Finding Aid for the Eduard Seler Papers, ca. 1884-1922

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Finding Aid for the Eduard Seler Papers, ca. 1884-1922

Collection number: 1449

UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections
Manuscripts Division

Los Angeles, CA
Processed by:
Manuscripts Division staff
Encoded by:
Caroline Cubé
Online finding aid edited by:
Josh Fiala, April 2004
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Descriptive Summary
Title: Eduard Seler Papers,
Date (inclusive): ca. 1884-1922
Collection number: 1449
Creator: Seler, Eduard, 1849-1922
Extent: 2 boxes (1 linear ft.) 1 oversize box
Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library. Dept. of Special Collections.
Los Angeles, California 90095-1575
Abstract: Eduard Seler (1849-1922) taught science and mathematics until he was forced to resign because of poor health (1879). He moved to Trieste and began studying linguistics, and his interest in Pre-Columbian ethnography and archaeology emerged. He served as the director for the American Division of the Königlichen Museum für Völkerkunde in Berlin (1904-22). His published papers and monographs made fundamental contributions to studies of aboriginal American linguistics, archaeology, native history, and ethnography. The collection consists of manuscripts and drawings related to Eduard Seler's research of Mesoamerican cultures and history.

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

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Restrictions on Access
COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF: Advance notice required for access.

Provenance/Source of Acquisition
Kurt L. Schwarz, purchase.

Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Eduard Seler Papers (Collection 1449). Department of Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, University of California, Los Angeles.

UCLA Catalog Record ID
UCLA Catalog Record ID: 2976821

Biography
Seler was born in Crossen an der Oder, Prussia, on December 5, 1849; attended Joachimsthalische Gymnasium, Berlin, 1863-1869; attended University of Breslau before serving a year of military duty in 1870-71 during the Franco-Prussian
War; returned to his studies at University of Berlin in 1871 and passed his Oberlehrer examination in 1875; taught science and mathematics until he was forced to resign because of poor health in 1879; moved to Trieste and began studying linguistics, and his interest in Pre-Columbian ethnography and archeology emerged; received his doctorate, University of Leipzig, 1887; director, American Division, Königlichen Museum für Völkerkunde in Berlin, 1904-22; his published papers and monographs made fundamental contributions to studies of aboriginal American linguistics, archaeology, native history, and ethnography; died in 1922.

**Scope and Content**

Collection consists of manuscripts and drawings related to Eduard Seler’s research of Mesoamerican cultures and history. Manuscripts include copies of various texts and codices in the Mixtec, Zapotec, and Nahuatl languages, as well as translations by Seler.

**Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog.
Seler, Eduard, 1849-1922--Archives.
Ethnologists--Archival resources.
Archaeologists--Archival resources.
Linguists--Archival resources.
Indians of Mexico--Research.
Indians of Central America--Research.

**Box 1**

**Original color drawings from Mexican Codices (in the hand of Eduard Seler).**

Physical Description: 414 original color drawings.

**Box 1**

**Tonathuh and the Numbers.**

**Box 1**

**Tonalamtl.**

**Box 1**

**The Twenty Day Signs.**

**Box 1**

**Twenty Gods.**

**Box 1**

**Twenty 13 day examples of Tonalamtl.**

**Box 1**

**The Twenty Beginnings of Weeks.**

**Box 1**

**Leaves from Codex Vaticanus A.**

Physical Description: In the hand of Eduard Seler. 13 color drawings.

Scope and Content Note
(Supplementary leaves to Codex Telleriano Remensis III, IV)

**Box 1**

**Various texts in Mixtec and Zapotec with some original commentary by Seler.**

Scope and Content Note
(Eduard Seler's copies)

**Box 1**

*Pages Arte en Lengua Mixteca ... by Fray Antonio de los Reyes. Mexico. 1593.*

Physical Description: pp.1-54.

**Box 1**

*Doctrina y Catecismo en lengua Mixteca (baja). Ms. Frh Ano de 1823 (Bibl. Hermann Strebel).*


**Box 1**

*Section of Confesionurio en idioma Zapoteco del S. Martin Tilcagete. 1792.*

Physical Description: pp.131-146.

Scope and Content Note
Manuscript of the library Berol. Coll. limg. qu. 53.
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<tr>
<th>Box 1</th>
<th><strong>Various books and manuscripts.</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td><strong>Scope and Content Note</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>re</em> Brazilian Indian languages and history. Aba and nheenga. Eduard Seler copies with commentary.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>In the hand of Eduard Seler.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In Nahuatl.</td>
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<td><strong>Historia Tolteca-Chichimeca (Manuscript of Eduard Seler).</strong></td>
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