

Summary Information

Title: The Harry E. Smith Collection

Collector: Harry Ecroyd Smith

Donor: Oxford Historical Society (see Collection Scope and Content Note)

Dates: 1900-1915; Accessioned 1989

Extent: 80 catalog records representing approximately 90 objects.

Abstract:

American soldier and hospital administrator in the Philippine-American war and the Spanish-American war. A collection of miscellaneous ethnographic objects obtained during this time.

Accession number: 1989-74

Language: English

Repository:

University of Michigan Museum of Anthropological Archaeology

3600 Varsity Drive

Ann Arbor, MI 48108

734.764.0485

e-mail: ummaa-collection-mgr@umich.edu

Home Page: <https://lsa.umich.edu/ummaa>

Other Repositories: N/A

Collection Guide Created by: Sara Reed

Year Collection Guide Created: 2022

Funding for collection guide provided by: ReConnect/ReCollect: Reparative Connections to Philippine Collections at the University of Michigan

Access and Use

Acquisition Information:

The collection was a gift of the Oxford Historical Society, 1989.

Access Restrictions:

The collection is open to research.

Copyright:

Copyright is held by the Regents of the University of Michigan but the collection may contain third-party materials for which copyright is not held. Patrons are responsible for determining the appropriate use or reuse of materials.

Preferred Citation:

UMMAA Object #/Document title. Accession #. The Smith Collection, University of Michigan Museum of Anthropological Archaeology. Date Accessed.

Biography

Harry Ecroyd Smith, born in England, 1865, served as an American soldier in the Philippine-American War and the Spanish-American war. Following his discharge in 1903, he continued his service in the United States military as Property Officer and Superintendent of three government hospitals in the Philippines. Circa 1915, he returned to the United States. He died in Oxford, New York, 1937.

Collection Scope and Content Note

Ethnographic material collected from the Philippines by Harry Ecroyd Smith during his service as a soldier in the Spanish-American and Philippine-American war. The collection contains a variety of objects, including weapons, accessories, and tools. Information from the original donor indicates that the collection may have been created by the Cordillera peoples in Northern Luzon.

The collection was donated to the Oxford Memorial Library by Carrie Balcom Smith in 1937. The collection was in the possession of the Oxford Memorial Library until 1980, when it was transferred to the Oxford Historical Society.

The collection has not been attributed to any Philippine ethnolinguistic groups. The collection has also not been reviewed by an individual with expertise in Philippine ethnolinguistic cultures. The catalog information reflects what has been previously provided by the donor and the Museum's historic naming conventions. At this time, it cannot be stated with specificity when, where, or by whom the objects were created.

Supplementary material includes:

- Biography of Henry E. Smith

- Donor description of some collection objects.
- Ethnographic photos from the Philippines
- Original donor inventory
- Correspondence
- Museum catalog records
- Original museum photo negatives of objects

The collection contains the following objects (organized by the museum's historic naming conventions):

- Armor and Weapons–Armor–Shield (2)
- Armor and Weapons–Weapons–Arrow (13)
- Armor and Weapons–Weapons–Bow (1)
- Armor and Weapons–Weapons–Spear (5)
- Container–Bag (2)
- Container–Basket (5)
- Container–Bowl (4)
- Container–Box (1)
- Container–Lit (cover) (3)
- Container–Tube (2)
- Dress and Personal Adornment–Accessory–Armband (4)
- Dress and Personal Adornment–Accessory–Handbag (purse) (2)
- Dress and Personal Adornment–Accessory–Headdress (3)
- Dress and Personal Adornment–Clothing–Breechcloth (3)
- Dress and Personal Adornment–Clothing–Hat (10)
- Dress and Personal Adornment–Clothing–Pocket (2)
- –Dress and Personal Adornment–Jewelry–Bead (1)
- Dress and Personal Adornment–Jewelry–Earring (4)
- Dress and Personal Adornment–Jewelry–Necklace (3)
- Food Preparation and Consumption–Ladle (1)
- Food Preparation and Consumption–Spoon (4)
- Furnishings and Furniture–Blanket (1)
- Religion or Ritual–Figurine (2)
- Religion or Ritual–Pipe (2)
- Tools and Equipment–Axe (2)
- Tools and Equipment–Cordage (1)
- Tools and Equipment–Tool (1)
- Tools and Equipment–Turning Stick (3)
- Transport–Walking stick/cane (1)
- Unassigned–Botanical Sample (1)
- Unassigned–Unworked Animal Bone (1)

Subject Terms

- Smith, Harry E. (Harry Ecroyd) 1865-1937
- Philippines–History–Philippine American War, 1899-1902
- Philippines–History–Spanish American War, 1898

Bibliography

There is currently no known published material associated with Harry Ecroyd Smith or the collection.