Descriptive Summary
Title: Hercules Powder Company photograph album
Dates: Circa 1910
Collection Number: MS 782
Creator/Collector: Hercules Powder Company
Extent: 1 album
Repository: California State Railroad Museum Library and Archives
Sacramento, California 95814
Abstract: Photographs of the Hercules Powder Company
Language of Material: English
Access
This collection is open for research at our off-site storage facility with one week's notice. Contact Library & Archives staff to arrange for access.

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Preferred Citation
Hercules Powder Company photograph album. California State Railroad Museum Library and Archives

Acquisition Information
Gift of the Grahame Hardy family

Biography/Administrative History
The DuPont corporation and Lafkin & Rand Powder Company incorporated the Hercules Powder Company in 1882 to manufacture Hercules powder (a special form of dynamite). The company was dissolved in DuPont in 1904, but was newly created in 1912. In 1966, the company changed its name to Hercules, Inc. and was sold to the Ashland Corporation in 2008.

Scope and Content of Collection
Many large format and panoramic photographs of the Hercules Powder Company located on San Pablo Bay between Richmond and Martinez. Includes photos of marine equipment such as kelp cutters, lighters, and tugs. Kelp was a raw material used in dynamite. Most of the photos in this album are of the vessels and equipment used for kelp harvesting and processing. The end product was potash that was used at the plant and shipped to other manufacturers. [Album 22]