Guide to the San Diego Electric Railway Papers MS 139

Finding aid prepared by Samantha Mills
San Diego History Center Document Collection
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**Title:** San Diego Electric Railway Papers  
**Identifier/Call Number:** MS 139  
**Contributing Institution:** San Diego History Center Document Collection  
**Language of Material:** English  
**Physical Description:** 0.25 Linear feet (1 box)  
**Date (inclusive):** 1890-1892  
**Abstract:** This collection contains papers related to the construction of the San Diego Electric Railway in 1892.  
**creator:** San Diego Electric Railway Company.  

**Biographical / Historical Notes**  
The San Diego Electric Railway Company was incorporated by A.B. Spreckels in 1892 after he acquired the entire property of the ailing San Diego Street Car Company for $115,000. The original officers were A.B. Spreckels (president), E.S. Babcock (vice president), Joseph A. Flint (secretary, treasurer, and general manager), John D. Spreckels, and Charles T. Hinde. In May 1892 they began to transform all existing street car lines to electric power.

**Scope and Content**  
This collection contains papers related to the construction of the San Diego Electric Railway in 1892. These papers include correspondence between Henry E. Brett and E.S. Babcock, bids and contracts, documents detailing the costs of machinery and other equipment, and work specifications for different aspects of the project.

**Arrangement**  
This collection is arranged by subject.

**Preferred Citation**  
San Diego Electric Railway Papers, MS 139, San Diego History Center Document Archives, San Diego, CA.

**Conditions Governing Access**  
This collection is open for research.

**Conditions Governing Use**  
The San Diego History Center (SDHC) holds the copyright to any unpublished materials. SDHC Library regulations do apply.

**Processing Information**  
Collection processed by Samantha Mills on December 2, 2013.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**  
Atlas Iron Works.  
Babcock, Elisha S.  
Brett, Henry E.  
French, F.M.  
General Electric Company.  
H.P. Gregory & Co..  
Hacker & Son.  
Julian & Son.  
Los Angeles Consolidated Railway Company.  
Parke & Lacey.  
San Diego Street Car Company.  
Standard Iron Works.  
Contracts  
Correspondence  
Invoices  
San Diego (Calif.)  
Street-railroads
Box-folder 1:1  **Correspondence 1892 March 17-1892 November 13**  
Includes:  
Letters and memos between Henry E. Brett and E.S. Babcock.

Box-folder 1:3  **Equipment Costs 1890-1892**  
Includes:  

Box-folder 1:2  **Contractor Costs 1892**  
Includes:  
Bids on pole and track work, contracts with F.M. French, Julian & Sons, and Hacker & Son, as well as the wage scale for Los Angeles Consolidated Railway Co. and an estimate of work completed by F.M. French.

Box-folder 1:4  **Work Specifications 1892 April 18-1892 October 31 and undated**  
Includes:  
Specifications for tin work, laying track, erecting poles, and building a chimney.