



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Domestic Life
and Photograph Collection

NMAH.AC.0725

NMAH Staff

Archives Center, National Museum of American History
P.O. Box 37012
Suite 1100, MRC 601
Washington, D.C. 20013-7012
archivescenter@si.edu
<http://americanhistory.si.edu/archives>

Table of Contents

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Collection Overview | 1 |
| Administrative Information | 1 |
| Arrangement..... | 2 |
| Historical..... | 2 |
| Scope and Contents note..... | 2 |
| Names and Subjects | 2 |
| Container Listing | 4 |

Collection Overview

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Repository: | Archives Center, National Museum of American History |
| Title: | Domestic Life Stereograph and Photograph Collection |
| Identifier: | NMAH.AC.0725 |
| Date: | circa 1862-1920 |
| Extent: | 2 Cubic feet (9 boxes) |
| Creator: | Centennial Photographic Co. Cultural History, Division of (NMAH, SI). Roth, Rodris Myers, Susan H. |
| Language: | English |
| Summary: | Hundreds of stereographs and other photographic imagery, especially a large number of the 1876 Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia; other subjects include: the World's Columbian Exhibition (1893); the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, the Great Sanitary Fair; a large number on Massachusetts, including a set of images from Old Sturbridge; buildings and scenery; miscellaneous other subjects. |
| Digital Content: | Image(s): Domestic Life Stereograph and Photograph Collection |

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Collection donated by Susan Myers.

Ownership and Custodial History

Photographs collected in the Division of Domestic Life by curators Rodris Roth and Susan Myers. Ms. Myers donated some of the stereographs from her personal collection. The stereographs of the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition were collected in connection with the production of the Smithsonian re-creation of the exhibition in the Arts and Industries Building, "1976." Other donors are represented in the collection. Transferred to the Archives Center in 2000 by the Division of Social History, through Rodris Roth, Domestic Life Collections.

Processing Information

Collection processed by David Haberstick, archivist, 2004.

Preferred Citation

Domestic Life Stereograph and Photograph Collection, circa 1862-1920, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

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.

Rights situation uncertain. Probably in public domain, applicable copyrights expired.

Historical

Stereographs were employed to document and popularize the great world's fairs of the second half of the nineteenth century and the early years of the twentieth century in the United States and Europe. The Centennial Photographic Company, in particular, was formed essentially to disseminate information about the 1876 fair and to profit from its "educational" products. More generally, the three-dimensional photographic medium was considered an ideal way to provide views of regional attractions in the United States. This collection contains both subjects.

Scope and Contents

The collection is composed largely of photographs related to world's fairs, especially the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition, particularly in the form of stereographs. Other photographs document Williamsburg, Old Sturbridge, Mass., and other locations.

Arrangement

Collection is arranged into one series. Arranged geographically and topically.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Exhibitions
Exhibitions -- Missouri
World's fairs

Types of Materials:

Stereographs

Names:

Appalachian Exposition. (Knoxville, Tennessee: 1911)
California-Pacific International Exposition (San Diego, California: 1935-1936)
Centennial Exhibition (1876 : Philadelphia, Pa.)
Cultural History, Division of (NMAH, SI).
Exposition universelle de 1867 (Paris, France)
International Exhibition of 1862 (London, England)
Louisiana Purchase Exposition (1904: Saint Louis, Mo.)
World's Columbian Exposition (1893 : Chicago, Ill.)

Geographic Names:

Sturbridge (Mass.)

Container Listing

| | |
|-------|--|
| Box 1 | Unidentified expositions |
| Box 1 | World's Fair, London |
| Box 1 | Great Centennial Fair, Philadelphia |
| Box 1 | Paris Universal Exposition |
| Box 1 | Philadelphia Centennial Exposition |
| Box 1 | World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago |
| Box 1 | Paris Exposition, 1900 Two cards by Underwood & Underwood |
| Box 1 | Pan American Exposition, Buffalo, New York |
| Box 1 | Louisiana Purchase Exposition, St Louis |
| Box 1 | Appalachian Exposition, Knoxville, Tennessee |
| Box 1 | California-Pacific Exposition, San Diego, California |
| Box 2 | Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, 1876, Agricultural Hall |
| Box 2 | Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, 1876, Buildings, Miscellaneous |
| Box 2 | Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, 1876, Foreign buildings |
| Box 2 | Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, 1876, Horticultural Hall |
| Box 2 | Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, 1876, Machinery Hall |
| Box 2 | Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, 1876, Main Building |
| Box 2 | Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, 1876, Main Building, US |
| Box 2 | Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, 1876, Main Building, Foreign |
| Box 3 | Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, 1876, Memorial Hall |

- Box 3 Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, 1876, State Buildings
- Box 3 Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, 1876, Government Building
- Box 3 Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, 1876, Woman's Building
- Box 3 Mrs Maxwell's Collection or Mrs Maxwell's Rocky Mountain Museum in the Colorado Building, a nature habitat exhibit with animals
7 views, all by Centennial, some imprinted on verso, Copyrighted 1877 by Mrs M A Maxwel@ Rubber stamp on verso, Given Feb 28, 1933, Given Feb 28, 1927 / By Wm S Appleton, all crossed out.
- Box 3 Miscellaneous
- Box 4 "Duplicates from Carl Gatter(?)"
- Box 4 Louisiana Purchase Exposition
- Box 4 Antique Villages, Tyrol
- Box 4 Philippine Villages
- Box 4 Japanese Gardens
[Image\(s\)](#)
- Box 4 World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago
- Box 4 Martha's Vineyard,
- Box 5 Gay Head, Massachusetts
- Box 5 Nantucket
- Box 5 New Bedford, 1862
- Box 5 Eastport
- Box 5 Miscellaneous Massachusetts?, 1867
- Box 5 Campground and Oak Bluffs, Edgartown, 1876
- Box 6 Massachusetts, Miscellaneous, 1893
- Box 6 Falmouth, Massachusetts

- Box 6 Illinois, mostly Chicago, 1901
- Box 6 Mississippi, 1904
- Box 6 New Hampshire, 1910
- Box 6 New York, 1935-1936
- Box 6 New York—American Institute
- Box 6 Sanitary Fairs
- Box 7 Miscellaneous American
- Box 7 Europe
- Box 7 Genre scenes
- Box 7A Newlywed series, #5556-5560, published by H C White, 1903
- Box 7A Old maid and burglar series from "Character Sketches," published by Keystone View Co, cat Nos 12360-12368 (9), 1956
- Box 7A Nutcrackers sequence
Catalog Numbers 4693-4694, by C H Graves, published by Universal Photo Art Co.
- Box 7A "Biddy, You May Serve the Tomatoes Undressed," 1900
Catalog Numbers 10409-10410, by B L Singley, published by Keystone View Co.
- Box 7A Williamsburg, Virginia, mostly by Keystone View Co
NMAH Cat Nos 1987301242-68, Keystone nos 38414-38437, undated, no descriptive text printed on verso, but stamped "Willow Brook School" (23); and Keystone Cat Nos 37561-37564, with text on verso, undated
- Box 7A Old Sturbridge, Massachusetts
(Domestic Life cat Nos 1987301269-88), by Keystone View Co, undated, Keystone Cat Nos 38284-38307, undated
- Box 7A Genre sculptures from "Stereoscopic Gems of Foreign and American Scenery" By The Fellows Photographic Co, Philadelphia. Catalog Numbers 1256-1400 (with gaps), pale yellow mounts, undated.
- Box 7A Miscellaneous includes Au Sable Chasm

- Box 8 Non-stereographic photographs, scenic views, most unidentified
- Box 9 Grand Rapids Historical Exhibit, Vol I / Keystone View Co, original library storage
box With set of cards, captioned and numbered with Keystone catalog numbers
Imprint on verso: Grand Rapids Historical Furniture Exhibit / in connection with /
one hundredth furniture market / January 3-21, 1928