Photographs of Mulholland Highway, City of Los Angeles, 1924

Processed by Jane Carpenter with assistance from Simon Elliott; machine-readable finding aid created by Caroline Cubé.
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Photographs of Mulholland Highway, City of Los Angeles

Date (inclusive): 1924

Collection number: 94/2

Creator: Reaburn, D.L.

Physical Description: 2 albums (215 photographic prints) : b&w, 25 x 35 cm (albums)
Photographs, numbered in negative on photo, are mounted on rectos and versos of 55 leaves of black board (box 1), and 53 leaves of heavy black paper (box 2); most of the photos bear captions neatly printed in white ink below. Formerly bound in black morocco grain cloth covers, with typed paper labels affixed to upper covers. Spec. Coll. copy: both albums now disbound, with upper covers and leaves stacked in beige cloth clamshell boxes; spine title "Mulholland Highway" stamped in black.

Abstract: Two albums of photographs documenting the construction of Mulholland Drive and Mulholland Highway in May 1924.

Language: Finding aid is written in English.

Language of the Material: Materials are in English.

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

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

Restrictions on Access
Open for research. STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact UCLA Library Special Collections for paging information.

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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Photographs of Mulholland Highway, City of Los Angeles (Collection 94/2). UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA.

UCLA Catalog Record ID
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Biography/History

Mulholland Drive follows the ridgeline of the Hollywood Hills and the Santa Monica Mountains, running east from Woodrow Wilson Drive and Cahuenga Boulevard at the Cahuenga Pass, and extending west past the 405 Freeway to Encino, crossing (from east to west) Laurel Canyon, Coldwater Canyon, Franklin Canyon, Benedict Canyon, Beverly Glen Boulevard, Stone Canyon, and Sepulveda Boulevard along the way. The road offers views of Hollywood Park, San Fernando Valley, and Universal City. Just past Topanga Canyon Boulevard (California State Route 27), Mulholland Highway splits off from Mulholland Drive, and continues on southwest to end at Leo Carillo State Park on Pacific Coast Highway, near the Los Angeles and Ventura County border.

Scope and Content

These photographs document highway construction of Mulholland Drive, with views from all of the aforementioned points. In addition to construction scenes of workers blasting, drilling, and digging, and using steam shovels and mule teams, there are shots of construction camps of tents set up to house workers, and mountain-top fire lookout stations manned by fire lookouts. Other photographs show trees and plants in the area, such as eucalyptus trees and poinsettia gardens, and homes in various canyons, including the residences of "Mrs. Curlew," and film director Clarence Badger. There are also several views of the Encino Country Club. The group portrait, dated May 15, 1924, includes construction engineers, D.L. Reaburn among them, members of Los Angeles Water and Public Works Departments, including William Mulholland, the chief engineer for Water Department, for whom the road was named, Harvey A. Van Norman, Mulholland's chief deputy, and Arthur Eldridge, commissioner of the Los Angeles Board of Public Works. Also pictured are Gen. M.H. Sherman, local capitalist and president of the Consolidated Electric Railroad Company of Los Angeles, Harry Chandler, publisher of the Los Angeles Times, and Carman Runyon, coal magnate from the East, and Los Angeles capitalist, for whom Runyon Canyon is named. In other photos, Los Angeles mayor George Cryer views the construction.
Indexing Terms

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

**Subjects**

Mulholland, William, 1855-1935 --Photographs.
Reaburn, D.L. --Photographs.
Cryer, George E., 1875-1961 --Photographs.
Sherman, M.H. (Moses H.), 1853-1932 --Photographs.
Chandler, Harry, 1864-1944 --Photographs.
Runyon, Carman, fl. 1919-1930 --Photographs.
Badger, Clarence G., 1880-1964 --Homes and haunts.
Encino Country Club (Los Angeles, Calif.) --Photographs.
Woodin Hunt and Bridle Club (Los Angeles, Calif.) --Photographs.
Canyons --California --Los Angeles --Photographs.
Roads --California --Los Angeles County --Photographs.
Roads --Design and construction --Photographs.
Reservoirs --California --Los Angeles --Photographs.
Fire lookouts --California --Los Angeles --Photographs.
Labor camps --California --Los Angeles --Photographs.
Steam shovels --California --Los Angeles --Photographs.
Eucalyptus --California --Los Angeles --Photographs.
Poinsettias --California --Los Angeles --Photographs.
Santa Monica Mountains (Calif.) --Photographs.
San Fernando Valley (Calif.) --Photographs.
Mulholland Drive (Los Angeles County, Calif.) --Photographs.
Mulholland Highway (Los Angeles County, Calif.) --Photographs.
Laurel Canyon (Los Angeles, Calif.) --Photographs.
Coldwater Canyon (Los Angeles, Calif.) --Photographs.
Benedict Canyon (Los Angeles, Calif.) --Photographs.
Topanga Canyon Boulevard (Los Angeles, Calif.) --Photographs.
Ventura Boulevard (Los Angeles, Calif.) --Photographs.
Cahuenga Pass (Los Angeles, Calif.) --Photographs.
Hacienda Park (Los Angeles, Calif.) --Photographs.
Hollywood (Los Angeles, Calif.) --Photographs.
Lankershim Park (Los Angeles, Calif.) --Photographs.
Universal City (Calif.) --Photographs.
Encino (Los Angeles, Calif.) --Photographs.
Woodland Hills (Los Angeles, Calif.) --Photographs.

**Genres and Forms of Material**

Photographic prints
Photograph albums

**Other Index Terms Related to this Collection**

Mulholland Highway

**Related Material**

Part of the [Photograph Album Collection (Collection 94)](https://library.ucla.edu/) in UCLA Library Special Collections.