



Smithsonian

*National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center*

## Guide to the Robert Bagby Stereographs and Lantern Slides

NMAH.AC.1185

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## Collection Overview

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>Repository:</b> | Archives Center, National Museum of American History  |
| <b>Title:</b>      | Robert Bagby Stereographs and Lantern Slides  |
| <b>Date:</b>       | 1919 - 1970   |
| <b>Identifier:</b> | NMAH.AC.1185  |
| <b>Creator:</b>    | Bagby, Robert, d. 1972 (Photographer)   |
| <b>Source:</b>     | Engdahl, Scott (Donor)  |
| <b>Extent:</b>     | 0.12 Cubic feet (1 box )  |
| <b>Language:</b>   | English .   |
| <b>Summary:</b>    | Robert Bagby was a professional photographer and professor of photography at Rochester Institute of Technology. These slides depict the photographer himself, models, monuments in the Washington, DC area, and countryside scenes. |

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

These items were acquired by the Rochester Institute of Technology after Robert Bagby's death and were given to the National Museum of American History Archives Center by Scott Engdahl on October 28, 2009. Mr. Engdahl is the son of David Engdahl, the former assistant director of the School of Photography at Rochester Institute of Technology.

### Processing Information

Processed by Jennifer Burger (intern) and David Haberstick, archivist, December 22, 2009; finding aid revised by Kimberly Bassett (intern), August 11, 2010; supervised by Vanessa Broussard Simmons, archivist.

### Preferred Citation

Robert Bagby Stereographs and Lantern Slides, circa 1919-1970, 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. Lantern slides are cracked and extremely fragile. Contact the Archives Center for information at [archivescenter@si.edu](mailto: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

Robert Bagby was a well-known commercial color photographer whose subjects included landscapes and fashion. He specialized in advertising and was one of the first to specialize in advertising photographs, becoming known for his photographs of food for Vanity Fair in 1934. He later taught as a professor at the Rochester Institute of Technology (Rochester, New York) from 1953-1968 and taught courses in color photography, specifically in advertising. He also wrote a book entitled *Make Your Own Color Prints*, published by McGraw-Hill in 1961.

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## Scope and Contents

This collection consists of thirty-three Stereo Realist color slides, with viewer, in a fitted case, arranged according to the container listing; and four 3-1/4" x 4-1/4" black-and-white lantern slides in a Kodak envelope. Several images depict the photographer himself, possibly self-portraits. One lantern slide shows him with a motorcycle. Other subjects include landscapes, houses, covered bridges, the Washington Monument, the Jefferson Memorial, Mount Vernon, the Supreme Court, and other landmarks from the District of Columbia, cherry blossoms in Washington, fashion models, and a commercial still life. Although one of the lantern slides is a photograph of the young Robert Bagby astride a motorcycle, the other slides seem quite early (all dated 1919 on the labels) and were probably collected by Bagby from other sources. All lantern slides are cracked to varying degrees and are very fragile.

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## Arrangement

The collection is arranged into two series.

Series 1: 35mm slides

Series 2: Black-and-White Lantern Slides, 1919

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Countryside

Names:

Engdahl, Scott

Places:

Washington (D.C.)

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: 35mm Slides

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Box 1, Folder 1  | Lenel Bellezza College  |
| Box 1, Folder 2  | Living room furniture   |
| Box 1, Folder 3  | Female model in orange blouse and plaid skirt                             |
| Box 1, Folder 4  | Female model in front of the Jefferson Memorial                           |
| Box 1, Folder 5  | Female model in front of the Reflecting Pool and Washington Monument      |
| Box 1, Folder 6  | Two female models in front of the Reflecting Pool and Washington Monument |
| Box 1, Folder 7  | Male model fly fishing  |
| Box 1, Folder 8  | Robert Bagby photographing cows   |
| Box 1, Folder 9  | Robert Bagby photographing a red brick house                              |
| Box 1, Folder 10 | Car and red brick house   |
| Box 1, Folder 11 | Red brick house   |
| Box 1, Folder 12 | Red farm house  |
| Box 1, Folder 13 | White church with a short steeple   |
| Box 1, Folder 14 | White church with a short steeple and covered bridge                      |
| Box 1, Folder 15 | White church with a short steeple and covered bridge                      |
| Box 1, Folder 16 | White church with a medium steeple  |
| Box 1, Folder 17 | White church with a tall steeple  |
| Box 1, Folder 18 | Red covered bridge  |
| Box 1, Folder 19 | Cherry blossoms   |
| Box 1, Folder 20 | White house with cherry blossoms  |

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Box 1, Folder 21    | White house with cherry blossoms                            |
| Box 1, Folder 22    | Yellow house with cherry blossoms                           |
| Box 1, Folder 23    | Mountains with a white farm house                           |
| Box 1, Folder 24    | Mountains and trees   |
| Box 1, Folder 25    | Mountains and a stream                                      |
| Box 1, Folder 26    | Trees   |
| Box 1, Folder 27    | Brown cows  |
| Box 1, Folder 28    | Black and white cows  |
| Box 1, Folder 29-31 | View of the Washington Monument from the Jefferson Memorial |
| Box 1, Folder 32    | Mount Vernon, rear of house                                 |
| Box 1, Folder 33    | Supreme Court   |

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## Series 2: Black-and-White Lantern Slides, 1919

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Box 2, Folder 1 | Miss Jerry Morton "Follies 1919"          |
| Box 2, Folder 2 | Airplane in flight. Dyed(?) green         |
| Box 2, Folder 3 | "Victory Arch," 1919                      |
| Box 2, Folder 4 | A young Robert Bagby astride a motorcycle |

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