

The University of Toledo Archives  
Manuscript Collection

Finding Aid

➤George H. Orians Papers, 1916 to 1972◀  
UM 64

**Size:** .75 linear feet

**Provenance:** Dorothy Orians, Toledo, OH, August 30th, 1985

**Access:** Open

**Related Collections:**

**Processing Note:**

**Condition:** Fair

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**Location:** R 2/S D

**Completed by:** Susan Schwerer

**George H. Orians  
Papers, 1916 to 1972**

**Biographical/Historical Sketch**

George Harrison Orians, born in 1900, taught American Literature at the University of Toledo from 1929 to 1970. In addition, he also taught summer lectures. By 1941, Orians held the position of chairman of the English Department. In 1970, his wife, Dorothy, moved to Denver, Colorado in order to be closer to their three children, leaving Orians alone. He was an avid outdoorsman and was often described as letting his house “return to nature”. Particularly, he was interested in water pollution issues of the area and of the world. He was a nature photographer and filmmaker and lectured for the National Audubon Society. His interests ranged from Oriental and Indian art to the career of film actor Otto Kruger.

Dr. Orians wrote numerous books and articles about local history, the American Indian, nature, and the works of Nathaniel Hawthorne. On April 14, 1985 after suffering a heart attack, George Harrison Orians died while in the care of the Toledo Hospital.

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**Scope and Content Note**

This collection includes Dr. Orian's correspondence with several libraries and historical societies in an effort to research his interest in travelers. There are also citations and credits for his service as well as some faculty reappointments. Further, there are numerous research notes on Oriental and Indian art and American fiction topics. The collection also contains Orians' American Literature syllabus and several examples of his periodical publications. Finally, the collection features Orians' photographs of log houses, rail fences, polluted waters, other miscellaneous photographs, and photos of himself in action.

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**Folder List**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Item Description</b>
1	1	Correspondence, Feb. 16, 1916- Sept. 4, 1972
1	2	Credits, honors, awards 1930-1972
1	3	Hobbies and interest notes
1	4	Photographs: log houses
1	5	Photographs: Misc.
1	6	Photographs: Personal and Family 1957-1969
1	7	Photographs: Rail Fences
1	8	Photographs: Water Pollution
1	9	Publications, 1927-1932
1	10	Publications 1934
1	11	Publications 1937-1968
2	1	Research and Writings
2	2	Research and Writings
2	3	Research and Writings
2	4	Research and Writings