



**Smithsonian Institution**

*Archives Center - NMAH*

## **Earl Shaffer's Appalachian Trail Hike Diary, 1948**

Extracted on Aug-17-2022 10:36:20

**The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.**

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website ([transcription.si.edu](https://transcription.si.edu)), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the Archives Center - NMAH as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the Archives Center - NMAH website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact Archives Center - NMAH or [transcribe@si.edu](mailto:transcribe@si.edu)

For more information on this project and related material, contact the Archives Center - NMAH. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

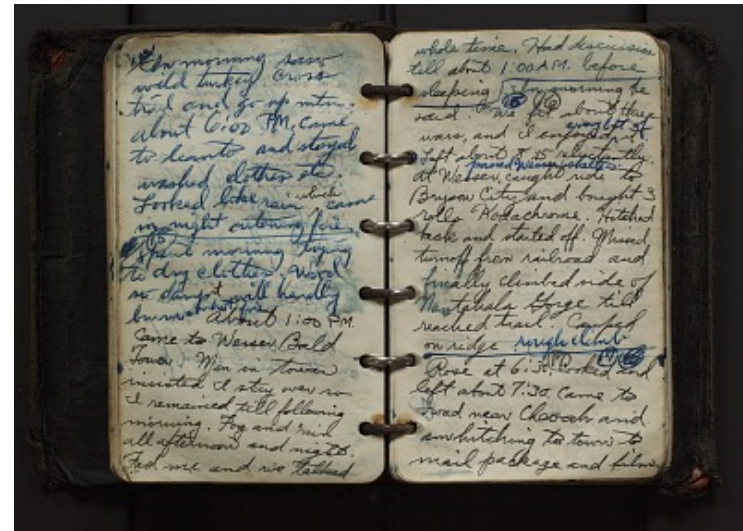
14) In morning saw wild turkey cross trail and go up mtn. about 6:00 PM. Came to leanto and stayed washed clothes etc. Looked like rain  
^[[insertion, black ink]] which [[/insertion]] came in night outening fire.

[[circle date]] 15 [[/date]] Spent morning trying to dry clothes. Wood so damp [[insertion, black ink]] it [[/insertion]] will hardly burn [[on ?]] hot fire  
[[begin black ink]] About 1:00 PM. Came to Wesser Bald Tower. Man in tower insisted I stay over so I remained till following morning. Fog and rain all afternoon and night. Fed me and we talked  
[[end page]]

[[start page]]  
whole time. Had discussion till about 1:00 AM. before sleeping

[[circled date, in blue]] 16 [[/blue date]] [[circled date in black pencil]] 16  
[[/black date]] In morning he said: "We fit about three wars, and I enjoyed ^[[insertion, blue pencil]] every bit of [[/insertion]] it. Left about 8:15 reluctantly. At Wesser, [[insertion, blue pencil]] passed Wesser shelter. [[/insertion]] caught ride to Bryson City and bought 3 rolls Kodachrome. Hitched back and started off. Missed turnoff from railroad and finally climbed side of Nantahala Gorge till reached trail. Camped on ridge. [[insertion, blue pencil]] rough climb [[/insertion]]

[[blue line]]  
[[circled date, black pencil]] 17 [[/black date]] [[circled date, blue pencil]]  
17 [[/blue date]] ~~[[strikethrough, blue circled date]] 16~~ ~~[[/strikethrough]]~~  
Rose at 6:30, cooked and left about 7:30. Came to road near Cheoah and am hitching to town to mail package and film.



Earl Shaffer's Appalachian Trail Hike Diary, 1948  
Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers  
Approved by Smithsonian Staff  
Extracted Aug-17-2022 10:36:20



## Smithsonian Institution

*Archives Center - NMAH*

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: [www.si.edu](http://www.si.edu)

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)