



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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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
<b>Title:</b>	Richard Fisher Panama Canal Collection
<b>Date:</b>	1902-1968
<b>Identifier:</b>	NMAH.AC.1045
<b>Creator:</b>	Fisher, Richard Fisher, Richard, Mrs.
<b>Source:</b>	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
<b>Extent:</b>	1 Cubic foot (4 boxes , 1 map-folder)
<b>Language:</b>	Collection is in English. Some materials in Spanish.
<b>Summary:</b>	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.

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## 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 but is stored off-site and special arrangements must be made to work with it. Contact the Archives Center for information at [archivescenter@si.edu](mailto:archivescenter@si.edu) or 202-633-3270.

### 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.

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## Biographical / Historical

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

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## 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.

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## 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:

- 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

Places:

- Canal Zone
- Panama Canal (Panama)

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Photographs and Stereographs, 1906-1912

Scope and Contents: 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  
1 Photograph

Map-folder 1                      Cathedral Plaza from City Hall, undated

Map-folder 1                      Culebra Cut, undated  
1 Photograph (panoramic)

Box 1, Folder 2-5                  Postcards, 1906-1912  
Notes:                      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  
62 Stereographs  
Notes:                      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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