



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

New England Gravestone Imagery [1650-1815], 1957-1959, 1963

NMAH.AC.0658

Jennifer Snyder

February 2002

Archives Center, National Museum of American History

P.O. Box 37012

Suite 1100, MRC 601

Washington, D.C. 20013-7012

archivescenter@si.edu

<https://americanhistory.si.edu/archives>

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Biographical / Historical.....	2
Arrangement.....	3
Scope and Contents.....	2
Names and Subjects	3
Container Listing	4
Series 1: Photographs by Allan Ludwig, 1957-1959.....	4
Series 2: Portfolios of Rubbings by Ann Parker and Avon Neal, 1963.....	6

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	New England Gravestone Imagery [1650-1815]
Date:	1957-1959 1963
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0658
Creator:	Parker, Ann (Author) Neal, Avon (Author) Art in America (Sponsor) Ludwig, Saul (Donor) Ludwig, Allan I. (Photographer)
Source:	National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Cultural History (Collector)
Extent:	2 Cubic feet (6 boxes)
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The Ludwig portion of the collection was donated to NMAH (formerly United States National Museum) in 1959 by Saul Ludwig. The three portfolios were purchased by the Museum in 1964 from Ann Parker and Avon Neal. The materials were transferred to the Archives Center in 1998 from the Division of Cultural History and combined to form one collection.

Provenance

Allan Ludwig's photographs were donated by Mr. Saul Ludwig to the Division of Cultural History (now Division of Cultural and Community Life) in 1959, and the portfolios of rubbings were purchased from the authors in 1964. The two collections were combined because of their related content and transferred to the Archives Center in 1998.

Division of Cultural History (now Division of Cultural and Community Life) original catalog numbers: 68.258-68.299 for the rubbings, and 60.412 for the photographs.

Related Materials

From the Ludwig photographs, seven stones were selected by the Museum in 1960 to be reproduced in plastic resin for exhibition; the replicas were executed by Smithsonian craftsmen under the direction of Allan Ludwig. The reproductions are in the Division of Cultural History (now Division of Cultural and Community Life) collections.

Related Materials

From the Ludwig photographs, seven stones were selected by the Museum in 1960 to be reproduced in plastic resin for exhibition; the replicas were executed by Smithsonian craftsmen under the direction of Allan Ludwig. The reproductions are in the Division of Cultural History collections.

The Division of Cultural History (now Division of Cultural and Community Life) retains a number of objects relating to death, dying, and mortuary services (including coffin manufacturing). The Division also has tools and other objects relating to stone carving and gravestones.

Processing Information

by: Jennifer Snyder, February 2002

Preferred Citation

New England Gravestone Imagery, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research but is stored off-site and special arrangements must be made to work with it. Contact the Archives Center for information at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270.

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

Allan I. Ludwig, an historian and photographer, was born in 1933 in Yonkers, NY. He studied at Yale University, earning a BFA in 1956, a MA in 1960, and a PhD in 1964. Additionally, from 1960 to 1963 he was a Bollingen fellow. *Graven Images: New England Stonecarving and Its Symbols, 1650-1815* was originally published by Wesleyan University Press, and has most recently (1999) been reprinted by the University Press of New England. It continues to be a seminal work. He works in platinum and silver gelatin photographic printing media. Ludwig took the photographs for this survey between 1957 and 1959.

In 1963, as part of its 50th Anniversary program, *Art in America* magazine sponsored the publication of a series of portfolios of original gravestone rubbings made by Ann Parker and Avon Neal. The work was conducted under a Ford Foundation Grant. A limited number of each of the rubbings was made for the portfolios, issued in three different sizes. They are published under the title: *A Portfolio of Rubbings from Early American Stone Sculpture Found in the Burying Grounds of New England*.

Scope and Contents

This collection is arranged in two series.

Series 1: PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALLAN LUDWIG, 1957-1959

408 photoprints with captions. The photos were originally divided into 6 volumes. These were then consolidated into 3 binders. The original 6 divisions have been maintained here. Each photograph has been numbered. The number corresponds to the "List of Identifications."

Series 2: PORTFOLIOS OF RUBBINGS, 1963

Forty-two rubbings of gravestones issued in three portfolios of different sizes. There are fourteen rubbings in each box. The portfolios are number #16 of an edition of 50.

Arrangement

Divided into two series.

Series 1: Photographs by Allan Ludwig, 1957-1959

Series 2: Portfolios of rubbings by Ann Parker and Avon Neal, 1963

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Cemeteries -- 1650-1810 -- New England
- Epitaphs -- 1650-1810 -- New England
- Sculpture -- 1650-1810 -- New England
- Tombstones

Types of Materials:

- Photographs -- Black-and-white photoprints -- Silver gelatin -- 1950-1960
- Portfolios (groups of works) -- 1960-1970
- Rubbings

Names:

National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Cultural History

Places:

New England -- Gravestones

Container Listing

Series 1: Photographs by Allan Ludwig, 1957-1959

Box 1, Folder 2	Table of Contents
Box 1, Folder 3	"The Graven Images of Early New England" by Allan Ludwig
Box 1, Folder 4	List of New England Stonecarvers before 1800 (alphabetical)
Box 1, Folder 5	List of Identifications (numerical)
Box 1, Folder 6	Index of Iconography
Volume I	
Box 1, Folder 7	Title Page
Box 1, Folder 8	1-20
Box 1, Folder 9	21-40
Box 1, Folder 10	41-68
Volume II	
Box 1, Folder 11	Title Page
Box 1, Folder 12	69-90
Box 1, Folder 13	91-110
Box 1, Folder 14	111-136
Volume III	
Box 2, Folder 1	Title Page
Box 2, Folder 2	137-158
Box 2, Folder 3	159-180
Box 2, Folder 4	181-204
Volume IV	

Box 2, Folder 5	Title Page
Box 2, Folder 6	205-228
Box 2, Folder 7	229-250
Box 2, Folder 8	251-272
Volume V	
Box 3, Folder 1	Title Page
Box 3, Folder 2	273-294
Box 3, Folder 3	295-318
Box 3, Folder 4	319-340
Volume VI	
Box 3, Folder 5	Title Page
Box 3, Folder 6	341-367
Box 3, Folder 7	363-386
Box 3, Folder 8	387-408

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 2: Portfolios of Rubbings by Ann Parker and Avon Neal, 1963

Box 1, Folder 1

[List of rubbings in three portfolio boxes \(The list also appears at the end of this document.\) A Portfolio of Rubbings from Early American Stone Sculpture Found in the Burying Grounds of New England by Ann Parker and Avon Neal, 1963](#)

3 Portfolios

[Return to Table of Contents](#)