

**MEDICAL CENTER ARCHIVES  
OF  
NEWYORK-PRESBYTERIAN/WEILL CORNELL**

**1300 York Avenue # 34  
New York, NY 10065**

**Finding Aid To**

**THE RECORDS OF THE DIVISION OF HUMAN ECOLOGY,  
CORNELL UNIVERSITY MEDICAL COLLEGE**

**Dates of Records:  
1956-1974**

**2.5 Linear Inches  
(1 Box)**

**Finding Aid Prepared By:  
Elizabeth Shepard  
Assistant Archivist  
September 2009**

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**PROVENANCE:**

The donor of these records is unknown.

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**ADMINISTRATIVE/BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:**

The human ecology program was established in 1954 as a joint program of the Departments of Medicine, Division of Neurology and Psychiatry. Dr. Harold Wolff was the head of the program, which studied the interaction of people and their environment and its impact on their health. Some of the research was funded by the Society for the Investigation of Human Ecology, which had connections to the CIA. After Dr. Wolff's death in 1962, Dr. Lawrence Hinkle, Jr. took over the program, which became a separate division in 1963. One major project, led by Dr. Lawrence Hinkle, Jr. was the heart study in which male telephone employees were studied. The program was disbanded in 1988 when Dr. Hinkle retired.

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**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:**

These records contain manuscripts, reprints, and articles on research conducted by the Division of Human Ecology by Harold Wolff, Lawrence Hinkle, Jr. and others. One of the most famous studies was the heart research conducted on employees of the Bell Company.

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**ACCESS RESTRICTIONS:**

The collection is open to research.

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**RELATED MATERIAL:**

Harold Wolff Papers  
Lawrence Hinkle, Jr. Papers

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**BOX AND FOLDER LIST:****Box 1:**

| <b>Folder:</b> | <b>Description:</b>                                      |
|----------------|--|
| 1              | Division Reports, 1961, 1974                             |
| 2              | Bell Heart Research Studies, 1963-1968                   |
| 3              | Heart Research using Bell and other companies, 1973-1974 |
| 4              | Heart Research (not Bell), 1964                          |
| 5              | Other Research by Wolff, Hinkle, or others, 1956-1972    |