

University of Oklahoma Libraries
Western History Collections

Charles E. Decker Collection

Decker, Charles Elijah (1868–1958). Papers, 1861–1957. 5.33 feet.

Professor. General correspondence (1911–1957); papers (1923–1950) regarding the University of Oklahoma chapter of the geology fraternity, Sigma Gamma Epsilon; correspondence (1925–1942), membership lists, and expense records (1934–1935) from the Oklahoma Academy of Science; manuscripts, reprints, and research correspondence (1932–1934) from Decker's research on the geology of Oklahoma and on graptolites; correspondence (1925–1946) and notebooks (n.d.) concerning the Methodist Episcopal Church in Norman, Oklahoma; correspondence and printed material (1931–1952) concerning the University of Oklahoma; and correspondence and printed material (1913–1955) from geological associations and other universities.

Biographical notes:

Born Dixon, Ill., 1868; A.B. Northwestern, 1906; A.M. Chicago, 1908; ten years on farm because of illness of parents; Ph.D., 1917; Hon. Sc.D., Oklahoma City University, 1935. Institute of Geology, Northwestern, 1908-09; Asst. Chicago, 1908, 1912, 1917; summers Ill., 1912-13; Colo. State Col., 1923; Cornell, 1924-26; inst. geol., Oklahoma 1916; head of Dept. of Paleontology 1930; 1931 placed in charge of general correspondence and distribution of publications of Oklahoma Geological Survey, closed that year because of lack of appropriations, and maintained this work until reopening of dept. July, 1935. Professor Emeritus of Paleontology, (retired 1951) after 34 years service. Fellow Geological Society; fellow Paleontological Society; member Association. Petroleum Geologists (Secretary.-treasurer, 1919-26); Society Econ. Paleontology and Mineralogy (pres. 1930); Oklahoma Academy (pres. 34). Internationally recognized authority on graptolites. Grand President of Sigma Gamma Epsilon from 1924-32. A prolific writer. His field: graptolites; minor faults and folds in Great Lakes region; transverse structures in Arbuckle Mountains of Oklahoma; Arbuckle and Viola lime-stone; Henryhouse and Sylvan Shales; petroleum and natural gas of U.S.

See also *Oklahoma Daily*, June 18, 1953 for "Research Professor Emeritus Awarded Plaque by Sigma Tau Epsilon, Honorary Earth Fraternity at Banquet of this Group."

Box 1

Correspondence, General; 1911-1921

Box 2

Correspondence, General; 1922-1925

Box 3

Correspondence, General; 1926-1929

Box 4

Correspondence, General; 1930-1935

Box 5

Correspondence, General; 1936-1939

Box 6

Correspondence, General; 1940-1947

Box 7

Correspondence, General; 1948-1957

Box 8

Correspondence, acknowledgements; 1927-1944

Correspondence, application and recommendations, 1908-1957

Box 9

Sigma Gamma Epsilon

Chapter Correspondence

Financial records

Petitions

Constitution

Initiation ceremony

Conventions

Conference, 1939

Correspondence, General

Box 10

Oklahoma Academy of Science

Correspondence, 1925, 1934-1942

Membership lists

Expenses, 1934-1935

Expenses

Oklahoma Junior Academy of Science

Committee Reports, 1943-44

Miscellaneous Files

Mimeographed Files

Certificates

Receipts

Blueprints

Essays

Tulsa Geological Society Membership lists

American Assn. of University Professors lists

Box 11

Manuscripts:

Cambrian Graptolites from Tennessee
Cambrian Graptolites from Virginia
The Paleozoic Section of the Arbuckle and Wichita Uplifts in Oklahoma, by E.O. Ulrich.
Bithecae, Gonothecae and Nemtothecae on Graptoloide, Decker and Gold.

Manuscripts and copies with correspondence (undated)

Rothrock, "Structure in Cimmaron County, Oklahoma."
"The Role of Plants in the Rocks."
Decker and Wilfred J. Monk, "A New Devonian Species of Dictyonema from Oklahoma."
Decker, "Stratigraphic Significance of Athens Shale Graptolites."
Decker, "Faulted Graptolites Shows Joins Formation Deep Near Edmond, Oklahoma."
"The Simpson Group: Divisible into Eight not Only Five, Valid Formational Units."
"Correlation of Oklahoma Section With Other Upper Section (chart)."
Decker, review of "Patterns of Survival; An Anatomy of Life," by John H. Bradley. "Brachiopoda"
Decker, "Paleontological Note For Journal of Paleontology."
Decker, "Significance of the Graptolites of Oklahoma." (2)
Geological Report for the Paragon Refining Company, Toledo, Ohio
Decker, "The Cambrian Graptolites From Wisconsin,"
Decker, "Two Lower Paleozoic Groups, Arbuckle and Wichita Mountains, Oklahoma"
Decker, "Age of the Toads in the A.H. Holloman Sand Pit at Frederick, Oklahoma."
Decker, "Note on Classification of Graptolites,"
"A Dendroid Graptolite from the Haragan Formation of Oklahoma."
Decker, "A Preliminary Note on the Age of the Athens Shale."
Notes for Simpson Paper
Decker, "Ordovician Graptolites from Well-Core, Calhoun County, Michigan."
"A New Species of Ampyx."
"The Importance of Organic Processes in the Formation of Rocks."
Decker, "Pneumatocysts on Monograptus (Linograptus) phillipsi multiramosus."
"The Transcendent Value of Graptolites For Correlation Demonstrated."

Miscellaneous Manuscripts and Correspondence, 1932-34:

Decker, "Graptolites Indicate a Second Penetration of the Viola Limestone."
Decker, "Oklahoma Well Core Shows Graptolites Through Four Hundred Feet of Viola Limestone."
R.R. Shrock and W.H. Twenhofel, "Principles of Invertebrate Paleontology, " A review.

Decker, "Faulted Graphite Show Joins Formation Deep Near Edmond, Oklahoma."
Decker, "Ordovician Graptolites from South-Central Yukon."
Decker, "A New Hydrozoan From the Devonian of Michigan."
Decker, Ordovician Graptolites on Cephalopod From Baffin Island.
Decker, and G.G. Huffman, "Sylvan Graptolites Found in Northeastern Oklahoma."
Decker, "A Preliminary Note on the Age of the Athens Shale."
Decker and W. Monk, "A New Devonian Species of Dictyonema from Oklahoma," and Correspondence.
Decker and Robert Hansman, "New Graptolite From South Dakota."
Anderson, G.E., "Origin of Line of Color Change Red Bed Deposition."
Decker, "The Teaching of Paleontology."
Ruedemann and Free, "Illustrated Card Catalogue of North American Devonian Invertebrates, Fifth Unit, Graptolithina."
"The position of the Cambrian-Ordovician boundary in the Section of the Arbuckle Limestone exposed on Highway 77, Garvin County, Oklahoma."
"Contributions to the Knowledge of the Paleontology of the Bend Group."
Decker, Review of "Invertebrate Paleontology," by Twenhofel and Shrock.
Decker, "A Permian Eurypterid From Oklahoma."

Box 12

Dept. of Paleontology Expenses, 1931-1932

Descriptions and lists of Courses offered in Geology, Summer 1939.

Course Material, 1913-1931.

Minutes of Geology Faulty meeting and Student questionnaires, 1945.

Misc. Departmental material and correspondence, 1927-1949.

Physical Geography Exams and Field trips, 1924.

Description of Vertebrate Paleontology courses and Related correspondence.

Mimeographed lists of exchange collection.

Misc., descriptions and inventories of fossil collections.

Invertebrate Fossil inventory, May 29, 1931.

Correspondence concerning Fossil exchange collection, 1919-1933.

Correspondence of the American Assn. of Petroleum Geologists, 1916-1939.

Correspondence of the American Assn. of Petroleum Geologists, 1940-1952. (List of members, Constitution and Bylaws)

Correspondence on Fall Field Meeting of the Society of Economic Paleontologists and Mineralogists. Oct. 24-26, 1930.

Correspondence of the Society of Economic Paleontologists and Mineralogists, 1930-1945.

Box 13

Journals of the University Senate; Minutes of Geology and Geography Faculty Meetings, 1945; *A & S News*; Geology Bulletin from Augustana College.

Correspondence concerning the Guardianship of Royel E. Jeffs, 1933.

Correspondence on a field trip to examine a Simpson Group, Arbuckle Mountains, 1930-31.

Correspondence concerning a national history museum for the University of Oklahoma, 1931-32.

Poem in Memory of Mrs. Decker by Lydia E. Parks.

National Research Council Correspondence, 1934-1936.

Correspondence with the Geological Society of America, 1926-55.

Correspondence with U.S. National Museum (Smithsonian Institution), 1920-1952.

Oklahoma Geological Survey Correspondence, 1930-1932.

Correspondence concerning Hibbard Fossil Exchange, 1930-1931.

Correspondence on Graptolite (incomplete), 1914-1949.

Correspondence with the Kansas Geological Society, 1931.

Y.M.C.A. Correspondence, 1922-1938.

Biographies and Memoriams of: Samuel Weidman, John Fitts, Gustavus Edwin Anderson, Daniel F. Higgins, Jr., and U.S. Grant.

Biographical Material on C. E. Decker.

Lists of State Geological Survey Publications: Ill., Mo., Ark.

Conference on the Pennsylvanian of Oklahoma, Kansas, and North Texas, 1936.
(Correspondence, mimeographed papers, and tables)

Correspondence on Topographic and Geologic Survey Commission for State of Penn.,
1913.

Letter from Forest R. Rees to Decker including "The Outline of Knowledge," 1927.

Box 14

Undated miscellaneous correspondence

Microscope information, 1931

Board of Regents resolution relating to research professorships, 1949.

Correspondence with Research Committee, 1934-1945.

Graduate study correspondence and thesis outlines, 1932-1952.

List of graduates from University of Oklahoma up to 1927.

Correspondence with Prof. U.S. Grant, 1916-1932.

Correspondence with E.O. Ulrich, 1927-1932.

Correspondence on Methodist-Episcopal Church, Norman (Includes correspondence to
and from Lew Wentz), 1926-1929.

Correspondence on Methodists-Episcopal Church, 1938-1940.

Correspondence on Methodists-Episcopal Church, (includes correspondence to and from
Lew Wentz), 1941-1946.

Correspondence on the Iris plant, 1938-1945.

Box 15

Notebooks:

First Methodist Episcopal Church

Univ. of Oklahoma Invertebrate Paleontology, study collection

Field notes

University of Texas Publications:

Geological Society of American (____)

Program of Copernican Celebration, 1943.

Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A. at Oklahoma University (____)

Sigma Xi, manual of procedure.
 Programs Oklahoma Academy of Science, 1932, 1934, 1937, 1942, 1938, 1940.
 Program, Texas Academy of Science, 1934.
 Canadian Geological Survey Publication.
 Fossil price list
 John Hopkins University publications
 Treatise of Sedimentation.
 American Assn. of Petroleum Geologists Publications.
 List of Publications of Illinois State Geol. Survey, 1925.
 Biennial Report of the State Geologists of the Missouri Bureau of Geology and
 Mines, 1927.
 List of Publications of the Geological and Natural History Survey of Minn.
 List of Publications of the Geological Survey of Alabama, 1927.
 Penn. State College Bulletins, 1932-1933
 Program, 9th Biennial Convention of Sigma Gamma Epsilon, 1932.
 Program, Initiation ceremony of Okla. Chapter of Sigma Xi
 Booklet, Initiation ceremony of Sigma Gamma Epsilon
 Brochure, Northwestern Univ. Summer Geological Field Course, 1922 and 24.
 Bulletin of College of Engineering at West Virginia Univ., 1924-1925.
 Bulletin, Univ. of Tulsa.
 Alumni Directory (No. 3) University of Oklahoma, Oct. 1914.
 Bulletin No. 55 of Okla. Geological Survey, 1931.
 1 page of Albany Evening News, July 13, 1932.
 State of Oklahoma Claim forms.
 Spencer Microscope Information and Prices.
 Memoriam to Edgar D. Meacham
 Minutes of the Assn. Round Table, 1925.
 Book Reviews of *Manuel of Petrographic Methods*, 1914.
 Spencer - Fund.
 Reprints of articles by C. Warren Thornthwaite and Paul Bigelow Sears.
 Program of dedication ceremonies of the Geology Building, 1920.
 Table of Lower Paleozoic formations.
 University of Chicago Newsletter, 1923
 Copy of *Science*, Dec. 14, 1934 and Feb. 20, 1920.
 Dissertation regulations of Univ. of Chicago.
 Bulletin of Col. School of Mines, 1924.
 Postcards.
 Form letter of the Technical Club of Oklahoma, 1923.
 Nov. 1964 Addition: Misc. Correspondence, 1939-1958.

Box 16

1. Correspondence from David Monlux to Jonathan Monlux, July 8, 1861 - August 17, 1862.

July 8, 1861 _____, Missouri, illness in camp, Confederate attack
 expected night before July 4, 1861, Winfield rifles, saber bayonets, Alton,

Illinois, 13 rounds in cartridge box, but no uniforms issued, "cars run through the arsenal and the guards stop them"

_____, 1861 "the best drilled regiment in the western Department," men in trenches, mounted picket shot while asleep on guard duty, hanging by thumbs punishment. New uniform, short jacket, blue pants, overcoats. Fremont tents. Cooking in camp. Whiskey given for best packed knapsack.

_____, 1861 Medical practices. Confederate artillery, "six 24-pounders and 7 six-pounders." "a good union man" synonymous with "a good union," quartered in private homes at Cape Girardeau.

Undated Taking of Fort Henry. General Grant, 70 thousand troops, attack on Fort Denilson. Union troops reload muskets while flat on their backs, "they thought all of our men the first fier." Describes 700 Union dead, Confederate wounded and dead "piled up four deep and forty in a pile." "Gray backs" synonymous with "cecesh." "Called the battle of Dover.... 130 peaces of canon..... 11 thousand prisoners." Mention General Johnson. "at ft. himan across from ft. henry"

July 26, 1862 In Memphis. Describes march from Corinth to Chualla on the Memphis and Charleston railroad, to Lagrange, to Holly Springs, to Moscow, searching for "cecesh troops." 4th of July celebration. To Mound Pleasant searching for Confederate Calvary, "Started for Memphis, we was 4 days on the road we come through German Town the boys broke into a store and got about \$4000 dollars worth of goods ou of on store and they broke into a drug store and got all the wines they could drink General Sherman rode past where the boys was taking the things out and he never said a word."

Aug. 17, 1862 Last letter written, he was killed soon after. Sick list of 8 or 9 out of regiment, formally 100. New uniforms, "pretty much like the old one only the jackets are longer." Prices of commodities. Offers to buy and send coffee home. "... if ever i get out of the army i am going to live an old back and do my own cooking..."

2. Reprints of articles by Charles E. Decker include:

"Physical Characteristics of the Arbuckle Limestone," 1928.

"A New Devonian Species of Dictyonema from Oklahoma," 1955.

"Some Tentative Correlations on the Basis of Graptolites of Oklahoma and Arkansas," 1936.

"The Graptolites of the Viola Limestone," 1934.

"Two More Ordovician Well-Core Graptolites, Crane County, Texas," 1942.

"Simpson Group of Arbuckle and Wichita Mountains of Oklahoma," 1941.

"Transverse Structures in Arbuckle Mountains of OK," 1926.

"A New Graptolite Horizon in Wisconsin," 1941.

"Two Lower Paleozoic Groups, Arbuckle and Wichita Mountains, OK," 1939.

"The Wilberns Upper Cambrian Graptolites from Mason, Texas," 1945.

3. *Studies In Minor Folds* by Charles E. Decker, University of Chicago Press, 1920.

Publications by Others:

4. Oklahoma Geological Survey, Circular No. 16. Oklahoma the Geologists' Laboratory. By Charles N. Gould. Norman, December 1927.

Box 17:

Nine assorted loose rocks.

MAPS

Maps in the Charles E. Decker Collection are in the Map Drawers. See Map Guide for complete location numbers.

1. Texas road map by Sinclair Refining Co. Contains mileage charts and insets of several Texas cities. 26" x 26".
2. Canada and the U.S. (Middle West Sheet) by the Canadian Dept. of Interior, 1930. 27" x 32" colored map.
3. Canada and the U.S. (Pacific Sheet) by the Canadian Dept. of Interior 1930. 28" x 26" colored map.
4. Pennsylvania, U.S.G.S. map, Bellfonte Quadrangle, 1929.
5. New York, U.S.G.S. map, Watkins Quadrangle, 1923.
6. Indian Territory, U.S.G.S. map, Pauls Valley Quadrangle, 1916.
7. Indian Territory, U.S.G.S. map, Ardmore Quadrangle, 1913.

8. Indian Territory, U.S.G.S. map, Stonewall Quadrangle, 1914.
9. Indian Territory, U.S.G.S. map, Tishomingo Quadrangle, 1914.
10. Oklahoma, Oil and Gas producing areas. 16" x 31" black and white with gas areas in red. c 1930's
11. A township and range "blank", printed by the Star Printery of Muskogee. Black and white 12" x 12".
12. Pennsylvania-New Jersey U.S.G.S. order map, 1926.
13. Ohio, Indiana and Illinois U.S.G.S. order map.
14. New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware U.S.G.S. order map.
15. Oklahoma mineral resources map, directed by Chas. N. Gould of the Oklahoma Geological Survey. 7" x 12" black and white.
16. Structure map of Northeastern Oklahoma, directed by C.N. Gould of the Oklahoma Geological Survey. 20" x 24", 1925.
17. Caddo and Grady Counties, a geologic map from the Oklahoma Geological Survey. Black and white, 7" x 8".
18. Arbuckle Mountains and the Ardmore Basin, a geologic map from the Oklahoma Geological Survey. 15" x 15" black and white.
19. Ardmore Basin in Carter and Love Counties. Prepared by the Oklahoma Geological Survey, 1928. 11" x 17" black and white. (Nine copies).
20. Geological map of Caddo, Comanche, Greer and Kiowa Counties, Okla. Black and white 10" x 19" map.
21. O.G.S. map of the Eastern Wichita Mountains, 1938. A 20" x 20" map with specific areas colored in crayon.
22. Oklahoma; 12" x 20" black and white.
23. Oklahoma; 8" x 13" black and white. Same map as #22 but on a smaller scale.
24. Oklahoma; Oil and Gas producing areas (1920's). Directed by C.W. Shannon of the O.G.S. 14" x 29" black and white.

25. Oklahoma; A Progress Geologic Map done by the O.G.S. in 1916. A black and white 16" x 26" map.
26. Arbuckle Mountains; O.G.S. map by Decker, Cooper and McGehee in 1931. A large cloth backed 32" x 49" black and white map.
27. Western Arkansas; A geological plot map with stations and eratics. 13" x 24" blue and white.
28. Montana; A U.S. Dept. of Interior map. Black and white 16" x 19" 1930 geological structure map.
29. Culbertson County, Texas, showing property owned by the University of Texas (area of West Texas, between the Pecos and Rio Grande) marked in red. 17" x 24".
30. North Central and Panhandle areas of Texas; A geologic map done for the Society of Economic Paleontologists and mineralogists in 1927. 22" x 32" blue and white.