Whittier Public Library Historical Photograph Collection

Whittier Public Library staff
Whittier Public Library
7344 S. Washington Ave.
Whittier, CA 90602
(562) 464-3450
http://www.whittierlibrary.org/
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Whittier Public Library historical photograph collection

Dates: Circa 1890-1960

Bulk Dates: 1900-1954

Collection number: Consult library

Collector: Whittier Public Library

Collection Size: 205 photographs 205 online items

Repository: Whittier Public Library

Whittier, CA 90602

Abstract: The Whittier Historical Photograph Collection includes images documenting the foundation of the community of Whittier, California during the periods of the late 1800s to the middle of the 20th century. The images in the Whittier Historical Photograph Collection depict not only historical buildings and portraits of early Whittier settlers; they also document the beginnings of the California citrus, oil, and transportation industries. Many of the images in this collection display the prosperous time of growth as seen in similar early California settlements. Images include the Casa de Governor Pio Pico, (home of the last Mexican Governor of California), the Jonathan Bailey house, (purchased under the protection of the Homestead Act for $234), the Carnegie Library of Whittier, theaters (Sundown Drive-in), churches, local canyons, oil derricks, commercial buildings, personal photographs of residents, schools (including the reformatory school, Fred C. Nelles), and the funeral of poet John Greenleaf Whittier. The collection also includes images of historical craftsman homes, many of which are still standing. The collection includes photographic prints, negatives, and postcards.

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access

Collection open for research.

Preferred Citation

Whittier Public Library historical photograph collection. Consult library. Whittier Public Library, Whittier, CA 90602.

Acquisition Information

This collection of photographs is derived from various sources including donations from the Coffin family, the McMurray family, and Orville G. Espolt.

Project Information

This collection was assembled from the Whittier Historical Photograph Collection at the Whittier Public Library as part of the California Local History Digital Resources Project (LHDRP). Working in part with the California Digital Library, Califa, and the LHDRP, this collection of images were digitized and preserved for future researchers, scholars, students, and the general public. These images will now be available via the California Digital Library’s (CDL) Calisphere website (see http://www.calisphere.universityofcalifornia.edu). Project activities spanned from July 2006 ? June 2007. Activities included digitization, photograph documentation and research, preservation, and cataloging. Digital objects were created and cataloged using Contentdm, a digital asset management tool shared by LHDRP participants. Cataloging conforms to the CDL’s Guidelines for Digital Objects specifications for descriptive and copyright metadata. (see http://www.cdlib.org/inside/diglib/guidelines/).

The Whittier Public Library plans to continue to digitize the majority of their remaining photograph collection and early Whittier Daily News newspaper collections. For more detailed information on this collection and other digitized collections at the Whittier Public Library, contact the Whittier Public Library. (see http://www.whittierlibrary.org).

For more information on the LHDRP, see http://www.cdlib.org/inside/projects/oac/lsta/.

Scope and Content of Collection

The Whittier Historical Photograph Collection includes images documenting the foundation of the community of Whittier, California during the periods of the late 1800s to the middle of the 20th century. The images in the Whittier Historical Photograph Collection depict not only historical buildings and portraits of early Whittier settlers; they also document the beginnings of the California citrus, oil, and transportation industries. Many of the images in this collection display the prosperous time of growth as seen in similar early California settlements. Images include the Casa de Governor Pio Pico, (home of the last Mexican Governor of California), the Jonathan Bailey house, (purchased under the protection of the Homestead Act for $234), the Carnegie Library of Whittier, theaters (Sundown Drive-in), churches, local canyons, oil derricks, commercial buildings, personal photographs of residents, schools (including the reformatory school, Fred C. Nelles), and the funeral of poet John Greenleaf Whittier. The collection also includes images of historical craftsman homes,
many of which are still standing. This digitized collection includes photographic prints, negatives, and postcards. This particular digitized collection is part of the Whittier Public Library History Room collection which also includes many more photographs, newspapers, yearbooks, oral histories, maps, and other ephemera regarding the City of Whittier and California history. Works by John Greenleaf Whittier as well as local authors are also represented. Within the collection is also the Whittier Hills Archive, containing primary and secondary resources that relate to the conservation and preservation of the Puente-Chino Hills Wildlife Corridor. For additional information regarding the collections inside the Whittier Public Library History Room, visit: http://www.whittierlibrary.org/adult-history-room.html

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection.

Names and Places
Bailey, Jonathan, 1819-1904
Bailey, Rebecca, 1821-1898
Bailey, Ruthette (White)
Baldwin, Sarah, 1853-1947
Bayless, Jane
Bjorkman, Ruth (Samson)
Buckmaster, Lloyd, 1890-1987
Buckmaster, Percy, 1892-1969
Caralambo, George, 1828-1913
Clark, Artilissa Dorland, 1854-1940
Clarks, Arestas Charles, 1843-1903
Coffman, Annie Dorland, 1865-1942
Dexter, Walter F., 1886-1945
Ditwiler, Thelma
Dorland, Henry, d. 1901
Ellis, Ruth
Ernest, Maude (Hibbs)
Espolt, Orville G., 1901-1987
French, Lillian (Flanders)
Fulmer, Margaret
Gregory, Ernest
Grover, Ermine
Hadley, Washington, 1817-1911
Hodge, Marion
Hofstetter, Marilyn
Hoover, Lou Henry, 1874-1944
Lindley, Hervey (Owens, Kate C.), 1854-1926
Newlin, Emilie, d. 1888
Perry, Herman
Pickering, Mary
Pico, Pio de Jesus IV, 1801-1894
Reynolds, Marion
Rice, Mabel
Robbins, Cleo
Stevens, A.J., 1897-1961
Votaw, Merritt, 1878-1975
Whittier, John Greenleaf, 1807-1892
Catalina Island (Calif.)
Whittier (Calif.)

**Topics**
- Agriculture
- Automobile Rallies
- Banks
- Barbershops
- Cemeteries
- Citrus fruit industry
- City and Town Halls
- Churches
- Club Houses
- Construction
- Croquet
- Demolition
- Electricians
- Electric Railroads
- Fire Engines and Equipment
- Fire Fighters
- Founder's Day
- Hospitals
- Hotels
- Landscapes
- Librarians
- Libraries
- May Day
- Motorcycles
- Newspapers
- Parades
- Parks
- Pioneers
- Police
- Railroads
- Railroad Cars
- Railroad Stations
- Ranches
- Residences
- Schools
- Stores & shops
- Streets
- Theatres
- War Bonds and Funds
- Water Supply
- Young Men's Christian Associations

**Genres and Forms of Materials**
- Photographs