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Collection Overview

Repository: Archives of American Gardens, Smithsonian Institution
Creator:
Title: Historic Gardens Stereograph Collection
Dates: circa 1880-1910
Quantity: 807 stereographs, 3 ½” x 7”, black and white and color.
Abstract: This collection of 807 stereographs depicts various public gardens, parks, and tourist attractions throughout the United States, emphasizing features related to horticulture and landscape design, including plants, garden furniture, and topiaries.

Administrative Information

Provenance
The stereographs in this collection were collected by former staffers of the Horticulture Services Division (now Smithsonian Gardens) who were researching Victorian-era gardens and garden furnishings.

Processing Information
The stereographs were processed by AAG intern, Elizabeth M. DeCarlo.

Preferred Citation
Smithsonian Institution, Archives of American Gardens, Historic Gardens Stereograph Collection.

Restrictions on Access
Access to original images by appointment only. Researcher must submit request for appointment in writing. Please direct reference inquiries to the Archives of American Gardens: aag@si.edu.

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Historical Note
Popular during the latter half of the 19th century, stereographs consist of two similar photographic images affixed to a cardboard mount that produce a three-dimensional image when viewed through a stereoscope.

Scope and Content Note
This collection of 807 stereographs depicts various public gardens, parks, and tourist attractions throughout the United States, emphasizing features related to horticulture and landscape design, including plants, garden furniture, and topiaries. Most, but not all views, show exterior features. A number of stereographs indicate the photography studio on the recto or verso, as well as a series or
image number. Many include a brief caption; some include a lengthy description on the verso. Few are dated.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged as 8 series:

Series 1: Public Gardens
Series 2: Structures
Series 3: Expositions
Series 4: Floral Design
Series 5: Landscape Design and Amenities
Series 6: Gardens of Foreign Countries
Series 7: Washington, D. C. Area
Series 8: General Interest

Index Terms

This collection is indexed in the catalog of the Archives of American Gardens under the following terms:

Subjects-Topical:
- Buildings
- Floral decorations
- Flower arrangement
- Garden ornaments and furniture
- Gardens--United States
- Historic sites
- Monuments
- Parks
- Recreation
- Sculpture
- Topiary work
- Tropical plants

Types of Materials:
- Stereographs

Names:
- Smithsonian Institution
- United States Capitol (Washington, D.C.)
- White House (Washington, D.C.)

Container Listing

Series 1: Public Gardens (Boxes 1-2; 227 stereographs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Alaska (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boston (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>California (23)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chicago (15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Colorado (8)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Box 1
Florida (15)
Hawaii (2)
Maine (4)
Massachusetts (12)
Minnesota (2)
Missouri (22)
New York (26)
North Dakota (4)
Ohio (7)
Oregon (2)

Box 2
Pennsylvania (Fairmont Park) (35)
Utah (1)
Washington (2)
Wisconsin (1)
Yellowstone (11)
Washington, DC (23)
Smithsonian Institution (2)
U.S. Naval Academy (1)

Series 2: Structures (Box 2; 12 stereographs)

Box 2
Churches (3)
Conservatories (9)

Series 3: Expositions (Box 2; 78 stereographs)

Box 2
Philadelphia Centennial (10)
St. Louis Exposition (20)
Fairmont Park-Centennial (45)
World's Columbian Exposition (3)

Series 4: Floral Design (Boxes 2-3; 68 stereographs)

Box 2
Floral Design (14)

Box 3
Basket Floral Arrangements (15)
Bouquets with Crosses (21)
Bouquets on Frames (18)

Series 5: Landscape Design and Amenities (Boxes 3-4; 185 stereographs)

Box 3
Monuments (4)
Landscape Construction (2)
Arbors and Bridges (7)
Cemeteries (7)
Floral Clocks (1)
Bedding Designs (1)

4
Box 3
Homes (10)
Topiary (7)
Rustic Designs (13)
Gates Ajar-Bedding Designs (6)
Harps (2)
Shell of Flowers (1)
Skeletonized Leaves (11)
In Vases & Bowls (19)
Wreaths (17)

4
Weddings (29)
Fountains (25)
Vases or Urns-Outdoors (7)
Flowers-Specimens (14)
Ferns (2)

Series 6: Gardens of Foreign Countries (Boxes 4-5; 114 stereographs)

Box 4
Belgium (4)
China (1)
Cuba (4)
Denmark (1)
Egypt (7)
England (11)
France (10)
Germany (14)
Greece (2)
Ireland (2)
Italy (10)
Japan (3)
Java (1)
Jerusalem (4)
Luxembourg (1)
Mexico (1)
Monaco (4)
Norway (1)
Philippine Islands (4)
Puerto Rico (1)

5
Russia (4)
Scotland (5)
South Africa (1)
Spain (2)
Sweden (2)
Switzerland (4)
Canada (10)

Series 7: Washington D. C. Area (Box 5; 50 stereographs)

Box 5
White House (27)
Mount Vernon, VA (8)
U.S. Capitol (10)
Box 5 Arlington Cemetery, VA (5)

Series 8: General (Box 5; 73 stereographs)

Box 5 General Interest (29)
Children (19)
Recreation (17)
Statuary (8)