

GC 1375
Los Angeles Motor Car Company Business Records

Repository:

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

Span Dates:

1908-1912, undated

Extent:

Boxes: 9 legal letter (3.5 linear feet)

Language:

English

Conditions Governing Use:

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Preferred Citation:

Los Angeles Motor Car Company Business Records, Seaver Center for Western History Research, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County

Abstract:

The Los Angeles Motor Car Company Business Records, consists of correspondence, telegrams, work orders, invoices, sales receipts, and minutes for the business dating between 1908 – 1912.

Historical Notes:

The Los Angeles Motor Car Company (LAMCC) was incorporated in Los Angeles County on 3rd of October 1908. The Incorporation records list the following people as the original directors of the company: Ralph J. Leavitt, LaBree (LaBrae) Leavitt and Nathan P. Bundy. According to the Incorporation records the primary purpose of the company was "...To own, sell, manufacture, transfer, lease and deal in automobiles and vehicles of all descriptions."

The business was located at the corner of Hill and Pico Streets in Los Angeles (1301 S. Hill Street), in a building that previously housed the Success Automobile Corporation. The Los Angeles Motor Car Company was the Southern California distributor for Locomobile of America, headquartered in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Los Angeles Motor Car Company's main line of business was selling the various models of Locomobiles in Los Angeles, Fresno, Santa Barbara, and San Diego. They also sold Locomobiles to various mining companies including Gold Star Mines Company in Dome, Arizona and Imperial Development Company Hechicera, B.C. Mexico. As part of their business the company serviced the cars, assisted with car insurance, ordered and distributed parts for the Locomobiles.

Officers: Ralph J. Leavitt (1908-1910), LaBree or LaBrae Leavitt (1908-1909), Nathan P. Bundy (1908), Samuel MacConnell (1908), H.,M. Cain (1908), Charles M. Cotton (General Manager 1910-1912), Valentine Peyton (President 1910-1912), Robert C. Peyton (Sec.-Treasurer 1909-1912)

Related Holdings:

GC 1145 Los Angeles County Incorporation Records
GC 1145 6690 Success Automobile Company
GC 1145 9766 Los Angeles Motor Car Company
GC 1145 17524 Los Angeles Motor Car Company
GC 1145 18808 Los Angeles Motor Car Company
GC 1145 10367 Automobile Dealers' Association of Southern California
GC 1145 10981 Licensed Motor Distributors Alliance of Los Angeles
GC 1145 17118 Automobile Company of America, Changed name to The Locomobile Company of America
GC1264 Stutz Automobile Scrapbook, ca.1913-1919
GC1337 Automotive Literature Collection
GC1344 Nash Motors Company Records, 1890-1938
GC1361 Darling Motor Company Records, 1916-1917
GC1362 Charles E. Duryea and J. Frank Duryea Papers, 1894-1944
P-62 Eddie O'Donnell Collection, ca. 1913-1920
P-115 Ralph Hamlin Collection (photographs)
P-194 Photograph Album of Automobile Camping Trip, ca. 1914
P-246 Automobile in Southern California Project
P-278 Automotive Photograph Collection

Los Angeles City Directories 1909-1912

Scope and Content:

The Los Angeles Motor Car Collection is comprised of 9 legal sized archival boxes of documents, correspondence and telegrams, ledger books, minute books, invoices and sales slips. The collection is divided into the following series:

Series 1. Business Correspondence, 1908-1912

Series 2. Business and Legal Records, 1908 - 1912

Indexing Terms:

- Automobile dealerships – California – Los Angeles
- Automobile dealerships – California – San Diego
- Automobile dealerships – California – San Francisco
- Automobile dealerships – California – Santa Barbara
- Automobile industry and trade--California
- Automobile industry and trade--History
- Automobile racing--California--History
- Automobile racing – California – Santa Monica
- Los Angeles Motor Car Company (Los Angeles, Calif.), 1908-1912
- The Locomobile Company of America (Bridgeport, Conn.), 1898-1929
- Success Automobile Company (Los Angeles, Calif.) 19??-1908
- Motor Car Dealers Association (Los Angeles, Calif.)

Collection Contents:

Series 1. Business Correspondence, 1908-1912

This series contains the business correspondence for the Los Angeles Motor Car Company which includes: incoming and outgoing correspondence with dealers in Southern California, individual customers and suppliers for the Locomobile and Telegrams. Series 1 is housed in Box 1 through Box 2.

This series is arranged by year and alphabetically.

Folder Title/Description for Series 1

Box - Folder

Correspondence: Outgoing Letters “A-C”, Oct. 1908 – Oct. 1909 Correspondence with C.L. Bundy and references to Success Automobile Company	1 - 1
Correspondence: Outgoing Letters “A-P”, Sept. 1908 – Oct. 1909 Includes references to Success Automobile Company, Los Angeles; the Vanderbilt Cup Race, Long Island, Oct. 24, 1908 won by the Locomobile; correspondence with J. Murray Page, San Francisco, California	1 - 2
Correspondence: Outgoing Letters “C-H”, Oct. 1908 – Oct. 1909 Includes correspondence with C. E. Getchel, Bakersfield, California	1 - 3

Correspondence: Outgoing Letters “D-L”, Oct. – Dec. 1908; Feb.-Oct. 1909 Includes correspondence with Locomobile Company of America	1 - 4
Correspondence: Outgoing Letters “G-M”, Oct. 1908 – Oct. 1909 Includes correspondence with R. J. Leavitt when he was in Seattle, Washington for the month of October, 1908; C. E. Getchel, Bakersfield, California	1 - 5
Correspondence: Outgoing Letters “K-O”, Oct. 1908 – Oct. 1909 LAMCC response to an inquiry about Success Automobile Company going out of business	1 - 6
Correspondence: Outgoing Letters “R-U”, Oct. 1908 – Oct. 1909 Includes correspondence with Huron Rock, Santa Barbara, California	1 - 7
Correspondence: Outgoing Letters “T-W”, Oct. 1908 – Apr. 1909 Includes correspondence with Huron Rock, Santa Barbara, California	1 - 8
Correspondence: Outgoing Letters “P-R, V”, Jan. 1909 - Oct. 1909 Includes correspondence with Huron Rock, Santa Barbara, California; discussion of the Santa Monica Race and installation of telephone lines at the end of the race track	1 - 9
Correspondence: Incoming/Outgoing Letters “A-S”, undated, Mar. 1909 - Oct. 1909; Aug. 1910; Mar. – Oct. 1911 Includes correspondence with Locomobile of America Branch Claim Forms	1 - 10
Correspondence: Incoming/Outgoing Letters “K-N”, Apr. 1909 - Dec. 1909; Jul. 1910; Mar. 1911- Sept. 1911 Includes correspondence with Motor Car Dealers Association, and Locomobile of America Branch Claim Forms	1 - 11
Correspondence: Incoming/Outgoing Letters “G-S”, Nov. 1910; Feb.- Aug. 1911 Includes correspondence with Sprague’s Mercantile Agency, Chicago, Illinois	1 - 12
Correspondence: Incoming/Outgoing Letters “S-T”, Nov. 1910; Jan. 1911, Apr. 1911 - Aug. 1911 Includes correspondence with Sprague’s Mercantile Agency, Chicago, Illinois	1 - 13
Correspondence: Incoming/Outgoing Letters “A-S”, Feb. 1911 - Sept. 1911 Includes correspondence with Huron Rock, Santa Barbara, California	1 - 14
Correspondence: Incoming/Outgoing Letters “A-V”, Mar. 1911 - Sept. 1911 Includes correspondence with L. A. Nares, Fresno, California and F. B. Naylor, San Diego, California	1 - 15
Correspondence: Incoming/Outgoing Letters “A-R”, Mar. 1911 - Sept. 1911 Includes correspondence with L. A. Nares, Fresno, California	1 - 16
Correspondence: Incoming/Outgoing Letters “B-P”, Mar. 1911 – Dec. 1911 Includes correspondence with the Los Angeles County Assessor’s Office	2 - 1
Correspondence: Incoming/Outgoing Letters “D-M”, Feb. 1911 – Sept. 1911 Includes correspondence with D. J. Desmond, Los Angeles, California	2 - 2
Correspondence: Incoming/Outgoing Letters “E-S”, Mar. 1911 – Sept. 1911 Includes correspondence with Motor Car Dealers Association	2 - 3

Correspondence: Incoming/Outgoing Letters “M-P”, Mar. 1911 – Sept. 1911 Includes correspondence with L. A. Nares, Fresno, California and F. B. Naylor, San Diego, California	2 - 4
Correspondence: Incoming/Outgoing Letters “H-T”, Mar. 1911 – Aug. 1911 Includes correspondence with Huron Rock, Santa Barbara, California	2 - 5
Correspondence: Incoming/Outgoing Letters “S-Z”, Mar. 1911– Aug. 1911 Includes correspondence with George A. Tweedy of Minas del Tajo, Rosario, Sinaloa, Mexico	2 - 6
Telegrams: Sept.1908 - Dec. 1908; Jan. 1909 – Mar. 1909	2 - 7
Telegrams: Apr. 1909 – Dec. 1909	2 - 8
Telegrams: Feb. 1910 – Dec. 1910	2 - 9
Telegrams: Nov. 1910 – Dec. 1910	2 - 10
Telegrams: Jan. 1911 – Dec. 1911	2 - 11
Telegrams: Jan. 1911 – Aug. 1911	2 - 12
Telegrams: Jan. 1912 – Apr. 1912 Address for Los Angeles Motor Car Company is now 11 th and Flower Street	2 - 13

Series 2. Business and Legal Records, 1908-1912

This series contains the minute book and the Los Angeles County incorporation document, invoices and bills for the Los Angeles Motor Car Company, order files, customer service requests, employee time sheets, daily reports and financial ledgers. Series 2 is housed in Box 3 through Box 9

Folder Title/Description for Series 2

Box - Folder

Los Angeles Motor Car Company Minute Book, Oct. 8, 1908 – Nov. 16, 1909 There is one typed loose page at the back of the book, dated 22 nd August, 1911 (page 147). Typed documents, dated and includes information about the officers and board of directors	3 - 1
Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Invoice Book, Requisition for Supplies, no. 701 – no. 800, Oct. 22, 1909 – Nov. 5, 1909 These documents give the name of the business and what LAMCC was purchasing from the companies and when they received the invoices.	3 - 2
Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Payments (Invoice), no. 801 – no. 1100, May 5, 1910 – Jul. 18, 1910 This ledger provides the name of the person or business, what the payment was for and how much was paid.	3 - 3
Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Payments (Invoice), no. 1401 – no. 1700, Oct. 22, 1910 – Dec. 14, 1910 This ledger provides the name of the person or business, what the payment was for and how much was paid.	3 - 4

<p>Ledger: Listed by owner/car and work to be done for 1909 only (pages 1-64); Cash Tally Oct. 1, 1909 – Apr. 29, 1911 (at the back of the ledger, pages unnumbered)</p> <p>For some of the vehicles their Locomobile VIN is listed; provides labor charges as well as parts</p>	4 - 1
<p>Balance Sheets Jul. 1, 1909 – Mar. 31, 1912</p> <p>This is handwritten, but includes typed quarterly balance sheets and reports compiled for annual net income for the IRS, inserted and pasted into the ledger. This was a ledger has been disbound. The paper has discolored and has some water damage.</p>	4 - 2
<p>Ledger: Bills/Receivable Aug. 3, 1909 – Aug. 1, 1912; Bills/Payable Dec. 1909 – Dec. 1910</p> <p>Dates on page 1: Jan. 1, 1913; Sept. 21, 1914, and Oct. 7, 1914. The book is fragile.</p>	4 - 3
<p>Ledger: Trail Balance and Balance Sheets/Current Ledger, Sept. – Dec. 1909 (pages 1-11); Jan. – Dec. 1910 (pages 12-29); Jan. – Dec. 1911 (pages 30-50); Jan. – Mar. 1912 (pages 51-61)</p>	4 - 4
<p>Los Angeles Motor Car Company Salesmen’s Daily Report, Calls, Oct. 29, 1909 –Dec. 31, 1909</p> <p>These are forms to be completed by the salesmen. The last page date Jan. 3, 1909, perhaps it is 1910. Handwritten, S. Stevens(?) maybe the salesman. The pages are in columns: Name of Prospect, Address, Results</p>	5 - 1
<p>Los Angeles Motor Car Company7 Salesmen’s Daily Report, Calls, Oct. 29, 1909 –Dec. 31, 1909, Jan. 1 – 26, 1910</p> <p>These are forms to be completed by the salesmen. Handwritten, Stevenson maybe the salesman. The pages are in columns: Name of Prospect, Address, Results</p>	5 - 2
<p>Los Angeles Motor Car Company Salesmen’s Daily Report, Calls, Dec. 1909 – Jan. 1910</p> <p>These are forms to be completed by the salesmen. Handwritten, Brauchamp maybe the salesman. The pages are in columns: Name of Prospect, Address, Results</p>	5 - 3
<p>Los Angeles Motor Car Company Salesmen’s Daily Report, Calls, Nov. 1909 – Nov. 1910</p> <p>These are forms to be completed by the salesmen. Handwritten, There are several salesmen’s signatures, main one is Brauchamp maybe the salesman. The pages are in columns: Name of Prospect, Address, Results</p>	5 - 4
<p>Los Angeles Motor Car Company Salesmen’s Daily Report, Calls, Jan. 3 – Apr. 23 1910</p> <p>These are forms to be completed by the salesmen. Handwritten, Stevenson and Brauchamp maybe the salesmen. The pages are in columns: Name of Prospect, Address, Results</p>	5 - 5
<p>Los Angeles Motor Car Company Salesmen’s Daily Report, Calls, Jan. 15 – Mar. 1910</p> <p>These are forms to be completed by the salesmen. Handwritten, Brauchamp (Jan. – Mar.) maybe the salesman. The focus in Feb. and Mar.</p>	5 - 6

seems to be contacts in Pasadena. The pages are in columns: Name of Prospect, Address, Results	
Ledger: Time Card Record 1909- 1912 The book is divided: Time Cards Distribution of Time Cards for shop orders, alphabetical listing by employees: Oct. 23, 1909 – Apr. 16, 1912; Flip the book over: Alphabetical listings by Locomobile car owners (invoice no. 1820-4158) Feb. 7, 1910 – Mar. 6, 1911	5 - 7
Ledger: Time Book, Apr. 16, 1909 – Apr. 15, 1912 Listing by employee names by the days of the week and number of hours each day and the amount they were paid.	5 - 8
Invoices/Bills to Los Angeles Motor Car Company: “A” 1909 - 1911	6 - 1
Invoices/Bills to Los Angeles Motor Car Company: “B” 1908 - 1909	6 - 2
Invoices/Bills to Los Angeles Motor Car Company: “C” 1908 - 1909	6 - 3
Invoices/Bills to Los Angeles Motor Car Company: “D” 1909	6 - 4
Invoices/Bills to Los Angeles Motor Car Company: “E – F” 1909	6 - 5
Invoices/Bills to Los Angeles Motor Car Company: “G – J” 1909	6 - 6
Invoices/Bills to Los Angeles Motor Car Company: “K – L” 1908 - 1909	6 - 7
Invoices/Bills to Los Angeles Motor Car Company: “M” 1909	6 - 8
Invoices/Bills to Los Angeles Motor Car Company: “N – Q” 1909	6 - 9
Invoices/Bills to Los Angeles Motor Car Company: “R – V” 1909, 1911	6 - 10
Invoices/Bills to Los Angeles Motor Car Company: “W – Z” 1909	6 - 11
Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Stock Slips -- Locomobile Claims (Loco Claims) This folder contains miscellaneous cards and claims slips for the Santa Fe Railroad	6 - 12
Los Angeles Motor Car Company, “Loco Claims Acct.” (Locomobile) Information on the slips may include owner’s name, the auto VIN, as well as parts ordered either from Locomobile of America, Bridgeport, Conn. Or from the Locomobile distributor in San Francisco	6 - 13
Los Angeles Motor Company, Locomobile Orders: Aug. 1908 – Dec. 1909 These are standard typed order forms/purchase agreements which include the purchaser’s name, style or model of the Locomobile, the purchase price and any special features.	6 - 14
Los Angeles Motor Company, Locomobile Orders: Feb. 1909 - Oct. 1910 These are standard typed order forms/purchase agreements which include the purchaser’s name, style or model of the Locomobile, the purchase price and any special features	6 - 15
Los Angeles Motor Company, Locomobile Orders: Bradner W. Lees, Dec. 1910 These are standard typed order forms/purchase agreements which include the purchaser’s name, style or model of the Locomobile, the purchase price and any special features	6 - 16
Los Angeles Motor Company, Locomobile Orders: Jan. 1910 – May 1910 These are standard typed order forms/purchase agreements which include the purchaser’s name, style or model of the Locomobile, the purchase price and any special features	6 - 17

<p>Los Angeles Motor Company, Locomobile Orders: Feb. 1910 – Aug. 1910; Mar. – Jul. 1911 These are standard typed order forms/purchase agreements which include the purchaser's name, style or model of the Locomobile, the purchase price and any special features</p>	6 - 18
<p>Los Angeles Motor Company, Locomobile Orders: Jan. 1910 – May 1911 These are standard typed order forms/purchase agreements which include the purchaser's name, style or model of the Locomobile, the purchase price and any special features</p>	6 - 19
<p>2 small ledger books: Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Requisition for Supplies, no. 502- no. 598, Sept. 11, 1909 – Oct. 5, 1909</p> <p>Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Stock Slips, no. 201 – no. 300, Aug. 23, 1909 – Sept. 15, 1909 The carbon slips in the ledgers provide names of customers, the parts ordered, stock numbers and the total amount</p>	7 - 1
<p>2 small ledger books: Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Stock Slips, no. 1101 – no. 1200, Mar. 21, 1910 – Apr. 9, 1910</p> <p>Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Stock Slips, no. 2002 – no. 2100, Aug. 15, 1910 – Aug. 29, 1910 The carbon slips in the ledgers provide names of customers, the parts ordered, stock numbers and the total amount</p>	7 - 2
<p>2 small ledger books: Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Stock Slips, no. 201 – no. 2200, Aug. 29, 1910 – Sept. 13, 1910</p> <p>Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Stock Slips no. 2201 – no. 2300, Sept. 27, 1910 The carbon slips in the ledgers provide names of customers, the parts ordered, stock numbers and the total amount</p>	7 - 3
<p>2 small ledger books: Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Stock Slips no. 3201 – no. 3300, Feb. 24, 1911 – Mar. 10, 1911</p> <p>Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Stock Slips no. 4201 – no. 4300, Jul. 25, 1911 – Aug. 5, 1911 The carbon slips in the ledgers provide names of customers, the parts ordered, stock numbers and the total amount</p>	7 - 4
<p>2 small ledger books: Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Stock Slips no. 5402 – no. 5500, Dec. 28, 1911 – Jan. 12, 1912</p> <p>Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Stock Slips no. 6101 – no. 6200 Mar. 15,</p>	7 - 5

<p>1912 – Mar. 27, 1912 The carbon slips in the ledgers provide names of customers, the parts ordered, stock numbers and the total amount</p>	
<p>Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Stock Slips used as Credit Memos, no. 101 – no. 200, Aug. 29, 1910 – Apr. 12, 1912 The carbon slips in the ledgers, stamped “Credit Memo” provide names of customers, the parts ordered, stock numbers and the total amount</p>	7 - 6
<p>Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Invoices no. 500 – no. 600, Jul. 19, 1909 – Jul. 24, 1909 The carbon slips in the ledgers, include the names of the customers, “Amounts, Brought Forward”, items, P&E, stock no. labor, garage, paint shop, misc. categories and the total amount due</p>	8 - 1
<p>Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Invoices no. 1401 – no. 1500, Nov. 13, 1909 – Dec. 8, 1909 The carbon slips in the ledgers, include the names of the customers, “Amounts, Brought Forward”, items, P&E, stock no. labor, garage, paint shop, misc. categories and the total amount due</p>	8 - 2
<p>Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Invoices no. 1801 – no. 1900, Jan. 31, 1910 – Feb. 17, 1910 The carbon slips in the ledgers, include the names of the customers, “Amounts, Brought Forward”, items, P&E, stock no. labor, garage, paint shop, misc. categories and the total amount due</p>	8 - 3
<p>Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Invoices no. 2001 – no. 2100, Mar. 8, 1910 – Mar. 23, 1910 The carbon slips in the ledgers, include the names of the customers, “Amounts, Brought Forward”, items, P&E, stock no. labor, garage, paint shop, misc. categories and the total amount due</p>	8 - 4
<p>Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Invoices no. 2011 – no. 2200, Mar. 23, 1910 – Apr. 8, 1911 The carbon slips in the ledgers, include the names of the customers, “Amounts, Brought Forward”, items, P&E, stock no. labor, garage, paint shop, misc. categories and the total amount due</p>	8 - 5
<p>Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Invoices no. 2401 – no. 2500, May 7, 1910 – May 21, 1910 The carbon slips in the ledgers, include the names of the customers, “Amounts, Brought Forward”, items, P&E, stock no. labor, garage, paint shop, misc. categories and the total amount due</p>	8 - 6
<p>Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Invoices no. 2801 – no. 2900, Jul. 23, 1910 – Aug. 13, 1910 The carbon slips in the ledgers, include the names of the customers, “Amounts, Brought Forward”, items, P&E, stock no. labor, garage, paint shop, misc. categories and the total amount due</p>	8 - 7
<p>Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Invoices no. 3801 – no. 3900, Feb. 27, 1911 – Mar. 20, 1911 The carbon slips in the ledgers, include the names of the customers, “Amounts, Brought Forward”, items, P&E, stock no. labor, garage, paint</p>	9 - 1

shop, misc. categories and the total amount due	
Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Invoices no. 3901 – no. 4000, Mar. 20, 1911 – Apr. 4, 1911 The carbon slips in the ledgers, include the names of the customers, “Amounts, Brought Forward”, items, P&E, stock no. labor, garage, paint shop, misc. categories and the total amount due	9 - 2
Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Invoices no. 5001 – no. 5100, June 1, 1911 – June 16, 1911 The carbon slips in the ledgers, include the names of the customers, “Amounts, Brought Forward”, items, P&E, stock no. labor, garage, paint shop, misc. categories and the total amount due	9 - 3
Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Invoices no. 5701 – no. 5788, Sept. 12, 1911 – Sept. 30, 1911 The carbon slips in the ledgers, include the names of the customers, “Amounts, Brought Forward”, items, P&E, stock no. labor, garage, paint shop, misc. categories and the total amount due. (no. 5789 – no.5800 have been removed)	9 - 4
Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Invoices, stamped Credit Memo, no. 4401 – no. 4499, Dec. 16, 1910 – Aug. 21, 1911 The carbon slips in the ledgers, include the names of the customers, “Amounts, Brought Forward”, items, P&E, stock no. labor, garage, paint shop, misc. categories and the total amount due	9 - 5
Los Angeles Motor Car Company: Invoices no. 7976 – no. 7999, unused There were other pages in the ledger that have been removed (no. 7901 – no. 7975)	9 - 6