen “Bea”  
Whipple, Fred L.  
White, David  
Wiley, Grace Olive  
Wilkinson, Irma Bezold  
Willoughby, Marion F.  
Winston, Harry  
Wisner, Phillip N.  
Woolfenden, William E.  
Yochelson, Ellis Leon  
Zapruder, Marjorie S.  
Zetek, James

### **Corporate Names**

Band-Aid  
Butler Buildings  
Curtiss Candy Company (corrected for Peter Chocolate Company)  
De Beers Diamond Jewelers  
Eastern Airlines  
Huntington T. Block Insurance Agency, Inc.  
Kruger’s Diamond Jewelers  
McLaughlin Company of Washington, D.C.  
National Broadcasting Company (NBC)  
Pullman Standard Company of Bessemer, Alabama  
United Engineers and Constructors of Philadelphia

### **Geographic Names**

Adirondack Mountains  
Africa  
Aleutian Islands  
Alton, Illinois  
Angola, Republic of  
Argentina  
Australia  
Barro Colorado Island  
Belfast, Northern Ireland  
Belgian Congo  
Beltsville, Maryland  
Bessemer, Alabama  
Bhutan  
Bikini Atoll, Marshall Islands  
Birmingham, Alabama  
Blacksburg, Virginia  
Brazil

Butler, Pennsylvania  
Calcutta, India  
California  
Canada  
Cambridge, Massachusetts  
Ceylon  
Chicago, Illinois  
China  
Colombo  
Curaçao  
Darien, Connecticut  
Detroit, Michigan  
Dominica  
Egypt  
England  
Europe  
Fiji  
Florida  
Fort Pierce  
French Polynesia  
France  
Germany  
Glass Mountains, Texas  
Hawaiian Islands  
Illinois  
India  
Indian Ocean  
Indonesia  
Iran  
Iraq  
Japan  
Kosrae, Federated States of Micronesia  
Kusaie; now Kosrae  
Long Island, New York  
Los Angeles, California  
Marshall Islands  
Maryland  
Massachusetts  
Maui Island  
Mexico  
Michigan  
Micronesia, Federated States of  
Middle East  
Minnesota  
Nepal  
New Guinea, Indonesia

New Mexico  
New York, New York  
Nile River  
North Carolina  
Northern Ireland  
Oklahoma  
Pacific Islands Trust Territory  
Pacific Ocean  
Palau, Republic of  
Panama  
Papeete, French Polynesia  
Ponape; now Pohnpei  
Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia  
Paricutin Volcano, Mexico  
Park Ridge, Illinois  
Peru  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Point Barrow, Alaska  
Polynesia  
Rapa  
Red Sea  
Russia  
San Francisco, California  
Shipman, Illinois  
South America  
Spain  
St. Louis, Missouri  
Silver Hill, Maryland  
South Africa  
South America  
Suitland, Maryland  
Tahiti  
Texas  
Thailand  
Virginia  
Washington, D.C.  
West Virginia  
Yap Islands, Federated States of Micronesia

**U.S. Government Buildings, Bureaus, Departments, and Organizations**

Bureau of Customs, now U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, now U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Bureau of the Budget, now Office of Management and Budget)  
Commission on the Organization of the Executive Branch of the

Government (Hoover Commission)  
Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)  
General Services Administration (GSA)  
National Archives  
National Institutes of Health (NIH)  
Patent Office Building  
Peace Corps  
Pension Building, now the National Building Museum  
Plant Quarantine Service – see Bureau of Entomology and Plant  
Quarantine  
Thompson Committee Hearings, Committee on House Administration,  
U.S. House of Representatives, 1970  
U.S. Air Force  
U.S. Army  
U.S. Capitol  
U.S. Congress  
U.S. Customs Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
U.S. Department of Defense  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
U.S. Department of Justice  
U.S. Department of State  
U.S. Department of War  
U.S. Despatch Agency, U.S. State Department  
U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)  
U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service  
U.S. Navy  
U.S. Navy Yard  
U.S. Postal Service  
U.S. Post Office Registry Department  
U.S. Public Health Service  
U.S. State Department  
Veterans Administration, now U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
War, Department of  
White House, The  
Works Progress Administration (WPA)

**Colleges and Universities**

Butler Business College  
George Washington University (G.W.)  
Tufts University  
University of British Columbia  
University of New Mexico  
Wheeler Business College  
Yale University

**Smithsonian Museums, Buildings, Divisions, Departments, Offices,  
and Programs**

Air Museum, now the National Air and Space Museum  
Academic Programs, Office of  
Anacostia Neighborhood Museum, now the Anacostia Community  
Museum  
Anthropology, Department of  
Archives of American Art  
Arts and Industries Building (A & I Building)  
Barney Studio House  
Birds, Division of  
Botany, Department of  
Canal Zone Biological Area, now Smithsonian Tropical Research  
Institute  
Ceramics and Glass, Division of  
Community Life, Division of  
Conservation Analytical Laboratory; now the Museum Conservation  
Institute  
Cooper-Hewitt Museum of Decorative Arts and Design, now Cooper  
Hewitt National Design Museum (Cooper-Hewitt)  
Correspondence and Documents, Division of  
Correspondence and Records, Division of  
Editorial and Publications Division  
Engineering, Division of  
Engineering and Industries, Department of  
Entomology, Division of  
Ethnogeographic Board  
Ethnology, Division of  
Exhibits, Office of  
Facilities Services, Office of  
General Counsel's Office  
Geology, Department of  
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden  
History, Department of  
Holt House, National Zoological Park  
International Exchange Service  
Invertebrate Paleontology and Paleobotany, Division of  
Joseph Henry Papers  
Mellon Gallery, now the National Gallery of Art  
Mineralogy, Department of  
Moonwatch Program  
National Air and Space Museum  
National Air Museum, now the National Air and Space Museum  
Numismatics, Division of  
National Collection of Fine Arts (NCFA), now the Smithsonian American  
Art Museum

National Museum of American Art, now Smithsonian American Art  
Museum  
National Museum of American History  
National Museum of History and Technology (MHT), now the National  
Museum of American History  
National Museum of Natural History  
National Portrait Gallery  
National Zoological Park  
Natural History Building, National Museum of Natural History  
Office of Correspondence and Documents  
Office of Correspondence and Records (C & R)  
Office of the Registrar  
Pacific Ocean Biological Survey Program  
Paul E. Garber Preservation, Restoration, and Storage Facility  
Performing Arts, Division of  
Personnel, Office of  
Philately, Division of; now the Smithsonian National Postal Museum  
Photographic Division  
Physical Anthropology, Division of  
Public Affairs, Office of  
Public Information Working Group  
Radio Smithsonian  
Registrar, Office of the  
Renwick Gallery  
Satellite Tracking Program, Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory  
Secretary, Office of the  
Shipping Office  
Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory  
Smithsonian Institution Building (Castle Building)  
Smithsonian Institution Press  
Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service  
Smithsonian Oceanographic Sorting Center  
Smithsonian Resident Associates  
Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute  
Supplies, Office of  
U.S. National Museum  
Vertebrate Paleontology, Division of  
Visitor Information and Associates Reception Center (VIARC), now the  
Office of Visitor Services  
War Background Series  
Wood Technology, Division of

**Smithsonian Awards, Events, and Expeditions**

Festival of American Folklife  
Secretary's Gold Medal for Exceptional Service  
Smithson Bicentennial

Smithsonian-Bredin Caribbean Expeditions  
Yale-Smithsonian-National Geographic Society Expedition to Nepal

### **Smithsonian Exhibits and Specimens**

Bryozoans  
Crinoids  
Dead Sea Scrolls  
Dermestid beetles  
Devonian Brachiopods  
*Europa* statue  
Fénykövi Elephant  
Hope Diamond  
John Frederick Amelung glass  
*Kitty Hawk* airplane - see Wright Flyer  
Lunar Module (LM)  
*Microlepidoptera*  
Moon rock  
National Science Fair Exhibit  
Neanderthals  
Netherhall Swanky Dan prize bull  
Stradivarius Violin  
Ward Collection  
Wright Flyer (Wright Brothers' airplane)  
Yap stone money; also called Rai stones  
Zuni hall; now Indian Cultures Hall

### **Non-Personal Terms**

Aborigines  
Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia  
All States Hotel for Women Government Employees – Washington, D.C.  
American Association of Museums, now American Alliance of Museums  
American-Australian Scientific Expedition to Arnhem Land (Arnhem  
Land Expedition)  
American Museum of Natural History  
Antiquities Act, The  
Baker-Nunn Satellite Tracking Cameras  
Blickensderfer Typewriter  
Bogor Museum  
Bombay Natural History Society  
Boy Scouts of America  
British Museum of Natural History, now the Natural History Museum,  
London  
British Royal Navy  
Cambrian Period  
Camp Topridge  
Capitol Hill, Washington, DC



Customs inspector  
Dermestid [“Beetle”] Pit (SI)  
Dysentery  
Eskimos  
Examinations and Reports; also referred to as “E & Rs” (USNM)  
Great Depression, The  
Hepatitis  
Hillwood Estate, Museum and Gardens  
International Biological Program (1964 to 1974)  
International Geophysical Year (July 1957 to December 1958)  
Iron Curtain  
Joy Boys Radio Program, The  
“Just Before the Battle, Mother”  
Los Angeles County Museum of Science, History, and Art  
National Gallery of Art  
National Geographic Society  
National Mall, The  
National Museums in Colombo  
National Trust for Historic Preservation  
O'Hare Air Reserve Station, formerly located at O'Hare International  
Airport  
O'Hare International Airport  
Operation Crossroads  
Presidential Cruise of 1938  
Quonset huts  
Russian Embassy  
*Sputnik*  
World War I  
World War II  
Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA)

### **Publications**

*American Seashells* (New York: Van Nostrand, 1954)  
*Annual Report of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution*  
(Washington: Smithsonian Institution)  
“Just Before the Battle, Mother”  
*Materials for Word-study; A Manual for Roots, Prefixes, Suffixes and  
Derivatives in the English Language* by Roland Wilbur Brown  
(New Haven: Van Dyck & Co., 1927)  
*Life Magazine*  
*Museum Registration Methods* by Dorothy H. Dudley and Irma Bezold  
(Washington: American Association of Museums, 1958)  
*National Geographic Magazine*  
“Paintings of Sir Winston Churchill” Exhibit, Smithsonian Traveling  
Exhibition Service, 1958  
*Smithsonian Institution War Background Studies Series*

*Smithsonian Magazine*

*Smithsonian Year*

*Survival on Land and Sea* by the Ethnogeographic Board (Washington:  
U.S. Navy, 1943)

*The Torch*

War Background Studies (Washington: Smithsonian Institution, 1941  
1945)

*The Washington Star*

“The World Is Yours” Radio Program, a joint effort of the Smithsonian  
Institution, Works Progress Administration, U.S. Department of  
the Interior, Office of Education and National Broadcasting  
Company (1936-1942)