

Guide to the Pan-American Exposition Photograph Collection, 1901



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Pan-American Exposition Photograph Collection, 1901 (bulk 1901)

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A. PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE PAN-AMERICAN EXPOSITION	9

Descriptive Summary

Title:

Pan-American Exposition Photograph Collection, 1901 (bulk 1901)

Collection Number:

MS 159

Creator:

Unknown

Abstract:

Contains 36 photographs of the Pan-American Exposition, including candid snapshots of the Midway and various concessionaires, street views of the Exposition, and prominent buildings, including the Electric Tower. The photographer is unknown. Also included are two souvenir books: One Hundred Views of the Pan-American Exposition, Buffalo and Niagara Falls: An Up-to-Date Souvenir Booklet for the Visitor, the Resident and for Universal Transmission to Show Something of the Great Exposition and of the Queen City of the Lakes; With a Brief Descriptive Guide to these Great Attractions; with Suggestions for Pleasure Trip by Lake and Land and Pan-American and Niagara Falls Views, both published in 1901.

Extent:

1 box

Language:

English

Repository:

Special Collections, Robert E. Kennedy Library
California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407

Administrative Information

Provenance:

Purchased in 1999.

Access:

Collection is open to qualified researchers by appointment only. For more information on access policies and to obtain a copy of the Researcher Registration form, please visit the Special Collections Access page.

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Preferred Citation:

[Identification of Item]. Pan-American Exposition Photograph Collection, Special Collections, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

Indexing Terms

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

Subjects:

Pan-American Exposition (1901 : Buffalo, N.Y.) -- Pictorial works

Pan-American Exposition (1901 : Buffalo, N.Y.) -- Archives

Fairs -- New York (State) -- Buffalo

Genres and Forms of Material:

Photographs

Related Materials

Materials Cataloged Separately:

One Hundred Views of the Pan-American Exposition, Buffalo and Niagara Falls: An Up-to-Date Souvenir Booklet for the Visitor, the Resident and for Universal Transmission to Show Something of the Great Exposition and of the Queen City of the Lakes; With a Brief Descriptive Guide to these Great Attractions; with Suggestions for Pleasure Trip by Lake and Land. Buffalo, N.Y.: Robert Allan Reid Publisher, 1901.

Pan-American and Niagara Falls Views, 1901. [Buffalo, N.Y.?]: Niagara Envelope Manufactory, 1901.

Related Collections:

California Fairs Collection, 1856-1997 (MS 009)

Event History

The Pan-American Exposition was held in Buffalo, New York, from May 1 through November 2, 1901. Informally known as the Buffalo World's Fair, the Exposition's purpose was to create a place where the Americas could exhibit and share their cultures. Exhibition participation was limited to countries in the Western Hemisphere.

Manhattan architect John Mervyn Carrère (1858–1911) chaired the Board of Architects charged with creating the Exposition's master plan. Born in Rio de Janeiro and trained at the École de Beaux-Arts in Paris, Carrère was an influential Beaux-Arts practitioner at his New York firm, Carrère & Hastings. For the Exposition, the favored style was Spanish Renaissance, the traditional architecture of the former Spanish colonies in the Americas. The Pan-American Exposition site covered 350 acres.

Carrère hired a "director of color," Charles Turner, to oversee multiple hues for the buildings, in contrast to the "White City" of the 1893 Columbian Exposition. Marketing for the Exposition stressed the "Rainbow City," which was transformed each evening into the "City of Lights," a breathtaking display of incandescent light reinforcing the fact that Buffalo, with its plentiful hydroelectric power, was the most extensively lighted city of its time.

A contemporary review of the Exposition noted: "Upon entering the Exposition's Esplanade, visitors are surrounded by buildings dealing with arts and politics, such as the U.S. Government building, the Ethnology Building, the Temple of Music, and the Manufactures and Liberal Arts Building. Further along the major axis are buildings with a more contemporary and scientific theme, like the Machinery and Transportation Building, the Electricity Building, the Electric Tower, and the Railroad Exhibit at the top."

Today the Buffalo World's Fair is largely remembered as the setting for the assassination of President William McKinley. On the second day of his visit, McKinley was at the Temple of Music greeting the public, when anarchist Leon Frank Czolgosz fired twice at the president. McKinley died of gangrene eight days later in Buffalo.

Sources

Brush, Edward Hale. "The Artistic Side of the Pan-American Exposition." *Architectural Review* v. 9, 1901: 99-107.

Linkswiler, Matt. "Buffalo 1901: Pan-American Exposition Bird's Eye View of Grounds and Map of Exposition." <http://hdl.handle.net/>

"Visual Culture at the Pan-American Exposition: Architecture and the Pan-American Exposition," <http://library.buffalo.edu/libraries/exhibits/panam/art/architecture.html>

Scope and Content

The Pan-American Exposition Photograph Collection contains 36 photographs of the 1901 Buffalo World's Fair, including candid snapshots of the Midway and various concessionaires, street views of the Exposition, and prominent buildings, including the Electric Tower. The photographer is unknown.

The photographs have been removed from the original photo album and rehoused, preserving the original organization and order of the collection; additionally, each photo has a sequential number on the back reflecting the original order of two images per album page. The collection is housed in one box and has one series and one subseries:

Series 1. Photographs.

Subseries: A. Photographs of the Pan-American Exposition.

Also included are two monographs: *One Hundred Views of the Pan-American Exposition, Buffalo and Niagara Falls: An Up-to-Date Souvenir Booklet for the Visitor, the Resident and for Universal Transmission to Show Something of the Great Exposition and of the Queen City of the Lakes; With a Brief Descriptive Guide to these Great Attractions; with Suggestions for Pleasure Trip by Lake and Land* and *Pan-American and Niagara Falls Views*, both published in 1901.

Series Description/Folder List

Series 1. Photographs, 1901

Contains one subseries: A. Photographs of the Pan-American Exposition.

A. Photographs of the Pan-American Exposition

Contains 36 candid black-and-white snapshots in folders with headers based on landmark buildings at the fair, arranged in original order, 1901. 1 box.

Box 1 Folder 1

12-inch rifle, Ordnance Exhibit, in front of Government Building

Box 1 Folder 2

Cannons, War Department Exhibit, in front of Government Building

Box 1 Folder 3

Native American man, Electricity Building

Box 1 Folder 4

Woman with umbrella, Court of Lilies pond, Machinery and Transportation Building

Box 1 Folder 5

Electric Tower, front view from Esplanade

Box 1 Folder 6

Triumphal Bridge, side view

Box 1 Folder 7

Esplanade, view of Electric Tower

Box 1 Folder 8

Fountain of Abundance in front of Ethnology Building

Box 1 Folder 9

Canal, Venice in America exhibit

Box 1 Folder 10

Jinrickshaws, Fair Japan exhibit (Japanese Village), close view

Box 1 Folder 11

The Feature of the Midway: Akoun's Beautiful Orient, front view

Box 1 Folder 12

Darkest Africa exhibit (African Village) on the Midway, side view

Box 1 Folder 13

Entrance to Trip to the Moon ride

Box 1 Folder 14

Entrance to Midway attraction (Esau?)

Box 1 Folder 15
On the Midway, Bostock's Trained Wild Animals in distance

Box 1 Folder 16
Old Nuremberg/Alt Nurnberg, on the Midway

Box 1 Folder 17
Lions at Bostock's Trained Wild Animals

Box 1 Folder 18
Entrance to Bostock's Trained Wild Animals

Box 1 Folder 19
Man with banjo, Midway exhibit

Box 1 Folder 20
Press Headquarters, on the Midway

Box 1 Folder 21
Midway attractions: Lubin's Cineograph, Buffalo Café, Streets of Cairo

Box 1 Folder 22
Dreamland attraction, on the Midway

Box 1 Folder 23
Philippine Village, on the Midway

Box 1 Folder 24
Darkest Africa exhibit (African Village) on the Midway, front view

Box 1 Folder 25
Streets of Cairo exhibit, on the Midway

Box 1 Folder 26
Esquimaux Village, on the Midway

Box 1 Folder 27
Roltair's House Upside Down, on the Midway

Box 1 Folder 28
Souvenir sculptures (Tower of Pisa and others)

Box 1 Folder 29
Drill of U.S. Life Saving Crew, lakeside (1 of 2)

Box 1 Folder 30
Drill of U.S. Life Saving Crew, lakeside (2 of 2)

Box 1 Folder 31
Six Native Americans on horseback

Box 1 Folder 32

The Great Northwestern R.R.; on verso: "Mrs. Bliss wasn't sure this was in Fair—
Engine is to [sic] early"

Box 1 Folder 33

The Feature of the Midway: Akoun's Beautiful Orient, side view

Box 1 Folder 34

Jinrickshaws, Fair Japan exhibit (Japanese Village), side view

Box 1 Folder 35

Gondola on canal by Manufacturer's and Liberal Arts Building

Box 1 Folder 36

Chiquita the Doll Lady; signed: "Mite" fully yours, Chiquita

Box 1 Folder 37

Photo album