Record Group I: Professional Correspondence, 1930-1998. This group contains professional correspondence to and from Leslie Hewes regarding his teaching activities at colleges and universities, including the University of Oklahoma, the University of California at Berkeley, and the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. This group also contains correspondence regarding Hewes' research and resulting published articles and books on geography.

Record Group II: Publications and Research, 1931-1999. This record group is comprised of publications and manuscripts by Leslie Hewes, and research materials written by Hewes and others which were compiled in the course of his research activities.

Record Group III: University Course Materials, 1928-1974. This record group includes teaching materials created and used by Hewes as a member of the faculty in the geography departments of the University of Oklahoma, the University of California at Berkeley, and the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, among others. Types of materials included are exams, lecture notes, and course schedules.

Record Group IV: Student Materials, 1923-1940. This record group contains assignments, lecture notes, exams, and dissertation drafts created by Hewes as a student at the University of Oklahoma and at the University of California.

Record Group V: Personal Papers, 1930-1983. This record group is comprised of biographical information, news clippings, awards, programs, and invitations collected on Hewes' life and career.

Record Group VI: Maps and Diagrams, 1901-1983. This record group contains maps and diagrams compiled and created by Hewes in conjunction with his research on various geographical topics. Some maps and diagrams were used as illustrations in his publications and lectures, while others were used in the course of his research.