A PICTURE HISTORY OF EARLY ELEVATORS

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The *Chaise Volante* at Versailles operated by a servant controlling the rope.
The Ascending Room at the London Coliseum in 1829

References to the Engraving.

A. Column or Tower in the centre of the building, for supporting the Ascending Room, &c.
B. Entrance to the Ascending Room.
C. Saloon for the reception of works of art.
D. Passage leading to the Saloon, Galleries, and Ascending Room.
E. F. Two separate Spiral Flights of Steps, leading to the Galleries, &c.
G. H. I. Galleries from which the Picture is to be viewed.
K. Refreshment Room.
L. Rooms for Music or Balls.
M. The Old Ball from St. Paul's Cathedral.
N. Stairs leading to the outside of the Building.

a. b. Sky-lights. c. Plaster Dome, on which the sky is painted.
d. Canvass on which the part of the picture up to the horizon is painted.
e. Gallery, suspended by ropes, used for painting the distance, and uniting the plaster and the canvass.
f. Temporary Bridge from the Gallery G to the Gallery e, from the end of which the echo of the building might be heard to the greatest advantage.
g. One of Fifteen Triangular Platforms, used for painting the sky.
h. Platforms fixed on the ropes of the Gallery e, used for finishing and clouding the sky.
i. j. Different methods for getting at the lower parts of the canvass.
j. K. Baskets for conveying colours, &c. to the artists.
m. Cross or shears, formed of two poles, from which a cradle or box is suspended, for finishing the picture after the removal of all the scaffolding and ropes.
19th century Man Engine as used in the Cornish mines
Miners using the so-called Human Chandelier
Elisha Graves Otis demonstrating his *Safety Elevator* at the New York Crystal Palace Exhibition in 1853
The Otis *Steam Elevator* at the Chicago Exhibition in 1893
Leon Edoux’s giant hydraulic elevator (Ascenseur) at the Paris Universal Exhibition of 1867
The elevator *des quatre colonnes* in the Grande Magasins du Louvre in 1877
Edoux’s hydraulic elevator in the Trocadero at the Universal Exhibition of 1878
Lane & Bodley hydraulic elevator, horizontal drive version in the 1870’s
Otis vertical drive, hand-rope-controlled elevator
Otis double deck elevator car at the Eiffel Tower
Otis double deck elevator car at the Eiffel Tower

Otis elevator cabins on the Eiffel Tower
The inclined Roux-Combaluzier & Lepape elevator at the Eiffel Tower
The French *Ascensuer Atmospheric* at a mine pithead in 1875
Werner Seimens demonstrated the first electric elevator in 1880
Siemens improved electric elevator of 1881
The Chretien electric elevator built for the Paris Exhibition of 1889
A new freight raising engine, Chicago International Exhibition of 1893
A Morse, Williams & Company passenger elevator, about 1893
A Fives-Lille inclined elevator with two cabins superimposed over the conductor’s car, being an early replacement for the original Roux-Combaluzier & Lepape cars on the Eiffel Tower
The Edoux hydraulic lift first introduced in 1887
The main elevator at the Hotel Meurice in Paris
An example of an elevator and protective grille designed in a mid-18th century style
An Edwardian elevator c.1910
An elevator awkwardly sited in an entrance hall
French Jaspar Micro-drive elevator machinery installed in a river tunnel
A bank of elevators at the Magasins du Printemps department store in Paris, 1924
The *Paternoster* or Chain Elevator invented in England in 1882
A *Paternoster* elevator in use
A three-track Moving Pavement at the 1900 Paris International Exhibition
The first London Escalator installed at Earl’s Court Underground Station in 1911
REFERENCES, PICTURE SOURCES AND FURTHER READING

1983 Going Up: The Early History of the Elevator, Jean Gavois, Otis Elevator Company
(Translated from the French)

1993 Technological Systems Compete at Otis: Hydraulic Versus Electric Elevators, Anne Millbrooke,
The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc., USA

2001 Otis: Giving Rise to the Modern City, Jason Goodwin, United Technologies Corporation,
Ivan R Dee, Chicago

See also on CIBSE Heritage Group website under Electronic Books/Systems & Equipment
Elevators & Escalators
Buildings
Elevators
Escalators & Moving Walkways
Otis
The Express Lift Company
Eiffel Tower- Parts 1 & 2

Express Lifts
Smith, Major & Stevens
Waygood

The CIBSE HERITAGE GROUP ELECTRONIC ARCHIVE has a number of Elevator Catalogues
1893 Otis Standard Elevators
1905 A B See Electric Elevators
1916 Otis Better Elevator Service
1920 Kimball Elevators
1922 Otis Elevators