
Benjamin Hoag papers

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UC Berkeley. Museum of Vertebrate Zoology

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Benjamin Hoag papers

Dates: 1878-1916

Collection Number: MVZA.MSS.0289

Creator/Collector:

Extent: 0.62 cubic feet

Repository: UC Berkeley. Museum of Vertebrate Zoology
Berkeley, California 94720-3160

Abstract: Benjamin Hoag was an egg collector and merchant active in the late 19th century and early 20th century. The Benjamin Hoag Papers collection contains egg catalogs, field notes, correspondence, and ephemera.

Language of Material: English

Access

The collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

Benjamin Hoag papers. UC Berkeley. Museum of Vertebrate Zoology

Biography/Administrative History

Benjamin Hoag was born in 1865 in Ancram, New York, but lived most of his life in Stephentown, N.Y. He was an avid collector of bird eggs and kept detailed catalogs of his collection. He sold oological supplies and books, and was active in the egg trade. He died in 1932. "Hoag, Benjamin". Special Collections and University Archives. University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Accessed 20 Aug. 2014. <http://scua.library.umass.edu/umarmot/hoag-benjamin/>

Scope and Content of Collection

The Benjamin Hoag Papers collection contains several egg catalogs, which frequently give detailed narrative information about the acquisition of the specimens. Many pages of the catalogs were rendered illegible when ephemera and correspondence were glued on top of the records. In addition to egg catalogs, the collection contains field notes, "schedules" of observed birds in Rensselaer County, correspondence, and ephemera. While some of the correspondence deals with Hoag's oological supply business and his egg collecting activities, much of it relates to his magazine and newspaper subscription sales. The ephemera includes newspaper clippings, publisher catalogs, and leaflets advertising books. The collection also includes a ledger of goods sold.
