

Furness, Harrison and Hiller expedition records

1060

Finding aid prepared by T. Van Houten.

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University of Pennsylvania, Penn Museum Archives

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Summary Information

Repository	University of Pennsylvania: Penn Museum Archives
Creator	Furness, William H., III
Creator	Harrison, Alfred Craven, Jr., 1869-1925
Creator	Hiller, Hiram Milliken, 1867-1921
Title	Furness, Harrison and Hiller expedition records
Call number	1060
Date [inclusive]	1895-1904
Extent	4.4 linear feet
Language	English
Abstract	Between 1895 and 1901, William Furness, III., Alfred C. Harrison, Jr., and Hiram M. Hiller made a series of extended trips to Oceania, South and Southeast Asia, and East Asia. Furness, Harrison, and Hiller all donated or sold substantial collections of ethnographic, archaeological, and skeletal material acquired on the voyages to the Penn Museum. The Furness, Harrison, and Hiller collections, particularly those from Oceania, are extensive and reasonably well-documented for their time.

Cite as:

[Item name]. Box [Box number]. Furness, Harrison and Hiller expedition records. Penn Museum

Archives. Accessed [Date accessed].

Biography/History

Between 1895 and 1901, William Furness, III., Alfred C. Harrison, Jr., and Hiram M. Hiller made a series of extended trips to Oceania, South and Southeast Asia, and East Asia. Furness, Harrison, and Hiller all received degrees from the University of Pennsylvania and donated or sold to the University Museum substantial collections of ethnographic, archaeological, and skeletal material acquired on the voyages. The Furness, Harrison, and Hiller collections, particularly those from Oceania, are extensive and reasonably well-documented for their time.

During the four voyages, Furness, Harrison, and Hiller traveled to China, Japan, India, Sri Lanka, Egypt, Burma, Thailand, Pakistan, Indonesia, and Malaysia. No complete single chronicle of all four voyages exists, but a rough itinerary can be pieced together from the journals (chiefly Hiller's) and from notes made by all three travelers. Voyage I (1895-1896) and Voyage II (1897-1898) are the most completely documented since nearly all of Hiller's and some of Furness' journals are present in the collection. Voyage III (1899-1900) and Voyage IV (1901) are more sketchily documented. Long stretches of these voyages are recorded only in the form of rough notes scribbled in small notebooks by Hiller and Harrison. Furness, Harrison, and Hiller did not always travel together, further complicating the difficulties of compiling complete and accurate itineraries. Chronologies for each of the four voyages have been developed based on available material and these chronologies are appended to this Note. The chronologies are most reliable for the early voyages and least reliable for Voyage IV.

Despite the incomplete and occasionally illegible condition of the notes and journals, they do contain considerable ethnographic and technological detail for the groups visited during the voyages. Perhaps the greatest attention is devoted to groups living in Sarawak and Kalimantan, Indonesia. Numerous ethnographic details are recorded and several ethnographic maps of groups living along various rivers in these regions are present in the collections. Furness, Harrison, and Hiller apparently spoke at least serviceable Japanese and Malay and made an attempt to learn local dialects in Sarawak. Linguistic details and comparisons were recorded in the journals from time to time. A number of observations on social organization and social customs are also recorded in the journals, as are observations on the impact of colonial administration and administrators, and foreign economic concerns on local groups.

In addition to studying groups in Sarawak and Kalimantan, Furness, Harrison, and Hiller also studied hill people in western India and in the Naga Hills, and spent some time among Veddah groups in Sri Lanka. Hiller accompanied Jenichiro Oyabe, a Japanese ethnographer studying the Ainu, on several trips to study this group. Observations on more frequently visited areas such as large cities in East Asia, South and Southeast Asia, and Oceania are also recorded. A number of very complete descriptions of technology are to be found in the journals and a number of competently executed drawings of boats, agricultural and fishing equipment, weapons, looms, tofu presses, and clothing are interspersed with the journal text. Considerable attention is devoted to variations in the shape and execution of tattoo patterns throughout Asia and Oceania. Over 500 photographs, some attributed to Alfred C. Harrison, are also available, illustrating many of the areas described in the journals and publications. These photographs have been placed in the general photographic collection for each country visited.

William H. Furness III (1867-1920) was the son of Shakespearean scholar Horace Howard Furness and nephew of architect Frank Furness. He received his M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1891. He was Curator of the Museum's Section of General Ethnology 1903-05 and Secretary of the Board of Managers 1904-05. Devoted years to research work among anthropoids, a part of the work being the attempt to teach articulate language to chimpanzees.

Alfred Craven Harrison, Jr.(1869-1925) was nephew of Charles Custis Harrison, Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, 1894-1911, and President of the Museum's Board of Managers, 1917-1929. His father, Alfred C. Harrison, was a prosperous sugar manufacturer who donated funds for the construction of the Free Museum of Science and Art in 1899 (now the University of Pennsylvania Museum), the repository for his son's collections. Harrison received an Honorary B.S. in 1899 from the University of Pennsylvania. In addition to his travels with William Henry Furness and Hiram Hiller to the Far East, he was a member of an expedition to the Maya ruins of Copan in Honduras. In 1902 he entered his father's business. Little is known of his later years, although he was involved in research work during the last ten years of his life.

Hiram Milliken Hiller(1867-1921) received his M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1891, and served as resident physician at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital and at nearby Blockley Hospital.

Scope and Contents

The Furness, Harrison, and Hiller collection also contains published and unpublished manuscripts, rough notes for intended publications, drawings, maps, both purchased and hand-drawn, and correspondence relating to the voyages. A distinction has been drawn between typical business and personal correspondence and correspondence intended to provide a chronicle of the voyage, usually in the form of extended letters to family members. These letters have been included in the journal series rather than in the correspondence series. Some documentation of collections donated to the Museum by Furness, Harrison, and Hiller is also present. Original titles of folders, envelopes or boxes have been preserved wherever possible, but a small percentage of the material lacked provenience other than its proximity to other items in the collections. The journals have been organized by voyage rather than by author. Wherever journals are available for more than one participant these have been grouped together within the same voyage.

Administrative Information

University of Pennsylvania, Penn Museum Archives

November 1981

Finding aid prepared by T. Van Houten.

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Controlled Access Headings

FORM/GENRE(S)

- Correspondence
- Field notes
- Manuscripts for publication
- Maps
- Photographic prints
- Site plans
- Travelogs

PERSONAL NAME(S)

- Culin, Stewart, 1858-1929
- Furness, William H., III
- Harrison, Alfred Craven, Jr., 1869-1925
- Hiller, Hiram Milliken, 1867-1921

SUBJECT(S)

- Ainu
- Anthropology
- Art history
- Decoration and ornament, Ainu
- Ethnology
- Ethnology--Indigenous peoples
- Naga Hills (Burma)
- Tattooing

Collection Inventory

JOURNALS, 1895-1901.

Scope and Contents note

Journals written by Furness, Harrison, and Hiller during voyages I, II, III, and IV (1895-1901) are included in this series. The journals contain descriptions of places visited as well as an abundance of technological, ethnographic and political detail. Letters written by W. H. Furness to his family recounting his travels are also included in this series.

VOYAGE I (JAPAN, BORNEO, SINGAPORE, CHINA, 1895-1896).

	Box
[H. M. Hiller], Vol. 1 - pp. 1-71.	1
[H. M. Hiller], Vol. 1 - pp. 72-150.	1
[H. M. Hiller], Voyage I, Book II: Nase Harbor, Luchu to Naha, Shuri, etc.	1
[H. M. Hiller], [Voyage I, Vol. 2 duplicates].	1
[H. M. Hiller], Voyage I, Book III: Singapore to Baram, Tama Bulan Trip.	1
[H. M. Hiller], Voyage I, Book IV: Baram River see Book VI, pp. 84-100.	1
[H. M. Hiller], Voyage I, Book V: Rejang Trip.	1
[H. M. Hiller], Voyage I, Book VI: Kuching to Japan on return trip.	1
[H. M. Hiller], Voyage I, Book VII: Yokohama to Philadelphia, Finis Voyage I.	1

[W. H. Furness], [Vol. I(?)]. [Journal from Oshima and Sarawak], [pp. 140-150]. 2

[W. H. Furness], [Vol. I(?)], [Journal from Oshima and Sarawak], [pp. 161]. 2

[W. H. Furness]. Vol. II Schooner Retriever, Luchu Islands. 2

VOYAGE II (JAPAN, HONG KONG, SIAM, BORNEO, CHINA, 1897-1898).

Box

[H. M. Hiller], Voyage II, Book II: Kyoto to Bunut, Kapuas River Trip. 2

[H. M. Hiller], Voyage II: Book III: Bunut to Meduli, Kapuas River Trip. 2

[H. M. Hiller], Voyage II, Book IV: Meduli to Tangorang (Rejang, Kuching, Singapore, Siam to Kotei River). 2

[H. M. Hiller], Voyage II, Book V: Tangorang to Singapore, Kotei River Trip. 3

[H. M. Hiller], Voyage II: Book VI: Singapore to Peking. 3

[H. M. Hiller], Voyage II, Book VII: Peking. 3

[W. H. Furness], [Letter to his family, 29 Nov., 1897]. 3

[W. H. Furness], [Letter to his family, 6 Jan., 1898, rec'd 12 March, 1898]. 3

[W. H. Furness], [Letter to his family, 28 Jan., 1898, rec'd 13 April, 1898]. 3

[H. M. Hiller, Rough notes]. 3

VOYAGE III (SRI LANKA, INDIA, KASHMIR, NAGA HILLS, BURMA, 1899-1901).

Box

[H. M. Hiller], Voyage III, Book I: Philadelphia to Ceylon and Madras June 14th to August 3

14th 1899.

[H. M. Hiller], Voyage III, Book II: India, Madras to Rawal Pindi Aug. 12th to Oct. 17th 1899. 4

[H. M. Hiller], Voyage III, Book III: Kashmir 1899. 4

[H. M. Hiller], [Notebook] Ghari Jhelum Valley, 12 Sept. 99 to 3 Oct. 99. 4

[H. M. Hiller], [Notebook] Rawal Pindi Oct. 10th 99 to 2 December. 4

[H. M. Hiller], [Notebook] Naga Hills Trip Book I, Calcutta Dec. 4 to Mokok-Chung Jan. 6. 4

[H. M. Hiller], [Notebook] Naga Hills Trip Book II, Mokokchung, Jan. 6th 1900 to Kohima, Jan. 31st 1900. 4

[H. M. Hiller], [Notebook] Naga Hills Trip Book No. 3, Kohima to Rangoon Feb. 1st to March 13th 1900. 4

[H. M. Hiller], Voyage III, Book: Kendat to Rangoon, Burma [Feb. 23, 1900 to ?]. 5

[H. M. Hiller], [Rangoon, 13 March 1900 and voyage back. 5

[H. M. Hiller], The remaining unwritten notes of India, Cashmere and Bunuoh[?]. 5

[H. M. Hiller], [Voyage III, Rough notes]. 5

VOYAGE IV (JAPAN, JAVA, INDONESIA 1901).

Box

[H. M. Hiller], Notes of Travel, H. M. Hiller, Voyage IV, Bk I. Philadelphia Feb. 19, 1901 to Shimoi Hokkaido, Japan May 10, 1901 and Numanohata May 11, 1901. 5

[H. M. Hiller], [Voyage IV, Book III: Numanohata. 10 May Okatanai 16 May, 1901]. 5

[H. M. Hiller], [Voyage IV: Notes on Ainu, 15 through 24 May, 1901].	5
[H. M. Hiller], [Voyage IV: Notes on Ainu, 24 May through 14 June 1901].	5
[A. C. Harrison], [Voyage IV] "Private Note Book", No. 1, August 9th 1901.	5
[A. C. Harrison], [Voyage IV, Book II: Notes, Sept 12, 1901 - c. Oct. 2].	5
[A. C. Harrison], [Voyage IV, Book III: Notebook Oct. 2, 1901-?].	5
[A. C. Harrison], [Voyage IV, Notebook continued from Book 3] Oct. 28.	5
[A. C. Harrison], [Voyage IV] Rumering Anyong and Kumering Puleh [n.d.].	5
[A. C. Harrison], [Voyage IV] Menang Kebau Adats of Sungei(?) Jambo, Tamah Datar.	5

MAPS, NOTES AND DRAWINGS, INFORMATION RELATING TO COLLECTIONS.

Scope and Contents note

This series contains ethnographic maps of Borneo, drawn by Hiller(?), tourist maps and guidebooks, documents, notes, drawings, catalogues, and collections listings.

	Box
Ethnographic Maps of Borneo, 1895-1902.	8
Hiller's Permission to Travel in Borneo, 1897.	8
Map of Asiatic Archipelago.	8
Welcome Folio Map of Japan, Japanese Map of Japan.	8
Guide for Tourists to Peking and its Environs, 1897.	8
Naga Hills Map Sections.	8

Drawings of Weapons.	8
Drawings of Philippine Weapons.	8
Drawings and Narrative.	8
Drawings.	8
Hiller's Miscellaneous Notes and Drawings.	8
Notes, mentioning Tylor. Drawings.	8
Notes pasted on box lid by Hiller.	8
Clipping-unknown papers, unknown date.	8
Receipt for materials received from Horace H. F. Jayne 1963.	8
Furness: Borneo and Loochoo 21.408-37-catalogue information.	8
16642 Johore Collection, 1892.	8
Correspondence relating to Harrison/Hiller Donation Borneo Collection to U. Museum, 1899-1941.	8
Borneo Collection of W. H. Furness and H. M. Hiller, Presented to the Museum of Archaeology and Paleontology.	8
Descriptive Background for Collections [n.d.].	8
Hiller, H. M., Descriptive Background for Collections, 1901.	8
Conditions d'Admission dans la Societe de Geographie de Paris, 1827.	8
Exhibit Labels.	8
Indian Merchant's Business Card, Note.	8

Description of Photographs, Th. Paar, Darjeeling.	8
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G. N. Appell. The Penis Pin at Peabody Museum Harvard University. Short note.	8
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Naga Hills - Note Cards - Word Definitions.	9
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PUBLISHED AND UNPUBLISHED MANUSCRIPTS, 1896-1904. 0.5 LINEAR FEET.

Scope and Contents note

This series includes manuscripts at all stages of preparation from rough notes to reprints of published articles, written by Hiller and Furness between 1896 and 1904. The manuscripts discuss groups in the Naga Hills, Borneo, Sarawak, Yap, the Luchus, and East Asia.

	Box
Furness, William Henry III. "Glimpses of Borneo." Reprinted from Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society, XXXV, No. 153. [Read 18 xii 1896].	6
Furness, William Henry III. Folklore in Borneo: A Sketch. Privately printed. 1899.	6
Furness, William Henry III. "The Stone Money of Yap." Reprinted from Transactions of the Department of Archaeology, University of Pennsylvania, Vol. I, No. 1. 1904.	6
Furness, William Henry III. "Life in the Luchu Islands." Bulletin of the Museum of Science and Art, University of Pennsylvania. No. 1, Vol. II. January 1899.	6
W. H. Furness[?]. "Okinawa or Great Luchu Island" [n.d.].	6
Furness, W.H. Ethnography of the Nagas of Eastern Assam. Presented Oct. 28, 1902. Published by the Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland. Two copies.	6
Hiller, H. M. [Talk on Borneo before American Philosophical Society, 6 Nov. 1896].	6

Hiller, H. M. Borneo and its Inhabitants. Read before the Philadelphia Geographical Society. Apr. 21, 1897, Academy of Fine Arts. [1897].	6
Hiller, H. M. Manners and Customs of the People of Southern Borneo. Read before the Philadelphia Geographical Society. Dec. 19, 1900.	6
Hiller, H. M. Across the Central Watershed of Borneo, with photographs by A.C. Harrison, Jr. [n.d.].	6
Hiller, Notes of talk, General Account of the Menang Kebaus and their Country, Tracing Hindu Influence, Lampongs a Tribe near the Mts. of Sumatra.	6
Hiller, H. M.[?] Tattoo notes on Punans, Ulaits, Buluits, Melowes, etc.	6
Hiller, H. M.[?] [MS on Pagar Ruyong] [n.d.].	6
Hiller, H. M.[?] The House of Pagar Ruyong [pp.1-6,n.d.].	6
Hiller, H. M.[?] Notes on Fanoh Datar [n.d.].	6
Hiller, H. M.[?] [Notes}.	6
Hiller, H. M.[?] [Notes on tattooing in Burma].	6
Hiller, H. M.[?] [Notes on Kalgan].	6
Hiller, H. M. [Notes on Peking].	6
Hiller, H. M. [Notes on trip from Peking to Kalgan 1898].	6
Hiller, H. M. [MS on Ainu, Chapters I-VI].	6
Hiller, H. M. [MS on Ainu, Chapters VII-XIII].	6
Hiller, H. M. [MS on Ainu, Chapters XIV to end].	6
Hiller, H. M. [Notes] Ainu Comparisons [n.d.].	6

[H. M. Hiller, MS on Naga Hills groups, pp 1-30].	7
[H. M. Hiller, MS on Naga Hills groups, pp 30-60].	7
[H. M. Hiller, MS on Naga Hills groups, pp 60-90].	7
[H. M. Hiller, MS on Naga Hills groups, pp 90-123].	7
[Author unknown] [MS on Naga Hills groups].	7
[Author unknown] [MS on Nagas] Miri Nagas.	7
[Hiller, H. M.[?]] [Incomplete, untitled MS, pp 13-17].	7
[Author unknown] [MS on Nagas] Ao Nagas].	7
[Author unknown] Folklore of the Nagas].	7
H. M. Hiller City of Peking [ca. 1900]: Rejection notice from Harper's.	7

CORRESPONDENCE, 1895-1901.

Scope and Contents note

Both personal and business letters written and received by Furness and Hiller between 1895 and 1901 are included in this series.

	Box
Correspondence with University Museum.	7
Business Correspondence, Receipts.	7
Letters to Hiller, Receipts, Directions to Kohima.	7

W. H. Furness-Letters to Members of his Family.	7
H. M. Hiller-Letters to Members of his Family.	7
Letters from Jenichiro Oyabe to H. M. Hiller.	7
Letter from Kingo Miyabe on analysis of Ainu Arrow Poison.	7
Letters to Stewart Culin.	7
Letter from Srinigar boatman.	7

PHOTOGRAPHS, 1895-1896.

Scope and Contents note

Photographs taken between 1895 and 1896 are included in this series. The following countries are represented: Egypt, Germany, Russia, China, Tibet, Mongolia, Japan, Siberia, Hawaii, Indonesia, Malaysia, Burma, India, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.

STANDARD SIZE PRINTS.

	Box
Hawaii 1899, 2 folders.	AS 1
Indonesia— Java 1899, 3 folders.	AS 1
Malaysia— Sarawak 1899, 2 folders.	AS 1
Malaysia— Sarawak— Photos by A. C. Harrison, 1896-1897.	AS 1
Sumatra— Menangkabau— Photos by A. C. Harrison.	AS 1

Sumatra & Mentawai Islands, 1899 3 folders.	AS 1
Thailand , 1899 3 folders.	AS 1
Burma, 1899 5 folders.	AS 1
Sri Lanka (Ceylon) 3 folders.	AS 2
India— Assam— Naga Hills—Photographs by Furness, Harrison, and Hiller 2 folders.	AS 2
India— Madras, 1899, August.	AS 2
India— Darjeeling, Calcutta, 1899.	AS 2
India— Agra, 1899 2 folders.	AS 2
India— Fatapur Sikri, Ft. , 1899 [?].	AS 2
India— Kashmi, 1899 2 folders.	AS 2
India— Kashmir, 1899 [?].	AS 2
India— Delhi, 1899.	AS 2
India— Delhi, Palkiwalla, 1899 [?].	AS 2
India— Benares, Lucknow, 1899.	AS 2
India, 1899.	AS 2
Japan— Ainu— Photographer Unknown.	AS 2
Japan— Ainu— Photographs by H. M. Hiller, 1899.	AS 3
Japan— Ainu— Jenichiro Oyabe, 1901.	AS 3
Japan— Commercial Photographs (including Ainu).	AS 3

China, 1899 4 folders.	AS 3
China— Tibet, 1899 2 folders.	AS 3
Mongolia— Furness, Harrison, Hiller Expedition (?).	AS 3
Siberia (and Mongolia?) 1899 2 folders.	AS 3
Siberia, 1899 4 folders.	AS 3
Europe— Russia, 1899 3 folders.	AS 3
Europe— Germany.	AS 3
Egypt— Suez Canal , 1899.	AS 3

OVERSIZE VISUAL MATERIALS.

	Map-case
Oceanian – Furness/Harrison/Hiller maps.	M-9
Oceanian – Furness/Harrison/Hiller newspaper clippings.	M-9
Oceanian – Furness/Harrison/Hiller. 29 paintings of Oceanic objects, ca. 1900. (36.5x29).	M-9
East Asia – Japan. Ainu - Jenichiro Oyabe. Over-size letters to H. M. Hiller, 1901-1902.	M-9