Finding aid for the USC founding documents and Board of Trustee minutes 5218

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USC Libraries Special Collections
2019 July
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URL: http://libraries.usc.edu/locations/special-collections
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: USC Libraries Special Collections
Title: USC founding documents and Board of Trustee minutes
creator: University of Southern California
creator: Widney, R. M. (Robert Maclay), 1838-1929
Identifier/Call Number: 5218
Identifier/Call Number: 1783
Physical Description: 3 boxes
Date (inclusive): 1880-1920, 1956
Date (bulk): 1880-1895
Abstract: The USC founding documents and Board of Trustee minutes consist of a ledger containing the by-laws of the University, adopted September 3, 1880, and minutes of the Board of Trustees meetings beginning on that date through November of 1885 (Box 1). Also included is a bound volume of University of Southern California newsletters, dated January 1881-December 1883, with a few issues missing; a typescript with a brief early history of the founding of the University; contemporary copies of letters to Rufus von Kleinsmid and George Bovard from Widney; a broadside of the University's articles of incorporation; and a signed, by Widney, typescript of the address read at the laying of the first corner stone of the University in 1880.
Storage Unit: 1
Storage Unit: 2
Storage Unit: 3
Scope and Contents
The USC founding documents and Board of Trustee minutes consist of a ledger containing the by-laws of the University, adopted September 3, 1880, and minutes of the Board of Trustees meetings beginning on that date through November of 1885; these can be found in Box 1. Box 2 contains a bound volume of University of Southern California newsletters, dated January 1881-December 1883, with a few issues missing. The newsletter was created to disseminate "first-class religious, moral, and educational matters..."; the funds generated from the subscription were to be used to fund "a library and apparatus for the University...." The records also consist of a typescript with a brief early history of the founding of the University, which indicates that the newsletter was published by Robert Maclay Widney at his own expense; contemporary copies of letters to Rufus von Kleinsmid and George Bovard from Widney; a broadside of the University's articles of incorporation; and a signed, by Widney, typescript of the address read at the laying of the first corner stone of the University in 1880, the original of which is deposited in the corner stone. Also included is a 1956 letter to President Fagg regarding a piece of fabric from covering of Lindbergh's Spirit of St. Louis. Box 3 houses the original ledgers for the minutes, which were rebound into a single volume (Box 1).
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Preferred Citation
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Subjects and Indexing Terms
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Universities and colleges -- California -- Los Angeles -- Archival resources
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Widney, R. M. (Robert Maclay), 1838-1929 -- Archives