

Visit the California State Library at the State Fair

Exhibit Celebrates

1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition



July 13, 2015

Visitors to the [State Fair](#) can view photos and souvenirs from a world's fair that took place a hundred years ago in San Francisco: the [1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition](#). In honor of the centennial anniversary, the California State Library is displaying historic photographs, posters, banners and rare memorabilia from its collection, as well as from the collections of the State Parks and State Archives.

The Panama-Pacific International Exposition celebrated the opening of the Panama Canal and showcased the technological and industrial achievements of the era. Covering 650 acres, the fair even housed a real Ford Motor Company assembly plant that cranked out 18 Model T cars a day.

One of the marvels of the 1915 exposition was the 43-story ["Tower of Jewels,"](#) which was adorned with 102,000 shimmering cut-glass crystals. The library's exhibit contains examples of the remaining crystals.

Fairgoers can wear a pair of 3-D glasses to watch a slide show of stereograph cards, from the library's extensive collection of 19th century photographs. Stereo photography is a technique that renders images in three-dimensional depth.

Library staff will be on hand to answer questions about the 1915 exposition.

The State Library exhibit is located in [California Building B](#) and is open daily during the fair.

Monday – Thursday: 11 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Friday – Sunday: 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.