



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the William Currie Photograph Album

NMAH.AC.1043

Griffin Brown (intern); supervised by Vanessa Broussard Simmons, archivist.

August 2010

Archives Center, National Museum of American History
P.O. Box 37012
Suite 1100, MRC 601
Washington, D.C. 20013-7012
archivescenter@si.edu
<http://americanhistory.si.edu/archives>

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Arrangement.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	2
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	4
Series 1: Photographs, 1904-1912.....	4

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	William Currie Photograph Album
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.1043
Date:	1904-1912
Extent:	0.66 Cubic feet (2 boxes)
Creator:	Currie, William National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Work and Industry National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Mechanical and Civil Engineering
Language:	English .
Summary:	William Currie was a civil engineer and photographer who worked during the early twentieth century. The photograph album documents irrigation systems in the western United States, sewage systems in Louisville, Kentucky, and work on the Panama Canal.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection was purchased by the National Museum of American History's Division of Mechanical and Civil Engineering, now known as the Museum's Division of Work and Industry in 1980.

Provenance

Transferred to the Archives Center from the Division of Work and Industry in 2007.

Related Materials

W. P. Stine Panama Canal Papers, A.R. Van Tassell Photograph Albums, Katherine Kingsford Panama Canal Photograph Album, John Frances Little Panama Canal Scrapbook.

Processing Information

Processed by Griffin Brown (intern), August, 2010; supervised by Vanessa Broussard Simmons, archivist.

Preferred Citation

William Currie Photograph Album, 1904-1912, Archives Center, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

The collection is open for research use.

Physical Access: Researchers must handle unprotected photographs with gloves.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Biographical / Historical

The albums were created by William Currie, a civil engineer, but no other information is known about Currie or the acquisition of the collection.

Scope and Contents

The album consists of photographs created and collected by civil engineer William Currie. The photographs document three projects from the first decade of twentieth century. The first project is the construction of irrigation systems in the Far West dating approximately from 1904-1907. There are also photographs from a project documenting a sewage system for Louisville, Kentucky in 1909-1910. Lastly, there are photographs of the Panama Canal dating from 1911-1912.

Box one contains forty eight loose photographs from the album and album pages documenting work on irrigation systems in the western United States. Box two includes additional irrigation project photographs and album pages from work on a sewage system in Louisville, Kentucky and work on the Panama Canal. The order created by the donor has been maintained.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged in one series.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Canals -- Panama
- Civil engineering
- Engineers
- Irrigation
- Ranches
- Sewage disposal

Names:

National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Mechanical and Civil Engineering
National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Work and Industry

Geographic Names:

Kentucky
Louisville (Ky.)
Panama
Panama Canal (Panama)

Container Listing

Series 1: Photographs, 1904-1912

Box 1, Folder 1	Album cover, 1904
Box 1, Folder 2	Loose photographs
Box 1, Folder 3	Pages 1-10
Box 1, Folder 4	Pages 11-20
Box 1, Folder 5	Pages 21-30
Box 1, Folder 6	Pages 31-40
Box 2, Folder 1	Pages 41-50
Box 2, Folder 2	Pages 51-60
Box 2, Folder 3	Pages 61-70
Box 2, Folder 4	Pages 71-80
Box 2, Folder 5	Pages 81-87

[Return to Table of Contents](#)