Finding Aid for the Minutes of meetings : Board of State and Territorial Commissioners of the North, Central and South American Exposition, [1885-1886]

Cataloged by Citlali Sosa-Riddell, with assistance from Laurel McPhee; machine-readable finding aid created by Caroline Cubé.

UCLA Library Special Collections
UCLA Library Special Collections staff
Room A1713, Charles E. Young Research Library
Box 951575
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1575
Email: spec-coll@library.ucla.edu
URL: http://www.library.ucla.edu/libraries/special/scweb/
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Minutes of meetings : Board of State and Territorial Commissioners of the North, Central and South American Exposition

Date (inclusive): [1885-1886]

Collection number: 170/157

Creator: Board of State and Territorial Commissioners of the North, Central, and South American Exposition

Extent: 2 v. (206, 94 leaves) : paper ; 20.5 x 13 cm.

Abstract: In 1885, a board of state and territorial commissioners was created to develop the North, Central, and South American Exposition in New Orleans. These two manuscripts are the minutes of the board's meetings, as taken by secretary Charles B. Turrill, commissioner for California, and agent in charge of the Southern Pacific exhibit. The minutes describe the logistical planning and development of the exposition.

Language: Finding aid is written in English.

Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library Special Collections.

Los Angeles, California 90095-1575

Physical location: Stored off-site at SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact the UCLA Library Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.

Restrictions on Access

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Processing Note

Cataloged by Citlali Sosa-Riddell, with assistance from Laurel McPhee, in the Center For Primary Research and Training (CFPRT).

Preferred Citation

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Biography

The 1884 exposition in New Orleans was deemed a commercial failure and thus, seeking a way to recoup losses, the Board of State and Territorial Commissioners of the North, Central, and South American Exposition was formed on November 10th, 1885. The Board purchased the buildings from the original fair and attempted to re-open the exposition as a way to highlight New Orleans and the United States as a nexus of trade between the Americas. The second exposition also proved to be a financial failure, and it was disbanded as an organization on May 17th, 1886. All the buildings, except Horticultural Hall, were dismantled, and the site was developed into Audubon Park in the 1890s.

Scope and Content

The minutes for the North, Central, and South American Exposition document the efforts of the Board of State and Territorial Commissioners to make the second New Orleans exposition a success. Among other activities, the Commissioners sought to secure inexpensive public transit, display the newest commercial goods, and promote advertising that would attract people to the fair. The minutes document the work of the executive committee, finance committee, reception committee, printing committee, excursion committee, and committee on ceremonies. The record includes roll calls for commissioners, reports on railroad prices from various cities in the United States and its territories, discussions about the costs of printing and advertising, and lists of awards that would be presented at the exposition.

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Subjects

Turrill, Charles B. (Charles Beebe), 1854-1927.
North, Central and South American Exposition (1885-1886 : New Orleans, La.)
Genres and Forms of Material

Manuscripts.

Related Material

Bound Manuscripts Collection (Collection 170). Available at the UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library.