Finding aid for the Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Argentina Trip photograph albums 0513

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USC Libraries Special Collections
2018 November
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URL: http://libraries.usc.edu/locations/special-collections
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: USC Libraries Special Collections
Title: Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Argentina Trip photograph albums
Identifier/Call Number: 0513
Physical Description: 11.58 linear feet.8 boxes
Date (inclusive): 1953-1954
Abstract: 8 oversized leather photograph albums containing approximately 3025 primarily black and white photographs, created and/or compiled by a Mr. and Mrs. Wallace while on an extended trip to Argentina in 1953-54. The photographs depict cities and town, beaches, the Andes, working cattle ranches, sporting events, parks and monuments, and parties, restaurants and the theater, with one album dedicated to images of an oil refinery. The photographs were taken during Juan Peron's second term as President of Argentina and immediately following the death of Eva Peron. It was a time of increasingly serious economic, political and social problems, none of which are documented in the albums. The emphasis on an oil refinery in the photographs may be explained by the foreign investments in auto manufacturing and in petroleum production, which Peron began to attract during his second term.

Storage Unit: 1
Storage Unit: 2
Storage Unit: 3
Storage Unit: 4
Storage Unit: 5
Storage Unit: 6
Storage Unit: 7
Storage Unit: 8
Historical note
The photograph albums, based on some information found in them, can be dated to 1953-1954, during Juan Peron's second term as President of Argentina and immediately following the death of Eva Peron. It was a time of increasingly serious economic, political and social problems, none of which are documented in the albums. The emphasis on an oil refinery in the photographs may be explained by the foreign investments in auto manufacturing and in petroleum production, which Peron began to attract during his second term. In fact, Argentina signed a contract with Standard Oil of California in 1955.

Content Description
8 oversized leather photograph albums containing approximately 3025 primarily black and white photographs, created and/or compiled by a Mr. and Mrs. Wallace while on an extended trip to Argentina in 1953-54. They are unidentified, but there are a large number of photographs of an oil refinery, which suggests they may have been in the oil business. The photographs document Buenos Aires and La Plata, as well as the province of Mendoza and many smaller sites on both the coast and inland. The photographs depict cities and town, beaches, the Andes, working cattle ranches, sporting events, parks and monuments, and parties, restaurants and the theater. Among these images are: a football game in progress; urban shop-lined streets; festivals and rallies/demonstrations; a ballet performance; crew races and a water polo match; swimmers and sunbathers at a large municipal pool; middle and upper class homes; nurses in uniform; equestrian events, including many photographs of gauchos; and Christmas celebrations. There are also many images of political displays and memorials for Juan and Eva Peron, as well as photographs of a crowd in the Plaza de Mayo in Buenos Aires on October 17 (Loyalty Day), commemorating the demonstration that led to his release from prison in 1945. 6 of the 8 albums are hand-tooled leather, each unique, 5 with scenes of Argentine life one with representations of Central, South American, and Caribbean flags. the 7th album is covered in cow skin.

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Preferred Citation
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Immediate Source of Acquisition
Purchased from Walkabout Books, August 20, 2018.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Argentina -- Social life and customs -- Photographs
Gauchos -- Photographs
Petroleum industry and trade -- Argentina -- Photographs
Photograph albums