

Summary Information

Title: The Morse Collection

Collector: 1st Sgt. Fred B. Morse and Marie Morse

Donor: Marie Morse

Dates: Collected 1903-1905; Accessioned in 1926

Extent: 301 Catalog records representing approximately 301 objects.

Abstract:

American sergeant in the Philippines 1903-1905. The collection includes various ethnographic objects including swords, spears, hats, and daggers.

Accession number: 278

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 purchased from Marie Morse, 1926.

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 Morse Philippine Collection, University of Michigan Museum of Anthropological Archaeology. Date Accessed.

Biography

First Sergeant Fred B. Morse and his wife, Marie M. Morse, lived on the Island of Mindanao whilst Sergeant Morse was stationed with Troop “C,” 14th Cavalry. The couple were in the Philippines from 1903 to 1905, and the collection would be purchased by the University of Michigan following the death of Sgt. Morse. Donor information indicates that Sgt. Morse was involved in the Second Battle of Taraca as well as conflicts in the Cotabato valley related to Dato Ali.

Collection Scope and Content Note

Ethnographic material collected by Sgt. and Mrs. Morse between 1903 and 1905 while Sgt. Morse was stationed on the Island of Mindanao. The collection consists of various weapons, such as swords, spears, and daggers, but also consists of household items such as kitchen utensils, jewelry, mats, and trays. Donor information indicates that the collection may be related to the Moro people. These materials were collected in the context of war; descriptive labels created by the donor indicate some items may have been obtained through looting.

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:

- Correspondence between the donor and museum
- Original donor inventory
- Original museum inventory
- Several original museum tags
- 1938 museum inventory

- 3 books
- Photographs
- Postcards (Appear to be unrelated to the Philippines)

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

- Armor and Weapons--Armor--Shield (8)
- Armor and Weapons--Weapon--Arrow (19)
- Armor and Weapons--Weapon--Bow (2)
- Armor and Weapons--Weapon--Bullet
- Armor and Weapons--Weapon--Dagger (17)
- Armor and Weapons--Weapon--Dagger and Sheath (2)
- Armor and Weapons--Weapon--Gun Stock
- Armor and Weapons--Weapon--Kris (7)
- Armor and Weapons--Weapon--Pistol
- Armor and Weapons--Weapon--Rifle
- Armor and Weapons--Weapon--Sheath (11)
- Armor and Weapons--Weapon--Spear (14)
- Armor and Weapons--Weapon--Sword (7)
- Armor and Weapons--Weapon--Sword and Sheath
- Container--Bag (2)
- Container--Basket (8)
- Container--Box (23)
- Container--Cigarette case (2)
- Container--Container (generic)
- Container--Lid (cover) (3)
- Container--Pitcher
- Container--Powder Horn/Powder Case
- Container--Quiver (2)
- Container--Stopper
- Container--Strainer (or Sieve)
- Dress and Personal Adornment--Accessory--Ankle band (4)
- Dress and Personal Adornment--Accessory--Fan (2)
- Dress and Personal Adornment--Clothing--Hat (5)
- Dress and Personal Adornment--Clothing--Shoe (2)
- Dress and Personal Adornment--Clothing--Slipper (4)
- Dress and Personal Adornment--Jewelry--Bead (3)
- Dress and Personal Adornment--Jewelry--Bracelet (9)
- Dress and Personal Adornment--Jewelry--Necklace (4)
- Dress and Personal Adornment--Jewelry--Ring

- Dress and Personal Adornment--Jewelry--Ornament (2)
- Dress and Personal Adornment--Toiletries--Comb (3)
- Food Preparation and Consumption--Eating Utensil
- Food Preparation and Consumption--Ladle (3)
- Food Preparation and Consumption--Spoon (3)
- Furnishings and Furniture--Mirror
- Heating and Lighting--Lamp (4)
- Measurement--Scale
- Music--Percussion Instrument--Drum (2)
- Music--String Instrument--Jew's Harp (4)
- Music--Wind Instrument--Flute (3)
- Religion and Ritual--Urn
- Religion or Ritual--Figurine (4)
- Religion or Ritual--Pipe (4)
- Textile
- Textile--Mat (4)
- Tools and Equipment--Axe (1)
- Tools and Equipment--Chain (4)
- Tools and Equipment--Knife (11)
- Tools and Equipment--Pipe cleaner
- Tools and Equipment--Saw
- Tools and Equipment--Tray (5)
- Transport--Walking stick/cane (8)
- Unassigned--Sample (2)
- Unassigned--Unknown (6)
- Unassigned--Unworked Animal Bone (4)

Items from the collection unrelated to the Philippines:

- Furnishings and Furniture--Painting (5)
- Reproductions or Casts--Model

Subject Terms

- Ethnology--Philippines
- Philippines--Moro-American Conflict (1899-1913)
- Weapons--Philippines

Bibliography

There is currently no known published material associated with Sgt. Morse, Mrs. Morse or the collection.