



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Richard Fisher Panama Canal Collection

NMAH.AC.1045

Alison Oswald

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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>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Richard Fisher Panama Canal Collection
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.1045
Date:	1902-1968
Extent:	1 Cubic foot (4 boxes , 1 map-folder)
Creator:	Fisher, Richard Fisher, Richard, Mrs. Mechanical and Civil Engineering, Division of (NMAH, SI) Work and Industry, Division of, NMAH, SI
Language:	English Some materials in Spanish.
Summary:	The Fisher Collection of Panama Canal materials contains materials collected by Richard Fisher, who lived in the Panama Canal Zone during its construction. Materials include books and pamphlets, stereographs, postcards, and panoramic photographs detailing the construction and history of the Panama Canal.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated by Mrs. Richard Fisher in 1977 to the Division of Mechanical and Civil Engineering (now the Division of Work and Industry).

Provenance

The collection was transferred from the Division of Work and Industry to the Archives Center in 2007.

Related Materials

Materials at the Archives Center

Panama Canal Commission Photonegatives (AC1116)

Joe Britton Panama Canal Zone Photographs (AC1234)

W.P. Stine Panama Canal Papers (AC1039)

Katherine Kingsford Panama Canal Photograph Album (AC1040)

W.A. Fishbaugh Panama Canal Photograph Album (AC1021)

John Frances Little Panama Canal Scrapbook (AC0708)
Charles Wood Panama Canal Photograph Album (AC1114)
Robert Dearborn Panama Canal Glass Negatives (AC1111)
William Currie Photograph Album (AC1043)
Roland A. McCrady Photograph Collection (AC0710)
George S. Morison Collection (AC0978)
George W. Sims Papers (AC0127)
William R. Hutton Papers (AC0987)
Division of Cultural History Lantern Slides and Stereographs (AC0945)
Robert F. Olds Collection (AC0231)

Processing Information

Preliminary inventory created by Meghan Ryan, intern, 2014; processed by Alison Oswald, archivist, 2018.

Preferred Citation

Richard Fisher Collection of Panama Canal Materials, Archives Center, National Museum of American History

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

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

Richard Fisher lived in the Canal Zone during the construction of the Canal and collected and assembled these materials.

Scope and Contents

The collection contains stereographs and postcards relating to the construction of the Panama Canal; typescripts of letters sent from Panam, 1944; legislative documents; panoramic photographs detailing the Panama Canal's landscape; photographs of buildings; and books and pamphlets discussing the history of the Panama Canal.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into two series.

Series 1: Photographs and Stereographs,

Series 2: Publications, 1902-1968

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Canals
- Dams -- Panama
- Locks and dams

Types of Materials:

- Books

Names:

- Mechanical and Civil Engineering, Division of (NMAH, SI)
- Work and Industry, Division of, NMAH, SI

Geographic Names:

- Canal Zone
- Panama Canal (Panama)

Container Listing

Series 1: Photographs and Stereographs, 1906-1912

Includes photographs that document the construction and operation of the Panama Canal and buildings such as the Canal Administration Building, the Cathedral Plaza, Culebra Cut, Ferdinand de Lessep's (French diplomat) Mansion in Colon, a dam in Gatún, ships moving through the canal, and people.

Box 1, Folder 1	Photographs, 1906, undated
Map-folder 1	Canal Administration Building, undated <i>1 Photograph</i>
Map-folder 1	Cathedral Plaza from City Hall, undated
Map-folder 1	Culebra Cut, undated <i>1 Photograph (panoramic)</i>
Box 1, Folder 2-5	Postcards, 1906-1912 Includes construction images of the Panama Canal, images of people and places in Panama, Costa Rica, Haiti, and Galveston, Texas.
Box 4	Stereographs, 1906-1910 <i>62 Stereographs</i> Includes scenes of Panama and canal construction. The Stereographs were published by the Keystone View Company, and J.A. Bruce.

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Series 2: Publications, 1902-1968-07-31

- Box 1, Folder 6 *American Isthmus Ship Canal Company : hearings before a subcommittee of the Committee on Interoceanic Canals of the United States Senate, in relation to a proposed Isthmian canal , 1902*
- Box 1, Folder 7 Gilbert, James S. *Panama Patchwork Poems*, 1909
- Box 2, Folder 1 *The Makers of the Panama Canal and Representative Men of the Panama Republic*, 1911
- Box 2, Folder 2 Gause, Frank A. and Charles Carl Carr. *The Story of Panama* , 1912
- Box 2, Folder 3 *Official Handbook of the Panama Canal*, 1913
- Box 2, Folder 4 Haskin, Frederic J. *The Panama Canal*, 1913
- Box 3, Folder 1 *Yearbook, Society of the Chagres*, 1913
- Box 3, Folder 2 Abbot, Willis J. *Panama and the Canal in Picture and Prose*, 1914
- Box 3, Folder 3 *Official Handbook of the Panama Canal*, 1915
- Box 3, Folder 4 *The Canal Diggers in Panama, 1904-1928*, 1928
- Box 3, Folder 5 *The Panama Canal Societies of the United States*, souvenir yearbook and directory, 1947
- Box 3, Folder 6 House of Representatives Document no. 380: The Fourth Annual Report of the Atlantic-Pacific Interoceanic Canal Study Commission, 1968-07-31
- Box 3, Folder 7 *The Panama Canal, Funnel for World Commerce*, 1958-03-11, undated
- Box 3, Folder 8 *The Panama Canal: The World's Greatest Engineering Feat*, [19--?]
- Box 3, Folder 9 *Souvenir of the Panama Canal*, undated
- Box 3, Folder 10 New souvenir playing cards of Panama (instructions), undated
- Box 3, Folder 11 Excerpt from Sterling's letters, 1944

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