



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Arnold D. Kates Film Collection

NMAH.AC.0259

C. Jeremy Barney

2007

Archives Center, National Museum of American History

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Arnold D. Kates Film Collection
Date:	1929-1931, undated
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0259
Creator:	Kates, Arnold D.
Extent:	1 Film reel
Language:	English .
Summary:	Arnold D. Kates was an officer in the Association of Young Advertising Men of New York in the 1930s. As an officer, he visited Washington, D.C., to attend the annual meeting of the Advertising Federation of America and took home movies of the capital, including a formal reception at the White House, the Washington Monument, and the Lincoln Memorial. Additional film footage includes scenes on a ship, cityscapes and industrial landscapes of New York City.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated by Arnold D. Kates, 1983.

Processing Information

Processed by C. Jeremy Barney, July, 2007; supervised by Wendy Shay, archivist.

Preferred Citation

Arnold D. Kates Film Collection, Archives Center, National Museum of American History

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Biographical / Historical

Arnold D. Kates was an officer in the Association of Young Advertising Men of New York in the 1930s. As an officer, he visited Washington, D.C., to attend the annual meeting of the Advertising Federation of America and took home movies of the capital, including a formal reception at the White House, the Washington Monument, and the Lincoln Memorial. Additional film footage includes scenes on a ship, cityscapes and industrial landscapes of New York City.

Scope and Contents

Four small reels, combined into a single compilation reel by Archives Center staff, of 16mm black and white, silent, camera original reversal motion picture film. One film depicts scenes of Washington, D.C., including a receiving line at the White House for the annual meeting of the Advertising Federation of America. A second film shows people on a boat, people in a car, and a woman with a calf. The third depicts a Manhattan, New York cityscape, docks and ships, industrial buildings, rail yards and railcars, and shipping trucks. Trucks from the Railway Express Agency and the Bush Terminal Co. appear, as well as buildings possibly owned and/or operated by the Bush Terminal Co. Lastly, the fourth film contains images of automobiles and individuals outside of a building possibly identified as the Cypress Hills Hotel Abbey.

Arnold D. Kates dated the film contents to 1931 based on writing on the boxes the films were contained in when he donated the films. An examination of the Eastman Kodak film stock codes gives dates of 1929 and 1930 for the actual film stock. The four films have been combined into a single compilation reel based on the film stock chronology. The first three films have stock dating 1929 and the final film's stock on the compilation reel dates 1930. No other chronological linkages could be determined.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Associations, institutions, etc.
- Automobiles -- 1920-1930
- Boats -- New York (N.Y.)
- Harbors -- New York (N.Y.)
- Monuments -- Washington (D.C.)
- Railroads
- Ships -- New York (N.Y.)
- United States Capitol (Washington, D.C.) -- 1880-1890
- Urban Life
- Washington Monument (Washington, D.C.)

Types of Materials:

- Cityscapes
- Motion pictures (visual works) -- 1930-1950

Names:

- Advertising Federation of America
- Association of Young Advertising Men
- Bush Terminal Building
- Railway Express Agency.

Places:

- Lincoln Memorial (Washington, D.C.)
- New York (N.Y.) -- 1930-1940
- Washington (D.C.) -- 1930-1940
- White House (Washington, D.C.)

Container Listing

Item OF259.1

Motion picture film, circa 1929-1931

1 Film reel (16mm, black and white, silent, camera original reversal motion picture film, 450 ft. (compilation reel created by the Archives Center))

Notes: 1. Washington, D.C., circa 1929-1931 [1929 – film stock]

Shot primarily in Washington, D.C., this section includes footage of cityscapes, street scenes, and industrial landscapes including shots of a rail yard and train cars. Also includes footage of automobile traffic on a bridge, a woman riding a horse with automobiles in the background, exterior shots of the Lincoln Memorial, the Washington Monument and the Capitol Building viewed from across the Reflecting Pool, people in front of the White House, and a receiving line in front of the White House that may include President Harding.

2. Boat and Car Footage, Woman with a Calf, circa 1929-1931 [1929 – film stock]

3. Cityscape, Docks, Industrial Landscape, and the Bush Terminal Co., circa 1929-1931 [1929 – film stock] Includes footage of New York City cityscape with a building under construction in the background (40 Wall Street / The Bank of Manhattan Company Building (?)).

4. Cypress Hills Hotel Abbey (?), circa 1929-1931 [1930 – film stock]