



Smithsonian

Archives of American Art

Farm Security Administration (FSA)
selected records and photographs

Archives of American Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives of American Art
Title:	Farm Security Administration (FSA) selected records and photographs
Identifier:	AAA.unstfsad
Date:	1935-1942
Creator:	United States. Farm Security Administration. Historical Section
Extent:	2 Items (Textual records: 2 partial microfilm reels) 218 Items (Photographs)
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Microfilm and copy prints donated by the Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, 1965.

Acquisition Information

Reel FSA/WDC2: Record Group 96, textual records of the Farmers Home Administration include the records of the FSA, predecessor to the FHA.

Location of Originals

Reel FSA/WDC1 and photographs: Originals in Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C.

Location of Originals

Reels FSA/WDC2: Originals in the National Archives, Washington, D.C., Record Group 96, Farmers Home Administration records.

Related Materials

Additional FSA-OWI records located at: Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division (microfilm available at LC)

Related Materials

Additional Stryker papers located at: Photographic Archives University of Louisville, Louisville, Ky. 40208

Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels FSA/WDC1-FSA/WDC2 available at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center. Contact Reference Services for more information.

Biographical / Historical

Established 1935 in the Resettlement Administration Historical Section's photographic project to document poverty stricken rural America under the direction of Roy E. Stryker. In 1937, Roosevelt established the FSA, and the Resettlement Administration and its programs fell under its auspices. The Historical Section of the Resettlement Administration remained intact under the FSA, and continued its photographic survey and historical documentation under Stryker's direction.

Biographical / Historical

After 1942, the photographs project was transplanted to the Office War Information, and the emphasis of the project shifted from rural and urban conditions throughout Depression-era U.S. to the domestic impact of the war. In 1946, Congress created the Farmers Home Administration (FHA) which absorbed the FSA and its programs.

Scope and Contents

Scattered textual records selected from the Farm Security Administration, Historical Section records at the Library of Congress and the Farmers Home Administration records at the National Archives primarily revolving around activities of Roy Stryker. Included are personnel and travel records, typescripts of photograph captions, correspondence, memoranda, files on public relations and exhibits, and printed material.

Scope and Contents

218 copy prints of photographs of America taken for the FSA, including landscapes, people, homes and other architecture, rural scenes, urban scenes, workers, products of farm and industry, transportation, entertainment, and the Quarter Circle U Ranch, Birney, Montana. Photographers include: Arthur Rothstein, Walker Evans, Dorothea Lange, John Collier, Marion Post Wolcott, Jack Delano, Russell Lee, John Vachon, Ben Shahn, Carl Mydans, and Edwin Rosskam.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Architectural photography -- United States -- Photographs
- Federal aid to the arts
- Federal aid to the public welfare -- Photographs
- New Deal, 1933-1939
- Photography -- United States -- Landscape -- Photographs
- Photography -- United States -- Portraits -- Photographs

Names:

- Collier, John, Jr., 1913-1992
- Delano, Jack

Evans, Walker, 1903-1975
Lange, Dorothea
Lee, Russell, 1903-1986
Mydans, Carl
Roskam, Edwin, 1903-1985
Rothstein, Arthur, 1915-1985
Shahn, Ben, 1898-1969
Stryker, Roy Emerson, 1893-1975
Vachon, John, 1914-1975
Wolcott, Marion Post, 1910-1990

Functions:

Agencies