

Guide to the Central America Collection

MS 1779



compiled by Philip S. MacLeod and Christine Weideman

August 2001

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 1779

TITLE: Central America collection

DATES: 1576-1949

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 2.58 linear feet (4 boxes)

LANGUAGE: The collection is in Spanish.

SUMMARY: A collection of correspondence; government documents, including reports, and decrees; church documents; writings; and published illustrated material from Central America (Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama) on civil, military, economic, religious, political, linguistic and social topics.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1779>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1779>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Materials have been assembled from various collections and acquired from several individuals. They include materials transferred from the Latin American Collection Curator, Yale University Library, 2012, 2016.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research. The entire collection, with the exception of materials received after 2012, is available on microfilm. Patrons must use HM 252 instead of the originals.

Conditions Governing Use

Copyright status for collection materials is unknown, though much of the material in this collection is likely in the public domain. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

Preferred Citation

Central America Collection (MS 1779). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Existence and Location of Copies

The entire collection, with the exception of materials received after 2012, is available on microfilm.

Scope and Contents

The collection contains correspondence; government documents, including reports and decrees; church documents; writings; and published illustrated material from Central America (Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama.) The collection is arranged by country, and by date within country. The description of each item includes, when possible, its author, title, place of origin, and a summary of its contents. When an item is a copy of an original, it is arranged by the date of the original. The date field, however, contains the date of the copy itself, not the original. The date of the original is included in the summary description of the item.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged alphabetically by country, and by date within the country.

Collection Contents

Original accession

Guatemala

b. 1, f. 1reel 1U	Title: "Carta escrita al rey de España por el Licenciado Diego Garcia de Palacio...." Place: Santiago de Guatemala. Description: Handwritten Spanish transcript, with English translation, of a letter to the king of Spain, in which Diego Garcia de Palacio proposes the use of the land route across Honduras to send the soldiers and supplies for the "pacification" of the Philippines. Also included is a transcription and translation of the contract in which the king empowers Diego Garcia de Palacio to undertake the conquest of the province of Lataguzgalpa (consisting of the modern Mosquito Coast.) Contains an introduction by Ephraim George Squier written in August, 1859. Former call number: Z111 0105.	1576-1578
b. 1, f. 2reel 1U	Author: Garcia de Palacio, Diego. Title: "Carta dirigida al rey de España." Description: A handwritten transcription of the report of an inspection trip made by Diego Garcia de Palacio to the provinces of Guazacapan, Izalcos, Sonsonate, San Salvador and Gracias a Dios. Contains detailed descriptions of the cacao industry, regional geography, flora and fauna, the indigenous peoples and their customs, as well as an early portrait of the Copan ruins. Former call number: Z111 0134.	[157-?]
b. 1, f. 3reel 1U	Author: Caño, Fray Augustin. Title: Report on the Beateria de Nuestra Señora del Rosario. Description: Report by a Dominican friar about a home sponsored by that order for the Christian education of the women of poor Indian families. The report also discusses the history of other such houses in Guatemala and other houses of lay sisters associated with the Dominican order.	1685 April 30
b. 1, f. 4reel 1U	Title: Royal decrees by the king. Places: Seville, Madrid, San Ildefonso and Aranjuez. Description: Series of royal decrees related to the establishment and regulation of the Casa de Moneda (royal mint) in Guatemala, as well as the mining industry in Central America.	1731-1739
b. 1, f. 5reel 1U	Title: Report on the Mosquito Coast. Description: Report by an unidentified author dealing with a proposed treaty of peace and commerce between the Zambos-Mosquitos and Spain. The report details the history of Zambos-Mosquitos, English involvement along Central America's Caribbean Coast, and proposes defensive measures to dislodge these interlopers from the region and end contraband trade.	1739 August 8
b. 1, f. 6reel 1U	Author: Anleo, Fray Bartolome. Title: Arte de Lengua Qichesis. Description: Handwritten bound Spanish transcript of a Quiche language grammar. This copy was made in 1855 at the Imperial Library in Paris from a 1744 manuscript copy made by Friar Antonio Ramirez Utrilla. This copy belonged to the library of Ephraim George Squier.	1744
b. 1, f. 7reel 1U	Title: Notes on Guatemalan Currency. Description: Document resulting from a meeting concerning the lack of currency circulating in Guatemala. Included are applicable royal laws and figures for the production, and the cost of production, of coinage by the Guatemalan mint.	1757 April 20

Guatemala (continued)

b. 1, f. 8reel 1U	Title: "Luz de barias providencias pedidas por el oydor Dr. Dn. Jacobo de Huertas...." Description: A series of proposals for stemming the illegal sale of silver and ensuring an adequate supply of the metal in Central America.	1757 May 28
b. 1, f. 9reel 1U	Title: "Ynconvenientes de hecho y de derecho con que el fiscal de la real audiencia funda el perjuicio que ocasionaría a la regalía de S.M. y al beneficio público yncorporar en el ayuntamiento de la misma ciudad los corregimientos del Valle...." Description: Document which lays out legal and practical arguments for why municipal officials (alcaldes ordinarios) of the capital (Santiago de Guatemala) should not be responsible for administering Indian villages in outlying jurisdictions (Corregimientos del Valle.)	1765 March 20
b. 1, f. 10reel 1U	Title: "Papeleta de Guatemala....sobre el establecimiento del estanco de tabaco." Description: Brief note dealing with the popular resistance encountered to the establishment of the tobacco monopoly in Guatemala.	1766 November 30
b. 1, f. 11reel 1U	Title: "Fundamentos que tubo el oidor Dn. Eusebio Bentura Belen para el voto consultivo...." Description: Set of documents concerning the destruction of Santiago de Guatemala by an earthquake and the subsequent move of the capital to the site of present day Guatemala City. Included are the lengthy opinions of two oidors of the audiencia regarding the selection of the site of the new capital city.	1771-1775
b. 2, f. 12reel 1U	Title: Correspondence between Phelipe Romana y Herrera and Francisco Mariano Rodriguez de Rivas. Description: Two letters dealing with the income of several minor branches of the royal treasury, including the gun powder monopoly.	1771 November 27
b. 2, f. 13reel 1U	Title: "Copia de carta de mi primo Dn. Manuel Fernandez de Villanueva y Armiño, oydor de la Real Audiencia." Description: Copies of two personal letters from Manuel Fernandez de Villanueva to an unidentified cousin. The letters discuss the earthquake that destroyed Santiago de Guatemala and its aftermath.	1773
b. 2, f. 14reel 1U	Author: Arredondo, Manuel Antonio. Title: Report on the relocation of the Guatemalan capital. Description: Brief report in favor of moving the Guatemalan capital to the site selected by the president of the audiencia, which also discusses the numerous advantages of this location.	1775 February 9
b. 2, f. 15reel 1U	Title: Petition to the Crown. Description: Petition from the members of the Guatemalan audiencia to the king of Spain requesting and justifying an increase in their annual salaries.	1775 March 1
b. 2, f. 16reel 1U	Title: "Relación succinta de la rebentazón del volcán llamado Pacayita." Description: Brief report describing the eruption of the Volcano "Pacayita."	1775 August 1
b. 2, f. 17reel 1U	Title: "De lo que se practica en las cajas de moneda en el resivo de las pastas hasta la rendición de moneda...." Description: Report concerning the procedures followed by the Casa de Moneda (royal mint) from the receipt of precious metals until they were turned into currency.	[17--]
b. 2, f. 18reel 1U	Title: Royal decree by the king of Spain. Place: San Lorenzo. Description: Decree addressed to the audiencia of Guatemala concerning the appointment of Geronimo Robledo as "Fiscal de Crimen" of the audiencia of Mexico, and explaining Robledo's delay in assuming his new duties.	1804 October 9
b. 2, f. 19reel 1U	Title: Decree by the president of Central America. Description: Printed decree declaring Realejo, Nicaragua to be an official port staffed by salaried customs officials.	1831 August 11

Guatemala (continued)

b. 2, f. 20reel 1U	Author: Barrios, Justo Rufino. Title: Letter to General I. McDowell. Description: Handwritten letter on official stationery in which President Barrios invites McDowell to visit Guatemala. Barrios also briefly discusses a plot against his life. Includes a typed English summary.	1884 May 8
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b. 2, f. 21reel 1U	Title: Autographs. Description: Collection of four signatures pasted on a sheet of paper: Pedro de Aycinena, M. Colmores, P. Buitragas, and Gregorio Juarez. On the reverse is a newspaper clipping concerning agricultural production in Honduras.	undated
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Honduras

b. 2, f. 22 - 24reel 1U	Title: Merl LaVoy papers. Places: La Union, Ampala, Corinto, Puntarenas, Lima, Antofagasta, Mendoza, Buenos Aires, Montevideo and Rio de Janeiro. Description: A collection of forty four items of memorabilia belonging to a Pathe Films newsman, who was assigned to cover President-elect Hubert Hoover's 1928 goodwill trip to El Salvador Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica?, Ecuador, Peru, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil. Included are newsletters from the <i>USS Maryland</i> and <i>USS Utah</i> (the ships Hoover sailed on); photograph caption sheets; lists of ship's officers, newsman and President-elect Hoover's party; menus; invitations; programs for scheduled port landings; copies of speeches by Brazilian dignitaries, a schedule from a Argentine railroad trip, and a Peruvian newspaper	1928-1929
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Nicaragua

b. 2, f. 25reel 1U	Title: Authorization by William Walker. Place: Granada. Description: William Walker states that A. Matzdorff and his wife are entitled to passage to New York at the expense of the Nicaraguan government.	1856 March 15
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b. 2, f. 26reel 1U	Title: Letter. Description: Letter written in French, addressed "Al jefe de los filibusteros en su guard," and signed, Vetesle. Possibly written by a resident of Louisiana. The text contains references to Achille Sigur and Mr. Marigny.	[ca. 1856?]
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b. 2, f. 27reel 1U	Title: Miscellaneous volume of Enrique Guzman. Description: Handwritten copybook belonging to the Nicaraguan writer and politician, Enrique Guzman. The volume is composed of quotes, poetry, miscellaneous facts, literary passages, linguistic notes, historical information, "memorandum," and writings, some of which he wrote, some of which are drawn from other sources. Most passages are in Spanish, but portions of the volume are in French, Italian, Latin and English. Also found in the volume are envelopes addressed to Guzman, newspaper clippings of poems, and a circular commemorating the 100th anniversary of Guzman's birth.	1878-[190-]
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Panama

b. 2, f. 28reel 1U	Title: Letter of congratulations. Description: Letter of congratulations from French subjects in Panama to the French emperor.	undated
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b. 2, f. 29reel 1U	Title: Unidentified photograph. Description: Black and white photo of a church	undated
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Accession 2013-M-022: Additional material, 1859-1889

This accession consists of published illustrated materials depicting people, events, and landscapes in El Salvador and Guatemala.

El Salvador		
b. 1	Title: "The Cathedral of San Salvador"; "Indians of Guajiquero." Illustrator: Unknown. Publication: <i>The Illustrated London News</i> , page 61.	1859 January 15
Guatemala		
b. 1	Title: "View of San José De Guatemala"; "The Guatemalan Troops Saluting the British Flag in the Plaza, San José, 4th September." Illustrators: Unknown. Publication: <i>The Graphic</i> , page 1.	1874 October 24
b. 1	Title: "The British Fleet At San Jose, Guatemala Saluting the British Flag." Illustrator: Unknown. Publication: <i>The Illustrated London News</i> , page 1.	1874 October 24
b. 1	Title: "Antiquarian Sketches in Guatemala, Central America." Illustrator: F. Frenzeny. Publication: <i>The Illustrated London News</i> , pages 532-533.	1889 April 27

Accession 2016-M-082: Additional Material, 1723-1949

Nicaragua		
b. 1, f. 1	Enrique Guzman's Notebook Spanish; Castilian	1905
Guatemala		
	Broadsides	1903-1935
b. 1, f. 2	Presidente de la República Spanish; Castilian	1935
b. 1, f. 3	Presidente Jorge Ubico, A los habitantes Spanish; Castilian	1935
b. 1, f. 4	Acta, Homenaje al Dr. Mariano de Larrave Spanish; Castilian	1918
b. 1, f. 5	Acta, El infrascrito Secretario Municipal Spanish; Castilian	1915
b. 1, f. 6	Manifiesto, La juventud liberal huehueteca Spanish; Castilian	1915
b. 1, f. 7	Presidente Manuel Estrada Cabrera Spanish; Castilian	1903
b. 1, f. 8	Presidente Manuel Estrada Cabrera, Con natural indignación Spanish; Castilian	1903
b. 1, f. 9	Presidente Manuel Estrada Cabrera, Nada valen terremotos... Spanish; Castilian	1903
b. 1, f. 10	Presidente Manuel Estrada Cabrera, La municipalidad y vecinos... Spanish; Castilian	1903
b. 1, f. 11	Presidente Manuel Estrada Cabrera, Los que suscriben... Spanish; Castilian	1903
b. 1, f. 12	Carta, Luis Molina, Los movimientos militares... Spanish; Castilian	1903
b. 1, f. 13	Al Partido Liberal, Elizardo Maceo Spanish; Castilian	1903
b. 1, f. 14	Presidente Manuel Estrada Cabrera, Una vez mas... Spanish; Castilian	1903
b. 1, f. 15	Telegrama dirigido por el cuerpo militar Spanish; Castilian	1903
b. 1, f. 16	Manifestación al patriotismo Spanish; Castilian	1903
b. 1, f. 17	Acta del 30 de junio de Spanish; Castilian	1903

Guatemala > Broad sides (continued)

b. 1, f. 18	Presidente Manuel Estrada Cabrera, Los que firmamos... Spanish; Castilian	1903
b. 1, f. 19	Presidente Manuel Estrada Cabrera, La Municipalidad de Granados... Spanish; Castilian	1903
b. 1, f. 20	Presidente Manuel Estrada Cabrera, Vuestra proclama nos ha traído Spanish; Castilian	1903
b. 1, f. 21	Manifestación del Cuerpo Militar del Departamento de Retalhuleu Spanish; Castilian	1903
b. 1, f. 22	Club La Juventud Liberal Spanish; Castilian	1904
b. 1, f. 23	A las Urnas electorales Spanish; Castilian	1910
b. 1, f. 24	Manifestación de la Junta Patriótica "Justo Rufino Barrios" Spanish; Castilian	1910
b. 1, f. 25	Manifestación de público regocijo Spanish; Castilian	1910
b. 1, f. 26	Desideria Ocampo de Estrada Cabrera, funeral Spanish; Castilian	1910
b. 1, f. 27	Boletín de Noticias, 1-15 Spanish; Castilian	1871
Panama		
b. 1, f. 28	Legal Documents Concerning Reparations of Cargo from the American Schooner Sea Horse in the Port of Chagres Spanish; Castilian	1800-1801
b. 1, f. 29-30	Porvenir de Nicaragua Spanish; Castilian	1876
b. 1, f. 31	Album of Margarita Paniagua de Montalvan, Nicaragua Spanish; Castilian	1915

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Geographic Names

Antigua (Guatemala)
Central America -- Economic conditions
Central America -- History -- To 1821
Guatemala -- History -- To 1821
Nicaragua -- History -- 1838-1909
Panama -- History

Corporate Body

Guatemala. Audiencia