Finding Aid for the Everett Pomeroy 1/2 Snap shot at Mexico, 1900

Cataloged by Jonathan Naito, with assistance from Jain Fletcher and Laurel McPhee, August 2004; machine-readable finding aid created by Caroline Cubé.

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Everett Pomeroy 1/2 Snap shot at Mexico

Date (inclusive): 1900

Collection number: 170/567

Creator: Pomeroy, Everett, 1839-

Extent: 109 leaves : paper, ill., photos ; 240 x 197 mm. bound to 253 x 213 mm.

Abstract: A typescript of a travelogue detailing Everett Pomeroy's 1900 trip to Mexico, supplemented with 71 photographs and illustrations. The journal includes observations on Mexican culture and history, but is mainly focused on the excitements and frustrations of a Catholic American tourist in Mexico at the turn of the century.

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

COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF: Open for research. Advance notice required for access. Contact the UCLA Library Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.

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Processing Note

Cataloged by Jonathan Naito, with assistance from Jain Fletcher and Laurel McPhee, August 2004, in the Center For Primary Research and Training (CFPRT).

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Everett Pomeroy 1/2 Snap shot at Mexico (Collection 170/567). UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library.

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Biography

Everett Pomeroy was born in 1839 and lived in New Orleans, Louisiana. The manuscript indicates that he was a Catholic American, and that he entered Mexico on December 31, 1899. He was also the author of "The Great Reformation," a Great Mistake ... by a Layman (1912).

Scope and Content

Pomeroy traveled from El Paso, Texas to Mexico City, stopping off at Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, Zacatecas, Aguas Calientes, Guadalajara, and Guanajuato along the way. The manuscript largely consists of observations on the daily hardships of an American tourist in Mexico; at several points, Pomeroy offers lengthy remarks on hotels and tourist spots. He is also deeply interested in the troubled relationship between the Catholic Church and the Mexican government under Porfirio Diaz, a government he perceives as dangerously liberal and anti-Catholic. The author has included two newspaper clippings that support his assertions. Pomeroy's understanding of Mexican history is heavily dependent upon William H. Prescott's History of the Conquest of Mexico, a work to which he makes repeated reference in the text.

Some of the travelogue's more interesting components are its numerous photographs. Several of the photographs are part of numbered series: five from No. 316-403; fourteen from No. 5202-5660, four from No. 5604-5660; and four from B2166-B2180; ten photographs are hand-colored. The photographs in the series depict prominent buildings and well-known tourist sites, while the hand-colored photographs depict Mexicans in traditional dress engaged in everyday activities.

Indexing Terms

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

Subjects

Pomeroy, Everett, 1839--Diaries.
Pomeroy, Everett, 1839--Travel--Mexico.
Mexico--Description and travel--Pictoral works.
Mexico--Social life and customs--Pictoral works.

Genres and Forms of Material
Manuscripts.

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

ff. 12r-19r: Crossing from El Paso, Texas to Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua
ff. 20r-23v: Chihuahua
ff. 24r-29r: Discussion of the sombrero and the serape
ff. 29r-31r: Zacatecas
ff. 31r-43r: Aguas Calientes

Scope and Content Note
includes an extensive description of hotels

ff. 44r-48r: Guadalajara

Scope and Content Note
includes a discussion of local duck hunting methods

ff. 49r-95r: Mexico City

Scope and Content Note
includes a version of the story of the founding of Mexico City and the arrival of Cortez with several references to William H. Prescott's History of the Conquest of Mexico

ff. 60r-72r: Plaza de Armas, the Zócalo, the Cathedral of Mexico and a discussion of Mexican churches in general
ff. 71r-77r: Discussion of the relationship between the Catholic Church and the Diaz government in Mexico

Scope and Content Note
an anonymous critical newspaper article, "The Church in Mexico," is folded between 72v-73r

ff. 76r-86r: Religious practices of the Aztecs and the positive influence of Catholicism

Scope and Content Note
includes a newspaper article about the positive role of Catholicism in Mexico (85v)

ff. 96r-108r: Leaving Mexico and returning to the United States.