

Puerto Rican Collection

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

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Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

2011

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

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Collection Summary

Title: Puerto Rican Collection

Span Dates: 1591-1900

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1750-1898)

ID No.: MSS80481

Extent: 1,000 items ; 12 containers plus 1 oversize ; 5 linear feet ; 2 microfilm reels

Language: Collection material in Spanish, with English.

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

Abstract: Collection of documents from Spanish colonial Puerto Rico including financial material, military papers, orders and decrees from the Spanish government, and miscellaneous items from colonial Puerto Rico.

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

Coll y Toste, Cayetano, 1850-1930. Cayetano Coll y Toste collection relating to Puerto Rico, 1850-1894.

Organizations

Puerto Rico.

Spain. Ministerio de la Guerra--History.

Subjects

Aliens--Puerto Rico.

Baptismal records--Puerto Rico.

Education--Puerto Rico.

Exports--Puerto Rico.

Finance, Public--Puerto Rico.

Fortification--Puerto Rico.

Imports--Puerto Rico.

Political prisoners--Puerto Rico.

Slavery--Puerto Rico.

Spanish-American War, 1898--Puerto Rico.

Taxation--Puerto Rico.

Places

Morro (San Juan, P.R.)

Puerto Rico--Commerce.

Puerto Rico--History, Military.

Puerto Rico--History--To 1898.

Puerto Rico--Politics and government--To 1898.

Puerto Rico.

Spain--Colonies--America.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The first part of the Puerto Rican Collection was received by the Library of Congress from the War Department after the American occupation of San Juan following the Spanish-American War. Manuscripts from other sources were added to the collection over the years, most notably by gift from the Puerto Rican historian, writer, and government official Cayetano Coll y Toste, 1899-1900. An addition was given by J. H. Hollander in 1908 and by Victor S. Clark in 1928. In 2011, the

Cayetano Coll y Toste Collection Relating to Puerto Rico which had also been acquired in 1899-1900 was united with other material received from him and organized as part of this collection.

Processing History

The Puerto Rican Collection was arranged sometime after its receipt and reorganized circa 1980 when portions were prepared for microfilming. Additional changes were made with the transfer to the collection of new material in 2011.

Additional Guides

The Puerto Rican collection is described in the Library's 1918 *Handbook of Manuscripts*, 527-529.

Copyright Status

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

Access and Restrictions

The Puerto Rican 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 part of these papers is available on 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 number, Puerto Rican Collection, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The Puerto Rican Collection spans the years 1591-1900, with the bulk of the material dating from 1750 to 1898. The papers are in Spanish with some English. The papers contain documents from the Spanish colonial government of Puerto Rico including financial material reflecting budgets, data on imports and exports, and taxation, military papers from the War Ministry, and orders and decrees from the Spanish government. A wide variety of other papers document other aspects of Spanish colonial Puerto Rico including items concerning slavery, political prisoners, registration of foreigners, the fortifications of "El Morro" in San Juan, baptismal records, and politics. Many of these items had belonged to the Puerto Rican writer, historian, and government official Cayetano Coll y Toste and relate to his research interests. A very few items, mostly concerning education, date from after the Spanish-American War and the subsequent American occupation of Puerto Rico.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is organized by topic or type of material.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	Facsimile de la primera fortificación levantada en el Morro de San Juan de Puerto Rico, (original dated Aug. 10, 1591), 1899
BOX 1	Office of Finance records, 1766-1798
BOX 2	Budgets and financial information, Spanish colonial government of Puerto Rico, 1850, 1881-1886 (4 volumes)
BOX 2	Printed matter and miscellany, 1894-1898
BOX 3	Royal orders to the governor, 1786-1789
BOX 3	Real Provisión, 1790
BOX 3	Revolutionary literature and letters sent to Ponce, Puerto Rico, from Puerto Cabello and La Guaira, Venezuela, 1863-1865 (2 folders)
BOX 3	Miscellany, undated
BOX 3	Angelis, Pedro, "Para mi Revista," 1810-1814
BOX 3	Baptismal records, 1645-1646, 1647, 1653
BOX 4	Miscellaneous treasury statements and financial papers, 1796-1857
BOX 4	Sala, Valentin, revolutionary conditions in Venezuela and the Caribbean 1812
BOX 4	Spanish army in Puerto Rico, 1813-1814 (2 folders)
BOX 4	Decretos del Rey Fernando VII 1814-1844 (1 vol.)
BOX 5	(1 vol.)
BOX 5	Correspondence of the war minister, 1815-1819
BOX 6	Daily record, War Office, 1816-1817
BOX 6	Proclamation "Habitantes de Puerto Rico," 1823
BOX 6	Lottery tickets, 1830
BOX 6	Presupuesto de la Isla de Puerto Rico, 1850
BOX 7	Negros Emancipados Filiaciones, 1859 Available on microfilm shelf no.17,433
BOX 8	Rodriguez, Valentín, passport, 1852
BOX 8	Libreta del journalero Manuel Camacho, 1869
BOX 8	"Libro de actas de la Junta . . . de la esclavitud," 1874
BOX 8	"Memoria sobre el servicio de Telégrafo de la Isla de Puerto Rico en 1875 a 1876, 1877 a 1878," 1878
BOX 8	Gobierno Superior Civil de la Provincia de Puerto Rico, register of foreigners, 1870-1875 Available on microfilm shelf no. 17,777
BOX 9	Letter to the governor, Puerto Rico, 1896-1898
BOX 9	Miscellaneous financial papers, 1896-1898
BOX 9	"The Money Question," 1895 (3 folders)
BOX 9	"Report on Puerto Rico Money," 1893
BOX 9	"Reply to Report by the Representatives of the Gas Company," 1895

Container List

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BOX 9	Miscellaneous reports, 1895 (3 folders)
BOX 9	Miscellaneous broadsides and pamphlets, 1886-1898 (2 folders)
BOX 9	Puerto Rico lottery, 1880 (2 folders)
BOX 10	(1 folder)
BOX 10	Gobierno General de la Isla de Puerto Rico, prisoner transfer, 1887 Available on microfilm shelf no. 17,777
BOX 10	Stamped paper, 1882-1900
BOX 10	Education, 1898-1900 (4 folders)
BOX 11	Statistics, financial and commercial, 1850-1899
BOX 11	Postage stamps, 1891-1894 (4 folders)
BOX 11	La Real Tesorería de Puerto Rico, bank notes, nineteenth century
BOX 11	Puerto Rico lottery, 1830
BOX 11	Vidal y Martorell, Juan, relative to Joaquín Baco and Juan Antonio Negroín, circa 1876
BOX 11	Miscellany, unknown source, undated
BOX 12	Ambulance Corps for American Expeditionary Forces, undated
BOX 12	Gumien, Francisco, Alcaidía Municipal de Hato Grande to director of Royal Academy of Literature, undated
BOX 12	Bermudes, Matías, and Pablo Boada regarding Juan Jesús Rodríguez, Nov. 15, 1852
BOX 12	Alonzo, Juan, to governor general of province of Puerto Rico, Sept. 28, 1876
BOX 12	Sevilla, Rafael de, 1846
BOX 12	Cortego, Santiago, Comandancia de Ingenieros to Santiago Fortum, Aug. 17, 1846
BOX 12	Garcia, Domingo, to Santiago Fortum, Aug. 17, 1846
BOX 12	Deofeda, Juan Calisto, to Santiago Fortum, Aug. 16, 1846
BOX 12	Meléndez, Salvador, Feb.-Apr., 1812
BOX 12	Miscellany, unknown source, undated
BOX OV 1	Oversize copies of miscellaneous orders, affidavits, and royal cédulas, 1750-1757