Pan-American Exposition Photograph Collection

Special Collections Department

Robert E. Kennedy Library
1 Grand Avenue
California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407

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Descriptive Summary
Title: Pan-American Exposition Photograph Collection,
Date (inclusive): 1901
Collection number: MS 159
Creator: Unknown
Extent: .5 LF, 1 box
Language: English
Repository: Special Collections, Robert E. Kennedy Library
California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo, California 93407

Abstract: Contains 36 photographs of the Pan-American Exposition, including candid snapshots of the Midway and various concessionaires, street views of the Exposition, and prominent buildings, including the Electric Tower. The photographer is unknown. Also included are two souvenir books: One Hundred Views of the Pan-American Exposition, Buffalo and Niagara Falls: An Up-to-Date Souvenir Booklet for the Visitor, the Resident and for Universal Transmission to Show Something of the Great Exposition and of the Queen City of the Lakes; With a Brief Descriptive Guide to these Great Attractions; with Suggestions for Pleasure Trip by Lake and Land and Pan-American and Niagara Falls Views, both published in 1901.

Provenance
Purchased.

Restrictions on Access
Collection is open to researchers by appointment only. For more information on visiting, access policies, and reproduction requests, please visit our Reference Services page.

Restrictions on Use and Reproduction
The Pan-American Exposition was held in Buffalo, New York, from May 1 through November 2, 1901. Informally known as the Buffalo World's Fair, the Exposition's purpose was to create a place where the Americas could exhibit and share their cultures. Exhibition participation was limited to countries in the Western Hemisphere.

Manhattan architect John Merven Carrère (1858—1911) chaired the Board of Architects charged with creating the Exposition's master plan. Born in Rio de Janeiro and trained at the École de Beaux-Arts in Paris, Carrère was an influential Beaux-Arts practitioner at his New York firm, Carrère & Hastings. For the Exposition, the favored style was Spanish Renaissance, the traditional architecture of the former Spanish colonies in the Americas. The Pan-American Exposition site covered 350 acres.

Carrère hired a "director of color," Charles Turner, to oversee multiple hues for the buildings, in contrast to the "White City" of the 1893 Columbian Exposition. Marketing for the Exposition stressed the "Rainbow City," which was transformed each evening into the "City of Lights," a breathtaking display of incandescent light reinforcing the fact that Buffalo, with its plentiful hydroelectric power, was the most extensively lighted city of its time.

A contemporary review of the Exposition noted: "Upon entering the Exposition's Esplanade, visitors are surrounded by buildings dealing with arts and politics, such as the U.S. Government building, the Ethnology Building, the Temple of Music, and the Manufactures and Liberal Arts Building. Further along the major axis are buildings with a more contemporary and scientific theme, like the Machinery and Transportation Building, the Electricity Building, the Electric Tower, and the Railroad Exhibit at the top."

Today the Buffalo World's Fair is largely remembered as the setting for the assassination of President William McKinley. On the second day of his visit, McKinley was at the Temple of Music greeting the public, when anarchist Leon Frank Czolgosz fired twice at the president. McKinley died of gangrene eight days later in Buffalo.

Sources
http://hdl.handle.net/
"Visual Culture at the Pan-American Exposition: Architecture and the Pan-American Exposition,”
http://library.buffalo.edu/libraries/exhibits/panam/art/architecture.html

Scope and Content Note
The Pan-American Exposition Photograph Collection contains 36 photographs of the 1901 Buffalo World's Fair, including candid snapshots of the Midway and various concessionaires, street views of the Exposition, and prominent buildings, including the Electric Tower. The photographer is unknown.

The photographs have been removed from the original photo album and rehoused, preserving the original organization and order of the collection; additionally, each photo has a sequential number on the back reflecting the original order of two images per album page. The collection is housed in one box and has one series and one subseries:

Also included are two monographs" "One Hundred Views of the Pan-American Exposition, Buffalo and Niagara Falls: An Up-to-Date Souvenir Booklet for the Visitor, the resident and for Universal Transmission to Show Something of the Great Exposition and of the Queen City of the Lakes; with a Brief Descriptive Guide to these Great Attractions; with Suggestions for Please Trip by Lake and Land", and "Pan-American and Niagara Falls Views", both published in 1901.

Series 1. Photographs.
Pan-American Exposition (1901 : Buffalo, N.Y.) -- Archives
Fairs -- New York (State) -- Buffalo

**Genre and Forms of Materials**
Photographs

**Related Material**

**Materials Cataloged Separately:**

*One Hundred Views of the Pan-American Exposition, Buffalo and Niagara Falls: An Up-to-Date Souvenir Booklet for the Visitor, the Resident and for Universal Transmission to Show Something of the Great Exposition and of the Queen City of the Lakes; With a Brief Descriptive Guide to these Great Attractions; with Suggestions for Pleasure Trip by Lake and Land*, Buffalo, N.Y.: Robert Allan Reid Publisher, 1901.

*Pan-American and Niagara Falls Views, 1901.* [Buffalo, N.Y.?:] Niagara Envelope Manufactory, 1901.

**Related Collections:**
California Fairs Collection, 1856-1997 (MS 009)

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**1. Photographs, 1901**

Scope and Content Note
Contains one subseries: A. Photographs of the Pan-American Exposition.

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**A. Photographs of the Pan-American Exposition**

Scope and Content Note
Contains 36 candid black-and-white snapshots in folders with headers based on landmark buildings at the fair, arranged in original order, 1901. 1 box.

- Box 1, Folder 1: 12-inch rifle, Ordnance Exhibit, in front of Government Building
- Box 1, Folder 2: Cannons, War Department Exhibit, in front of Government Building
- Box 1, Folder 3: Native American man, Electricity Building
- Box 1, Folder 4: Woman with umbrella, Court of Lilies pond, Machinery and Transportation Building
- Box 1, Folder 5: Electric Tower, front view from Esplanade
- Box 1, Folder 6: Triumphal Bridge, side view
- Box 1, Folder 7: Esplanade, view of Electric Tower
- Box 1, Folder 8: Fountain of Abundance in front of Ethnology Building
- Box 1, Folder 9: Canal, Venice in America exhibit
- Box 1, Folder 10: Jinrickshaws, Fair Japan exhibit (Japanese Village), close view
- Box 1, Folder 11: The Feature of the Midway: Akoun’s Beautiful Orient, front view
- Box 1, Folder 12: Darkest Africa exhibit (African Village) on the Midway, side view
- Box 1, Folder 13: Entrance to Trip to the Moon ride
- Box 1, Folder 14: Entrance to Midway attraction (Esau?)
- Box 1, Folder 15: On the Midway, Bostock’s Trained Wild Animals in distance
- Box 1, Folder 16: Old Nuremberg/Alt Nurnberg, on the Midway
- Box 1, Folder 17: Lions at Bostock’s Trained Wild Animals
- Box 1, Folder 18: Entrance to Bostock’s Trained Wild Animals
- Box 1, Folder 19: Man with banjo, Midway exhibit
- Box 1, Folder 20: Press Headquarters, on the Midway
- Box 1, Folder 21: Midway attractions: Lubin’s Cineograph, Buffalo Café, Streets of Cairo
- Box 1, Folder 22: Dreamland attraction, on the Midway
- Box 1, Folder 23: Philippine Village, on the Midway
- Box 1, Folder 24: Darkest Africa exhibit (African Village) on the Midway, front view
- Box 1, Folder 25: Streets of Cairo exhibit, on the Midway
- Box 1, Folder 26: Esquimaux Village, on the Midway
- Box 1, Folder 27: Esquimaux Village, on the Midway
- Box 1, Folder 28: Souvenir sculptures (Tower of Pisa and others)
1. Photographs, 1901
A. Photographs of the Pan-American Exposition

| Box 1, Folder 29 | Drill of U.S. Life Saving Crew, lakeside (1 of 2) |
| Box 1, Folder 30 | Drill of U.S. Life Saving Crew, lakeside (2 of 2) |
| Box 1, Folder 31 | Six Native Americans on horseback |
| Box 1, Folder 32 | The Great Northwestern R.R.; on verso: "Mrs. Bliss wasn't sure this was in Fair—Engine is to [sic] early" |
| Box 1, Folder 33 | The Feature of the Midway: Akoun's Beautiful Orient, side view |
| Box 1, Folder 34 | Jinrickshaws, Fair Japan exhibit (Japanese Village), side view |
| Box 1, Folder 35 | Gondola on canal by Manufacturer's and Liberal Arts Building |
| Box 1, Folder 36 | Chiquita the Doll Lady; signed: "Mite" fully yours, Chiquita |
| Box 1, Folder 37 | Photo album |