

# Guide to the Ward Shepard Papers

MS 746



compiled by Mary C. LaFogg

January 1977

Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
(203) 432-7441

[beinecke.library@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu)

<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

---

## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	3
Requesting Instructions .....	3
Administrative Information .....	3
Immediate Source of Acquisition .....	3
Conditions Governing Access .....	4
Conditions Governing Use .....	4
Preferred Citation .....	4
Biographical / Historical .....	4
Scope and Contents .....	5
Arrangement .....	5
Collection Contents .....	6
Series I: Correspondence, 1930-1959 .....	6
Series II: Writings, 1934-1957 .....	7
Series III: Writings of Others, 1909-1956 .....	11
Selected Search Terms .....	12

---

## 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 746

**CREATOR:** Shepard, Ward, 1887-1959

**TITLE:** Ward Shepard papers

**DATES:** 1909-1959

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 2 linear feet (5 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Correspondence, writings and a few essays by others on ecology, Indians, and Darwinism. The main portion of the correspondence (1943-1958) is with John Collier on the subject of Shepard's last book, *The Living Whole*. His writings reflect interests in the environment and related scientific subjects, and the papers include both published and unpublished works.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0746>

---

## 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.0746>.

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

---

## Administrative Information

---

### Immediate Source of Acquisition

These papers originally formed a portion of the John Collier Papers in the Yale University Library, and were separated when the Collier Papers were processed.

---

## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

---

## 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.

---

## Preferred Citation

Ward Shepard Papers (MS 746). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

---

## Biographical / Historical

Ward Shepard was born in Hicksville, Ohio, in 1887. He graduated from Harvard College in 1910 and received his master's degree from the Harvard Forest School in 1913. He married Jean Francis Duer Key on 12 October 1918. From 1921 to 1927 Shepard worked for the United States Forest Service as a forest ranger and a forest supervisor in the Western National Forests. While working for the Forest Service, he contributed his own knowledge to the planning of a nation-wide federal forest research program.

In 1932, Ward Shepard was appointed a fellow of the Carl Schurz Memorial Foundation. This afforded him the opportunity to make an extensive study of forestry practices, policies and legislation in central Europe. Upon his return to the United States, in 1933, Shepard became an economic advisor to John Collier, the U.S. Commissioner of Indian Affairs. During his three years with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Shepard, like Collier, supported a policy of fair treatment of the Indians. He helped draft the Wheeler-Howard Indian Reorganization Act while on the Bureau's staff. Like many others interested in Indian reform, he hoped that this act would change past concepts of Indian administration and develop a new program of Indian land conservation and rehabilitation designed to safeguard Indian lands for Indian agriculture, livestock raising and forestry.

On 1 May 1936, President James B. Conant of Harvard University named Ward Shepard director of the Harvard Forest School. In this capacity, Shepard undertook the strengthening and expansion of forestry education at Harvard. The school trained students in the biological aspects of forestry and also provided knowledge in the more complex economic, legislative and financial areas of forestry for those conservationists interested in implementing programs to end the wholesale liquidation of forests in the United States.

After Shepard completed his work at Harvard, he returned to Washington in 1939 as a special advisor on forest policy for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In 1940, he rejoined the Office of Indian Affairs as an advisor on natural resources development. He continued to be an outspoken advocate of the Soil Conservation Service. To dramatize the need for preserving farmland, he wrote the book, *Food or Famine; The Challenge of Erosion*, in 1945.

Towards the end of his life, Shepard became increasingly involved in scientific and philosophical writing. At the time of his death, in 1959, he was working on a book, *The Living Whole*, which dealt with Darwin and evolutionary theory. Ward Shepard died on his farm in Oakton, Virginia, on 13 September 1959.

## Scope and Contents

The Ward Shepard Papers consist of his correspondence and writings, as well as some writings of others. These papers were discovered among the John Collier Papers when the collection was processed. They represent only a small segment of the varied life and career of Ward Shepard.

The papers have been arranged in three series. Series I, CORRESPONDENCE, is largely that of Shepard to Collier regarding his progress on an unpublished book, *The Living Whole*.

Series II, WRITINGS, is divided into unpublished and published work. Among the unpublished materials are articles dealing with evolution, ecology and other scientific subjects; drafts and outlines for chapters of *The Living Whole*; memoranda, prepared during Shepard's years in government service (1943-1950); and notes on various subjects including energy, evolution, nature, philosophy, psychology, science and teleology. The final section of unpublished material contains a number of unidentified and undated papers on a variety of topics. These appear to be proposed articles or addresses written by Shepard after his retirement. The published material consists of reprints of articles and book reviews published by Shepard in various scientific magazines.

Series III, WRITINGS OF OTHERS, contains articles and writings by John Collier, Laura Thompson and others in the field of sociology and soil conservation.

---

## Arrangement

Arranged in three series: I. Correspondence, 1930-1959. II. Writings, 1934-1957. III. Writings of Others, 1909-1956.

---

## Collection Contents

### Series I: Correspondence, 1930-1959

*.1 linear foot (4 folders)*

Series I, CORRESPONDENCE, is largely that of Shepard to Collier regarding his progress on an unpublished book, *The Living Whole*. Correspondence is arranged chronologically, 1930-1959.

b. 1, f. 1	1930 English	1930
b. 1, f. 2	1940-1949	1940-1949
b. 1, f. 3	1950-1955	1950-1955
b. 1, f. 4	1956-1959	1956-1959

**Series II: Writings, 1934-1957***2 linear feet (5 boxes)*

Series II, WRITINGS, is divided into unpublished and published work. Among the unpublished materials are articles dealing with evolution, ecology and other scientific subjects; drafts and outlines for chapters of *The Living Whole*; memoranda, prepared during Shepard's years in government service (1943-1950); and notes on various subjects including energy, evolution, nature, philosophy, psychology, science and teleology. The final section of unpublished material contains a number of unidentified and undated papers on a variety of topics. These appear to be proposed articles or addresses written by Shepard after his retirement. The published material consists of reprints of articles and book reviews published by Shepard in various scientific magazines. The series is arranged in five sections; articles; books; memoranda; notes; typescripts. There is one section of published reprints and reviews following the unpublished materials. Within each section items are organized chronologically, followed by the undated materials, which are arranged alphabetically by title.

## Articles

b. 1, f. 5	Theory of Value	1946 March
b. 1, f. 6	Social Ecology	1949 February 22
b. 1, f. 7	Old Worlds and New: The Crisis of Mankind A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	1950 January 2

*The Living Whole*

b. 1, f. 8	First draft	(1955?)
b. 1, f. 9	Second draft	(1955?)
b. 1, f. 10	Third draft	(1955?)

## Books

*Social Ecology*

b. 1, f. 11	Draft of outline and synopsis A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	(1949)
-------------	--	--------

*The Living Whole*

b. 1, f. 12	Introduction and table of contents	1954 May 19
b. 1, f. 13	Chapter I, The Origin of a Scientific Myth	1954
b. 1, f. 14	Chapter II, The Granary of Life	1954
b. 1, f. 15	Chapter III, Man-made War of Nature	1954
b. 1, f. 16	Chapter IV, Plant Pioneers of Land Conquest	1954
b. 2, f. 17	Chapter V, Plant Architects of the Life Community	1954

## Books &gt; The Living Whole (continued)

b. 2, f. 18	Chapter VI, The Mosaic of Life	1954
b. 2, f. 19	Chapter VII, The Balance of Nature: War or System?	1954
b. 2, f. 20	Chapter VIII, The Biocentric Universe	1954
<i>The Living Whole</i>		
b. 2, f. 21	Chapter IX, System Laws of the Living Community	1954
b. 2, f. 22	Chapter X, Weak Links in Evolutionary Theory	1954
b. 2, f. 23	Chapter XI, The Cosmic Matrix of Order	1954
b. 2, f. 24	Chapter XII, The Field of Life	1954
b. 2, f. 25	Chapter XIII, The Life Web	1954
b. 3, f. 26	Chapter XIV, Man: The Primitive Order	1954
b. 3, f. 27	Chapter XV, Man: The Civilized Order	1954
b. 3, f. 28	Chapter XVI, The New Commonwealth	1954
b. 3, f. 29	Chapter XVII, Man and Nature	1954
Memoranda		
b. 3, f. 30	Report to the Secretary of the Interior on the Soil Erosion Service and on a Permanent Coordinated Program of Soil Erosion Control	1934 December 18
b. 3, f. 31	Food and Soil: A World Crisis introduction	Undated
b. 3, f. 32	Food and Soil: A World Crisis	1943 September 10
b. 3, f. 33	The Best of Two Worlds	1950
b. 3, f. 34	Government's role in a national science program	Undated
b. 3, f. 35	Suggestions on proposed World Conservation Conference	Undated
b. 3, f. 36	Total Conservation for Total Flood Control	Undated
Notes		
b. 3, f. 37-38	Science of Nature	(1946?)
b. 3, f. 39	The Structure and Dynamics of Community (syllabus of course taught by WS)	1930 January 30
b. 3, f. 40	Predators	(1952?)
b. 3, f. 41	Teleology	(1952?)
b. 3, f. 42	Mind in Nature	1957
b. 4, f. 43	Chromosomes and Directed Evolution	Undated
b. 4, f. 44	Tentative Note on Energy and Matter	Undated



## Notes (continued)

b. 4, f. 45	Evolution	Undated
b. 4, f. 46	Man and Nature	Undated
b. 4, f. 47	Origins of Social Cooperation	Undated
b. 4, f. 48	Patterns of Light	Undated
b. 4, f. 49	Notes on Philosophy	Undated
b. 4, f. 50	The Power of the Human Mind	Undated
b. 4, f. 51	Note on Probability and Random Motion	Undated
b. 4, f. 52	Psychology	Undated
Typescripts		
b. 4, f. 52a	The Duty of the Government to Stop Forest Devastation	1935
b. 4, f. 53	Modest Proposal for Peaceful Abdication of Capitalism	(1946?)
b. 4, f. 54	Nature Red in Tooth and Claw	1953 March 26
b. 4, f. 55	Atom Bomb	Undated
b. 4, f. 56	Authority Versus Humanity: A Study of Modern Social Conflict	Undated
b. 4, f. 57	The Blind Alley of the Social Sciences	Undated
b. 4, f. 58	The Candle's Beam	Undated
b. 4, f. 59	Creative Functional Evolution	Undated
b. 4, f. 60	The Darwinian Paradox	Undated
b. 4, f. 61	Liberalism	Undated
b. 4, f. 62	Life and Entropy	Undated
b. 4, f. 63	The Malthusian Myth (draft) A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	Undated
b. 4, f. 64	Life Out of Death, <i>The Malthusian - Darwin Myth</i>	Undated
b. 4, f. 65	The Meaning of Evolution	Undated
b. 4, f. 66	The Organism as Mental Process	Undated
b. 4, f. 67	Private Enterprise and Native Cultures	Undated
b. 4, f. 68	Science for Democracy	Undated
b. 5, f. 69	The Struggle for Existence	Undated
b. 5, f. 70	Toward a Field Theory	Undated

## Typescripts (continued)

b. 5, f. 71	World War II	Undated
<hr/>		
Reprints and Reviews		
b. 5, f. 72	"The Tools for Ethnic Democracy," <i>Common Ground</i> English	1944
b. 5, f. 73	"Science for Democracy," <i>Science</i> English	1946 January 18
b. 5, f. 74	"Our Indigenous Shangri-La," <i>Scientific Monthly</i> English	1946 February
b. 5, f. 75	Review by Ward Shepard of <i>Culture in Crisis</i> by Laura Thompson	1952

**Series III: Writings of Others, 1909-1956***.1 linear foot (8 folders)*

Series III, WRITINGS OF OTHERS, contains articles and writings by John Collier, Laura Thompson and others in the field of sociology and soil conservation. The series is arranged alphabetically by the author's name. There is one folder of newspaper clippings at the end of this series.

b. 5, f. 76	Extracts from "The Troubled Dream" by John Collier	1956 November
b. 5, f. 77	Outlines of classes given by John Collier	Undated
b. 5, f. 78	"Darwin's Influence Upon Philosophy" by John Dewey English	1909 July
b. 5, f. 79	Reprints of articles in <i>Journal of Soil and Water Conservation</i> : Edward H. Graham, Seymour E. Harris, Edward A. Ackerman	1946 October
b. 5, f. 80	<i>Therapeutic Values in Navajo Religion</i> Alexander and Dorothea Leighton	Undated
b. 5, f. 81	"Improvement of Forest Soil and Increase of Wood Production by Fertilization with Lime" by Heinrich Suchting English	Undated
b. 5, f. 82	Extracts from <i>Culture in Crisis: A Study of the Hopi Indians</i> by Laura Thompson	1950

## **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**

Conservation of natural resources  
Ecology  
Environmental protection  
Indians of North America  
Soil conservation

### **Names**

Collier, John, 1884-1968  
Shepard, Ward, 1887-1959