

# **John Muirhead Macfarlane writings**

**Ms. Coll. 1251**

**Finding aid prepared by Kelin Baldrige.**

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Last updated on April 14, 2017.

University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

2017 January 19

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	University of Pennsylvania: Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts
<b>Creator</b>	Macfarlane, John Muirhead, 1855-1943
<b>Title</b>	John Muirhead Macfarlane writings
<b>Call number</b>	Ms. Coll. 1251
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1922-1929
<b>Extent</b>	0.4 linear feet (1 box)
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	John Muirhead Macfarlane (1855-1943) was a Scottish botanist and professor at the University of Edinburgh and the University of Pennsylvania as well as the director of Penn's Botanic Garden. This collection includes several manuscripts and typescripts for planned publications by James Muirhead Macfarlane, dating from 1923 to 1930. Writings include <i>Fishes the Source of Petroleum</i> , "The Fishes of the Ancient Mediterranean Basin in Relation to Supplies of Petroleum," a report from the Spec. American Petroleum Institute, "The Origin and Amount of Petroleum Supplies: A Study, a Criticism, and a Review of Criticisms," and "The Evolution and Distribution of Asclepiadaceae."

**Cite as:**

John Muirhead Macfarlane writings, 1922-1929, Ms. Coll. 1251, Kislak Center for Special

Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts, University of Pennsylvania

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## Biography/History

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John Muirhead Macfarlane was a Scottish botanist who was born in 1855 and died in 1943. He held academic positions at the University of Edinburgh before moving to the United States in 1893. He then became a botany professor at the University of Pennsylvania, a position he held until his retirement in 1920, as well as the director of Penn's Botanic Garden. Macfarlane was also a well-known author in his field and he published his most famous book, *The Causes and Course of Organic Evolution, A Study in Bioenergetics*, in 1918 along with several others including *The Evolution and Distribution of Flowering Plants*, and *The Evolution and Distribution of Fishes, Fishes, the Source of Our Petroleum*, and *The Quantity and Sources of Our Petroleum Supplies*.

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## Scope and Contents

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This collection includes several manuscripts and typescripts for writings by John Muirhead Macfarlane, dating from 1923 to 1929, after his retirement in 1920. The typescripts include *Fishes the Source of Petroleum* from 1922; a report from the Spec. American Petroleum Institute from 1925; "The Origin and Amount of Petroleum Supplies: A Study, a Criticism, and a Review of Criticisms" from 1929; and "The Evolution and Distribution of Asclepiadaceae" which is undated. The manuscript dates to 1923 and is titled, "The Fishes of the Ancient Mediterranean Basin in Relation to Supplies of Petroleum."

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## Administrative Information

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University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

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Finding aid prepared by Kelin Baldrige.

### Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research use.

### **Use Restrictions**

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### **Source of Acquisition**

Gifts of John Muirhead Macfarlane, 1923 and 1930.

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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### **FORM/GENRE(S)**

- Writings (document genre)

### **SUBJECT(S)**

- Authors
- Authors, American--20th century
- Evolution
- Fishes, Fossil
- Petroleum -- United States
- Science

## Collection Inventory

	Box	Folder
<i>Fishes, the Source of Petroleum</i> , chapters 1-12, typescript, 1922.	1	1-12
"The Fishes of the Ancient Mediterranean Basin in Relation to Supplies of Petroleum," manuscript draft, 1923.	1	13
Report: Spec. American Petroleum Institute, typescript, 1925.	1	14
"The Origin and Amount of Petroleum Supplies: A Study, a Criticism, and a Review of Criticisms," typescript, 1929.	1	14
"The Evolution and Distribution of Asclepiadaceae, parts A and B, typescript (possibly published as <i>The Evolution and Distribution of Flowering Plants</i> ), undated.	1	15-16