

Los Angeles Maritime Museum Research Library
Archives and Manuscripts Collections
Resources in the History of Los Angeles Harbor

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Please call the Archivist / Librarian at 310-548-7618 x 215
for an appointment to view these collections, or with any questions you may have.

Papers of Deep Diver

Elmer Bright Collection, 1930-1980 (bulk 1943-1966); 1 cu. ft.

Elmer Ellsworth Bright (1911-2001), a civil service diver and supervisor of divers at the Long Beach Naval Shipyard's Shop #72 between 1943 and 1966. Collection includes case histories of decompression disease (the bends) treated in their recompression chamber; work notes and instructions in underwater salvage, photographs of divers working at the Long Beach Naval Shipyard, and a scrapbook from his early service life in the U.S. Navy, from 1930-1932.

Historic Passenger Ferries in LA Harbor

Logbook collection of passenger ferries, 1926-1927, 1 cu. ft.

The SS Avalon : a passenger ferryboat sailing from Los Angeles Harbor to Santa Catalina Island, about 1920.

The SS Catalina: a passenger ferryboat sailing from Los Angeles Harbor to Santa Catalina Island, about 1920.

Los Angeles Harbor Maps and Charts

Historic, thematic and pilot charts of the channels in Los Angeles Harbor and San Pedro Bay date from 1943 through the 1980s; also in the collection are nineteenth-century surveys of the California coast and islands.

Museum Research Library Special collections

Library Special Collections : 1905 - current

An open collection consisting of news clippings, including scrapbooks of the Harbor Master, and articles of maritime and Port of Los Angeles interest.

Navy Vessels

Records of the disposition of USS LOS ANGELES CA-135; USS Los Angeles Gunnery Records, 1961-1962, 2 cu. ft.

Two sheets of blue line prints for the inboard profile and main deck, USS LOS ANGELES CA-135

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Ships, Shipbuilding and Allied Businesses

L.A. Shipbuilding & Drydock – Todd Shipyard Papers, 1920-1949, 1 cu. ft.

The series available for research is limited to records containing drydock and repair records 1920 to 1949.

McMullen and Stoffen Collection, 1926-1958, 1 cu. ft.

Account books and summaries for a Los Angeles harbor marine survey service from 1926 to 1958.

C.J. Hendry Company Collection, 1917-1930, 1 cu. ft.

Account ledgers for the San Pedro ship chandlery C.J. Henry Co., November 1917 to February 1930.

Records of the glass-bottom boat PRINCESS, 1968-1984, 2 cu. ft.

Logbooks and associated paperwork of the PRINCESS, a glass-bottom paddlewheel ferryboat.

Records of the Tug Angels Gate, 194-1992, 10 cu. ft.

Vessel history from construction in 1944 as a United States Army Transport Service "small tug" to her purchase by the Port of Los Angeles in 1946 and subsequent donation to the Los Angeles Maritime Museum in 1992.

Sailing Vessels

Records of Schooner GEORGE BILLINGS, 1903-1941, 1 cu. ft.

Ships log books, supporting documentation for operation of the 5-masted schooner 1905-1923.

Records of Yawl OCEAN WAIF, 1925-1998, 1 cu. ft.

The early history and the operation and maintenance of the ship after it was donated to LAMM.

Records of Schooner WILLIAM H. SMITH, 1926-1932, 2 cu. ft.

Records of 5 masted schooner engaged in Pacific trade from San Francisco described in ship's log.

Writers, Illustrators and Photographers

Cedric Windas Collection, 1888-1966 (1939-1950s bulk), 5 cu. ft.

Book covers decorated by an artist known for his portrayal of Navy life and customs.

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Writers, Illustrators and Photographers, con't. :

Liberty Manufacturer Collection, 1972-2007, 1 cu. ft.

Journal entry and newsclippings collected by Sven Olson, shipping agent, who witnessed the wreck of the Liberty Manufacturer in 1972 off Pt. Fermin.

Thomas Skahill Collection, 1985-2006, 3 cu. ft.

Notes, drafts, and collected research for articles he wrote on mid-twentieth century Los Angeles Harbor yachtsmen, naval architects and boat-builders Matt Walsh, Ed Potter, Edson B. Schock, Hugh Angelman, Joe Fellows and Fellows and Stewart, and Ted Geary.

Yachtsmen

Emil Aarup Papers, 1900-1940s, 2 cu. ft.

Aarup family photographs, boatbuilding and yachting photographs 1900-1940s; ship's lines.

Matthew Walsh Collection, 1866-1960 (1920s-1950 bulk), 7 cu. ft.

News clippings and photographs of Matt Walsh, an early 20th century shipbuilder on Terminal Island in Los Angeles Harbor. Images depict him on his craft in yacht races along the coast of California.