

GC 1147
Early Mexican Imprint Collection

Repository:

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

Span Dates:

1828 - 1846

Extent:

1 ov and 2 ov folders

Language:

Spanish

Abstract:

Documents issued by Mexican government, 1828 – 1846, reflecting the history of the city of Los Angeles, Southern California and Alta California; Andrés Pico; Manuel Micheltoarena; and others.

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Early Mexican Imprint Collection, Seaver Center for Western History Research, Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History

Related Collections:

Early Spanish American Imprint Collection (GC 1360)

Scope and Content Note:

Documents issued by Mexican government, 1828 – 1846, reflecting the history of the city of Los Angeles, Southern California and Alta California; Andrés Pico; Manuel Micheltoarena; and others. Secularization of the missions; Los Angeles elevated from a *pueblo* (town) to a *ciudad* (city); defense and escalation of war between the U.S. and Mexico. A container list is included; the descriptions are in English (translated by Esperanza Gutierrez).

Container List:

1. El C. Juan B. Albarado Coronel.... (1836) A. 30: This document states that Andrés Pico is awarded the title of Lieutenant of the 1st company of Civilian Militia of Los Angeles
2. Juan Bautista Alvarado (1828) A.30: Letter addressed to the people of California by Governor Juan Bautista Alvarado indicating that the army stopped a conspiracy, by immigrants, to overthrow the government. Stating that these illegal immigrants purpose was to bring up their numbers by hiding in the forests and on ranches. “ Citizens rejoice that we were able to stop the intrusion into our country, and that the government will stop at nothing to maintain the integrity of this part of our nation”
3. Sello Primero Ocho Pesos A.30-40: This announcement names Andrés Pico as Captain of the 1st company of San Diego dated July 08, 1844.
4. El Ciudadano Ignacio Martinez (1833) General and Governor of Mexico City D.F: Proclamation of the Secularization of the Missions in California:
 - a. Secularization of all missions in California
 - b. In each of these missions, a Parish shall be established and will have an annual budget of \$2000- \$2500 pesos
 - c. The priests of these parishes will not charge nor receive compensation for services performed, i.e. marriages, baptisms and burials.
 - d. The churches shall be used by the parishes and all religious instruments and ornamentations deemed necessary
 - e. For each parish, the government will provide sanctified fields away from the population
 - f. Assigantion of \$500 pesos annually for payment to the servants of the parish
 - g. Of the buildings, one shall be used to house the priests, adding up to 200 square feet. The other buildings will be used for schools and public establishments.
 - h. A Ecclesiastical judge will be established and appointed in the capitol of Alta California who will maintain jurisdiction of both areas.
 - i. To maintain the Ecclesiastical judge , \$3000 pesos will be afforded to them
 - j. If they assist the local priests of the capitol or other areas, the income will be adjusted to include an extra \$1500 pesos annually to that which they already receive.
 - k. Under no circumstance will traditions and customs of the habitants of California be introduced or reintroduced even if deemed necessary
 - l. The government will enforce that the Archdiocese abide by the these laws

- m. For all the priests, the government will provide, free of charge, transportation by sea to them and their families. For all transportation by land, they will provide a stipend of \$400 to \$800 pesos depending on the distance and the family
 - n. The government will also compensate all necessary personnel of church priests, provide a stipend of \$200- \$300 pesos and whatever else is deemed necessary for those that remain in the Republic and have not exerted their independence
 - o. The government will cover and pay for all the costs in enforcing this law, the byproducts of the land, and rents and revenues that belong to the Missions of California
5. Original printed decree giving Los Angeles the title of City (1835): Listed description in English (attached) declaring Los Angeles as a City and Capitol of the territory
 6. L.2100.46-1906 (see also GPF.0546): Decree naming Los Angeles a city and capitol of Alta California signed by Gutierrez Estrada
 7. A.30-4. Sello Tercero Cuatro Reales July 09, 1838: Appointment of Andrés Pico to 2nd (Alferez) Officer of the Preciado of San Diego
 8. Ministerio de Justicia August 17, 1833: Secularization of the Missions of California. Translated copy in English included
 9. El C. Manuel (1844): Letter to the citizens of California in which General Manuel Micheltoarena writes to the people of California describing putting an end to the early stages of an insurrection. Informing them to put down their weapons and allow the government and military to handle the situation. Signed in Monterrey, California December 16, 1844 (English translation included)
 10. Valentin Canalizo, General of the Division and President of the Interior of the Mexican Republic: Letter confirming the appointment of Andrés Pico as 2nd Officer (Alferez) to Sargent of the 2nd Company of the Presidio of San Diego dated May 31, 1834
 11. L.2100.13.68-713a: Citizen, Jose Castro, Lieutenant Colonel of the Mexican Calvery and Commandant General of the Interior of the patrimony of California. Letter:

Compatriots: In a position of [Candoleros] with no respects to the laws, nor the authority from the department, has verbally introduced into the country [] by authority from Captain of the U.S military Mr. J.C. Fremont, who disobeyed orders of the General Command and prefecture of the 2nd District, in which we informed the other official to immediately march past the limits of our territory. With no response to our written inquiries, only by word of mouth, he stated the [empresado] Captain, that in the Grabilan Mountains, they were preparing to resist the forces that the authorities sent in attacking. The resulting orders of this General Command and prefecture put into action all possible elements, which resulted in the arrival of 200 patriots, who abandoned the fields they occupied leaving behind some clothes and other articles of war, and we were informed by the explorers took the route to the Tulares.

Compatriots, in the action of the rising by the American Pavilion the insults and threats against the authorities of this country, they are worthy of the hate and loathing of the Mexican people. Let us prepare to defend our Independence, so that united we can repel with strong hands the audacity of ungrateful men. Who received all the testimony

of a real hospitality in our country, and respond with ingratitude to the rights that were afforded to them by our cordiality and benevolence.

General Headquarters of San Juan Bautista, March 13, 1846
Jose Castro

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