



ARCHIVES – FINDING AID

Collection Title: Herbert Kahn Papers

Creator: Kahn, Herbert (1922-2000)

Dates: 1934 - 1950

Language: English

Extent: .25 Linear Feet (1 box)

Level of Description: Folder Level

Repository: Museum Collections and Archives, Chicago Academy of Sciences, Chicago, Illinois.

Access Conditions: Open for research.

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Citation: Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [item], [folder], Box 1, Herbert Kahn papers, Chicago Academy of Sciences.

Acquisition Information: Received from Susan Bank and David Kahn, December 12, 2018, accession 2018.6.

Processor and Date: Dawn Roberts, Aug. 2021.

Processing Note: Information about how the collection was processed; e.g. materials removed, original order vs. imposed arrangement, preservation notes

Biographical Sketch: Herbert Kahn was born in Chicago on July 2, 1922. He began collecting butterflies around 1934 when he was 12 years old. In the beginning, he collected mostly in Chicago, where he lived, as well as in South Haven, Michigan and Escanaba, Michigan. After graduating from Evanston Township High School in Illinois in 1940, he attended Northwestern University for two years. In 1942, Herbert joined the U.S. Army, serving stateside until 1946, during which time he still managed to collect some butterflies at the end of the war. In 1946, he returned to Northwestern, graduating in 1948. Between 1948 and 1950, Herbert travelled to Europe, Mexico, and many Caribbean islands where he collected more specimens.

From 1948 until his death on June 24, 2000 in Evanston, IL, he worked at the family business, American Metalcraft, a manufacturer of restaurant supplies. He had eclectic interests and regularly attended lectures on history, anthropology, and astronomy, was fascinated by Mars exploration and technology, and traveled frequently to Europe and Africa.

Scope and Content: The Herbert Kahn papers consist of Kahn's specimen notes for insect specimens. The book is divided into two sections: the first covers Lepidoptern specimens and the second details other insect orders. The Academy received Kahn's butterfly and moth specimens, which are preserved in the scientific collection, but not the other insect specimens.

Related Resources: None found.

Container List:

Box 1			
Series 1: Collecting (1934 - 1945)			
	1	Field notes	1934 - 1950
	2	Identification references	undated