

Summary Information

Title: The Solheim Collection

Collector: Wilhelm G. Solheim II

Donor: Wilhelm G. Solheim II

Dates: Collected June 1952-December 1953; Accessioned 1956 & 1958

Extent: 36 catalog records representing approximately 474 objects.

Abstract:

Excavated material from an American professor of Archaeology.
Archaeological material primarily composed of ceramic potsherds.

Accession number: 2369 & 2423

Language: English

Repository:

University of Michigan Museum of Anthropological Archaeology

3600 Varsity Drive

Ann Arbor, MI 48108

734.764.0485

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

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

Other Repositories:

American Heritage Center, University of Wyoming

Centennial Complex

2111 Willet Drive

Laramie, WY 82071

Collection Guide Created by: Sara Reed

Year Collection Guide Created: 2023

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 Wilhelm G. Solheim II.

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 #. Collection Name, University of Michigan Museum of Anthropological Archaeology. Date Accessed.

Biography

Wilhelm G. Solheim (1924-2014) was an American anthropologist and a pioneer in the study of Philippine archaeology. He lived three years in the Philippines, excavating in Calatagan (Batangas), Masbate (Kalanay Cave Site), and Luzon, before receiving his PhD for his dissertation on the Philippine Iron Age, utilizing the material from the Kalanay Cave Site. In 1997 he joined the archaeological studies program at the University of the Philippines, and in 2003 the Solheim foundation was established in his name, with intent to promote archaeological research in the Philippines. He passed away in the Philippines in 2014.

Collection Scope and Content Note

Archaeological material—primarily potsherds—from various sites in the Philippines including Fuga Island, Kalanay Cave Site, Batanes Islands, and Peñarrubia. The majority of material is Chinese pottery. This material was collected between June 1952 - April 1953, during Solheim's dissertation fieldwork. Most of the material was excavated, but the material from Peñarrubia was surface collection, following a bombing of the barrio wherein several of the jars were broken and tossed. It is also the location where Fay-Cooper Cole did the majority of his research into the Tinguian; the owners of the vessels had been informants of Cole and it is possible that some of the jars are those that were described by him in *Chinese Pottery in the Philippines* (1912).

The collection has not been attributed to any Philippine ethnolinguistic groups. The database information reflects what was provided by the donor. At this time, unless otherwise indicated, it cannot be stated with specificity when or where the objects were created.

The collection contains human remains and associated burial items.

Supplementary material includes:

- Correspondence between museum and donor.
- Original museum inventory.
- Original donor inventory.

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

- Container–Sherd (31 lots)
- Tools and Equipment–Tool
- Unassigned–Various Archaeological Material
- Container–Plate
- Agriculture and Subsistence–Fishing Objects–Net Sinker (2)

Subject Terms

- Solheim, Wilhelm G. (Wilhelm Gerhard) (1924-2014)
- Excavations (archaeology)
- Archaeological Assemblages
- Archaeology–Philippines
- Pottery, Philippine
- Pottery, Chinese

Bibliography

Cole, Fay-Cooper, and Berthold Laufer. 1912. “Chinese Pottery in the Philippines.” *Publications of the Field Museum of Natural History. Anthropological Series* 12, no. 1: 1–47. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/29782136>.

Solheim, Wilhelm G. “The Kulanay Pottery Complex in the Philippines.” *Artibus Asiae* 20, no. 4 (1957): 279–88. <https://doi.org/10.2307/3249420>.

Solheim, Wilhelm G. 1959. Further notes on the Kulanay Pottery Complex in the Philippines. *Asian Perspectives* 3, (2) (Winter): 157, <https://www.proquest.com/scholarly-journals/further-notes-on-kulanay-pottery-complex/docview/1311709225/se-2>.

Solheim, Wilhelm G. 1960. The Philippine Iron Age. Ph.D. diss., The University of Arizona, <https://www.proquest.com/dissertations-theses/philippine-iron-age/docview/301855339/se-2>.