Eugene Clyde La Rue Papers: Finding Aid

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Overview of the Collection

Title: Eugene Clyde La Rue Papers
Dates (inclusive): 1909-1949
Collection Number: mssLa Rue papers
Creator: La Rue, Eugene C. (Eugene Clyde), 1879-
Extent: 2,543 pieces in 18 boxes and 876 rolled maps
Repository: The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. Manuscripts Department
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Abstract: This collection consists of papers and 876 maps of Southern California hydraulic engineer Eugene C. La Rue (1879-1947) related to irrigation projects in the western United States, as well as diaries of La Rue's Colorado River trips from 1921, 1922, and 1924.

Language: English.

Access
Open to qualified researchers by prior application through the Reader Services Department. For more information, contact Reader Services.

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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item]. Eugene Clyde La Rue Papers, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.

Provenance
75 pieces of addenda were added January 25, 1972.

Material Cataloged Separately
Photographs Transferred to the Photograph Department (photCL 136)

I. Photographs
A. Stereos - 65 (2 boxes: one of pictures, one of negatives)
B. Folders (7)
   1. 1910s (58 pictures, including 10 of the Snake River in 1905 and 2 of Idaho in 1906)
   2. 1920s (84 pictures, including 1925 winter scenes, 1921 views of Boulder Canyon, 18 pictures of a pump belt drive [1926], and views of the Lafayette Dam in 1928)
   3. 1930s (72 pictures, including 15 of Owens Valley in 1931, ten of the March 2, 1938, Altadena Flood, and 17 of the lower Colorado River in 1938)
   4. 1940s (20 pictures)
   5. No Date (229 pictures)
   6. No Date (80 pictures)
   7. (Addition) Photo collection of Lewis R. Freeman (33)
C. Small Envelopes (4)
   1. Colorado River (ca. 20)
   2. Modoc Lava Beds - Tule Lake outlet test pits, June 1920(16)
   3. Miscellaneous (14)
   4. Miscellaneous (18 - found in envelope with daily weather maps, dated November 25-27, 1926)
D. Large Envelopes (3) - Folder 1 (11); Folder 2 (95); Folder 3 (3).

II. Negatives

Eugene Clyde La Rue Papers: mssLa Rue papers
Finding Aid
A. Small envelopes (5) Includes an envelope containing negatives of 1921 pictures and an envelope containing negatives of Powell's second expedition.

B. Large envelope

Biographical Note
Eugene Clyde La Rue (1879-1947), a Los Angeles hydraulic engineer, was born in Riverside, California, and graduated from the University of California in 1904. He was employed by the U.S. Geological Survey making field examinations for power sites and reporting on irrigation projects, first as district engineer for the Great Basin District headquartered in Salt Lake City (1907-11), and then in the Water Resources Branch (1911-27). After this time La Rue entered a private civil engineering partnership in Los Angeles.

Scope and Content
This collection consists of letters and documents (including 8 volumes) and 876 maps related to irrigation projects in the western United States. There are correspondence, reports, etc. regarding Colorado River projects (including the Colorado River-Los Angeles Gravity Flow Aqueduct); the Klamath Lake Project in Oregon; the Merced Irrigation District in California; the San Juan River, Little Colorado, and Verde projects in Arizona; and many others. Of note in the collection are diaries of La Rue's Colorado River trips from 1921, 1922, and 1924, and maps of western areas.

Arrangement
The collection is arranged in the following 4 series:

- Correspondence
- Reports, etc., relating to various hydraulic engineering projects
- Biographical information, trips, and personal and business papers
- Maps

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Huntington Library's Online Catalog.

Subjects
La Rue, Eugene C. (Eugene Clyde), 1879-
Aqueducts -- California.
Aqueducts -- West (U.S.)
Hydraulic engineers -- California -- Los Angeles -- Archives.
Hydraulic engineers -- Colorado River Watershed (Colo.-Mexico) -- Archives.
Hydraulic engineers -- West (U.S.) -- Archives.
Irrigation -- California, Southern.
Irrigation -- Colorado River Watershed (Colo.-Mexico)
Irrigation -- West (U.S.)
Irrigation engineering -- California, Southern.
Irrigation engineering -- Colorado River Watershed (Colo.-Mexico)
Irrigation engineering -- West (U.S.)
Irrigation engineers -- California -- Archives.
Irrigation engineers -- West (U.S.)
Water resources development -- California, Southern.
Water resources development -- Colorado River Watershed (Colo.-Mexico)
Water resources development -- West (U.S.)
Arizona -- Maps.
California -- Maps.
Colorado -- Maps.
Colorado River (Colo.-Mexico) -- Maps.
Colorado River Watershed (Colo.-Mexico) -- Maps.
Idaho -- Maps.
Los Angeles (Calif.) -- Maps.
Los Angeles County (Calif.) -- Maps.
Montana -- Maps.
New Mexico -- Maps.
Oregon -- Maps.
Utah -- Maps.
Washington (State) -- Maps.

**Forms/Genres**
Letters (correspondence) -- West (U.S.) -- 20th century.
Maps -- West (U.S.) -- 20th century.

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**Correspondence**

- **Box 1**
  - Correspondence, 1909-1922

- **Box 2**
  - Correspondence, 1923-1928

- **Box 3**
  - Correspondence, 1929-1949

**Reports, etc., relating to various hydraulic engineering projects**

- **Box 4**
  - Colorado River Projects (general)
    - Colorado River Basin (general material). 1921-1927
      - Physical Description: 27 pieces
    - Colorado River Compact & Commission. 1921-1928
      - Physical Description: 8 pieces
    - Colorado River-Los Angeles Gravity Flow Aqueduct. 1928-1941
      - Physical Description: 33 pieces

- **Box 5**
  - Colorado River Projects
    - Boulder Canyon. 1921-1928
      - Physical Description: 3 pieces
    - Glen Canyon. 1922
      - Physical Description: 28 pieces
    - Lower Colorado River Development. 1921-1924
      - Physical Description: 11 pieces
    - Lee's Ferry (Diamond core drilling). 1923-1938
      - Physical Description: 15 pieces
    - Marble Gorge. 1927
      - Physical Description: 3 pieces

**Other projects (listed geographically)**

- **Box 6**
  - Arizona
    - Report for Arizona Engineering Commission on Reconnaissance Investigation of Arizona Land Irrigable from the Colorado River. 1922-1923
      - Physical Description: 12 pieces
    - Buttes Reservoir and Irrigation Project. 1928
      - Physical Description: 3 pieces
Reports, etc., relating to various hydraulic engineering projects

Date Creek. 1932
Physical Description: 3 pieces

Hassayampa River. 1938
Physical Description: 1 piece

San Juan River. 1915-1926
Physical Description: 18 pieces

Box 7
Arizona (continued)
Little Colorado and Verde River Project for United Verde Copper Co. 1917-1929
Physical Description: 24 pieces

Salt River Project. 1929
Physical Description: 7 pieces

Santa Cruz and Sonoita Rivers. 1937
Physical Description: 1 piece

Virgin River Project
Physical Description: 1 piece

Box 8
California
Los Angeles County, miscellaneous reports, etc. 1927-1936
Physical Description: 5 pieces

Merced Irrigation District. 1920-1921
Physical Description: 15 pieces

Owens Valley. 1930
Physical Description: 6 pieces

Pit River and Fall River Projects. 1912 & 1920
Physical Description: 2 pieces

Santa Maria River. 1937
Physical Description: 2 pieces

Ventura River. 1938
Physical Description: 1 piece

Box 9
Colorado-Utah, Monticello Wheat Lands, Mexico
Colorado - Arkansas River Valley Project. 1913
Physical Description: 1 piece

Idaho - Minidoka Power Plant. 1908-1911
Physical Description: 7 pieces

Oregon - Klamath Lake Projects. 1906-1920
Physical Description: 30 pieces

Utah - Power Resources for Salt Lake City, etc. 1914
Physical Description: 1 piece
Monticello Wheat Lands. 1917
Physical Description: 1 piece

Mexico - Nogales (Sonora) Project. 1931
Physical Description: 1 piece

Biographical information, trips, and personal and business papers

Box 10

Biographical information and trips
Biographical information including lists of trips.
Physical Description: 8 pieces

1914 trip - Sellew's reports.
Physical Description: 2 pieces

1921 Trip - Cataract Canyon diary and related material.
Physical Description: 5 pieces

1922 Trip - Accounts and bills, correspondence [2 volumes and 3 letters].
Physical Description: 50 pieces

1923 Trip - Grand Canyon diary (typewritten copy) & maps.
Physical Description: 6 pieces

1924 Trip - Lower Grand Canyon to Needles, diary of Colorado River Dam Site Investigation (typewritten copy); report by H. W. Dennis; accounts.
Physical Description: 10 pieces

1927 Trip - Bray-Pathe trip, notes of Valentine Woodbury, list of pictures, account book, etc.
Physical Description: 7 pieces

1935 Trip - Diamond Creek to Boulder Dam, accounts.
Physical Description: 4 pieces

Box 11

Personal and business papers; Account books; Notebooks
Personal and business papers. 1907-1935
Physical Description: 17 pieces

Account books.
Physical Description: 2 pieces

Notebooks.
Physical Description: 6 pieces

Maps
Collection of maps belonging to E. C. La Rue, presented to the Huntington Library, December 1950.

Arizona

Physical Description: 1 piece
2. Cataract Canyon and vicinity.
   Physical Description: 1 piece

3. Central Arizona.
   Physical Description: 1 piece

4. Coconina National Forest
   Physical Description: 2 pieces

5. Colorado River Indian Reservation.
   Physical Description: 1 piece

6. Live Stock Reports
   Physical Description: 51 pieces

7. Mohave Desert dam site
   Physical Description: 7 pieces

8. Pecos National Forest
   Physical Description: 1 piece

9. Salt River
   Physical Description: 3 pieces

    Physical Description: 130 pieces

11. Verde
    Physical Description: 1 piece

12. White Mountain Indian Reservation
    Physical Description: 2 pieces

13. Yuma: Bird's Eye View

California

1. Chimehueui Valley Indian Reservation
   Physical Description: 1 piece

2. Colorado - Arizona Indian Reservation
   Physical Description: 10 pieces

3. Kern River Profile
   Physical Description: 3 pieces

4. Los Angeles (City)
   a. Angel Flight Incline Railroad
      Physical Description: 6 pieces

   b. Beverly Hills and Vicinity
      Physical Description: 7 pieces
c. Beverly Mont: Lay-out plans of Beverly Terrace  
Physical Description: 1 piece

d. El Monte Blvd Tract  
Physical Description: 1 piece

e. Elysian Garden Tract  
Physical Description: 1 piece

f. Fox, William - Studio site  
Physical Description: 1 piece

g. Garvanza addition  
Physical Description: 1 piece

h. Griffith Park  
Physical Description: 1 piece

i. Hacienda Park  
Physical Description: 1 piece

j. Hancock Survey  
Physical Description: 1 piece

k. Highland Park  
Physical Description: 12 pieces

L. Investment Securities Co. property and Delta Investment Co. in San Rafael Rancho  
Physical Description: 1 piece

m. Los Angeles Country Club  
Physical Description: 3 pieces

n. Los Angeles and Colorado River gravity aqueduct  
Physical Description: 14 pieces

o. Los Angeles Land and Water subdivisions  
Physical Description: 4 pieces

p. Los Angeles Pressed Brick Co. gauge sheets  
Physical Description: 5 pieces

q. Los Angeles real estate  
Physical Description: 70 pieces

r. Los Angeles survey of city. 1919  
Physical Description: 1 piece

s. Mateo Street  
Physical Description: 1 piece

t. Pacific Terminal Tract  
Physical Description: 1 piece
Maps
California

u. Roseland Acres
   Physical Description: 1 piece

v. Rosedale Cemetery
   Physical Description: 5 pieces

w. Sweetzer Ave. and Sunset Blvd.
   Physical Description: 4 pieces

x. Wanda Park: Benedict Canyon
   Physical Description: 1 piece

y. Western Wilshire Heights
   Physical Description: 1 piece

z. Westlake Park
   Physical Description: 1 piece

5. Los Angeles County
   a. Alondra Park
      Physical Description: 1 piece

   b. Arnaz Rancho
      Physical Description: 1 piece

   c. Artesia
      Physical Description: 1 piece

   d. Colorado River bridge
      Physical Description: 4 pieces

   e. Compton
      Physical Description: 1 piece

   f. Garvonza lots
      Physical Description: 3 pieces

   g. Hutten locher estate, being portion of Rancho San Rafael
      Physical Description: 1 piece

   h. Inglewood: Redondo
      Physical Description: 1 piece

   i. Los Angeles and a part of Orange counties
      Physical Description: 1 piece

   j. Los Angeles and San Diego counties
      Physical Description: 17 pieces

   k. McCloud River power projects
      Physical Description: 1 piece
L. McKinley Tract. 1930
Physical Description: 1 piece

m. Malibu
Physical Description: 2 pieces

n. Pacific Petroleum Co. and West Coast Oil Co.: Well location of leases
Physical Description: 1 piece

o. Picto Rancho.1918.
Physical Description: 1 piece

p. Rancho Cienga O’Paso de la Tijera
Physical Description: 2 pieces

q. Rancho La Brea being portion of Rancho La Ciengas. 1908.
Physical Description: 1 piece

r. Rancho Los Coyotes
Physical Description: 4 pieces

s. Rancho Rodeo de los Agnas
Physical Description: 9 pieces

t. Rancho San Antonio
Physical Description: 3 pieces

u. Rancho San Pedro
Physical Description: 1 piece

v. Rancho San Jose de Buenos Ayres
Physical Description: 1 piece

w. Rancho Santa Anita: A.B. Chapman property.1912
Physical Description: 1 piece

x. Reservoir site
Physical Description: 2 pieces

y. Rolling Hills: Palos Verdes
Physical Description: 2 pieces

z. San Gabriel Reservoir dam site
Physical Description: 3 pieces

aa. San Gabriel tract
Physical Description: 6 pieces

bb. Santa Monica highway: Mulholland Drive.1927
Physical Description: 1 piece

cc. Stough Rancho
Physical Description: 6 pieces
dd. Sunnyslope Estate.1911
   Physical Description: 1 piece

ee. Tract 429
   Physical Description: 3 pieces

ff. Tract 701
   Physical Description: 3 pieces

gg. Victor Beaudnys Mtns.
   Physical Description: 2 pieces

6. Merced District
   Physical Description: 1 piece

7. Mono County
   a. Mono Basin
      Physical Description: 1 piece
   b. Eaton Land and Cattle Co.: Long Valley Lands
      Physical Description: 1 piece
   c. Mono National Forest
      Physical Description: 1 piece

8. Orange County
   a. Fullerton
      Physical Description: 2 pieces

9. Riverside County
   a. Desert Queen Copper Mines
      Physical Description: 1 piece
   b. Mayflower Consolidated Mines

10. Salt Lake Oil Fields
   Physical Description: 1 piece

    Physical Description: 3 pieces

12. San Bernardino County
    a. Gold Park Consolidated Mine
       Physical Description: 9 pieces
    b. Lytle Creek Canyon
       Physical Description: 1 piece
    c. Muscovy Water Co. property.1904
       Physical Description: 1 piece
    d. San Bernardino County
       Physical Description: 11 pieces

13. Santa Barbara County
Maps
California

a. San Lucas Rancho
   Physical Description: 1 piece

14. Sierra Nevada Mts.: proposed flood water and storage
   Physical Description: 1 piece

South Dakota

1. Pine River Indian Reservation

Lower California (Mexico)

1. Ensenada
   Physical Description: 1 piece

2. Rancho del Rosano Baja
   Physical Description: 3 pieces

Colorado

1. Arkansas River
   Physical Description: 2 pieces

2. Arkansas Valley
   Physical Description: 4 pieces

3. Bear Creek dam site: Animas River
   Physical Description: 1 piece

4. Bear River: canal and reservoit system, Rio Blanco and Routt counties
   Physical Description: 1 piece

5. Colorado River
   a. Basin: flood control
      Physical Description: 7 pieces

   b. Boulder Canyon Dam sites
      Physical Description: 4 pieces

   c. Colorado bridge dam sites
      Physical Description: 1 piece

   d. Colorado River at Lee’s Ferry
      Physical Description: 6 pieces

      Physical Description: 1 piece

   f. Colorado River at Yuma: hydrograph
      Physical Description: 3 pieces

   g. Colorado River delta
h. Colorado, Green and Grande rivers: profile
   Physical Description: 5 pieces

i. Colorado River showing diversion to Great Basin, Utah.
   Physical Description: 1 piece

j. Grand Canyon
   Physical Description: 6 pieces

k. Grande County reservoir
   Physical Description: 1 piece

L. Little Colorado River: profile
   Physical Description: 4 pieces

m. Lower Colorado River
   Physical Description: 1 piece

n. Riverside Irrigation District: Weld and Morgan counties
   Physical Description: 2 pieces

o. San Juan River Basin
   Physical Description: 61 pieces

p. San Miguel canal system, San Miguel and Montrose counties
   Physical Description: 1 piece

q. Townships
   Physical Description: 11 pieces

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Idaho

1. Boise project: U.S. Reclamation service
   Physical Description: 7 pieces

2. Coachello Valley, Salton Sea, Imperial Valley and Colorado River profile
   Physical Description: 1 piece

3. Fort Hall Indian Reservation
   Physical Description: 13 pieces

4. Minidoka project
   Physical Description: 1 piece

5. Port Neuf Valley project
   Physical Description: 3 pieces

6. Salmon River
   Physical Description: 11 pieces

7. Salmon River profile
   Physical Description: 8 pieces
### Idaho

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Physical Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Snake River</td>
<td>15 pieces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Snake River:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Irrigation Co. project</td>
<td>7 pieces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Snake River: proposed section power dam</td>
<td>1 piece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Snake River: Lake Walcott</td>
<td>5 pieces</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Snake River Valley Reservoir system</td>
<td>3 pieces</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Twin Falls county.1929.</td>
<td>1 piece</td>
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### Montana

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<th>Number</th>
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<th>Physical Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Flat Head Lake</td>
<td>5 pieces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Flat Head River and tributaries</td>
<td>16 pieces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>U.S. Missouri River Power company transmission lines</td>
<td>10 pieces</td>
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### New Mexico

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Physical Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Headquarters Ranch: Wylie Farm and Live Stock Chavez co.</td>
<td>1 piece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Jones project: Preston-Beck grant, upper Pecos</td>
<td>6 pieces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Pecos River Basin</td>
<td>2 pieces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Townships 32 and 34</td>
<td>6 pieces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Township no. 37</td>
<td>37 pieces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Urton Lake project</td>
<td>2 pieces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>U.S. Weather Bureau: annual precipitation</td>
<td>1 piece</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Oregon

1. Brewster Valley Reservoir site
   Physical Description: 2 pieces

2. Canby canal reservoir site
   Physical Description: 4 pieces

3. Columbia River: Portland
   Physical Description: 11 pieces

4. Coquilla River: profile.1919
   Physical Description: 1 piece

5. Crater Lake National Park
   Physical Description: 1 piece

6. Fairview and Brewster Valley: Coquilla River
   Physical Description: 1 piece

7. Grande Ronde River
   Physical Description: 2 pieces

8. Grant lands of the Oregon and California Railroad Company, Douglas County
   Physical Description: 1 piece

9. Klamath County
   Physical Description: 10 pieces

10. Klamath River Basin
    Physical Description: 2 pieces

    Physical Description: 4 pieces

12. McKenzie River.1903
    Physical Description: 1 piece

13. Medford Crater Lake Highway
    Physical Description: 1 piece

14. Rogue River basin
    Physical Description: 1 piece

15. Rogue River: Howard profile
    Physical Description: 3 pieces

16. Rogue River traverse
    Physical Description: 3 pieces

17. Salmon River: profile
    Physical Description: 1 piece
18. Umpqua River power project  
   Physical Description: 1 piece

19. Weather Bureau Station Records  
   Physical Description: 2 pieces

20. Willamette River basin  
   Physical Description: 1 piece

Utah

1. Ashley Creek: profile  
   Physical Description: 1 piece

2. Great Salt Lake  
   Physical Description: 16 pieces

3. Hatch town irrigation project, Garfield county  
   Physical Description: 1 piece

4. New Castle Reclamation Company  
   Physical Description: 1 piece

5. Ouray Reservoir site on Green River  
   Physical Description: 1 piece

6. Resource map of southern Utah  
   Physical Description: 1 piece

7. Sevier River  
   Physical Description: 1 piece

8. Wasatch and Uinta counties  
   Physical Description: 1 piece

9. Weber and Provo Rivers.1915 (very bad condition)  
   Physical Description: 1 piece

Washington

1. Washington and Oregon  
   Physical Description: 1 piece

2. Washington, Oregon and Idaho  
   Physical Description: 5 pieces

3. Kickitat River drainage basins  
   Physical Description: 5 pieces

Wyoming
Maps

Wyoming

1. Green River canals
   Physical Description: 1 piece

Miscellaneous

1. Big Lost River
   Physical Description: 1 piece

2. Eldorado Consolidated mines: profile of pipe line surveys. 1905
   Physical Description: 1 piece

3. Oro Mining and Milling Co.: profile.
   Physical Description: 1 piece

4. Triangle Lake
   Physical Description: 1 piece