

Rodolfo R. Schuller Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



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Washington, D.C.**

2009

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LC Online Catalog record:

<http://lcn.loc.gov/mm82039131>

Prepared by Howard F. Cline and Karen Linn Femia

Collection Summary

Title: Rodolfo R. Schuller Papers

Span Dates: 1492-1915

ID No.: MSS39131

Creator: Schuller, Rodolfo R., 1873-1932

Extent: 3,500 items ; 22 containers ; 11.6 linear feet

Language: Collection material in Spanish, Portugese, German, English, and Mexican, Central and South American Indian languages

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

Summary: Americanist and linguist. Chiefly files comprised of copies of documents from various repositories, original manuscripts, and notes based on Schuller's linguistic research in Mexico and Central and South America, including archaeological and ethnographic material, clippings, maps, and photographs.

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

Frič, Alberto Vojtěch, 1882-1944. Alberto Vojtěch Frič papers.

Hartt, Charles Frederick, 1840-1878. Charles Frederick Hartt papers.

Schuller, Rodolfo R., 1873-1932.

Subjects

Archaeology--Central America.

Archaeology--Mexico.

Archaeology--South America.

Cartography.

Ethnology--Central America.

Ethnology--Mexico.

Ethnology--South America.

Indians of Central America--Languages.

Indians of Mexico--Languages.

Indians of South America--Languages.

Linguistics--Central America.

Linguistics--Mexico.

Linguistics--South America.

Places

Amazon River Region--Discovery and exploration.

Brazil--Discovery and exploration.

Central America--Maps.

Latin America--Discovery and exploration.

Mexico--Maps.

South America--Maps.

Occupations

Linguists.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Rodolfo R. Schuller, Americanist and linguist, were purchased by the Library of Congress in 1913 and delivered to the Library in three installments between 1913 and 1915. A portion was transferred to the Manuscript Division from the Latin American, Portuguese and Spanish Division in 1976.

Processing History

The papers of Rodolfo R. Schuller were outlined in topical order by Howard F. Cline in 1960. The collection was expanded and revised in 1996. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

Additional Guides

An item list using the descriptions written by Schuller when he delivered the papers to the Library, with an addition by Karen Linn Femia, is available in the Manuscript Reading Room.

Transfers

A cartographic bibliography and many maps have been transferred to the Geography and Map Division where they are identified as part of the Rodolfo R. Schuller Papers.

Other Repositories

Other papers of Rodolfo R. Schuller can be found in the Carl A. Kroch Library of Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., and the Latin American Library of Tulane University, New Orleans, La.

Copyright Status

It is the researcher's responsibility to determine requirements of domestic copyright laws and international treaties and conventions.

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Rodolfo R. Schuller are 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.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Rodolfo R. Schuller, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1873, Dec. 25	Born Rudolf Riemel Schuller near Vienna, Austria
circa 1893	Came to the Americas
1899	Defended his doctoral dissertation, school unknown
1904	In Montevideo, Uruguay. Spent time in Buenos Aires, Argentina, either before or after Montevideo
1906-1907	Published several articles in Santiago, Chile
1908	Worked on the border dispute between Peru and Bolivia

1909	Employed by the library of the Museum Emilio Goeldi, Belém do Pará, Brazil Nominated a corresponding member of the Brazilian Historic and Geographic Institute while in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
1911	Developed project for the National Library, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil Traveled to Madrid and Seville, Spain
1912	Attended the Eighteenth Congress of Americanists, London, England Resigned his position at the Museum Emilio Goeldi because the state government of Pará, Brazil, could no longer pay his salary
1913	Attended the Nineteenth Congress of Americanists, Washington, D.C., as a delegate from the National Library, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
1914	Probably in Bahia, Brazil
circa 1915-1917	In Chicago, Ill.
1917-1921	Returned to and lived mostly in Vienna, Austria, following the severance of diplomatic relations between the United States and Austria
1921-circa 1929	Lived in Mexico City and researched indigenous groups for the Mexican government; affiliated with the Anthropology Department, National University of Mexico
1925	Visited San Salvador
1926	In New Orleans, La.; returned to Mexico
1928	Visited San José, Costa Rica, and Guatemala
1929	Worked at Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.
1932, Jan. 18	Died while attending a conference, Barranquilla, Colombia

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Rodolfo R. Schuller (1873-1932) span the years 1492-1915. Almost all documents dated earlier than the twentieth century are handwritten copies of documents made by Schuller between 1908 and 1915. The original documents resided in repositories in Europe and North and South America. In addition to copying documents, Schuller created an extensive bibliography. The historical documents pertain to native languages and cultures of Latin America, cartography, and the discovery and exploration of the New World. Original research and field notes by Schuller, mostly concerning linguistic matters, and many lengthy, unpublished manuscripts by Schuller are also included among his papers. Documents are in Spanish, Portuguese, German, and English as well as Central and South American Indian languages. The papers are particularly strong in Brazilian/Amazonian topics.

When the Schuller Papers came to the Library of Congress, they were kept in the order in which they arrived. In 1960 Howard F. Cline, director of the Hispanic Foundation, outlined a topical order for the papers. The present arrangement is based upon the Cline outline and incorporates a large bibliographic card file that had been separated from the rest of the collection in 1913.

The papers are divided into two series: a [Linguistic File](#) and a [Non-linguistic File](#). Items in the first series pertain to one or more native Latin American languages. Although items occasionally compare two or three languages, this is not evident

from the container list alone, and the appendix should also be consulted. The Non-linguistic File is a mixture of historical, cartographic, anthropological, and bibliographical material.

The Schuller Papers also contain material from anthropologist Alberto Vojtěch Frič (1882-1944) who worked mostly in the Amazon region of Brazil (see items 34, 39, 78-93, 108 and 178). Included are unpublished manuscripts, a collection of myths, ethnographic notes, and photographs. Item 208 is a collection of original letters, 1871-1878, written by American geologist Charles Frederick Hartt (1840-1878). See also items 35, 41.7, 51, and 95 for Hartt's notes on linguistic matters.

Biographical information on Schuller is both scarce and incomplete. The information used for the Biographical Note was taken from Museu Paraense Emílio Goeldi, *Inventário Analítico do Fundo Rudolf Schuller* (Belém, 1987), pp.84-86.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in two series:

- [Linguistic File, circa 1500-1915](#)
- [Non-linguistic File, 1492-1915](#)

Description of Series

Container

BOX 1-6

Series

Linguistic File, circa 1500-1915

Copies of documents from various repositories, original manuscripts, and notes based on Schuller's linguistic research.

Arranged in three sections: general, Mexico and Central America, and South America.

Organized alphabetically therein by name of language or location.

BOX 6-22

Non-linguistic File, 1492-1915

Copies of documents from various repositories, original manuscripts and notes, maps, photographs, correspondence, newspaper clippings, and a bibliographic card file.

Arranged in three topical sections: discovery and exploration, Luso-Brazilian material, and miscellany.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1-6	Linguistic File, circa 1500-1915 Copies of documents from various repositories, original manuscripts, and notes based on Schuller's linguistic research. Arranged in three sections: general, Mexico and Central America, and South America. Organized alphabetically therein by name of language or location.
BOX 1 ITEM 1-7	General, 1595, 1788, 1869, 1912-1913, undated (7 folders)
BOX 1	Mexico and Central America
BOX 1	General, 1608, 1874-1883, undated
BOX 1 ITEM 8-10	(3 folders)
BOX 1 ITEM [11]	[See items 197-205]
BOX 1 ITEM 12-15	(4 folders)
BOX 1	Groups and languages
BOX 1 ITEM 16	Black Carib, 1833, 1913
BOX 1 ITEM 17	Chiapeneca, 1883, undated
BOX 1 ITEM 18	Cholti, 1913
BOX 1 ITEM 19-21	Chorotega; Mangué, 1842, 1874, 1910-1912, undated (3 folders)
BOX 1 ITEM 21a	Huave, undated
BOX 1 ITEM 21b	Ixil, 1913
BOX 1 ITEM 22	Matagalpa, 1855, 1874, undated
BOX 1 ITEM 23-26	Maya, 1866-1868, undated (2 folders)
BOX 1 ITEM 27	Nahuatl, 1913
BOX 1 ITEM 28	Quiché, 1854, 1912
BOX 1 ITEM 29-30	Talamanca, 1867, 1895, undated
BOX 1 ITEM 31	Tzotzil, 1869, 1912
BOX 1	Xinca, 1868, 1913

Linguistic File, circa 1500-1915

Container

Contents

ITEM 32	
BOX 1	Zapotec, 1871, undated
ITEM 33	
BOX 2	South America
BOX 2	General, circa 1500, 1550, 1905-1915, undated
ITEM 34-40	
	(7 folders)
BOX 2	Groups and languages
BOX 2	Achagua, Colombia, 1912, undated
ITEM 41.1	
BOX 2	Amaga, Peru, 1912, undated
ITEM 41.2-41.3	
BOX 2	Amazonas, general, circa 1680-1787, circa 1874, 1910-1912, undated
ITEM 41.4-41.7	
	(3 folders)
BOX 2	Amuéscha, E. Peru, 1908, undated
ITEM 41.8-45a	
	(5 folders)
BOX 3	Argentina, general, 1746, 1912, undated
ITEM 46-47	
	(2 folders)
BOX 3	Atacama, Chile, 1557, undated
ITEM 48	
BOX 3	Betoga, NE Brazil, S. Colombia, undated
ITEM 49	
BOX 3	Bolivia, general, 1883, 1913
ITEM 50	
BOX 3	Botocudo/Camacan, Brazil, 1824-1825, 1852, 1867-1868, 1889, 1912-1913, undated
ITEM 51-60	
	(8 folders)
BOX 3	Camé, Brazil, 1868, undated
ITEM 61	
BOX 3	Campa, E. Peru, 1870, 1907-1908, undated
ITEM 62-64	
	(3 folders)
BOX 3	Caraja, undated
ITEM 65	
BOX 4	Carib-Aruác, general, undated
ITEM 66-68	
	(3 folders)
BOX 4	Cariri/Kiriri, Brazil, 1911-1914
ITEM 69-70	
	(2 folders)
BOX 4	Cayapa/Colorado, Ecuador, 1892, 1913
ITEM 71	
BOX 4	Chipaya/Curuahé, Brazil, 1913
ITEM 72	
BOX 4	Cholona, Peru, undated
ITEM 73	
BOX 4	Comenchingon and Sanviron, undated

Linguistic File, circa 1500-1915

Container

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ITEM 74	
BOX 4	Cueva, Colombia/Panama, undated
ITEM 75	
BOX 4	Haitano, 1875, undated
ITEM 76	
BOX 4	Inapari, Peru, 1903
ITEM 77	
BOX 4	Kaingan/Caingangue, Brazil, 1909, undated
ITEM 78-93	
	(6 folders)
BOX 4	Mapuche/Araucano, Chile, 1906-1907, undated
BOX 4	(1 folder)
ITEM 94a	
BOX 5	(1 folder)
ITEM 94b	
BOX 5	Mundurucu and Maue, Brazil, undated
ITEM 95	
BOX 5	Peru, general, 1819, 1908-1909, undated
ITEM 96-97	
BOX 5	Piró, Peru, undated
ITEM 98	
BOX 5	Quechua, 1908, undated
ITEM 99-100	
BOX 5	Saliva, 1745, 1911
ITEM 101	
BOX 5	Tacana, Bolivia, 1859-1863, 1910-1911
ITEM 102-104	
BOX 5	Tehuelche, Patagonia, undated
ITEM 105	
BOX 5	Tiatinagua, Peru, undated
ITEM 106	
BOX 5	Tupi/Guaraní, 1740, circa 1897, 1912, undated
ITEM 107-111	
	(3 folders)
BOX 5	Twaka, Panama, 1871, undated
ITEM 112	
BOX 5	Uruguay, general, 1532, 1692, 1866-1881, undated
ITEM 113-114	
	(2 folders)
BOX 5	Venezuela, general, 1886, 1913
ITEM 115	
BOX 5	Xebero, circa 1760, 1912-1913, n.d.
BOX 5	(3 folders)
ITEM 116-118	
BOX 6	(2 folders)
ITEM 119-121	
BOX 6	Yaghan, Patagonia, 1883, 1915
ITEM 122	
BOX 6	Yahua, Amazonas, 1870, undated
ITEM 123	

Linguistic File, circa 1500-1915

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BOX 6 ITEM 124	Yamiaca, Peru, 1903, undated
BOX 6 ITEM 125	Yengahiba, Peru/Brazil, 1681, undated
BOX 6 ITEM 126	Záparo, Amazonas, 1870, 1913
BOX 6-22	Non-linguistic File, 1492-1915 Copies of documents from various repositories, original manuscripts and notes, maps, photographs, correspondence, newspaper clippings, and a bibliographic card file. Arranged in three topical sections: discovery and exploration, Luso-Brazilian material, and miscellany.
BOX 6 BOX 6 ITEM 127-129	Discovery and exploration General, 1492-1565, 1912-1915, undated (3 folders)
BOX 6	Cartographers and cartography, circa 1504-1529, circa 1536-1550, 1573-circa 1579, 1656, 1749, 1759, 1886-1892, 1914-1915, undated
BOX 6 ITEM [130]	[Transferred to Geography and Map Division in 1940]
BOX 6 131-132	(2 folders)
BOX 6 ITEM [133]	[Missing]
BOX 6 ITEM 134-135	(2 folders)
BOX 7 ITEM 136-147	(12 folders)
BOX 7 ITEM [148]	[Transferred to Geography and Map Division in 1961]
BOX 7 ITEM 149	(1 folder)
BOX 8 BOX 8 ITEM 150-151b	Individual figures Columbus, 1513-1515, 1915, undated (3 folders)
BOX 8 ITEM 152	Cabral, 1501, undated
BOX 8 ITEM 153-157	Díaz de Solís, Juan, 1512-1516, undated (2 folders)
BOX 8 ITEM 158	Ordaz, Diego, 1532, undated
BOX 8 ITEM 159-160	Pinzón and Lepe, 1501-1510, 1892-1894, 1912, undated (2 folders)
BOX 8 ITEM 161-162	Santa Cruz, Alonso, 1503-1570, 1911-1912, undated [Some items from No. 161 were transferred to Geography and Map Division circa 1940] (3 folders)

Non-linguistic File, 1492-1915

Container

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BOX 9	Teixeira, undated
ITEM 163	
BOX 9	[Missing]
ITEM [164-165]	
BOX 9	Vespuccius, Americus, undated
ITEM 166	
BOX 9	Luso-Brazilian materials
BOX 9	General, 1512, 1555, 1626-1641, 1780, 1910-1912, undated
ITEM 167-178	
	(7 folders)
BOX 9	Amazon region, 1532, 1614-circa 1642, 1766, 1911-1912, undated
BOX 9	(6 folders)
ITEM 179-187	
BOX 10	(4 folders)
ITEM 188-193	
BOX 10	Miscellany
BOX 10	Bibliography
BOX 10	Notes, undated
ITEM 194-196	
	(3 folders)
BOX 11	Card files, circa 1913
BOX 11	Latin American Indian languages
ITEM 197	
BOX 11	Photographic reproductions
ITEM 198	
BOX 11	Various subjects
BOX 11	Part A
ITEM 199	
BOX 12	Part B
ITEM 199	
BOX 13	Part C
ITEM 199	
BOX 13	History of western hemispheric discovery
BOX 13	A-J
ITEM 200	
BOX 14	K-Z
ITEM 200	
BOX 15	Linguistics and lexicology
ITEM 201	
BOX 15	"Documents"
ITEM 202	
BOX 15	"Anonymous"
ITEM 203	
BOX 15	"Bibliographia Americanum"
BOX 15	Part A
ITEM 204	
BOX 16	Part B
ITEM 204	
BOX 17	Part C

Non-linguistic File, 1492-1915

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ITEM 204	
BOX 17	Miscellaneous
BOX 17	Part A
ITEM 205	
BOX 18	Part B
ITEM 205	
BOX 19	Checklists, 1913-1915
ITEM 206	
BOX 19	"Deutsche Kulturarbeit in Süd-Amerika," by Schuller, undated
ITEM 207	
BOX 19	Hartt, Charles Frederick, correspondence, 1871-1878, undated
ITEM 208	
BOX 19	Mexican immigration in Yucatán, 1618, undated
ITEM 209	
BOX 19	"Miscellanea Sudamericana," by Schuller, undated
ITEM 210	
BOX 19	Mútis, Don José Celestino, biographical material, 1808, 1912
ITEM 211	
BOX 19	Newspaper clippings, 1891, 1907-1915, undated
BOX 19	(2 folders)
ITEM 212	
BOX 20	(5 folders)
ITEM 212	
BOX 21	Notes and collected material, 1583, 1904-1915, undated
BOX 21	(6 folders)
ITEM 213	
BOX 22	(4 folders)
BOX 214-217	
BOX 22	Nuño García de Torreño, undated
ITEM 218	
BOX 22	Petition of Don Blas Zapata, undated
ITEM 219	
BOX 22	"Presillg Zeytung," study material for German pamphlet, undated
ITEM 220	
BOX 22	Scrapbook, 1908-1913, n.d.
ITEM 221	