

Nemea Excavation Records Finding-Aid

Overview

Accession Code: EXV-NEMEA

Principal Creators: Carl W. Blegen (1886-1971), Marion Rawson (1899-1980), John L. Caskey (1908-1981), James P. Harland (1891-1973), Piet de Jong (1887-1967), and Charles K. Williams II

Title: Nemea Excavation Records

Principal Dates: 1924-1926, 1961-1974

Principal Language: English

Scope and Content: Carl W. Blegen, while Assistant Director at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, led the excavation of the site known as Nemea under the auspices of the American School and with the financial assistance of the Department of Classics at the University of Cincinnati. Excavations occurred in 1924, 1925, and 1926-1927. Later exploration of the site, under Charles K. Williams II, was also partially supported by the Department.

Series (and subseries) in the Nemea Excavation Records include: Administrative Records and Correspondence (Series I containing correspondence), Excavation Records (Series II containing notebooks; finds records; illustrative and photographic records; and unpublished reports/records), Studies and Publications (Series III containing publication plans and assignments; manuscripts submitted for publication; other records related to studies and publications), and Other Records (Series IV).

Access: The collection has been processed. Please contact the archivist for further information.

Citation: University of Cincinnati, Archives and Special Collections of the Department of Classics, Nemea Excavation Records

Notes (1): For additional information about the Nemea excavations, see also **Blegen, Carl William** under **Collections – Personal Papers and Memorabilia**.

Also see the collection in the University of Cincinnati Archives and Rare Book Library regarding Carl W. Blegen. Finally, also see the collections in the Archives of the American School of Classical Studies in Athens.

Notes (2): Standards applied in the finding-aid conform to DACS (2013, revised March 2015).

Finding-Aid: This finding-aid was last edited in **April 2018**.

Series I – Administrative Records and Correspondence

Subseries I.1. Correspondence

Box 01

Folder 01: Correspondence 1961-1966 (one letter each also from 1969, 1970, 1973, 1985, and 2001) primarily between John L. Caskey and Charles K. Williams II. Other correspondents include Elizabeth T. Blackburn, Elizabeth M. Gummey, James P. Harland, Lewey T. Lands, Lucy Meritt, Stephen G. Miller, Marion Rawson, Henry S. Robinson, Ronald S. Stroud, and James Wright.

Folder 02: Correspondence 1953 regarding Nemea drawings and photostats, between Carl W. Blegen, Marion Rawson, and Bert Hodge Hill, and a list of Nemea drawings to send to Lewey T. Lands (see Folder 11 in **Box 03**).

Series II – Excavation Records

Subseries II.1. Notebooks

Box 01

Folder 03: photocopy of James P. Harland's 1966 logbook.

Subseries II.2. Find Records – Pottery

Folder 04: Carl W. Blegen pottery notes [regarding “Nemea Cave”], December 1925, photocopy.

Folder 05: Nemea Cave, 1974 photocopy of pottery inventory cards [note that original cards were taken to Corinth in May 1974].

Subseries II.3.i. Records/Lists

Box 03

Folder 09: List of Nemea drawings to send to Lewey T. Lands, dated to 1953. On the same sheet is another list of the negatives of photostats.

Subseries II.3.ii. Drawings

Box 01

Folder 06: Color plates of miscellaneous stone and terracotta objects from Nemea Cave [see **Box 05**], published as Plate 69 in *Hesperia* 1975.

Folder 07: Early Neolithic Cave Section A drawings [two versions], photocopy of one version of Section A drawing, loose sheet with bowl profile. Section A drawing used in John L. Caskey's 1975 *Hesperia* article.

Box 04

Plates for 1975 *Hesperia* article (Plates 57-68) [for Plate A, see **Box 5**].

Photostats of drawings of the Temple of Zeus by Lewey T. Lands (#1-#4, #5r and l, #6, #7r and l, #8-#24, #25r and l, #26-#32, and unnumbered drawings) [duplicates present].

Original figure mock-ups for John L. Caskey 1958 *Hesperia* article [**See EXV-EUTRESIS (Eutresis Excavation) Collection, Box 2**].

Box 05 (in PDJ Flat File, Drawer #2)

Watercolors of selected objects (PDJ 170-PDJ 176, PDJ 185, PDJ 509-526) by Piet de Jong.

Subseries II.3.iii. Architectural Plans/Maps

Box 01

Folder 08: Mimeographs of Nemea sketches of architecture #1-4a, #4b is hand-drawn sketch, #6, and #12, including threshold restoration, the pronaos frieze, reconstruction of doorway, the typical column sequence, the upper interior order (LL), and doorway plan.

Box 03

Folder 10: Charles K. Williams' 1962 plans of Basilica and "Gymnasium" both at 1:50 scale.

Subseries II.3.iv. Photographs and Slides

Box 03

Folder 01: Archaic votive deposit vessel and figurine photos (N-34-1 to -20), special prints (with negative) of N-34-2.

Folder 02: Photos of basilica and gymnasium with typed captions affixed to the photos [originally addressed to John L. Caskey from Charles K. Williams, a date of 1962 is noted, see also Folder 10 in **Box 01**].

Folder 03: Photos from 1925-1926, of the Neolithic cave, Tsoungiza, views of excavation, most with captions on the back. Includes a note from Elizabeth T. Blackburn that the silver-nitrate negatives of these photos were destroyed (dated 10 June 1995).

Folder 04: Nemea cave pottery including photos of whole pots.

Folder 05: Photos and negatives of: black and white 2"x2" negatives of Piet de Jong watercolors (53-28 to 53-32) taken by Elizabeth T. Blackburn in April 1971 for John L. Caskey 1975 article; 35 mm negatives of Piet de Jong watercolors with notes from Elizabeth T. Blackburn and John L. Caskey (dates to 1971); numerous prints of Piet de Jong watercolors, whole vessels, sherds for photos shot by John L. Caskey (c. 1957) and Elizabeth T. Blackburn (in 1971); photo of interior of crucible dates to 1974.

Folder 06: One slide of Nemea terracotta objects (53.28).

Folder 07: Photos of the temple area, including detail photos of architecture and Aristis inscription; original photos of temple area as well as views of the site and area, including photos of the excavation [originally grouped with Archaic Votive deposit pottery photos by Marion Rawson].

Folder 08: Negatives, presumably of temple area, with note stating "rewashed in 1962" (originally in envelope with Stanley Favret as addressee and Marion Rawson as addresser).

Subseries II.4. Unpublished Reports/Records

Box 01

Folder 09: James P. Harland's Tsoungiza ms, 1920s, photocopy made in April 1985; correspondence between James Wright and Elizabeth T. Blackburn regarding transfer of original ms and photograph prints to Bryn Mawr.

Folder 10: note regarding Neolithic and Mycenaean pottery referring to page numbers, possibly associated with a pottery notebook.

Series III – Studies and Publications

Subseries III.1. Publication Plans and Assignments

Box 01

Folder 11: Three handwritten publication plans for *Nemea* excavation volumes, by Carl W. Blegen, and one photocopy. List of dates of when excavation occurred, also with dates of participation by individuals involved.

Subseries III.2. Original Manuscripts Submitted for Publication

Box 02

- Folder 01: Marion Rawson ms from 1933-1934 regarding the Archaic votive deposit, with handwritten emendations.
- Folder 02: First copy of foreword for "Neolithic Remains at Nemea, Excavations of 1925-26," by John L. Caskey, with handwritten emendations; John L. Caskey and Carl W. Blegen, copy of ms with handwritten notes, 1974, "The Excavation," and Plate Legend. Note by Elizabeth Caskey Banks, that the first copy was taken to Greece.
- Folder 03: John L. Caskey's ms photocopy of "Neolithic Remains at Nemea, Excavations of 1925-1926," as it appears in *Hesperia* 1975.
- Folder 04: Carl W. Blegen's original ms "The Neolithic Remains on the South Eastern slope of Tsoungiza Hill," with handwritten emendations, and photocopy of the emended text with further edits. [Published by John L. Caskey in *Hesperia* 1975 as "Neolithic Remains at Nemea, Excavations of 1925-1926." See Folder 03 in **Box 02**]
- Folder 05: Carl W. Blegen, "The Nemea Remains on the Southeastern Slope of Tsoungiza Hill," handwritten ms. Handwritten pottery notes by Carl W. Blegen. [Intended to be Chapter 2 of publication].
- Folder 06: Nemea cave pottery sketches and corresponding photographs, envelope with Carl W. Blegen ms, "The Nemea Remains on the Southeastern Slope of Tsoungiza Hill," with handwritten emendations.

Subseries III.3. Other Records Related to Studies and Publications

Box 02

- Folder 07: List of most of folder contents, primarily offprints of Carl W. Blegen's Nemea publications with notes from selected ones. Includes booklet containing reprint of *Art and Archaeology* article (vol. 19, April 1925, pp. 175-184) with foreword by William T. Semple; photocopy of the same article; photocopy of *Art and Archaeology* article (vol. 22, October 1926, pp. 127-135); offprint of *American Journal of Archaeology* article (vol. 31, 1927, pp. 421-440); Blegen's foreword for 1966 publication of *The Temple of Zeus* by Bert Hodge Hill and Charles K. Williams; photocopy of article by Donald Bradeen on the inscriptions published in *Hesperia* (vol. 35, 1966, pp. 320-330); notice of excavation at Nemea by Charles K. Williams in 1962 published in *AJA* (vol. 68, 1964, pp. 201-202); the same for 1964 (*AJA*, vol. 69, 1965, pp. 178-179); notice of excavation at Argive Heraeum and Hageorgitika in *AJA* by Elizabeth P. Blegen (vol. 32, 1928, 533-534); review of *Orchomenos I* by Blegen in *Gnomon* 1932, pp. 660-661.
- Folder 08: Correspondence between Elizabeth ("Betty") Caskey and Nancy Bookidis in 1974 concerning the search in Blegen house for select terracotta and stone objects from Nemea Cave, for publication in "The Neolithic Remains at Nemea;" includes inventory of objects.
- Folder 09: Notes (two copies) made in 1954 and 1955 during discussions between Bert Hodge Hill and Lewey T Lands, regarding changes for plates.

Series IV – Other Records

Subseries IV.1. Drawing

Box 03

Folder 11: Pencil on cardboard sketch of the Temple of Zeus by Prentice Duell, dated to 1924.

Last Prepared Date: 11 July 2019

Last Preparer: Jeff Kramer