

Guide to the American voyage photograph albums, 1904, 1930s

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1904, 1930s

Title Statement

Guide to the American voyage photograph albums, 1904, 1930s

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Author: Finding aid prepared by Elizabeth Beckman

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Profile Description

Creation: This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit 2015-04-13T10:53-0400

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Revision Description

2019-02-13 Converted to schema conforming EAD by dtd2schema.vh.xsl.

Descriptive Summary

Collection Number

C0256

Date

1904, 1930s

Language

French

Abstract

Two photograph albums that document a trip through North America by French speakers in 1904.

Creator

George Mason University. Libraries. Special Collections & Archives.

Physical Characteristics

1 linear feet (2 boxes)

Repository

George Mason University. Libraries. Special Collections Research Center

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

There are no access restrictions.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions on personal use. Permission to publish material from the American voyage photograph albums must be obtained from Special Collections Research Center, George Mason University Libraries.

Acquisition Information

Purchased by George Mason University Libraries before 2008.

Processing Information

Processing completed by Elizabeth Beckman in April 2015. EAD markup completed by Elizabeth Beckman in April 2015.

Preferred Citation

American voyage photograph albums, C0256, Special Collections and Archives, George Mason University Libraries.

Historical Information

By the early 1900s, photographic technology was becoming significantly more advanced. As the Victoria and Albert Museum's page on photographic processes notes, gelatin-silver prints "by 1895 had generally replaced albumen prints because they were more stable, did not turn yellow, and were simpler to produce" ('Photographic Processes').

Train travel during the early 1900s provided transportation with ease and efficiency that would have been unimaginable 50 years earlier. Transcontinental journeys that took months by wagon or by ship in 1850 could take only weeks by 1900, encouraging more recreational travel.

Scope and Content

This collection contains approximately 500 photographic prints in two bound volumes that document a trip to the United States, Mexico, and Canada by a French-speaking person or group sailing from Le Havre in Normandy, France. On the first page is handwritten "Voyage en Amerique, Avril-Mai 1904." The photographs include multiple views of U.S. cities including New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Chicago, Minneapolis, New Orleans, San Antonio, San Francisco, and Seattle. The images of Mexico include people, landscapes, and churches, including the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The images of Canada are largely rural and include Niagara Falls. The photographs also show multiple views from the railroad coach since that was the main mode of transportation used to travel across the country. There are also four unmounted prints that show Midtown Manhattan and New Orleans. They appear to be from the 1930s and unrelated to the rest of the photographs, although they have descriptions written in French on the back.

Index Terms

Document Types:

Photographic prints.

Subjects:

Railroad travel--United States--Photographs.

Bibliography

[Victoria and Albert Museum, 'Photographic Processes,' accessed April 13, 2015.](#)

Arrangement

Photographs are contained in two volumes, labeled "Amerique I" and "Amerique 2," and are arranged chronologically.

Contents List

[Level 1 Items]

Amerique I,

Unit Date April-May 1904

Mixed materials 1 (Box)

Amerique II,

Unit Date April-May 1904, 1930s

Mixed materials 2 (Box)