



Guide to the Bill Burk collection of letters and photographs from Sherwin Carlquist, 1997-2018

This collection guide was produced in **2010**.

This PDF version was created on **April 2, 2026**.

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Summary

Collection Title:

Bill Burk collection of letters and photographs from Sherwin Carlquist, 1997-2018

Creator:

Burk, William R.

Abstract:

"Bill" Burk, retired, botany librarian at the John N. Couch Biology Library, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Collection comprises three folders of letters written to Burk by botanist Sherwin Carlquist. The majority of the letters are accompanied by examples of Carlquist's black-and-white 8"x10" landscape photographs, including seven photographic prints on enlarging paper, as well as scanned copies printed on a laser printer. There are also advertisements for Carlquist's books of landscape photographs featuring male nudes. The letters are most often general holiday greetings Carlquist mailed to all his friends, usually annotated with specific notes to Burk; others are personal letters to Burk. Carlquist's letters mainly provide information regarding the accompanying photographs and his artistic approach to photography, especially the male nudes; there is additional commentary on the history of botany; his writing, publication, and research projects; the work of other scientists; and his personal life. Other topics include gay fiction and culture, the challenges of being gay in academe, and circumcision. Books mentioned include: HAWAII, OUTSIDERS, COMPARATIVE WOOD ANATOMY, TARWEEDS AND SILVERSWORDS, THE NATURAL MALE, MAN/NATURE, NATURAL MANSCAPES, MEN IN NATURE, UNCUT, and NATURAL OBJECTS.

Extent:

0.2 Linear Feet

Language:

Materials in English

Collection ID:

RL.00174

Permalink:

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m1902t>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], in the Bill Burk Collection of Letters and photographs from Sherwin Carlquist, 1997-2018, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

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Background

Scope and Content

Collection comprises three folders of letters written to Burk by botanist Sherwin Carlquist. The majority of the letters are accompanied by examples of Carlquist's black-and-white 8"x10" landscape photographs, including seven photographic prints on enlarging paper, as well as scanned copies printed on a laser printer. There are also advertisements for Carlquist's books of landscape photographs featuring male nudes. The letters are most often general holiday greetings Carlquist mailed to all his friends, usually annotated with specific notes to Burk; others are personal letters to Burk. Carlquist's letters mainly provide information regarding the accompanying photographs and his artistic approach to photography, especially the male nudes; there is additional commentary on the history of botany; his writing, publication, and research projects; the work of other scientists; and his personal life. Other topics include gay fiction and culture, the challenges of being gay in academe, and circumcision. Books mentioned include: HAWAII, OUTSIDERS, COMPARATIVE WOOD ANATOMY, TARWEEDS AND SILVERSWORDS, THE NATURAL MALE, MAN/NATURE, NATURAL MANSCAPES, MEN IN NATURE, UNCUT, and NATURAL OBJECTS.

Biographical/Historical

William R. "Bill" Burk was the former botany librarian at the John N. Couch Biology Library at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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Arrangement

Arranged chronologically.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

Acquisition Information

The Bill Burk collection of letters and photographs from Sherwin Carlquist was received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a gift in 2010, 2017, and 2018.

Processing Information

Processed by: Alice Poffinberger, July 2010

Encoded by: Noah Huffman, July 2010

Accession(s) described in this finding aid: 2010-0008, 2010-0129, and 2018-0100.

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Names and Subjects

- Gay college teachers -- United States
- College teachers -- United States
- Circumcision
- Black-and-white photographs
- Botany -- Study and teaching
- Botany -- History
- Scientists -- United States
- Photographers -- United States
- Photography of men
- Photography of the nude
- Photography, Artistic
- Outdoor photography
- Landscape photography
- Gay men -- Fiction
- Carlquist, Sherwin John, 1930-
- Burk, William R.

Collection Inventory

Letters and photographs from Sherwin Carlquist, 1997-2018 (folder 1 of 3)	Box 1
Letters and photographs from Sherwin Carlquist, 1997-2018 (folder 2 of 3)	Box 1
Letters and photographs from Sherwin Carlquist, 1997-2018 (folder 3 of 3)	Box 1