Charles Louis Ducommun (1820?-1896) Collection, 1839-1977

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**Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** Charles Louis Ducommun (1820?-1896) Collection, 1839-1977

**Dates:** 1839-1977

**Collection Number:** GC 1149

**Creator/Collector:**

**Extent:** 15 linear feet

**Repository:** Seaver Center for Western History Research, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County

Los Angeles, California 90007-4057

**Abstract:** Account books, ledgers, deeds, certificates of title, stock certificates, stock lists, hardware catalogs, photographs, and other material pertaining to the history of the Ducommun store and its subsequent business entities. The Ducommun Corporation is Los Angeles' oldest continuously operating business dating from 1849.

**Language of Material:** English

**Access**

Research is by appointment only

**Publication Rights**

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**Preferred Citation**

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**Biography/Administrative History**

Swiss born businessman who arrived in Los Angeles in 1849. He established a watch repair shop on Commercial Street which grew into a flourishing general merchandising store. Ducommun was a director of the Los Angeles water company, the Main and Agricultural Park Railway, the Pioneer Oil Company, and a founder of the Farmers and Merchants Bank.

**Scope and Content of Collection**

Account books, ledgers, deeds, certificates of title, stock certificates, stock lists, hardware catalogs, photographs, and other material pertaining to the history of the Ducommun store and its subsequent business entities. The Ducommun Corporation is Los Angeles' oldest continuously operating business dating from 1849. There are a few personal items from Ducommun and his family, including Ducommun's passports and certificate of citizenship and family photographs. There are a few short histories of Charles Ducommun and the Ducommun business, including one written by Charles E. Ducommun. Some of the items are photoprints, rather than originals. ( Bulk dates 1852-1906)

**Indexing Terms**

Los Angeles (Calif.)

Business enterprises.

Finding Aid