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Guide to the Henry Vignaud Research Notes on Cartography

GEN MSS 610



by Tina Evans and Jennifer Meehan

2008

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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CALL NUMBER: GEN MSS 610

CREATOR: Vignaud, Henry, 1830-1922

TITLE: Henry Vignaud Research Notes on Cartography

DATES: circa 1893-1922

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 4 linear feet (4 boxes)

LANGUAGE: French

SUMMARY: The collection consists of Henry Vignaud's research notes for his unfinished book on the history of cartography. Notes are in French and in the hand of Vignaud. Some notes are accompanied by annotated printed material, such as book and article excerpts.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.vignaud>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.vignaud>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of H. P. Kraus Rare Books, Ltd., 2008.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Henry Vignaud Research Notes on Cartography is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

Henry Vignaud Research Notes on Cartography. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Processing Information

The collection received a basic level of processing, including rehousing and organization. File titles in the list below were transcribed directly from the labels of the boxes in which the material was originally housed. The Roman numerals appearing in parenthesis in the list below are those assigned by either the creator or previous custodian.

Henry Vignaud (1830-1922)

Henry Vignaud was a journalist, diplomat, and historian. He was born and educated in New Orleans. His career as a journalist commenced with articles for the newspapers of New Orleans. With the outbreak of the Civil War, he became a captain in the 6th Louisiana Regiment but was imprisoned in 1862, when New Orleans was captured by the Union Army. He escaped, went to Paris, and never returned to the United States.

In Paris, Vignaud entered the service of the Confederate mission under John Slidell. In 1869, he was appointed to a secretaryship in the Roumanian legation at Paris. On December 14, 1875, he was appointed second secretary of the United States legation in Paris, and on April 11, 1885, was promoted to be first secretary. For thirty-four years, he was an indispensable member of the Paris mission, frequently acting as chargé d'affaires, and serving always with distinction.

Vignaud's distinction was achieved after the age of seventy. His special interest in Columbus grew out of his close association with Henry Harrisse and with the Peruvian scholar Manuel Gonzalez de la Rosa, and the publications of the Columbian anniversary in 1892. He published several works on Columbus and European exploration during the 15th and 16th centuries, including: *La Lettre et la Carte de Toscanelli* (1901), *Toscanelli and Columbus* (1902), *Études critiques sur la vie de Colomb avant ses découvertes* (1905), *Histoire critique de la grande entreprise de Christophe Colomb* (2 vols., 1911), *Améric Vespuce, 1451-1512* (1917), and *Christophe Colomb et la Légende* (1921).

Vignaud also displayed a broad interest in the whole range of studies of aboriginal America and of the earliest European contacts with the new world. His work was recognized by the award of numerous honors and prizes, and by election as a foreign corresponding member of the Institut de France.

Vignaud's library of many thousand books, pamphlets, and maps now resides at the University of Michigan.

Vignaud's work also includes an unfinished history of cartography in approximately 650,000 words.

Biographical note has been excerpted from *Dictionary of American Biography* (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1936), s.v. "Vignaud, Henry"

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of Henry Vignaud's research notes for his unfinished book on the history of cartography. Notes are in French and in the hand of Vignaud. Some notes are accompanied by annotated printed material, such as book and article excerpts.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged according to a numerical system devised by the creator or the previous custodian.

Collection Contents

Manuscript Notes

b. 1, f. 1-7	Documents, Spanish (I)
b. 1, f. 8-15	Cartography, B. C. (II)
b. 1, f. 16-24	Cartography, 1st and 2nd centuries A. D. (III)
b. 1, f. 25-32	Cartography, 3rd-12th centuries A. D. (IV)
b. 2, f. 33-40	Cartography, 13th-14th centuries (V)
b. 2, f. 41-49	1410-1493 (VI)
b. 2, f. 50-56	1493-1510 (VII)
b. 3, f. 57-62	1510-1526 (VIII)
b. 3, f. 63-67	1527-1535 (IX)
b. 3, f. 68-73	1536-1550 (X)
b. 3, f. 74-80	1551-1570 (XI)
b. 4, f. 81-87	1571-1602 (XII)
b. 4, f. 88-94	Projected titles / Analytical tables (XIII-XIV)
b. 4, f. 95-105	Miscellaneous

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.

Subjects

Cartography -- History
Early maps

Names

Vignaud, Henry, 1830-1922