Historical Road Map Collection

Finding aid created by Oviatt Library Map Collection staff using RecordEXPRESS
California State University, Northridge. Oviatt Library Map Collection
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**Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** Historical Road Map Collection  
**Dates:** 1937-2007 (Bulk 1950s-1990s)  
**Collection Number:** MC/01  
**Creator/Collector:** California State University, Northridge. Oviatt Map Collection  
**Extent:** 14 linear feet (14 boxes); 3,800+ items  
**Repository:** California State University, Northridge. Oviatt Library Map Collection  
Northridge, California 91330

**Abstract:** The Historical Road Map Collection contains a variety of historical road maps, tourist maps, and highway maps from cities, states, and geographic regions throughout the world. The collection contains more than 3,800 road maps ranging from 1937-2007, with the bulk of the collection dating from the 1950s-1990s. Historical road maps from the United States detail the pre-Interstate system of automobile and travel networks, while often including interesting illustrative details of early tourist boosterism. Most of the maps were produced by private companies, like Chevron, Esso, Rand McNally, or AAA, as well as by various governmental agencies, with the goal of promoting travel and tourism.

**Language of Material:** English

**Access**

Collections are open for research. Viewing hours may be limited.

**Publication Rights**

Please contact the repository for publication information.

**Preferred Citation**

Historical Road Map Collection. California State University, Northridge. Oviatt Library Map Collection

**Scope and Content of Collection**

The Historical Road Map Collection was developed over time by the CSU Northridge Geography Department to support research on campus. Most geographic regions are represented in the collection, including road maps from North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, and Oceania. The collection emphasizes road and tourist maps from North America, particularly the cities and towns of the Western United States and California. Many of the maps from North America are folded to approximately 23 x 10 cm (gas station road map style) and generally include panel titles, indexes, and smaller insets. Some international road maps are folded in pamphlets or booklets. Scales and color vary.

**Indexing Terms**

Roads -- [Country] -- Maps  
Roads -- [Continent] -- Maps  
Roads  
American Automobile Association  
Chevron Corporation  
Shell International Petroleum Company  
Texaco, Inc.  
Pneu Michelin (Firm)  
North America  
South America  
Europe  
Asia  
Africa  
Oceania  
California  
Los Angeles (Calif.) -- Maps  
San Fernando Valley (Calif.) -- Maps  
Road maps  
Tourist maps  
World maps