

# Preliminary Guide to the Charles Schuchert Papers

MS 435



compiled by Thomas J. Connors

March 1979

Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
(203) 432-7441  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 435

**CREATOR:** Schuchert, Charles, 1858-1942

**TITLE:** Charles Schuchert papers

**DATES:** 1859-1943

**BULK DATES:** 1884-1943

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 26 linear feet (52 boxes, 1 folio)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The papers consist of correspondence, financial papers, diary, a manuscript autobiography, photographs and memorabilia. The major part of the papers is made up of Schuchert's professional correspondence while curator of the geological collections at the Peabody Museum at Yale (1904-1923). Subsequent correspondence is related to his work in the field of paleontology. Also in the papers is the incoming correspondence of Charles Emerson Beecher, Schuchert's predecessor at the Peabody Museum. Schuchert's autobiography (ca. 300 pages) was first written in 1917 and revised in 1940. His photograph albums contain pictures of geological expeditions (ca. 1890-1910) as well as personal and family pictures.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0435>


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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.0435>.

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  
 vol. volume

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

The Charles Schuchert Papers were transferred from the Peabody Museum to the University Library in 1967.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

Unpublished materials authored or otherwise produced by the creator(s) of this collection are in the public domain. There are no restrictions on use. Copyright status for other 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

Charles Schuchert Papers (MS 435). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Charles Schuchert: Paleontologist; assistant to paleontologists, 1885-1891; participated in a geological survey of Minnesota, 1891-1892; preparer of fossils, Yale University, 1892-1893; assistant paleontologist, U.S. Geological Survey, 1893-1894; M.A. Hon. Yale 1904; LL.D. New York Univ. 1914; SC.D. Yale 1930; S.D. Hon. Harvard 1935. Curator Geology 1904-23; Chairman Dept. Geological Sciences 1919-21; Curator Invertebrate Paleontology 1923-26; Prof. Paleontology and Historical Geology 1904-23; Prof. Emeritus 1923-42; Acting Dean Graduate School 1914-16; Trustee Peabody Museum of Natural History 1912-26; Silliman Lect. 1917-18.

*Historical Register of Yale University*, 1937-1951.

For more biographical information see Carl P. Dunbar's "Memorial to Charles Schuchert" in Box 1 and Schuchert's manuscript autobiography in Box 42.

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## Scope and Contents

The Charles Schuchert Papers consist of twenty-five linear feet of correspondence, financial papers, photographs, memorabilia, a diary and a manuscript autobiography. The papers have not been processed, but three-fourths of the boxes contain professional correspondence organized as follows:

Boxes 2-30: Incoming, pre-1903 to 1942, alphabetical for each year

Boxes 31-39: Outgoing, 1904 to 1942, chronological throughout


Box 1 contains letters addressed to C.E. Beecher, Schuchert's predecessor as curator of geology in the Peabody Museum. Additional Schuchert correspondence is mixed with other papers in boxes 40-51.

The Charles Schuchert Papers were transferred from the Peabody Museum to the University Library in 1967.

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## Collection Contents

b.1	Dunbar, Carl O. "Memorial to Carles Schuchert"	
b.1	Incoming correspondence to C.E. Beecher, Schuchert's predecessor at the Peabody Museum	
b.1	Incoming correspondence [to Schuchert]	
b.2	Unsorted	Pre-1903, 1903-05
b.3	A-Z	1905
b.3	A-K	1906-07
b.4	L-Z	1906-07
b.4	A-M	1908-09
b.5	N-Z	1908-09
b.5	A-L	1910
b.6	M-Z	1910
b.6	A-Z	1911
b.7	A-Z	1912
b.8	A-Z	1913
b.9	A-Z	1914
b.10	A-Z	1915
b.11	A-Z	1916
b.11	A-K	1917
b.12	L-Z	1917
b.12	A-Z	1918
b.13	A-Z	1919
b.14	A-Z	1920
b.15	A-Z	1921
b.16	A-Z	1922
b.16	A-F	1923
b.17	G-Z	1923
b.17	A-C	1924-25
b.18	D-Q	1924-25

b. 19	R-Z	1924-25
b. 19	A-D	1926-27
b. 20	E-S	1926-27
b. 21	T-Z	1926-27
b. 21	A-L	1928-29
b. 22	M-Z	1928-29
b. 22	A-C	1930-31
b. 23	D-Z	1930-31
b. 24	A-K	1932-33
b. 25	L-Z	1932-33
	A-D	1934-35
b. 26	E-V	1934-35
b. 27	U-Z	1934-35
b. 27	A-J	1936-37
b. 28	K-Z	1936-37
b. 29	A-S	1938-40
b. 30	T-Z	1938-40
b. 30	A-Z	1941-42
Outgoing correspondence [from Schuchert] (copybooks)		
b. 31	1904 May 16-1907 Jan 29	
b. 32	1907 Jan 29-1910 Oct 3	
b. 33,  vol. 1-2	1910 Oct 3-1913 Jun 4	
b. 34	1913 Jun 4-1915 Oct 13	
b. 35	1915 Oct 13-1919 Jan 8	
b. 36	1919 Jan 10-1921 May 30	
b. 37	1921 Jun 3-1925 Jul 9	
b. 38	1925 Jul 9-1932 Dec 6	
b. 39	1932 Dec 12-1942 Oct 9	
b. 40	Cancelled checks, royalty statements, Museum reports, address file	1920s-1940s
b. 41	Medals, checkbooks, correspondence, financial papers, photograph of Schuchert as a child	1859, 1890s-1940s

b. 42	Family correspondence, photographs, autobiographical materials, manuscript of autobiography See also: <a href="#">Chapters in the manuscript "Autobiography of Charles Schuchert" Box 42</a>	1920s, 1930s
b. 43	Correspondence, autobiographical materials, Hayden award	1890s, 1900s, 1929
b. 44	Correspondence	1890s
b. 45	Diary, award materials, material re: retirement from Peabody Museum	1904, 1926, 1930s
b. 46	Degrees, clippings, family coat of arms	1920s, 1930s
b. 47A, 47	Photograph and postcard albums re: geology, travel	1900s-1910s
b. 48	Photograph and postcards, clippings	undated
b. 49	Photograph albums re: geological expeditions	1890s-1910s
b. 49A, f. 1-2	Photographs of geologists	1894, undated
b. 50	Photographs of geologists, clipping file	undated
b. 51	Photographs of Schuchert and family	undated
b. 52	Degrees, honors, photographs of Schuchert	1914, 1920s, 1939
<p>Chapters in the manuscript "Autobiography of Charles Schuchert" "First written Fall of 1917. Amended February 1935. Completely revised in August 1940." The manuscript of Charles Schuchert's autobiography is in Box 42.</p>		
b. 42	Chapter I. My German Ancestors	
	Chapter II. My Mother and Her Ancestry	
b. 42	Sub-section -My Sisters and Brothers	
b. 42	Chapter III. The Pioneers of the Ohio Valley and La Belle Riviere	
b. 42	Chapter IV. Rise to Manhood at Cincinnati	
b. 42	Chapter V. Education	
b. 42	Chapter VI. Business Career	
b. 42	Chapter VII. First Steps in Paleontology	
b. 42	Chapter VIII. My Service with Professor James Hall (& another copy marked duplicate, but only 27p.)	
b. 42	Appendix I & II	
b. 42	Group of added unorganized notes	

## **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**

Geological surveys  
Geology -- United States  
Paleontology  
Science

### **Genres / Formats**

Autobiographies  
Diaries

### **Occupations**

Paleontologists

### **Names**

Beecher, Charles Emerson, 1856-1904  
Schuchert, Charles, 1858-1942

### **Corporate Bodies**

Peabody Museum of Natural History  
Yale University -- Faculty