

# Inventory of the Edward von Siebold Dingle Collection, 1816-1975

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Phone: (843) 953-8016 | Fax: (843) 953-6319

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# **Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** Edward von Siebold Dingle collection

**Date(s)** 1816-1975

**Date(s)** (bulk 1920-1960)

**Creator:** Dingle, Edward von Siebold

**Abstract:** The collection consists of biographical materials, watercolors, etchings,

color prints, photographs, and correspondence of Edward von Siebold Dingle, artist and ornithologist. The majority of the collection consists of Dingle's watercolor paintings of seabirds, shorebirds, wading birds, warblers, sparrows, thrushes, and other bird species on board and paper as well as landscapes and wild flower studies. Also included are letters to Dingle from his wife and mother, and assorted photographs of Dingle, the

Middleburg Plantation house, and his artwork.

**Extent:** 11.0 linear feet

(1 document box, 7 oversize flat boxes)

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**Language of Material:** Materials in English

# **Biographical Note**

Edward von Siebold Dingle (1893-1975), artist and ornithologist, was born in Charleston, South Carolina, to John Rutledge (1856-1919) and Agatha von Siebold Dingle (1856-1947). Growing up on his parents plantation near Summerton, South Carolina, he developed an early interest in birds and in drawing them, painting his first bird, an Eastern Wood-Pewee perched on a pine bough, at the age of twelve. He graduated from Porter Military Academy in 1913 and received his A.B. degree from the College of Charleston in 1917. After serving in the Navy in World War I he moved to Mount Pleasant where he would make frequent trips to the Isle of Palms, Sullivans Island, and other surrounding sea islands looking for rare bird species, especially tropical species blown North by hurricanes. It was during this time that he started to paint professionally. After his marriage to Marie Guerin Ball (1881-1963) in 1927 the couple moved to Middleburg Plantation in Huger, South Carolina, where he lived and worked until his death in 1975.

Largely a self-taught artist, except for some instruction in landscape painting from the painter and printmaker Alfred Hutty, his primary medium was watercolor and he specialized in painting birds in families in their natural habitat or in foliage and often with nests. Many of his paintings would include an adult male and female as well as a juvenile or post-juvenile bird of a particular species. He collected and prepared approximately 1,000 bird skins, learning from noted South Carolina ornithologist Arthur Trezevant Wayne on how to prepare and preserve them. These bird skins would provide Dingle with an accurate basis for his watercolors. His research would lead to the addition of six species to the State List of birds: the Cory's Shearwater, the Glossy Ibis, the Leach's Petrel, the European Widgeon, the Hudsonian Godwit, and the Claycolored Sparrow.

In 1926 he exhibited in the first American exhibition of bird paintings held in Los Angeles and in 1937 some of his works were included in the First National Exhibition of American Artists at Rockefeller Center in New York. He also exhibited at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, and at the Mint Museum in Charlotte, North Carolina. Ten of his paintings were reproduced in the book *South Carolina Bird Life* by Alexander Sprunt Jr. and E. Burnham Chamberlain and in various publications including *Auk* and *Bird-Lore*. His work is part of the permanent collections of the Gibbes Museum of Art in Charleston, South Carolina, the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee, and the Cambridge Museum in Massachusetts.

### **Collection Overview**

The collection consists of biographical materials, watercolors, etchings, color prints, photographs, and correspondence of Edward von Siebold Dingle, artist and ornithologist. The majority of the collection consists of Dingle's watercolor paintings of seabirds, shorebirds, wading birds, warblers, sparrows, thrushes, and other bird species on board and paper as well as landscapes and wild flower studies. Some works are unfinished and many contain handwritten text on the verso recording the species, its Latin name, a number, and a price. Also included are two versions of an etching of a hummingbird and trumpet vine and color prints of two of Dingles watercolors, Eastern Bluebird and Cherokee Rose and Hooded Warbler and Wild Azalea, produced by Atelier Graphique H. Vonfobel of Feldmeilen, Switzerland. The collection also includes letters to Dingle from his wife, Marie Guerin Ball Dingle, and from his mother, Agatha von Siebold Dingle, from 1924 and 1927. Letters contain routine personal and family news. There are also photographs of Dingle at work in his studio and on the grounds of Middleburg Plantation, circa 1935 to circa 1970, the Middleburg Plantation house, and images of his paintings including an Ivory Billed Woodpecker, Barred Owl, and Bald Eagle with nest. Portions of the collection were assembled for an exhibition of Dingle's work in May of 1975.

# **Collection Arrangement**

- 1. Artwork
- 2. Letters
- 3. Photographs

### Restrictions

#### **Access Restrictions**

This collection is open for research.

# **Copyright Notice**

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## **Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person, family, or organization, by topical subject, by place, and by types of material.

#### **Names**

Dingle, Edward von Siebold, 1893-1975 Dingle family--Correspondence

#### **Subjects**

Artists--South Carolina--Charleston Ornithology--Pictorial works

#### **Places**

Middleburg Plantation (S.C.)

## **Types of Material**

Watercolors (paintings)
Letters (correspondence)
Color prints (prints)
Black-and-white photographs
Color photographs
Etchings (prints)

### **Administrative Information**

#### **Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], Edward von Siebold Dingle collection, College of Charleston Libraries, Charleston, SC, USA.

# **Processing Information**

Reprocessed by Joshua Minor, November 2015. Originally processed by Special Collections staff.

Encoded by Joshua Minor, November 2015.

Reviewed and uploaded by Joshua Minor, November 2015.

# **Detailed Description of the Collection**

# 1. Artwork, 1816-1960, undated

Series consists of birds, landscapes, and wild flower studies in watercolor on board and paper. Also included are several versions of an etching of a hummingbird and trumpet vine and color prints of two of Dingles watercolors produced by Atelier Graphique H. Vonfobel of Feldmeilen, Switzerland. Several works are unfinished and many contain handwritten text on the verso recording the species of bird or plant, its Latin name, a number, and a price.

### Watercolors

Box 2 Folder 1	American Knots and Dowitcher, undated
	Handwritten text on verso "American Knots and Dowitcher-No 47."
Box 4 Folder 1	American Tree Sparrows, 1921
Box 4 Folder 2	American White Ibis, 1925
Box 8 Folder 1	American White Ibis, 1925
Box 4 Folder 3	Bachman's Sparrow, undated
	Includes unfinished drawing of Painted Bunting on back.
Box 1 Folder	Barn Owl, 1920-1960
	Handwritten text on verso "Barn Owl (Tyto alba pratincola), 38. E. von S. Dingle."
Box 4 Folder 4	Barn owl, undated
	Handwritten text on verso "No. 8, Barn Owl-Price 40.00, #8."
Box 8 Folder 2 Barred owl, undated	
	Handwritten text on verso "No 6, Barred owl. Price \$75.00, E. von S. Dingle, #6."
Box 2 Folder 2	Black-bellied Plover, 1924
	Handwritten text on verso "Black-bellied Plover (Squatarola cynosurae), 54. E. von S. Dingle."
Box 2 Folder 3	Black-bellied Plover, undated
Box 4 Folder 5	Blackburnian Warbler, male and female, and Magnolia Warbler, male and female, 1920-1960
	Handwritten text on verso "No 15., Blackburnian Warbler (Dendroica fusca), male and female, upper figures. Magnolia Warbler (Dendroica maculosa), lower figures; male, upper right. Young, lower left; female, right. Price 40.00."
Box 4 Folder 6	Black-capped Chickadee, 1920
Box 4 Folder 7	Blackpoll Warbler, male and female, 1920-1960

		Handwritten text on verso "No. 24, Blackpoll Warbler (Dendroica Striata), male and female. Spring. Price 40.00, Woodbine"
Box 4 Folder 8		Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (unfinished), 1913 August 22
		Handwritten text on verso "Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher-Aug 22, 1913."
Box 4 Folder 9	9	Brown-headed Nuthatch, 1916
	Handwritten text on verso "Property of Edward von S. Dingle, 15. Brownheaded Nuthatch."	
Box 4 Folder	10	Brown Noddy, 1920-1960
Box 5 Folder	1	Catbird, 1920-1960
	Handwritten text on verso "E. von S. Dingle, 41. Catbird."	
Box 5 Folder	Box 5 Folder 2	Clay colored Sparrow on Tallow Tree, 1920-1960
	Handwritten text on verso "Clay-colored Sparrow on Tallow Tree. Price \$25.00."	
Box 5 Folder	ox 5 Folder 3	Connecticut Warbler, male and female, 1920-1960
	Handwritten text on verso "No 34. Connecticut Warbler (Oporonis Agilis), male, female- Price \$40.00, E. von S. Dingle."	
Box 5 Folder 4	Crested Flycatcher, 1920	
		Handwritten text on verso "Crested Flycatcher (Myiarchus crinitus), 12. E. von S. Dingle."
Box 5 Folder	5	European Starling, 1926
Box 5 Folder	6	Gould Hummingbirds, 1920-1960
		Handwritten text on verso "No. 1415, Gould Hummingbirds, Price 10.00, No 39."
Box 5 Folder	7	Grinell's Water Thrush, Louisiana Water Thrush, and Golden Club, 1920-1960
	Handwritten text on verso "No 451, Grinell's Water Thrush (upper) (Seirus Noveboracensis Notabilis), Louisiana Water Thrush (lower) (Seirus Motacilla), Price 30.00, Flower, Golden Club."	
Box 5 Folder 8	Kentucky Warbler, male and female, 1920-1960	
	Handwritten text on verso "No. 33, Kentucky Warbler (Oporonis Formosus), male and female. Price 40.00."	
Box 2 Folder 4	Killdeer, 1924	
	Handwritten text on verso "Killdeer (Oxyechus Vociferus), 18. E. von S. Dingle."	
Box 2 Folder	5	Killdeer, 1920-1960

Box 5 Folder 10	Landscape, 1917
	Handwritten text on verso "No-1971."
Box 6 Folder 1	Landscape with Anhingas, undated
Box 6 Folder 2	Landscape with ducks, 1920-1960
Box 6 Folder 3	Landscape with gulls, 1917
Box 6 Folder 4	Landscape with pine tree, undated
	Handwritten text on verso ""\$933.""
Box 2 Folder 6	Landscape with pine trees, undated
Box 2 Folder 7	Least, Semipalmated, and Western Sandpipers, undated
	Handwritten text on verso "Least, Semipalmated and Western Sandpiper."
Box 6 Folder 5	Mimosa (unfinished), 1920-1960
	Handwritten text on verso "No-2986-Mimosa"
Box 2 Folder 8	Mourning Warblers, male and female, 1920-1960
	Handwritten text on verso "No 35, Mourning Warbler (Oporornis Philadelphia). Male and female. Price 40.00."
Box 6 Folder 6	Northern Cardinal, 1924
Box 6 Folder 6 Box 6 Folder 7	Northern Cardinal, 1924 Painted Bunting, 1925
Box 6 Folder 7	Painted Bunting, 1925
Box 6 Folder 7	Painted Bunting, 1925  Red-backed Sandpipers, undated  Handwritten text on verso "No 615, Red-backed Sandpipers, Spring-Price
Box 6 Folder 7 Box 3 Folder 1	Painted Bunting, 1925  Red-backed Sandpipers, undated  Handwritten text on verso "No 615, Red-backed Sandpipers, Spring-Price 30.00."
Box 6 Folder 7 Box 3 Folder 1	Painted Bunting, 1925  Red-backed Sandpipers, undated  Handwritten text on verso "No 615, Red-backed Sandpipers, Spring-Price 30.00."  Red-winged Blackbirds, 1925  Handwritten text on verso "Red-winged Blackbirds, Painted by Edward von
Box 6 Folder 7  Box 6 Folder 1  Box 6 Folder 8	Painted Bunting, 1925  Red-backed Sandpipers, undated  Handwritten text on verso "No 615, Red-backed Sandpipers, Spring-Price 30.00."  Red-winged Blackbirds, 1925  Handwritten text on verso "Red-winged Blackbirds, Painted by Edward von Siebold Dingle, Mount Pleasant, S.C."
Box 6 Folder 7  Box 6 Folder 1  Box 6 Folder 8	Painted Bunting, 1925  Red-backed Sandpipers, undated  Handwritten text on verso "No 615, Red-backed Sandpipers, Spring-Price 30.00."  Red-winged Blackbirds, 1925  Handwritten text on verso "Red-winged Blackbirds, Painted by Edward von Siebold Dingle, Mount Pleasant, S.C."  Ring-neck Duck, undated
Box 6 Folder 7  Box 6 Folder 8  Box 3 Folder 2	Painted Bunting, 1925  Red-backed Sandpipers, undated  Handwritten text on verso "No 615, Red-backed Sandpipers, Spring-Price 30.00."  Red-winged Blackbirds, 1925  Handwritten text on verso "Red-winged Blackbirds, Painted by Edward von Siebold Dingle, Mount Pleasant, S.C."  Ring-neck Duck, undated  Handwritten text on verso "No. 1476, Ring-neck Duck, Price \$40.00."
Box 6 Folder 7  Box 6 Folder 8  Box 3 Folder 2  Box 6 Folder 9	Painted Bunting, 1925  Red-backed Sandpipers, undated  Handwritten text on verso "No 615, Red-backed Sandpipers, Spring-Price 30.00."  Red-winged Blackbirds, 1925  Handwritten text on verso "Red-winged Blackbirds, Painted by Edward von Siebold Dingle, Mount Pleasant, S.C."  Ring-neck Duck, undated  Handwritten text on verso "No. 1476, Ring-neck Duck, Price \$40.00."  Rock partridge, 1940 February 28
Box 6 Folder 7  Box 6 Folder 8  Box 3 Folder 2  Box 6 Folder 9	Painted Bunting, 1925  Red-backed Sandpipers, undated  Handwritten text on verso "No 615, Red-backed Sandpipers, Spring-Price 30.00."  Red-winged Blackbirds, 1925  Handwritten text on verso "Red-winged Blackbirds, Painted by Edward von Siebold Dingle, Mount Pleasant, S.C."  Ring-neck Duck, undated  Handwritten text on verso "No. 1476, Ring-neck Duck, Price \$40.00."  Rock partridge, 1940 February 28  Robin, 1920  Handwritten text on verso "Robin (Planesticus migratorius), 34. E. von S.

Box 3 Folder 3	Sandpipers, undated
Box 3 Folder 4	Semipalmated Plover, undated
	Handwritten text on verso "Semipalmated Plover-"
Box 3 Folder 5	Solitary Sandpiper, 1920-1960
	Handwritten text on verso "#20, Solitary Sandpiper, Price \$30.00."
Box 7 Folder 2	Spanish moss, 1923
Box 3 Folder 6	Stilt Sandpiper and Greater Yellowlegs, undated
	Handwritten text on verso "Stilt Sandpiper and the Yellowlegs - No 44."
Box 7 Folder 3	Swainson's Warbler, male and female, 1920-1960
	Handwritten text on verso "No 447, Swainson's Warbler (Lymnothlypis swainsoni), male, right; female, left. Prince \$40.00."
Box 7 Folder 4	Tree Swallow, 1925
	Handwritten text on verso "Tree Swallow, Painted by Edward von Siebold Dingle, Mount Pleasant, S.C."
Box 1 Folder 1	Untitled (view of castle), 1816
Box 1 Folder 2	Untitled (view of castle), 1902
Box 1 Folder 3	Untitled (view of cabin in mountains), 1916
Box 7 Folder 5	Viola and Hickory, 1931 April 22
Box 3 Folder 7	Western Willet, undated
	Handwritten text on verso "Western Willet, No 19, Price 30.00."
Box 7 Folder 6	White-headed Woodpecker, 1920-1960
	Handwritten text on verso "No-1625, White -Headed Woodpecker, Price-\$12.00."
Box 7 Folder 7	White-throated Sparrows, 1921
Box 7 Folder 8	Wildflower (unfinished), undated
Box 7 Folder 9	Wildflowers study, 1931
	Studies of Rose Pogonia, White Stargrass, Rosebud Orchid, and Rain Lily with annotations.
Box 8 Folder 3	Wood Duck (unfinished), undated
Box 7 Folder 10	Yellow-breasted Chat and Cherokee Rose, undated

Handwritten text on verso "#1265, Yellow Breasted Chat, Cherokee Rose, Price 40.00, Mrs. R. B. Campbell, Ph. 6481."

Box 7 Folder 11

Yellow-throated Vireo, 1921

Handwritten text on verso "Yellow-throated Vireo (Lanivireo Flavifrons) Life size. 6., E. von S. Dingle, Summerton, S.C."

Etchings, 1920-1960

Box 7 Folder 12 Hummingbird and Trumpet Vine, 1920-1960

Box 7 Folder 13 Hummingbird and Trumpet Vine, 1920-1960

Printed materials, 1891, undated

Box 1 Folder 5 "The Barred Owl," undated

Box 1 Folder 6 Eastern Bluebird and Cherokee Rose, undated

Box 1 Folder 7 Hooded Warbler and Wild Azalea, undated

## 2. Letters, 1924-1927, undated

Series consists of letters to Dingle from his wife, Marie Guerin Ball Dingle, and from his mother, Agatha von Siebold Dingle. Letters contain routine personal and family news and financial affairs.

Box 1 Folder 9 1924-1925

Box 1 Folder 10-11 1926

Box 1 Folder 12 1927, undated

# 3. Photographs, circa 1935-circa 1970

Box 1 Folder 13 Edward von Siebold Dingle, circa 1935-circa 1970

Box 1 Folder 14 Middleburg Plantation house, Huger, South Carolina, undated

Box 1 Folder 15 Artwork, undated