

The Reed College Herbarium

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It is not generally known to the Reed community, but there is a small herbarium at this school. It not only houses vouchers from student theses and miscellaneous collections, but it includes a surprising number of specimens of historical interest. This note will briefly describe the herbarium. A future article will describe the Reed herbarium and herbaria in greater detail.

The herbarium consists of two sections: 1) the old specimens; and 2) other material of a less fragile and more replaceable nature. Nearly all the old specimens date from the end of the nineteenth century, though how we obtained these valuable specimens is unknown. A number of pioneer botanists of the area: Thomas Howell, author of the first comprehensive book of flora of the area; William Cusick, collector of plants in Eastern Oregon; and L. F. Henderson, are represented. In this collection are TWO type specimens! Additionally, and perhaps even more enigmatically, we have flora of the Eastern United States represented which were collected by Hyams, Canby, etc., and even a very few specimens collected by Kellerman in Europe.

The other specimens, the more recent ones and so less valuable historically, form the bulk of the collection. Among this collection is Mr. Lenzie's collection¹ of the Northwest, primarily of mountain areas (the Wenatchees, for example). It also contains miscellaneous collections by D. B. Lawrence, Reid and Collins, etc. The remainder of the herbarium is primarily vouchers for student activity. A number of lists have been prepared by students for theses, and the herbarium has some of their vouchers; among them are those of W. R. Van Dersal (plants of Multnomah County), Una Davies (plants of the Reed campus), Kate Rogers (angiosperms of the Mt. Hood region), Margery Washburn (mosses, which are only poorly represented in the herbarium.)² Vouchers from recent systematic studies of particular groups are also found in the herbarium (e.g., Lynn Carter's thesis on *Iris chrysophylla* and *I. tenas* hybrids).

At the present time, the herbarium is being renovated and is serving as the home of vouchers for the survey of Cascade Head (Lincoln Co., Oregon). The herbarium is in room B205A, Biology Building.

¹We are extremely grateful to Mr. Lenzie not only for the gift of his fine collection, but also for supporting funds which have allowed us to update the herbarium.

²A few other collectors: F. Mackanes, P. Comp. are also represented; we even have a few lichens collected by B. Evans.

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