GC 1121
Mount Lowe Collection

Repository:
Seaver Center for Western History Research, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County

Span Dates:
1893-1934

Extent:
Boxes: 1 letter, 2 ov.

Related Collection(s):
P-172: Mt Lowe Collection

Language:
English

Abstract:
In 1891, David MacPherson and Thaddeus Lowe ran electric trolley cars through Altadena into Rubio Canyon. "The Great Incline," was California's first electric cable hoisting mechanism. It traveled 1/2 mile to Echo Mountain summit where Lowe built a powerhouse, Chalet, the Echo Mountain House, a casino (used as a dance pavilion and dormitory), an observatory, residential car barn, gardens, gas holder, zoo and water system. "The White City on the Mountain" was world famous. Henry Huntington (Pacific Electric Railway System) bought the railway in 1901, and "Red Cars" ran from Los Angeles to Rubio Canyon. For the next 30 years, the Mt. Lowe Line was Southern California's favorite, scenic railway line. A windstorm in 1928 and a fire in 1936 destroyed much of the amenities at the top of the run. Although Pacific Electric weighed restoring the amenities, the Depression destined the end of the line. This collection includes Mount Lowe news publications and other ephemera.

Conditions Governing Use:
Permission to publish, quote or reproduce must be secured from the repository and the copyright holder

Conditions Governing Access:
Research is by appointment only
Preferred Citation:

Mount Lowe Collection, Seaver Center for Western History Research, Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History

Container List:

**Box 1**

**Folder**

1. Pasadena Mountain Railway, 1893 (invitation)

2. “Mount Lowe Railway,” 1894 (brochure)

3. “Echo Mountain House,” 1895 (broadsheet)

4. “Inside Facts Concerning the Pasadena and Mt. Wilson…”, 1897 (publication)

5. *Pasadena Mountain Railway…*, 1893 (booklet)

6. “Souvenir of Mount Lowe California”, n.d. [folder with souvenir photo attached]

7. “Mt. Lowe Tavern and Cottages”, 1930 [leaflet]

8. “Sunrise Easter Services on Mt. Lowe – mile high”, March 27, 1921. [program]


**Box 1ov**

**Folder**


5. Mount Lowe Echo, [Vol.I, No.5], [4/12/1894]
9. Mount Lowe Echo, Vol.I, No.6, 

Box 2ov
Folder

1. Mt. Lowe advertisement (12½ x 18 painted poster—cardboard)
5. “Mount Lowe Railway,” [1893]
6. Photograph: Car of Pasadena and Rubio Canyon Line crossing bridge
7. Photograph: Incline Railway from Rubio Canyon with passengers on car