

Special Collections at Yale

Are you looking for original primary sources for your senior essay? Take advantage of Yale's incredible holdings in the various special collections on campus.

- **Browse these resources to get a sense of what is available:**
 - Descriptions of Yale repositories: http://www.library.yale.edu/special_collections
 - Database of archival collections and manuscripts: <http://webtext.library.yale.edu/>
 - Orbis, the online catalog, which contains brief records describing collections at Yale (Use "More Limits" function and limit by "Item Type" to "Archives and Manuscripts"): <http://orbis.library.yale.edu>
- **Feel free to contact the reference staff at the libraries that hold materials relevant to your subject area (see reverse of this handout for contact info.) Tell them what you are interested in pursuing and they will alert you to relevant collections.**
- **See below for some examples of essays that have been written over the past few years based on special collections materials held at Yale.**
- **See the reverse for some examples of collections that would be good candidates for senior essay research in your topic area.**

BEINECKE RARE BOOK AND MANUSCRIPT LIBRARY:

"Schooling the Indian: Richard Henry Pratt and His Students at Carlisle"

"Mapping the West: Washington Hood and the Corps of Topographic Engineers"

"Mirabeau B. Lamar and the Republic of Texas"

"Creating Tacoma: The Northern Pacific Rail Road Selects a Western Terminus"

DIVINITY LIBRARY

"From Practical Philanthropy to Social Ethics: Jerome Davis, Liston Pope, and the Evolution of the Social Gospel"

"Ginling College: the Implicit Feminism of Women's Mission Work in China"

"To Save China: Wu Yi-fang and Christian Chinese Nationalism, 1927-1937"

"From Healer to Physician: The Hackett Medical College & Educating Chinese Women Doctors"

MEDICAL HISTORICAL LIBRARY

"Their Own Civil War: the Struggle of Homeopathic Physicians in the United States Army to Achieve Medical Pluralism, 1861-1865."

"Yellow Fever in New Haven, 1794"

YALE ART GALLERY

"Printmaking and Artistic Theory in the Venetian Renaissance"

MANUSCRIPTS & ARCHIVES

"From the 'Bland Leading the Bland' to the Mississippi Freedom Vote"

"Walking the Line of Diplomacy: The Mutual Failures of Chester Bowles and the United States in India, 1951-1969"

"What's in a Name: the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, 1965-1972"

"Disclosure of Holocaust Experiences: Reasons, Attributions, and Health Implications"

"Hiram Bingham and the Lost Treasures of Machu Pichu: Popular Archaeology, Imagined Imperialism and National Press in the Yale Peruvian Expeditions"

Use these email addresses to contact the reference staff at the various repositories.

ARTS LIBRARY

jae.rossman@yale.edu

BEI NECKE RARE BOOK & MANUSCRIPT LIBRARY:

beinecke.library@yale.edu

CENTER FOR BRITISH ART:

elisabeth.fairman@yale.edu

DIVINITY LIBRARY:

divinity.library@yale.edu

LEWIS WALPOLE LIBRARY:

walpole@yale.edu

MANUSCRIPTS & ARCHIVES
At Sterling Memorial Library

mssa.assist@yale.edu

MEDICAL HISTORICAL LIBRARY:

toby.appel@yale.edu

MUSIC LIBRARY:

musiclibrary@yale.edu

ORAL HISTORY, AMERICAN MUSIC:

deborah.bellmore@yale.edu

YALE ART GALLERY:

susan.matheson@yale.edu

Some examples of collections relevant to:

HISTORY OF SCIENCE & MEDICINE

See also: http://www.library.yale.edu/special_collections/essays.html

MEDICAL HISTORICAL LIBRARY:

The Medical Historical Library has many large collections of pamphlets from the 19th and early twentieth centuries including: patent medicine almanacs, patent medicine advertisements, hospital annual reports and ephemera, medical college catalogs and addresses, spas and mineral waters, and pamphlets from various organizations. These are little-used fascinating primary sources on popular medicine, public health, personal hygiene, child health and rearing advice, and sex education.

Example collection:

Pamphlets on public health issued by state government agencies, 1905-1942:

Pamphlets on public health issued by state boards or departments of health and related state government agencies. Most are addressed to the public on topics related to infectious and chronic diseases, and personal, family, and community hygiene. Sex education is among the many topics covered. Also included are some reports and texts of public health laws. Many, though not all states, are represented in this collection.

MANUSCRIPTS & ARCHIVES, STERLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY:

Silliman Family Papers. Benjamin Silliman was born in Trumbull (North Stratford), Connecticut on August 8, 1779. He graduated from Yale College in 1796, studied law with Simeon Baldwin, was appointed as a tutor at Yale College (1799), and was admitted to the bar in 1802. He was appointed professor of chemistry and natural history at Yale College in 1802. Silliman taught, lectured, and published until 1853. He died in New Haven, Connecticut on November 24, 1864.

Benjamin Silliman, Jr. was born on December 4, 1816. He graduated from Yale College in 1837, and assisted his father, Benjamin Silliman. He held several teaching positions at Yale College, edited scholarly journals, and published works on chemistry and geology. He died in New Haven, Connecticut on January 14, 1885. The papers consist of correspondence, lectures, notebooks, diaries, journals, and other material documenting the personal lives and professional careers of the Silliman family, including Benjamin Silliman (1779-1864) and Benjamin Silliman, Jr. (1816-1885). Personal material details family life, relationships, social activities, and cultural pursuits. Professional material details the academic and literary interests of the Sillimans, particularly in chemistry, physics, and geology. The evolution and development of science, the beginnings of scientific instruction at Yale, and many related topics are documented.

Harvey Williams Cushing Papers. Harvey Williams Cushing was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on April 8, 1869. He graduated from Yale College in 1891 and in 1895 received his M.D. and A.M. degrees from the Harvard Medical School. He served on the staff of the Johns Hopkins University Hospital from 1901 to 1912, where he devoted himself to neurological surgery. In 1912 he was appointed professor of surgery at Harvard Medical School and in 1913 surgeon-in-chief of the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, posts which he held until 1932. During World War I Cushing served with medical units in France, where he advanced the treatment of gunshot wounds of the head. Later he developed methods for the study and treatment of intracranial tumors. He was also an ardent bibliophile and prolific writer, winning a Pulitzer Prize in biography in 1926. Cushing died in New Haven, Connecticut on October 7, 1939. The papers consist of correspondence, subject files, writings, and artifacts which document the professional career of Harvey Williams Cushing. The papers also document his activities in various professional organizations, his research and writing, particularly on brain tumors and on Sir William Osler, and his book collecting. The papers include a large correspondence with prominent physicians, medical educators and administrators, former classmates, students, assistants, and patients, World War I colleagues, and book dealers, librarians, and book collectors

DIVINITY LIBRARY:

James Claude Thomson Papers: Thomson was an ordained minister, missionary, scientist, and educator. He was Professor of chemistry and later Dean at the University of Nanking in China from 1917 to 1949. Although he began his career pioneering in the analysis and extraction of Chinese wood oil from the tung-oil nut, he began to feel a deep concern for the hungry and poorly nourished people of Asia. Mid-career, he sought the education and training needed to enter into the fields of public health and nutrition. During his long career as a medical nutrition expert and biochemist, he taught in universities and advised governments in China, Japan, Korea, and the Mideast. Serving as a nutrition consultant for the World Health Organization in the 1950s, he conducted major nutritional

BEINECKE RARE BOOK AND MANUSCRIPT LIBRARY:

The John Vance Lauderdale Papers contain correspondence, journals, photographs, drawings, programs, newspaper clippings, and memorabilia documenting the lives of 19th century army medical officer Dr. John V. Lauderdale and other members of his family. The papers span the dates 1838-1931, but the bulk of the material covers the years 1852-1916. They document Lauderdale's service on the Mississippi River during the Civil War and at numerous posts throughout the American West in the decades after the Civil War.