



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Scurlock Studio Records, Subseries 4.4: Black and white negatives in freezer storage arranged by subject

NMAH.AC.0618.S04.04

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The collection was acquired with assistance from the Eugene Meyer Foundation. Elihu and Susan Rose and the Save America's Treasures program, provided funds to stabilize, organize, store, and create digital surrogates of some of the negatives. Processing and encoding funded by a grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources.

2001

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Scurlock Studio Records, Subseries 4.4: Black and white negatives in freezer storage arranged by subject
Date:	1900-1994
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0618.S04.04
Creator:	Scurlock, Addison N., 1883-1964 Custom Craft Scurlock, Robert S. (Saunders), 1917-1994 Scurlock, George H. (Hardison), 1919-2005 Scurlock Studio (Washington, D.C.)
Location:	Freezer storage
Extent:	320 Boxes The subseries consists of black and white silver gelatin negatives..
Language:	English .
Summary:	Black and white gelatin negatives depicting art, buildings, and unidentified individuals.

Administrative Information

Forms Part Of

Subseries 4.4 forms part of Series 4, within the [Scurlock Studio Records](#) group.

Scurlock Studio Records:

- [Series 1: Black and White Photographs](#)
- [Series 2: Color Photographs](#)
- [Series 3: Framed Prints](#)
- [Series 4: Black-and-White Silver Gelatin Negatives](#)
- [Series 5: Color Negatives](#)
- [Series 6: Color Transparencies, Slides, and Other Formats](#)
- [Series 7: Black-and-White Color Separation Negatives and Matrices](#)
- [Series 8: Scurlock Studio Business Records](#)
- [Series 9: Custom Craft Business Records](#)
- [Series 10: Capitol School of Photography](#)
- [Series 11: Washington Stock](#)
- [Series 12: Background Materials and Publications](#)

Preferred Citation

Scurlock Studio Records, Archives Center, National Museum of American History. Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Series 8: Business Records, Subseries 8.1: Studio Session Registers are restricted. Digital copies available for research. See repository for details.

Gloves must be worn when handling unprotected photographs and negatives. Special arrangements required to view negatives due to cold storage. Using negatives requires a three hour waiting period. Contact the Archives Center at 202-633-3270.

Conditions Governing Use

When the Museum purchased the collection from the Estate of Robert S. Scurlock, it obtained all rights, including copyright. The earliest photographs in the collection are in the public domain because their term of copyright has expired. The Archives Center will control copyright and the use of the collection for reproduction purposes, which will be handled in accordance with its standard reproduction policy guidelines. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Biographical Note

The Scurlock photographic studio was a fixture in the Shaw area of Washington, D.C. from 1911 to 1994, and encompassed two generations of photographers, Addison N. Scurlock (1883-1964) and his sons George H. (1920-2005) and Robert S. (1916-1994). [More...](#)

Scope and Contents

The materials document negatives that could not be connected to a specific client. The subjects include art, buildings, and unidentified individuals.

Arrangement

The negatives are arranged by subject but are not in alphabetical order.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- African American entertainers -- 20th century
- African American photographers
- African Americans -- History -- 20th century
- Commercial photography -- 20th century -- Washington (D.C.)
- Photography -- 20th century -- Washington (D.C.)
- Politicians -- 20th century
- Portraits -- 20th century
- Segregation

Types of Materials:

- Color separation negatives
- Dye transfer process
- Matrices, color separation
- Photographs -- 20th century
- Studio portraits

Names:

- DuBois, W.E.B. (William Edward Burghardt), 1868-1963
- Howard University -- 20th century
- Washington, Booker T., 1856-1915

Places:

- Shaw (Washington, D.C.)
- Washington (D.C.) -- African Americans
- Washington (D.C.) -- Small business -- 20th century

Container Listing

Subseries 4.4: Black and white negatives in freezer storage arranged by subject

Box 1	Artwork, Painting-Abstract
Box 1	Artwork, Painting of card players, 1930
Box 1	Artwork, Painting of man wearing fez
Box 1	Artwork, Painting of market woman
Box 1	Artwork, Portrait painting of woman
Box 1	Artwork, Painting, [?] image illegible
Box 1	Artwork, Pastel Drawing "Day"
Box 1	Artwork, Pastel Drawing "Night"
Box 1	Artwork, "Porter-Drawings", 1933
Box 1	Artwork, Architectural model
Box 1	Building, Art Gallery
Box 1	Buildings, Churches
Box 1	Buildings, Residences [?]
Box 1	Buildings, Street scene, 1935 November 1
Box 1	Buildings with trees
Box 1	Interior, Bedroom
Box 1	Interior, Dining room
Box 1	Interiors-Living rooms
Box 1	Interior, Lounge
Box 1	Interiors, Offices
Box 1	Scene, Cemetery

Box 1	Scene, Funeral flowers
Box 1	Scenes, Landscapes and trees
Box 1	Men-Individual Portraits, unidentified
Box 1	Men-Groups, unidentified
Box 1	Women-Individual Portraits, unidentified
Box 1	Women-Groups, unidentified
Box 2	Men and Women-Couples, unidentified
Box 2	Church Groups-Choirs, unidentified
Box 2	Church Groups-Sunday School, unidentified
Box 2	Church Groups-Congregations, unidentified
Box 2	Church Groups-Men and women, unidentified
Box 2	Musical Groups-Orchestra and Choir onstage, unidentified Notes: Scan: AC0618.004.0000722
	<p>Cardozo High School Orchestra and Chorus, May, 1960 [cellulose acetate photonegative], May 1960</p> <p>1 Item</p> <p>Photographer: Scurlock Studio (Washington, D.C.)</p> <p>Creator: Eastman Kodak Company (film manufacturer)</p> <p>Language: English.</p> <p>Notes: Silver gelatin on cellulose acetate film sheet, Size 8"x10". Orchestra members with instruments and chorus on stage in formal pose. No Scurlock number, no ink on negative: "Kodak Safety Film." edge imprint.</p> <p>Names: Cardozo High School (Washington, D.C.)</p> <p>Topic: Orchestra Choruses African American musicians African American students</p> <p>Place: Washington (D.C.) -- African Americans</p> <p>Genre/Form: Photographs -- 1960-1970 -- Black-and-white negatives -- Acetate film</p> <p>Culture: African Americans -- Washington (D.C.)</p>
Box 2	Musical Groups-Singing groups, unidentified
Box 2	School Group-Graduating class with diplomas, unidentified

	Notes: Scan: AC0618.004.0000346
Box 2	School Group-Group seated on bleachers, unidentified Notes: Scan: AC0618.004.0000341
	Dunbar High School June graduating class 1954 [cellulose acetate photonegative], June 1954 1 Item (Silver gelatin on cellulose acetate film sheet.) Photographer: Scurlock Studio (Washington, D.C.) Language: English. Notes: From box 80. Ink on negative: "X". Graduation class picture, outdoors on bleachers. ROTC students in group portrait. "Kodak -- Safety 406" edge imprint. Photo has been retouched. Good. Names: Dunbar High School (Washington, D.C.) United States. Army. Reserve Officers' Training Corps. Topic: Graduation (School) African American schools -- 1950-1960 -- Washington Portraits, Groups Place: Washington (D.C.) -- African Americans Genre/Form: Photographs -- Black-and-white negatives -- Acetate film Culture: African Americans -- Washington (D.C.)
Box 2	Weddings, unidentified
Box 3	Artwork-Classical bust
Box 3	Artwork-Ornate metal screen
Box 3	Artwork-Portrait bust, 19th century
Box 3	Artwork-Portrait head of boy
Box 3	Artwork-Sculpture of woman
Box 3	Artwork-[painting?]
Box 3	Artwork-Unidentifiable
Box 3	Buildings-unidentified
	Lichtman Theater [acetate film photonegative], [ca. 1940] 1 Item Photographer: Scurlock, Addison N., 1883-1964 Language: English. Notes: Silver gelatin on cellulose acetate film sheet, 8" x 10". Slight warping and acetate odor.

Names: Lichtman Theater (Washington, D.C.)
Topic: Theaters -- 1930-1940
Portraits, Group -- 1930-1940 -- Washington (D.C.).
Genre/Form: Photographs -- 1930-1940 -- Black-and-white negatives --
Acetate film

[Lichtman Theater \[front, exterior of Booker T Theatre\] \[acetate film photonegative\], \[ca. 1940\]](#)

1 Item

Photographer: Scurlock, Addison N., 1883-1964

Language: English.

Notes: Silver gelatin on cellulose acetate film sheet, 8" x 10".

Featuring advertising for motion picture "Fire Over England." No ink on negative, no edge imprint.

The Booker T, located on U Street, N.W., between 14th and 15th streets, was one of the Lichtman Theaters (along with the Lincoln and Howard). These three were the main uptown Black theaters (from Wilbur Williams, Washington, D.C., resident, July 2005).

Paint on negative, and some fading and acetate odor.

Names: Lichtman Theater (Washington, D.C.)

Topic: Theaters -- 1930-1940

Place: U Street, N.W. (Washington, D.C.)

Genre/Form: Photographs -- 1930-1940 -- Black-and-white negatives --
Acetate film

[Lichtman Theater \[the Broadway Theater\] \[acetate film photonegative\], \[ca. 1940\]](#)

1 Item

Photographer: Scurlock, Addison N., 1883-1964

Language: English.

Notes: Silver gelatin on cellulose acetate film sheet, 8" x 10".

Identified as the Broadway Theater, part of the Lichtman chain (Jane Levey, 22 Nov. 2005).

Paint on negative; warping, curling, and acetate odor.

Names: Lichtman Theater (Washington, D.C.)

Topic: Theaters -- 1930-1940

Portraits, Group -- 1930-1940 -- Washington (D.C.).

Genre/Form: Photographs -- 1930-1940 -- Black-and-white negatives --
Acetate film

[Lichtman Theater \[acetate film photonegative\], Ca. 1940](#)

1 Item

Photographer: Scurlock Studio (Washington, D.C.)

Language: English.

Notes: Silver gelatin on cellulose acetate film sheet, 8" x 10".

Some warping and acetate odor.

Names: Lichtman Theater (Washington, D.C.)

Topic: Theaters -- 1930-1940

Portraits, Group -- 1930-1940 -- Washington (D.C.).

Genre/Form: Photographs -- 1930-1940 -- Black-and-white negatives --
Acetate film

Box 3	Babies and Children-Individual portraits, unidentified
Box 3	Babies and Children-With parents, unidentified
Box 3	Men-Individual Portraits, unidentified
Box 4	Men-Individual Portraits, unidentified
Box 4	Women-Individual Portraits, unidentified
Box 4	Men-Unidentified group Notes: Scan: #0618.0624
Box 4	Women-Unidentified group Notes: Scan: #0618.0623
Box 4	Women-Unidentified group Notes: Scan: #0618.0641
Box 4	Women-Unidentified group Notes: Scan: #0618.0642
Box 4	Men and Women-Unidentified group Notes: Scan: #0618.0622
Box 4	Men and Women-Unidentified group Notes: Scan: #0618.0624
Box 4	Men and Women-Unidentified group Notes: Scan: #0618.0625
Box 4	Men and Women-Unidentified groups
Box 4	Weddings, unidentified
Box 5	Men-Individual portraits, unidentified
Box 5	Men-Man with baby, unidentified
Box 5	Men-Unidentified groups
Box 5	Women-Individual portraits, unidentified
Box 5	Weddings-unidentified

Box 5	Interior-Hotel lobby, unidentified
Box 5	Art by James Motley and Others, undated
Box 5	Art by James Motley and Others, undated
Box 5	Art by James Motley and Others, undated
Box 5	Art by James Motley and Others, undated
Box 5	Art by James Motley and Others, undated
Box 5	Art by James Motley and Others, undated
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Box 5	Art by James Motley and Others, undated
Box 5	Art by James Motley and Others, undated
Box 5	Art by James Motley and Others, undated
Box 5	Art by James Motley and Others, undated
Box 5	Art by James Motley and Others, undated
Box 5	Unidentified Group, undated
Box 5	Unidentified Group, undated

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