

Henry Albert Monday Collection Relating to Mexico

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



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<http://lcn.loc.gov/mm83060616>

Prepared by James D. Riley

Collection Summary

Title: Henry Albert Monday Collection Relating to Mexico

Span Dates: 1522-1935

ID No.: MSS60616

Creator: Monday, Henry Albert, 1876-1942

Extent: 2,300 items ; 45 containers ; 17 linear feet ; 42 microfilm reels

Language: Collection material in Spanish and Nahuatl

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Summary: Physician and collector. Correspondence, legal and financial papers, tax records, contracts, land records, cédulas, reports, official documents, broadsides, circulars, and other papers relating chiefly to various aspects of Mexican political, legal, and ecclesiastical history collected by Monday.

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.

People

Aguilar, Francisco de, active 16th century.

Calleja del Rey, Félix María, conde de Calderón, 1755?-1828.

Cortes family.

Iturbide, Agustín de, 1783-1824.

Maximilian, Emperor of Mexico, 1832-1867.

Monday, Henry Albert, 1876-1942.

Narváez, Juan de.

Obregón, Alvaro, 1880-1928.

Orozco y Berra, Manuel, 1816-1881.

Rea, Alonso de la.

Organizations

Catholic Church--Mexico.

Catholic Church. Archdiocese of Mexico City (Mexico). Cathedral Chapter.

Catholic Church. Diocese of Puebla.

Colegio de San Luis.

Colegio de San Pablo (Puebla, Mexico)

Comision Mixta-Revisora de Reclamaciones de Subditos Ingleses contra Mexico.

Dominicans--Mexico--Puebla (State)

Franciscans--Mexico--Michoacán de Ocampo.

New Spain. Real Audiencia (Mexico City)

Subjects

Church bells.

Convents--Mexico--Puebla (State)

Courts--Mexico.

Haciendas--Mexico.

Indians of Mexico--Social life and customs.

Indians of Mexico.

Inquisition--Mexico.

Justice, Administration of--Mexico.

Laity--Mexico--Catholic Church.

Real property--Mexico.

Places

Great Britain--Claims vs. Mexico.

Guatemala.
Mexico City (Mexico)--History.
Mexico--History.
Mexico--Languages.
Mexico--Politics and government.
New Spain--History.
Oaxaca (Mexico : State)
Puebla (Mexico : State)--Economic conditions.
Puebla (Mexico : State)--History.
San Juan River (Nicaragua and Costa Rica)
Spain--Colonies--America--Administration.
Tenería Hacienda (Mexico)

Titles

La victoria.

Occupations

Collectors.
Physicians.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The Henry Albert Monday Collection Relating to Mexico was purchased by the Library of Congress from Monday's daughter, Virginia May Monday de Ovalle, in 1982. A microfilm was made in 1983 of material from the collection that was retained by the donor.

Processing History

The Henry Albert Monday Collection was organized and described in 1983-1984. The finding aid was revised and expanded in 2009.

Transfers

Photographic negatives have been transferred to the Library's Prints and Photograph Division where they are identified as part of these papers.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Henry Albert Monday Collection is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The Monday Collection is open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Microfilm

A microfilm edition of these papers is available on forty-two reels. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition as available.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, Henry Albert Monday Collection Relating to Mexico, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Henry Albert Monday, born 1876 in Kaufman County, Texas, moved to Oaxaca, Mexico in the early 1900 to serve as a doctor. From there, circa 1916-1920, he began a medical practice in the American Hospital in Mexico City, becoming chief surgeon and medical advisor. Through prominent connections, he became friends with leading Mexican officials, and he also developed an interest in Mexican history and culture. A collection of books, manuscripts, and antiquities that he built was said to be one of the largest in Mexico City. He died in June 1944.

Scope and Content Note

The collection of Henry Albert Monday (1876-1944) consists of manuscript and published material that relates chiefly to Mexico in the period 1522-1935. Prominent among the manuscripts are legal and financial records including contracts, powers of attorney, promissory notes, tax and expenditure accounts, and reports. Personal papers include correspondence, notes, and government and commission reports. Printed items consist of codes of laws, grammars and vocabularies, medical books, music, and newspapers. Most of the material is in Spanish but there is a small amount in Nahuatl, and there are some photocopies. The collection is organized in seven series: [Viceregal Administration](#), [Audiencia](#), [Catholic Church](#), [Colonial Noninstitutional](#), [Independence and National Period](#), [Central America](#), and [Microfilm of Material Retained by the Donor](#).

Although the provenance of individual items as well as the collections policy of Monday cannot at this time be documented, evidence suggests that he acquired the bulk of the collection between 1918 and 1930 and that it reflects his interest in Mexican historical figures, the Catholic Church, colonial elites, the Emperor Maximilian, and Indian culture. Born in Kaufman County, Texas, in 1876, Monday apparently developed his historical interests after moving to Mexico in the early 1900s to work as a doctor in Oaxaca. Sometime between 1916 and 1920 he moved to Mexico City and began a medical practice there, ultimately becoming chief surgeon and medical adviser in the American Hospital. Through his friends in Oaxaca (most importantly, General Guillermo Mexueiro), his practice, and his active participation in the Masonic Lodge and affairs of the American community in Mexico City, Monday was able to meet many prominent Mexicans, including General Alvaro Obregón and members of his official family. By the time he died in June 1944, Monday was reputed to have one of the largest private collections of manuscripts and antiquities in Mexico City. His care of the material is evidenced in the collection by occasional bookplates, autograph notes, and the small circle labels on the covers of volumes that carry his identification numbers.

The collection has been organized into several series, the largest of which relates to the [Catholic Church](#). This series contains a large number of records concerning the Dominican Order in the Diocese of Puebla. Primarily bound documents, they include extensive legal papers relating to such matters as intra-order disputes of the mid-and late seventeenth century, church-state relations, and the Inquisition. Topics include a conflict between the province of Santiago of Mexico City and its offshoot, the province of San Miguel and Santos Angeles of Puebla, over division of property and control of the Colegio de San Luis, as well as an extended dispute over the election of provincials and priors of the convent of Puebla between 1661 and 1717.

The Catholic Church series also contains material concerning the relationship of the Dominicans to the economic life of Puebla during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Unlike many other organizations in the Catholic Church, the Dominicans did not depend on the receipt of interest from passively managed endowments for their support. Rather, like the Jesuits, they supported themselves by actively managing both endowments and real property. Thus their records include extensive documentation of their financial dealings and titles to both urban and rural property. There are a number of large volumes containing promissory notes, contracts for censos, capellanias, and other endowments, as well as payments on these items.

Also among the Dominican-related materials are the papers of three seventeenth-century benefactors, Francisco de Aguilar, Domingo de la Edeza Verástegui, and Juan de Narváez. Although Edeza Verástegui's papers relate primarily to his bequest, the papers of the other two include a considerable amount of correspondence and legal material that offer insight into their lives. Narváez's documents, for example, include details of merchant partnerships and correspondence with hacienda administrators from the sixteenth century. Also of value for the social history of Puebla is the book of professions of the Dominican convent of Puebla that is complete from 1611 to 1732. Among non-Dominican materials in the Catholic Church series are such items as a manuscript copy of the 1639 history of the Franciscan province of Michoacan by Fray Alonso de la Rea, the books of acts for several cofradías, a volume of reports from the mid-eighteenth century concerning finances of

the Cathedral Chapter of the Archdiocese of Mexico City, a three-volume work on the rules for ringing the cathedral bells, and a volume of informaciones for those competing in oposiciones a familiaturas in the Colegio de San Pablo of Puebla between 1712 and 1765.

Notable items in the [Catholic Church](#) series include volumes of tax and expenditures records for the corregimiento of Mexico City during the fourth quarter of the eighteenth century, a book detailing the payments of pensions by the abastecedor de carne for the city from 1726 to 1749, and a summary of all cédulas and mercedes granted to the city, or referring to it, between 1522 and 1775. The section on reports contains a bound volume of official orders and reports on the promotion of hemp and flax between 1783 and 1786, and the section on Indian villages includes three volumes of indexes and document summaries created in the 1850s by a privately employed researcher detailing colonial documents related to property titles of Indian villages.

Contained in the [Colonial Noninstitutional](#) series are printed works as well as manuscript items. Among the more significant pieces is a volume of titles for the Tenoría Hacienda.

The [Independence and National Period](#) series contains a volume of broadsides and circulars issued by the government of Agustín de Iturbide between January and July 1822, the manuscript of a proposal by Manuel Orozco y Berra for a new political division of Mexico, a large group of photographic negatives pertaining to the household and family of Emperor Maximilian*, two volumes of reports of the Mixed British-Mexican Commission on Claims in 1889, and issues of the official newspaper of the Republican government of Oaxaca, La Victoria, in 1864. It also includes private correspondence of Félix María Calleja del Rey, Agustín de Iturbide, Alvaro Obregón, and other figures of Mexican history.

*Although the negatives have been transferred to the Prints and Photographs Division, some have been printed and retained with the collection.

The [Central America](#) series consists of only two items: a group of notarized receipts dated 1535-1545 from Santiago de Guatemala, and papers related to a plan to settle and fortify the port and river of San Juan in the province of Nicaragua, 1821-1823.

The collection is augmented throughout by photocopies of material collected by Monday but retained by his daughter, Virginia May Monday de Ovalle, at the time the collection was purchased by the Library. This material is also available on three reels of microfilm, shelf number 18,663, and listed as the final series of the collection, [Microfilm of Material Retained by the Donor](#).

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in seven series:

- [Viceregal Administration, 1522-1875](#)
- [Audiencia, 1547-1805](#)
- [Catholic Church, 1530-1929](#)
- [Colonial Noninstitutional, 1525-1820](#)
- [Independence and National Period, 1805-1935](#)
- [Central America, 1535-1823](#)
- [Microfilm of material retained by the donor, circa 1522-circa 1935](#)

Description of Series

Container

BOX 1-5
REEL 1-4

Series

Viceregal Administration, 1522-1875

Official papers generated by the civil government during the colonial period, or related to it. The subgroups are ordered by the importance of their association with the viceregal authority. The series is divided into bandos and cédulas, grants and permits, administration, the affairs of the corregimiento of Mexico City, reports, relaciones de méritos, patents of nobility, inductions into honorary orders, temporalidades, and the affairs of Indian villages. Within each subgroup, the items are ordered chronologically or alphabetically.

BOX 6-10
REEL 4-8

Audiencia, 1547-1805

Material related to colonial law and court cases divided into four subgroups: laws, regulations, petitions and court orders, and legal actions. The subgroup of petitions and court orders contains fragmentary pieces of court cases, while the subgroup legal actions contains entire cases.

Items are arranged chronologically or alphabetically.

BOX 11-37
REEL 9-33

Catholic Church, 1530-1929

Material generated by or related to the Catholic Church arranged as follows: Archbishopric of Mexico, Bishopric of Guadalajara, Bishopric of Nuevo Leon, Bishopric of Puebla, church-state relations, cofradías, Inquisition, and religious orders. The latter subgroup is further subdivided into Augustinian Order, Bethlehemite Order, Casa of the Sacred Heart, Dominican Order in Puebla, and Franciscans in Mexico.

The section on Dominican Order in Puebla, the largest in the collection, is arranged by specific institutions. All other subseries are arranged alphabetically.

BOX 37-41
REEL 33-35

Colonial Noninstitutional, 1525-1820

Material related to the private affairs of individuals or other non-official sources. It includes the following subgroups: Cortés family, languages and paleography, maps, measurements, medicine, printed codices, and private papers.

Items are arranged alphabetically.

BOX 42-45
REEL 36-39

Independence and National Period, 1805-1935

Material related to the independence and national periods of Mexico. Subseries include national government, Oaxaca, Puebla, and other material. The subseries of other material includes autographs, drawings, portraits of historical figures, ephemera of Emperor Maximilian, private papers, and scenic views.

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REEL 38-39

Central America, 1535-1823

Legal papers and a report.

REEL 1-3**

Microfilm of material retained by the donor, circa 1522-circa 1935

Material that was deemed to be of low research value. It was microfilmed before being returned to the donor.

Items were not microfilmed in a particular order. Reel 1 starts with a list of item numbers and corresponding reel numbers. Following this listing on Reel 1 are index cards with item numbers and brief descriptions of each item in English. Microfilm of the items with their original folders follow. The folders record the item numbers as well as further descriptions in English. **Microfilm shelf no. 18,663

Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 19,125

| <i>Container</i> | <i>Contents</i> |
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| BOX 1-5 REEL 1-4 | Viceregal Administration, 1522-1875 Official papers generated by the civil government during the colonial period, or related to it. The subgroups are ordered by the importance of their association with the viceregal authority. The series is divided into bandos and cédulas, grants and permits, administration, the affairs of the corregimiento of Mexico City, reports, relaciones de méritos, patents of nobility, inductions into honorary orders, temporalidades, and the affairs of Indian villages. Within each subgroup, the items are ordered chronologically or alphabetically. |
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| BOX 1 REEL 1 | Grants and permits, 1568-1807 |
| BOX 1 REEL 1 | Administration |
| BOX 1 REEL 1 | 1738-1809 |
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| BOX 1 REEL 1 | Military promotions, (contains multiple records for Jose García de Berdeja), 1786-1821 |
| BOX 1 REEL 1 | Villanueva, Francisco de, 1760-1806 |
| BOX 1 REEL 1 | Mexico City, Mexico (corregimiento) |
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| BOX 2 REEL 1-2 | Laws and privileges, 1522-1775 |
| BOX 2 REEL 1-2 | Paving and lighting, 1790-1795 |
| BOX 2 REEL 1-2 | Posíto, income, 1771-1787 |
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Viceregal Administration, 1522-1875

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| BOX 4 | Temporalidades, expulsion of the Jesuits from Puebla, 1767 |
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| BOX 4 | Indian villages |
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| BOX 4 | Elections, 1688-1805 |
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Viceregal Administration, 1522-1875

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REEL 4

Inventory

(2 vols.)

BOX 6-10
REEL 4-8

Audiencia, 1547-1805

Material related to colonial law and court cases divided into four subgroups: laws, regulations, petitions and court orders, and legal actions. The subgroup of petitions and court orders contains fragmentary pieces of court cases, while the subgroup legal actions contains entire cases.

Items are arranged chronologically or alphabetically.

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REEL 4

Laws

BOX 6
REEL 4

Laws of Castile, 1547

BOX 7
REEL 5

Corpus Iuris Civilis, 1716

(vol. 1)

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(vol. 2)

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Recopilación de Leyes de Indias, 1756

(vols. 1-2)

BOX 10
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(vol. 3)

BOX 10
REEL 8

Addition to law on privacy, 1796

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Regulations on measurement of land, 1760

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Petitions and court orders, 1591-1805

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REEL 8

Legal actions

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Condes del Valle de Orizaba, 1650-1738

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Convent of La Concepción, Puebla, 1707

BOX 11-37
REEL 9-33

Catholic Church, 1530-1929

Material generated by or related to the Catholic Church arranged as follows: Archbishopric of Mexico, Bishopric of Guadalajara, Bishopric of Nuevo Leon, Bishopric of Puebla, church-state relations, cofradías, Inquisition, and religious orders. The latter subgroup is further subdivided into Augustinian Order, Bethlehemite Order, Casa of the Sacred Heart, Dominican Order in Puebla, and Franciscans in Mexico.

The section on Dominican Order in Puebla, the largest in the collection, is arranged by specific institutions. All other subseries are arranged alphabetically.

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Archbishopric of Mexico

Catholic Church, 1530-1929

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| BOX 14 | Convent of Santa Clara, 1795-1804 |
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| BOX 17 | Composiciones, 1643-1709 |
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| BOX 18 | Reports on disturbances within the houses of the province, elections, powers of attorney, letters and petitions from friars to the provincials, and royal cédulas affecting the province |
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| REEL 15 | |
| BOX 19 | Wills, 1638-1762 (contains nineteen wills of religious benefactors who left money or property to the order. All but one are seventeenth century) |
| REEL 15 | |
| BOX 20 | Convento de Santo Domingo |
| REEL 16 | |
| BOX 20 | Capellanías, 1590-1780 (contains twenty-three contracts endowing capellanías within the convent) |
| REEL 16 | |
| BOX 21 | Capellanías, 1590-1780 (contains papers related to foundings of capellanías and repayment of principal. Also a list of the “decimas” and “patronatos” acknowledged by the convents and churches of Puebla) |
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Catholic Church, 1530-1929

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| BOX 22 REEL 17-18 | 1626 |
| BOX 23 REEL 18-19 | Censos cancellations, 1620-1780 (contains papers acknowledging and repaying 45 loans solicited by the convent) |
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| BOX 24 REEL 20 | Censo contract, 1837-1838 |
| BOX 25 REEL 21 | Interest payments, 1780-1836 (contains listing of all mortgages and other liabilities of the convent) |
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| BOX 26 REEL 22 | Legal papers, fragments, 1701-1855 |
| BOX 27 REEL 22-23 | Obligaciones, 1593-1759 (contains twenty-two promissory notes for loans contracted by the convent) |
| BOX 27 REEL 22-23 | Professions |
| BOX 27 REEL 22-23 | Papers of Francisco de Aguilar, 1602-1692 (contains private papers of the benefactor and material related to the probate of his will, including the complete inventory of his estate) |
| BOX 28 REEL 24 | Papers of Domingo de la Edeza Verástegui, 1644-1735 (contains financial and legal papers of the benefactor and records of the probate of his will and his donations to the convent) |
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| BOX 29 REEL 25 | Baños de las Caleras, 1553-1780 |
| BOX 29 REEL 25 | Composiciones, 1593-1763 (contains composiciones and actions related to them, and contracts for purchase of burial plots and chapels in the convent church) |
| BOX 30 REEL 26 | Haciendas of San Baltazar, Santa María and Santa Clara, 1608-1727 |
| | (2 vols.) |
| BOX 31 REEL 27 | Hacienda of San Juan Chicomulco, alias Macuila, 1606-1758 |
| BOX 32 REEL 28 | Hacienda of Teyuca, 1571-1703 |
| BOX 33 REEL 29 | Urban property |
| BOX 33 REEL 29 | 1592-1776 (contains papers related to mortgages, sales, and acquisition of urban property. Book 2 of convent titles) |

Catholic Church, 1530-1929

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| BOX 34 | 1593-1732 (contains titles to houses inherited from Father Bartolomé del Manzano. |
| REEL 30 | Book 4 of convent titles) |
| BOX 34 | 1590-1683 (contains titles to houses on the Calle de los Mesones and the Calle de las |
| REEL 30 | Huertas in Puebla. Book 6 of convent titles) |
| BOX 34 | Sacristy, income and expenses, 1689-1695 |
| REEL 30 | |
| BOX 35 | Colegio Real de San Luis |
| REEL 31 | |
| BOX 35 | Donations, 1784-1819 |
| REEL 31 | |
| BOX 35 | Financial records, 1726-1810 (contains income records, 1726-1810, and an inventory of |
| REEL 31 | books and furnishings in 1729) |
| BOX 35 | Legal records and reports, 1570-1745 (contains legal actions against the province of |
| REEL 31 | Santiago, powers of attorney, promissory notes, inventories, and financial records) |
| BOX 36 | Covent of Teposcolula |
| REEL 32 | |
| BOX 36 | Legal records and reports, 1571-1763 (contains papers concerning economic matters, |
| REEL 32 | including donations, debts, sales of property, and endowments) |
| BOX 37 | Franciscans in Mexico, 1643-1805 |
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BOX 37-41
REEL 33-35

Colonial Noninstitutional, 1525-1820

Material related to the private affairs of individuals or other non-official sources. It includes the following subgroups: Cortés family, languages and paleography, maps, measurements, medicine, printed codices, and private papers. Items are arranged alphabetically.

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| BOX 37 | Cortés family |
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| BOX 37 | Archivo del Hospital de Jesús |
| REEL 32-33 | |
| BOX 37 | Inventory |
| REEL 32-33 | |
| BOX 37 | Fernando Cortés |
| REEL 32-33 | |
| BOX 37 | Biography (1485-1520) |
| REEL 32-33 | |
| BOX 37 | Papers, 1525-1534 |
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| BOX 37 | Languages and paleography |
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| BOX 37 | Huastec grammar, 1767 |
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| BOX 37 | Nahuatl grammar, 1726 |
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| BOX 37 | Nahuatl vocabulary, undated |
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| BOX 38 | Spanish paleography, 1758 |
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Colonial Noninstitutional, 1525-1820

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| BOX 41 REEL 35 | Private papers |
| BOX 41 REEL 35 | Licenses and contracts, 1566-1646 |
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| BOX 41 REEL 35 | Wills and powers of attorney, 1577-1820 |

BOX 42-45
REEL 36-39

Independence and National Period, 1805-1935

Material related to the independence and national periods of Mexico. Subseries include national government, Oaxaca, Puebla, and other material. The subseries of other material includes autographs, drawings, portraits of historical figures, ephemera of Emperor Maximilian, private papers, and scenic views.

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| BOX 42 REEL 36 | National government |
| BOX 42 REEL 36 | Broadside and circulars |
| BOX 42 REEL 36 | Jan.-July 1822 |
| BOX 42 REEL 36 | 1821-1855 |
| BOX 42 REEL 36 | Administration |

Independence and National Period, 1805-1935

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| BOX 42 REEL 36 | Appointments |
| BOX 42 REEL 36 | Civil, 1821-1897 (contains multiple records for Manuel Dávila Madrid, 1835–1856) |
| BOX 42 REEL 36 | Military, 1819-1884 (contains multiple records for Manuel Arce y Osuna, Domingo Chico, Tecló Frias, Bernardo Nosti, Vicente Rodrigues de Leon, José Roman, José Ignacio Tellez, and Mariano Villar. Also papers related to appointment of Gen. Vicente Filísola as commander of the army of New Mexico in 1847 and his plan of operations) |
| BOX 43 REEL 36-37 | Licenses and petitions, 1837-1908 |
| BOX 43 REEL 36-37 | Reports, 1843-1844 |
| BOX 43 REEL 36-37 | Foreign relations, 1889 (reports of the Mixed British-Mexican Commission on Claims (2 vols.) |
| BOX 43 REEL 36-37 | Judicial affairs |
| BOX 43 REEL 36-37 | Court orders, petitions, and testimonies, 1821-1861 |
| BOX 44 REEL 37-38 | Lawsuit, Juan de Dios Martínez, 1805-1825 |
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| BOX 45 REEL 38-39 | Legal instruments, 1830-1865 |
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| BOX 45 REEL 38-39 | Scenic views, 1876-1904 |
| BOX 45 REEL 38-39 | Central America, 1535-1823 |
| | Legal papers and a report. |
| BOX 45 REEL 39 | Legal papers, 1535-1545 |
| BOX 45 REEL 39 | Report on settlement of San Juan River, Nicaragua, 1821-1823 |
| REEL 1-3** | Microfilm of material retained by the donor, circa 1522-circa 1935 |
| | Material that was deemed to be of low research value. It was microfilmed before being returned to the donor. |
| | Items were not microfilmed in a particular order. Reel 1 starts with a list of item numbers and corresponding reel numbers. Following this listing on Reel 1 are index cards with item numbers and brief descriptions of each item in English. Microfilm of the items with their original folders follow. The folders record the item numbers as well as further descriptions in English. **Microfilm shelf no. 18,663 |
| REEL 1 | Items 9-232, 431 |
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