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Guide to the World War I Stereograph Collection

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Guide to the World War I Stereograph Collection

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Guide to the World War I Stereograph Collection

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Collection processed by Lisa Zakharova. Finding aid EAD encoded by Lisa Zakharova. Reviewed by Danelle Moon.
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Descriptive Summary

Title: World War I Stereograph Collection

Dates: 1914-1917

Collection number: MSS-2011-02-15

Collection Size: 6 boxes(3 linear feet)

Repository: San José State University. Library.

San José, California 95192-0028

Abstract: The World War I Stereograph collection consists of 300 stereograph cards featuring scenes from WWI. These stereograph cards feature graphic battle scenes, trench warfare, war strategy, military aircraft, weaponry, and key WWI leaders such as Raymond Poincare, President of the French Republic, Joseph Joffre, Commander-in-Chief of the French Army, and Sir Douglas Haig, Commander of the British Armies in France . Many of the scenes featured in the collection were taken in France. A Stereograph is included in the last box of the collection.

Physical location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access

The collection is open for research.

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Preferred Citation

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Stereograph History

Stereographs became a very popular entertainment medium from the 1850s to the 1930s, though a few companies continued to produce stereographic images until the 1970s. Many different photographic processes were used to produce stereographs, including dauerreotypes, ambrotypes, wet plate glass positives, salt paper prints, albumen prints, and gelatin prints. Stereographs were formed of two images placed side by side and mounted on cardboard. They were commonly produced with cameras that had two lenses side by side. Stereographic cards were produced in the millions by photographers all over the world. Invented in England, the novelty and attraction of stereograph formats spread across Europe and the United States.

Stereographs provided a very popular entertainment medium predating television and film. Keystone and Underwood produced stereographic sets packaged in box sets with spines that resembled classic book bindings, accompanied by descriptive guide books written by recognized scholars, copyrighted maps depicting the exact location of the photograph, and the arrangement of sets by subject intended for primary and secondary school instruction. Stereographic views cover a diverse range of subjects and include topographic views, local history, events, industries and trade, urban and country life, portraits of famous people, and the production of box sets of World War I and World War II. The box sets ranged in size from 50 to 200 images per box, and were viewed through a stereoscope, which produced a unique three-dimensional (3-D) effect.

Scope and Content of Collection

The World War I Stereograph collection consists of 300 stereograph cards featuring scenes from WWI. These stereograph cards feature graphic battle scenes, trench warfare, war strategy, military aircraft, weaponry, and key WWI leaders such as Raymond Poincare, President of the French Republic, Joseph Joffre, Commander-in-Chief of the French Army, and Sir Douglas Haig, Commander of the British Armies in France. Many of the scenes featured in the collection were taken in France. A Stereograph is included in the last box of the collection.

Arrangement

This single series collection is arranged by stereocard number.

Indexing Terms

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

World War I

Military history.

Box 1 — I **World War I Stereocards 1914-1917**

Physical Description: 5 boxes

Scope and Content Note

This series consists of 300 stereograph cards featuring scenes from WWI. These stereocards feature graphic battle scenes, trench warfare, war strategy, military aircraft, and key WWI leaders such as Raymond Poincare, President of the French Republic, Joseph Joffre, Commander-in-Chief of the French Army, and Sir Douglas Haig, Commander of the British Armies in France . Many of the scenes featured in the collection were taken in France.

Arrangement

This series is arranged by stereocard number

Box 1, Card number 5 — **French Colonial (Morocco) Cavalry in Paris undated**

Physical Description: 1 stereocard

Box 1, Card number 31 — **Haig and General Antoine at Beview of French First Division undated**

Physical Description: 1 stereocard

Box 1, Card number 48 — **Historic First Landing of Allied Troops at Dardanelles undated**

Physical Description: 1 stereocard

Box 1, Card number 61 — **View from State of a Serbian Army Audience in an Outdoor Theater at the Front undated**

Physical Description: 1 stereocard