



**ArchivesSpace**  
a community served by ✦ LYRASIS

# Guide to the OCC Mastodon Records OCCR0002

---

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on June 07, 2019.

English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Oakland Community College Archives

D201

2900 Featherstone Rd

Auburn Hills, MI 48326

[archivesocc@oaklandcc.edu](mailto:archivesocc@oaklandcc.edu)

URL: <http://libguides.oaklandcc.edu/archives>

---

## Table of Contents

---

Summary Information .....	3
Scope and Contents .....	4
Arrangement .....	4
Administrative Information .....	4
Controlled Access Headings .....	5
Collection Inventory .....	5

## Summary Information

---

<b>Repository:</b>	Oakland Community College Archives
<b>Creator:</b>	Oakland Community College
<b>Title:</b>	OCC Mastodon Records
<b>ID:</b>	OCCR0002
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1979-1986
<b>Physical Description:</b>	0.5 Linear Feet (1 MB)
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	<p>In 1968, the Groleau Brothers, Inc. construction company unearthed a mastodon skeleton while digging near Cranberry Lake in White Lake Township. They donated the bones to OCC along with \$500 for their preservation. Only one-third of the mastodon's bones were found and eventually the decision was made to only reconstruct the head, tail, and left side of the mastodon skeleton. Thirteen years later, the reconstruction of the now nicknamed "Elmer" began under the supervision of Dr. Jeheskel (Hezy) Shoshani. He instructed students in the class "Mounting a Mastodon" at OCC's Highland Lakes Campus. This class spanned three terms and had around 50 students working on the reconstruction throughout the process. On June 24, 1982 Elmer's reconstruction was finally complete and at that time he was the second such skeleton in Michigan. Inspired by the original mastodon project, students searched for another opportunity to become involved with a similar excavation. In 1983, a consortium consisting of the Cranbrook Institute of Science, Wayne State University, and OCC sponsored a series of classes entitled "Dig a Mastodon". These classes were offered at OCC's Highland Lakes Campus and provided students with the necessary scientific background to accompany fieldwork at the Shelton Mastodon Excavation Site in Brandon Township. The students were able to perform a basic site layout, excavation, and preparation of all materials uncovered at this property.</p>

### Preferred Citation

"OCC Mastodon Records, Box [#], Folder [#], Specific Item Title, Date of Item, Archives, Oakland Community College"

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Scope and Contents

---

This collection consists of correspondence, factual sheets, "A Guide to the Groleau-White Lake Mastodon", bonds and permits, a publication by the Elephant Interest Group, course information, postcards, news articles, and programs related to the discovery, excavation, mounting, and unveiling of the Groleau-White Lake Mastodon and the activities surrounding the Shelton Mastodon Excavation Site in Brandon Township. Important people include: Jeheskel (Hezy) Shoshani.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Arrangement

---

This collection is arranged alphabetically by subject.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Administrative Information

---

### Publication Statement

Oakland Community College Archives

D201

2900 Featherstone Rd

Auburn Hills, MI 48326

[archivesocc@oaklandcc.edu](mailto:archivesocc@oaklandcc.edu)

URL: <http://libguides.oaklandcc.edu/archives>

### Immediate Source of Acquisition

The OCC Mastodon Records were acquired by the College Archivist and placed in the OCC Archives in the summer of 2018.

## Processing Information

Processed and finding aid written by Elizabeth Nicholson on August 24, 2018.

## Conditions Governing Access

Collection is open for research.

## Conditions Governing Use

Refer to the Oakland Community College Archives Rules for Use of Archival Materials.

## Existence and Location of Copies

Select materials from this collection have been digitized and are available in the OCC Digital Repository.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Controlled Access Headings

---

- Mastodons
- Paleontology
- Fossils
- Paleontological excavations
- Shoshani, Jeheskel (Hezy)

---

## Collection Inventory

---

---

### PART 1

---

"A Guide to the Groleau-White Lake Mastodon" and Fact Sheets; 1982	Box 1	Folder 1
Bonds and Permits; 1983	Box 1	Folder 2
Correspondence; 1979-1986	Box 1	Folder 3
Elephant Interest Group; 1979-1982	Box 1	Folder 4
Groleau-White Lake Mastodon Unveiling; 1982	Box 1	Folder 5
GSC 240 Field Topics Geology "Dig-A-Mastodon"; 1982-1983	Box 1	Folder 6

Guide to the OCC Mastodon Records OCCR0002

---

News Articles and Publications; 1981-1983	Box 1	Folder 7
Postcards; undated	Box 1	Folder 8

---