Inventory of the William M. McCarthy Photograph Collection

Processed by Staff
California State Archives
1020 "O" Street
Sacramento, California 95814
Phone: (916) 653-2246
Fax: (916) 653-7363
Email: archivesweb@sos.ca.gov
URL: http://www.sos.ca.gov/archives/
© 2008
California Secretary of State. All rights reserved.
Inventory of the William M. McCarthy Photograph Collection

Collection number: AC 96-07-08

California State Archives
Office of the Secretary of State
Sacramento, California

Processed by: Staff
Date Completed: April 1, 2008
Encoded by: Jessica M. Herrick
© 2008 California Secretary of State. All rights reserved.

Descriptive Summary
Title: William M. McCarthy Photograph Collection
Dates: 1905-1938
Collection number: AC 96-07-08
Creator: McCarthy, William M.
Extent: 2,998 photographs, in 11 albums, occupying approximately 3 cubic feet.
Repository: California State Archives
Sacramento, California

Abstract: The William M. McCarthy Photograph Collection consists of eleven photograph albums (approximately 3 cubic feet of material). The 2,998 photographs, taken between 1905 and 1938, include family, personal, and vacation photos taken by William M. McCarthy while he and his wife traveled on automobile trips across California primarily, but also the United States in general, Mexico, Canada, and Cuba. The photographs depict William's interest in armories, tourist attractions, historic sights, and family.

Physical location: California State Archives
Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English
Access
No Restrictions.

Publication Rights
For permission to reproduce or publish, please contact the California State Archives. Permission for reproduction or publication is given on behalf of the California State Archives as the owner of the physical items. The researcher assumes all responsibility for possible infringement which may arise from reproduction or publication of materials from the California State Archives collections.

Please note that William McCarthy occasionally took pictures of postcards, lithographs, newspapers, and other peoples' photographs. Several such photographs are included in this collection. The researcher assumes all responsibility for possible infringement that may arise from the reproduction or publication of these materials.

Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], William M. McCarthy Photograph Collection, AC 96-07-08, Album number[album number]:[photograph number], California State Archives, Office of the Secretary of State, Sacramento, California.

Acquisition and Custodial History
Audrey Fullerton of Sacramento, California donated the collection to the California State Archives in 1996. Ms. Fullerton acquired the albums from her uncle, Mr. William M. McCarthy, the photographer of the collection.

Biography
William M. McCarthy was born in 1876. He entered federal service at the Benicia Arsenal as an armament expert in 1903 and retired on January 1, 1933. During World War I, William became the supervisor of the Pacific Coast armaments and continued in that capacity until his retirement. William died in 1956 at the age of 80. His wife, Grace C., died the next year.
They were married for 56 years. Having no children, the McCarthys spent many hours pursuing their passion for both photography and travel. William's photographs depict his interest in armories, tourist attractions, historic sights, and family.

**Scope and Content**

The William M. McCarthy Photograph Collection consists of eleven photograph albums (approximately 3 cubic feet of material). The 2,998 photographs include family, personal, and vacation photos taken by William M. McCarthy while he and his wife traveled throughout the United States, Canada, Cuba, and Mexico.

Subjects strengths include, but are not limited to, the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire; Panama Pacific International Exposition; Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition; Alaska Yukon Pacific Exposition; Panama California Exposition; San Diego Exposition; Yosemite National Park; Yellowstone National Park; Grand Canyon; Niagara Falls; Golden Gate Park; Lake Tahoe; and armories and artillery guns.

**Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

William M. McCarthy
Travel
Automobile travel
Tourism
Travel photography
Series 1 Photographs 1905-1938

Physical Description: 2,998 photographs in 11 albums (approximately 3 cubic feet).

Arrangement

Arranged by album number, and by subject therein.

Scope and Content Note

This series consists of photographs taken by William M. McCarthy during automobile trips across California primarily, but also includes road trips throughout the United States, Mexico, Canada, and Cuba. All photographs are in black and white, and many have notations written on them as to location and date by William McCarthy. There are several negative prints within the collection, see Reference Archivists concerning access.

Subjects include San Francisco and the Bay Area, particularly during the period following the earthquake and fire of 1906; hotels, resorts, and tourist attractions across California; the 1915 Panama Pacific International Exposition (San Francisco); Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition (Portland, Oregon, 1905); Alaska Yukon Pacific Exposition (Seattle, 1909); the 1915 Panama California Exposition (San Diego); San Diego Exposition of 1935; Yosemite National Park; Yellowstone National Park; Grand Canyon; Niagara Falls; Golden Gate Park (San Francisco); Lake Tahoe; and armories and artillery guns. Much of the collection focuses on northern California locales, but southern California areas such as Los Angeles and San Diego are also well represented. The collection includes numerous photographs of William and Grace McCarthy during their travels, as well as unidentified men, women, and children. Several groups of photographs depict the McCaryths camping, utilizing their automobile for sleeping quarters, a dining area, and a cook stove.

A few pieces of commemorative ephemera are also included, such as ribbons, small banners, postcards, and National Park windshield decals.

See a complete listing of photographs in Appendix A below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Album</th>
<th>Photograph Number</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>San Francisco, circa 1905. Market Street and the St. Francis Hotel. Panam...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3-16</td>
<td>Panam...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>California State Capitol, Sacramento, no date. Panam...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>18-146</td>
<td>Panam...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Inventory of the William M. McCarthy Photograph Collection

AC 96-07-08