**Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** Marine Biological Association of San Diego Records and Photographs  
**Identifier/Call Number:** SAC 0037  
**Contributing Institution:** Special Collections & Archives, UC San Diego  
**Date:** 1901-1923

**Abstract:** The collection consists of early records, meeting minutes, and photographs documenting the formative years of the Marine Biological Association of San Diego, predecessor of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

**Scope and Contents of Collection**

The collection consists of early records, meeting minutes, and photographs documenting the formative years of the Marine Biological Association of San Diego, predecessor of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. The collection is arranged in two series: 1) RECORDS and 2) PHOTOGRAPHS.

**Digital Content**

Selected materials from this collection have been digitized and can be viewed through links in the container list.

**Publication Rights**

Publication rights are held by the Regents of the University of California.

**Historical Background**

In 1903, UC Berkeley biologist William E. Ritter and San Diego physician Fred Baker, with the financial support of philanthropists E.W. Scripps and Ellen Browning Scripps, founded the Marine Biological Association of San Diego. The purpose of the Association was to advance the study of marine sciences. Ritter was appointed as its first director and supervised the activities of temporary research stations in San Diego Bay. In 1905, the Association leased property above La Jolla Cove and established a marine laboratory. Ms. Scripps added a codicil to her will in 1909 bequeathing a gift to the Regents of the University of California for a permanent marine biological station, and construction on the first building on the current campus, the George H. Scripps Memorial Marine Biological Laboratory, was completed in 1910. In July of 1912, the Association deeded its property to the Regents and became the Scripps Institution for Biological Research, formally becoming part of the UC System. In 1925, it was renamed the Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

**OFF-SITE STORAGE**

SIO ARCHIVES COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE: ALLOW ONE WEEK FOR RETRIEVAL OF MATERIALS.

**Preferred Citation**

Marine Biological Association of San Diego Records and Photographs, SAC 37. Special Collections & Archives, UC San Diego.

**Restrictions**

Glass plate negatives are restricted; however, most have been digitized and are available for viewing through links in the container list.

**Related Materials**

William E. Ritter Papers (SMC 4)

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

Fitch, Herbert R. -- Photographs  
Marine Biological Association of San Diego (Calif.). -- Archives  
Marine Biological Association of San Diego (Calif.). -- Photographs  
Ritter, William Emerson, 1856-1944 -- Photographs  
La Jolla (San Diego, Calif.)--Photographs

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<th>RECORDS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 1</td>
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</table>
Bylaws, page 1 1904

General note

Includes a manuscript draft of the original bylaws for the Association (page 1 has been digitized and can be viewed by clicking on the link below). Minutes document informal and regular meetings, including the first meeting of the Board of Trustees; drafts of correspondence to Ellen B. Scripps and the Regents; and a 1910-11 financial report.

Box 1, Folder 2

Scrapbook of documents and meeting minutes ca. 1901-1923

General note

Includes account ledgers and financial reports, constitution and bylaws documents for the Scripps Institution for Biological Research, correspondence, Board of Directors meeting minutes, and notes on policies and development of the campus. Includes a typewritten speech by Francis Sumner entitled "The Scripps Institution," ca. 1923.

Box 1, Folder 3

Association checkbook undated

Articles of Incorporation certificate 1904 May 13

PHOTOGRAPHS

Scope and Content of Series

The PHOTOGRAPHS series consists of glass plate negatives and original and copy prints. It is arranged in two subseries: A) Prints and Glass Negatives, and B) Mounted Exhibition Prints. Subseries B contains images by photographer Herbert Fitch of the Association’s La Jolla locale, facilities, and collecting grounds on beaches in San Diego. The Fitch prints were mounted on boards and displayed for an exhibition on the Association’s activities ca. 1906.

Selected photographs and negatives from this series have been digitized and can be viewed by clicking on the links in the container list.

Prints and Glass Negatives

Box 1, Folder 4

Wooden laboratory sheds, Point Loma 1903

General note

B&w prints, one with informational label.

Wooden laboratory sheds, Point Loma, 1903

Summer marine biological station staff at the Coronado Hotel boathouse laboratory 1904 June

Box 1, Folder 5

B&w prints

General note

A duplicate of this image from the Tillie Genter Papers has been scanned and is available through the digital library.


Box 2, Folder 1

Glass plate negatives

Restrictions

Restrictions Apply

Interior, laboratory above La Jolla Cove ca. 1905
PHOTOGRAPHS
Prints and Glass Negatives

Box 1, Folder 6
**B&w prints**

**General note**
A duplicate of one of these images from the Tillie Genter Papers has been scanned and is available through the digital library.

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Box 2, Folder 2
**Glass plate negatives**

**Restrictions**
Restrictions Apply

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Box 1, Folder 7
**Schooner Loma 1906**

**General note**
Label on verso: "...Large residence on Point Loma in the background was that of Dr. Fred Baker."

A duplicate of this image in subseries A) Mounted Exhibition Prints has been scanned and may be viewed by clicking on the link in the container list.

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Box 1, Folder 8
**Building site of the Marine Biological Association of San Diego, La Jolla 1908 July**

**General note**
Four original b&w prints. Subjects include station grounds, distribution of vegetation, the undeveloped building site (looking north). Verso signed "Kelsey, Photo."

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Box 1, Folder 9
**B&w prints**

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Box 2, Folder 3
**Glass plate negative**

**Restrictions**
Restrictions Apply

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Box 1, Folder 10
**B&w print**

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Box 2, Folder 4
**Glass plate negative**

**Restrictions**
Restrictions Apply

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Box 1, Folder 11
**B&w prints**

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Box 2, Folder 5
**Glass plate negative**

**Restrictions**
Restrictions Apply

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Box 1, Folder 12
**B&w prints**

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PHOTOGRAPHS
Prints and Glass Negatives

Marine Biological Association of San Diego Records and Photographs ...

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<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 13</td>
<td>Director’s study, George H. Scripps Memorial Biological Laboratory ca. 1910</td>
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<td>Box 2, Folder 7</td>
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<td>Box 3, Folder 1</td>
<td>William E. Ritter on the steps of the George H. Scripps Memorial Marine Laboratory, with Mary Ritter in automobile 1910</td>
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<td>Box 1, Folder 14</td>
<td>George H. Scripps Memorial Marine Biological Laboratory and seawater tower 1910</td>
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<td>B&amp;w and tinted color prints</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 15</td>
<td>George H. Scripps Memorial Marine Biological Laboratory and seawater tower, 1910</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B&amp;w prints</td>
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<td>Restrictions Apply</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 16</td>
<td>View of the Marine Biological Association of San Diego from top of hill, La Jolla ca. 1910</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B&amp;w prints</td>
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<td>Box 3, Folder 4</td>
<td>Glass plate negative</td>
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<td>Restrictions Apply</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 5</td>
<td>Clay model of San Pedro Channel and Santa Barbara Channel ca. 1910</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 1</td>
<td>Devil's Slide, La Jolla showing close proximity of two formations ca. 1906</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 2</td>
<td>Cathedral Rock, La Jolla, now destroyed ca. 1906</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 3</td>
<td>Shore, consisting of sandstone and accompanying concretions at La Jolla.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Residence of Miss Scripps ca. 1906</td>
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<td>Box 4, Folder 4</td>
<td>Sandstone cliffs showing erosion of upper stratum ca. 1906</td>
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<td>Box 4, Folder 5</td>
<td>Beach and cliffs north of caves ca. 1906</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 6</td>
<td>Bird Rock looking west at low tide. A favorite collecting ground for marine biological collectors ca. 1906</td>
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<td>Bird Rock collecting ground at high tide ca. 1906</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 8</td>
<td>False Bay collecting ground at low tide ca. 1906</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 9</td>
<td>False Bay collecting ground at high tide, showing island sandspit ca. 1906</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 5, Folder 1</td>
<td>Schooner <em>Loma</em> donated by E.W. Scripps, fitted with working boom and dredge, run by gasoline engine and fitted with hoisting apparatus ca. 1906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 5, Folder 2</td>
<td>Laboratory in foreground looking east, with residences in the background ca. 1906</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Laboratory in foreground looking east, with residences in the background, ca. 1906

Box 5, Folder 3
Rocks at south La Jolla, covered with sea-weed ca. 1906

Box 5, Folder 4
Rocks at south La Jolla, covered with sea-weed, ca. 1906

Alligator Head looking south ca. 1906

Box 5, Folder 5
Rocks at south La Jolla, covered with sea-weed, ca. 1906

Alligator Head looking south, ca. 1906

Interior of one of the caves, La Jolla ca. 1906

Box 5, Folder 6
Interior of one of the caves, La Jolla, ca. 1906

Gold Fish Point, La Jolla, concretions ca. 1906

Box 5, Folder 7
Gold Fish Point, La Jolla, concretions, ca. 1906

The caves, La Jolla, looking north ca. 1906

Box 5, Folder 8
The caves, La Jolla, looking north, ca. 1906

Sandstone rocks forming coast of north La Jolla ca. 1906

Box 5, Folder 9
Sandstone rocks forming coast of north La Jolla, ca. 1906

Cliffs, Pacific Beach, looking north. Pliocene strata fossil shells ca. 1906

Cliffs, Pacific Beach, looking north. Pliocene strata fossil shells, ca. 1906