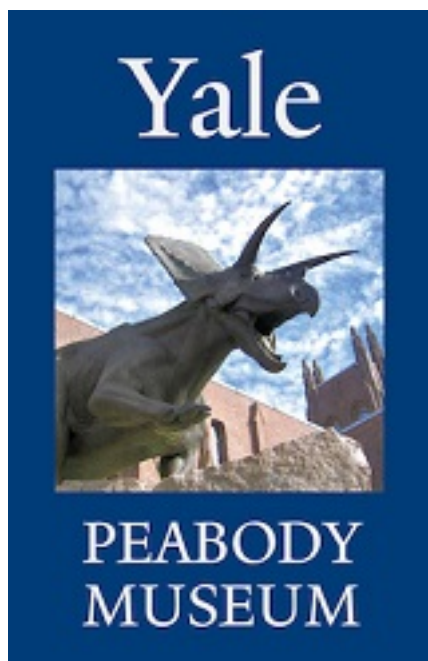


# Division of Vertebrate Paleontology Archives

VPAR.000239



Annette Van Aken

2015

170 Whitney Avenue  
New Haven, CT 06511  
(203) 432-3746  
(203) 432-9816  
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<http://peabody.yale.edu/>

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History  
170 Whitney Avenue  
New Haven, CT 06511  
(203) 432-3746  
(203) 432-9816  
peabody.permissions@yale.edu  
<http://peabody.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** VPAR.000239

**CREATOR:** Division of Vertebrate Paleontology, Yale Peabody Museum

**TITLE:** Division of Vertebrate Paleontology Archives

**DATES:** 1866-2014

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 100 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** In English.

**SUMMARY:** These are the miscellaneous archives associated with the Division of Vertebrate Paleontology.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/ypm.vpar.000239>

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## Administrative Information

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### Cite As

Division of Vertebrate Paleontology Archives, Vertebrate Paleontology, Yale Peabody Museum

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## Biographical Sketch

In 1866, Othniel Charles Marsh was appointed Professor of Paleontology at Yale, the first such position in North America. In 1867, he became curator of the Geological Cabinet at the new Peabody Museum, which was endowed by his uncle, the philanthropist George Peabody. Marsh brought with him 2.5 tons of books and specimens, the bulk of which were accumulated as a Yale College undergraduate and during a lengthy stay in Europe. This collection was the foundation of the vertebrate paleontology collection.

During a lifetime at Yale, Marsh amassed an impressive collection of vertebrate fossils. Although he and the Peabody Museum would ultimately become famous for their collection of dinosaurs from the American West ? which included type specimens of many of the best known dinosaurs - Marsh's earliest collections were from the Cretaceous of New Jersey. Under his leadership, the Yale College Scientific Expeditions of 1870-1873 obtained historically and scientifically important collections of fossil mammals, including some of the largest collections of uinatheres, titanotheres, fossil horses, and early primates in the United States. The expeditions also made important contributions to our knowledge of marine life from the Cretaceous, including mosasaurs, pterosaurs (most notably Pteranodon), and the toothed birds Ichthyornis and Hesperornis. In addition, they assembled a sizable collection of fossil fishes from Eocene lake deposits in Wyoming.

After 1874, Marsh relied almost exclusively on ?professional? collectors, which included both local residents and collectors sent to the American West by Marsh. Marsh's associates form a ?Who's Who? of the history of vertebrate paleontology and geology: Erwin H. Barbour, David Baldwin, George Baur, Charles Emerson Beecher, Hugh Gibb, George Bird Grinnell, Oscar Harger, John Bell Hatcher, Arthur Lakes, Otto Meyer, Benjamin Mudge, O.A. Peterson, William Reed, George R. Wieland, and Samuel Wendell Williston.

According to his biographers, Schuchert and LeVene (1940), Marsh named 344 new species and 161 new genera of fossil vertebrates. His genera include Brontosaurus, Apatosaurus, Stegosaurus, Triceratops and Eohippus. His work and collections were praised by Charles Darwin and Thomas Huxley as some of the most crucial evidence supporting the theory of evolution.

Richard Swann Lull succeeded Marsh in one curatorial capacity or another from 1906 until his death in 1957, also serving as director of the Peabody Museum from 1922 to 1936. It was under his tenure that the Museum moved to its present building; the Great Hall was constructed; and the Marsh Collection was made available to academic researchers. Lull and his students, including M.R. Thorpe, E.L. Troxell and G.G. Simpson, inherited the task of identifying and publishing many of the previously neglected specimens collected by Marsh and his colleagues. Troxell is best remembered for his work on the fossil mammalian fauna of Rock Creek, Texas, whereas Thorpe became a leading expert on oreodonts and served as the Division's senior curator from 1927 to 1938. Both added to the collections and continued Lull's work of describing material already in the Marsh Collection.

Thorpe's successor G.E. Lewis (1939?1945) was responsible for a renewed emphasis on field collecting. As a member of the Yale North India Expeditions, Lewis added a significant collection of fossil primates from the Siwaliks of India and Pakistan to the Peabody's holdings. He also secured an excellent collection of casts of some of the most important Old World primate specimens. J.T. Gregory (1946?1960) succeeded Lewis as curator. While much of his tenure was spent heading up renovations to the exhibits and buildings, he also led several expeditions, making substantial collections from New Mexico, Oklahoma and Wyoming.

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## Description of the Material

The archives of the Division of Vertebrate Paleontology notably include those of the Princeton University collections aquired in 1985.

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# Collection Contents

## Series I: Photographs

Photographs of divisional staff, affiliates, places, etc.

Photographs. Photographs of people, localities, exhibits, etc.  
002651

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Photographs. Photographs of people, localities, exhibits, etc.  
002652

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Photographs.  
002746

Photograph. Photograph of William Harlow Reed 1879 002790	1879
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## **Series II: Specimen Photographs/Figures**

Specimen photographs, figures, etc.

Specimen Photographs/Figures.  
002747

Specimen Photographs/Figures. Photograph of Archelon ischyros. Mounted skeleton, ventral view. w/Wieland.  
002776

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## **Series III: Curators, Staff, Affiliates, etc.**

Archives of various people, not containing enough material for individual fonds.

Adolf Seilacher.  
000329

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Biographies. Curators, affiliates, etc.  
002636

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Charles E. Beecher.  
000326

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Charles Schuchert.  
000328

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Craig B. Wood.  
000332

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Dale A. Russell.  
000327

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Edward D. Cope.  
000346

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Fred W. Darby.  
000320

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Grant E. Meyer.  
000322

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Karl M. Waage.  
000330

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Marshal P. Felch.  
000321

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Mary Ann Turner. Mary Ann Turner Archives.  
002626

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Paul E. Olsen.  
000323

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Robert G. Chaffee.  
000319

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Sam Smith.  
000325

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Samuel W. Williston.  
000331

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William H. Reed.  
000324

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## **Series IV: Como, Wyoming**

Archives relating to collections from Como, WY, not attributed to other fonds..

Locality Information.  
000337

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Specimen Lists.  
000336

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## **Series V: Cloverly Formation**

Archives relating to collections from the Cloverly Formation, not attributed to other fonds..

Aerial Photographs. Aerial Photographs of the Cloverly area.  
002533

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Cloverly Formation. Photographs, maps, stratigraphic maps, figures, newspaper articles, etc. all dealing with the Cloverly Formation.  
002483

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Cloverly Formation. Photograph, maps, 1 figure (by R. Bakker). all dealing with the Cloverly Formation.  
002484

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Field Notes.  
000338

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## **Series VI: Princeton University**

Archives relating to collections from Princeton University, not attributed to other fonds.

Expedition Related Materials.  
000339

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Maps. Miscellaneous maps. Some annotated.  
002521

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Maps. Miscellaneous maps. Some annotated.  
002522

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Miscellaneous.  
000340

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## **Series VII: Field Notes & Locality Information**

Archives relating to field collections, not attributed to other fonds.

Field Notes.

000342

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Locality Information.

000343

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Locality Information. Specimen information arranged by state.

002633

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## **Series VIII: Ledgers & Catalogs**

Ledgers & Catalogs.  
002765

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## Series IX: Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous archives not attributed to other fonds at this time. Should be reassessed by someone familiar with the Vertebrate Paleontology Archives.

Inventory. Inventory of specimens, including types ( fish, reptile, birds, etc).  
002605

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Miscellaneous. Specimen Information., labels, miscellaneous, etc.  
002607

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Miscellaneous. Specimen Information., labels, miscellaneous, etc.  
002608

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Miscellaneous. Mammal hall, departmental history, museum history, exhibit proposal, etc.  
002609

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Miscellaneous. Specimen labels, notes on catalog data, etc.  
002610

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Miscellaneous. Journal of Yale North India Expedition, Lull obit, Lull fund, G. STorrs Correspondence, P. Robinson Correspondence, etc.  
002611

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Miscellaneous. Departmental Correspondence, Operations, Regulations, Financial Statements, Robberies, etc.  
002612

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Miscellaneous. Argus, Grants, etc.  
002613

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Miscellaneous. Mailing list, job descriptions, applications, etc.  
002614

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Miscellaneous. SPNHC, ASC, Publication list, plaster jacket, etc.  
002615

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Miscellaneous. Society of Vertebrate Paleontology information.  
002616

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Miscellaneous. Exhibits, meeting minutes, etc.  
002617

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Miscellaneous. Conservation, Archives workshop, filming permission, etc.  
002618

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Miscellaneous. Museum plans, membership directories, etc.  
002619

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Miscellaneous. Newspaper articles.  
002620

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Miscellaneous. Geology Department information, YPM publications (YEN, Explorer, etc.), job descriptions, etc.  
002621

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Miscellaneous. Annual Reports, Boise Fund, Visitor list.  
002622

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Miscellaneous. YPM Auction, Specimen value, Type List, African Primates, etc.  
002623

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Miscellaneous. UCMP catalog, teaching collection, etc.  
002624

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Miscellaneous. Reorganization NSF proposal, Requests, Damaged fossils, Cast requests, etc.  
002625

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Miscellaneous. Photo forms, building information, Marsh exhibit, Collection guidelines, etc.  
002627

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Miscellaneous. IMLS, Annual Reports, Specimen value, etc.  
002628

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Miscellaneous. Annual Reports, Morphometrics lab, Exhibits, MUuseum Curators Meetings, Bakker Clippings, Simpson Prize, etc.  
002629

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Miscellaneous. Annual Reports, Committee notes, Museum Policy, etc.  
002630

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Miscellaneous. Accession Procedures, Deinonychus display, Hall of Human Origins, etc.  
002631

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Miscellaneous. George Peabody, Specimen information, Fayum Talk, SVP, Memos, etc.  
002632

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Miscellaneous. Reprint requests.  
002634

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Miscellaneous. Reprint requests and catalogs of books and reprints.  
002635

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Miscellaneous. Equipment.  
002637

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Miscellaneous. Equipment.  
002638

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Miscellaneous. Equipment, policy, etc.  
002639

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Miscellaneous. Policy, space planning, floor plans, etc.  
002640

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Miscellaneous. Policy documents.  
002641

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Miscellaneous. Space planning documents.  
002642

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Miscellaneous. Space planning documents.  
002643

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Miscellaneous. Cast information.  
002644

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Miscellaneous. Reprint request, field equipment, Simpson Prize, etc.  
002647

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Miscellaneous. M. Schwartz Correspondence.  
002648

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Miscellaneous. Miscellaneous.  
002649

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Miscellaneous. Miscellaneous.  
002650

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Miscellaneous. Visitor Log.  
002653

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Miscellaneous. Miscellaneous.  
002654

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Miscellaneous. Miscellaneous.  
002655

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Miscellaneous.  
002766

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The Origin of Birds. The Origin of Birds by Gerhard Heilmann. London, H. F. & G. Witherby, 1926. 1926  
002772

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Packing material. Packing material from Kansas from collector Dr. Watson in 1873 . 1873  
Opened in 2009-2010 during the IMLS Fish Conservation Grant.  
002787

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Specimen Information. Specimen Information.... Stegosaurus, T. rex, mammals, etc.  
002606

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## Series X: Maps

Africa. Maps of Africa.  
002426

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Alaska. Maps of Alaska.  
002487

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Arizona. Maps of Arizona.  
002423

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Colorado. Maps of Colorado.  
002444

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Connecticut. Maps of Connecticut.  
002459

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Ecuador. Maps of Ecuador.  
000354

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India. Maps of India.  
000355

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Indiana. Maps of Indiana.  
002440

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Italy. Maps of Italy.  
002460

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Japan. Maps of Japan.  
002452

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Kansas. Maps of Kansas.  
000348

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Maps. Various maps...WY, NE, OK, TX, SC, NV, CA, FL, ID, IN.  
002645

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Maps. Various maps...NM, WY, FL, TX, NV, NE, MT, OR, SD, CO, ND, NC, India.  
002646

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Maryland. Maps of Maryland.  
002447

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Massachusetts. Maps of Massachusetts.  
002516

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Miscellaneous. Miscellaneous maps. Some may be previously cataloged.  
002603

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Miscellaneous. Miscellaneous maps, historical.  
002604

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Montana. Maps of Montana.  
002463

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Nebraska. Maps of Nebraska.  
000349

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Nebraska. Maps of Nebraska.  
002455

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New Mexico. Maps of New Mexico.  
002418

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North America. Maps of North America.  
002436

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North Dakota. Maps of North Dakota.  
000350

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Oregon. Maps of Oregon.  
002442

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Pennsylvania. Maps of Pennsylvania.  
002485

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Russia. Maps of Russia.  
002454

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South America. Maps of South America.  
002451

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South Carolina. Maps of South Carolina.  
002438

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South Dakota. Maps of South Dakota.  
000351

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United Kingdom. Maps and vertical sections of the United Kingdom.  
002458

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Utah. Maps of Utah.  
002453

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Western Mountain States. Maps that overlap Western Mountain State's borders.  
000352

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World. World maps.  
002461

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Wyoming. Maps of Wyoming.  
000353

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## **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.

### **Genres / Formats**

Correspondence

Labels

Maps

Photographs

### **Corporate Body**

Yale University