
Guide to the Emerson Shaw Photographic Slide Collection

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Collection number: MSS-2010-10-30



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Collection processed by Lisa Zakharova. Finding aid EAD encoded by Lisa Zakharova. Reviewed by Danelle Moon.

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Emerson Shaw Photographic Slide Collection

Dates: 1939-1958

Collection number: MSS-2010-10-30

Creator: Shaw, Emerson.

Collection Size: 5 boxes(3 linear feet)

Repository: San José State University. Library.

San José, California 95192-0028

Abstract: The Emerson Shaw Photographic Slide Collection consists of over 1800 color slides and the photographer's index. The collection depicts people, places, and scenery around the Bay Area and the East Coast. The slides provide a rich visual representation of California and other U.S. cities, landmarks, and tourist destinations. The California slides include views of Capitola, Carmel, Carmel Mission, China Town, Fisherman's Wharf, San Francisco, Del Monte Lodge, Dorsey's Station, the Golden Gate Bridge, Half Dome, Lakes Tahoe, Donner, and Angora, aerial views of San Francisco and Oakland, Point Lobos, Sacramento, San Francisco, San Francisco Bay and Docks, Santa Cruz town and beach, Stanford University, Sutter's Fort, University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), and Yosemite Park. Other cities represented include Annapolis, Maryland, Atlanta, Georgia, Baltimore, Maryland, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Bristol, Rhode Island, Chicago, Illinois, Coolidge Dam, Denver, Colorado, the Hudson River, the Grand Canyon, the Jefferson Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial, Maine and the Maine Coast, Manhattan, Mount Vernon, New York City, Niagra Falls, the Painted Desert, Arizona, Quebec, Canada, the Smokey Mountains, the Statue of Liberty, Washington D.C., and West Point.

Physical location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access

The collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

Emerson Shaw Photographic Slide Collection, MSS-2010-10-30, San José State University Library Special Collections & Archives.

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Biographical History

Emerson Shaw was born in 1914 in Los Gatos. He graduated from Los Gatos High School in 1933 and in 1934 he entered San Jose State College. Following graduation in 1939 he joined the U.S. Navy, serving during the duration of World War II. Emerson Shaw married Jeanne Shaw, who is frequently featured in the collection. In 1945, he returned to the Bay Area and was hired by NACA Ames- National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, which later was renamed NASA Ames Research Center in 1958. Shaw spent twenty-five years as an employee of NASA Ames, and in 1970 he retired. His hobbies included camping, fishing, travelling, and cars. During his retirement, he participated in the Los Gatos Historical Society and the Los Gatos Rotary from 1980-2000. Shaw died in 2003.

Scope and Content of Collection

The Emerson Shaw Photographic Slide Collection consists of over 1800 color slides and the photographer's index. The collection depicts people, places, and scenery around the Bay Area and the East Coast. The slides provide a rich visual representation of California and other U.S. cities, landmarks, and tourist destinations. The California slides include views of Capitola, Carmel, Carmel Mission, China Town, Fisherman's Wharf, San Francisco, Del Monte Lodge, Dorsey's Station, the Golden Gate Bridge, Half Dome, Lakes Tahoe, Donner, and Angora, aerial views of San Francisco and Oakland, Point Lobos, Sacramento, San Francisco, San Francisco Bay and Docks, Santa Cruz town and beach, Stanford University, Sutter's Fort, University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), and Yosemite Park. Other cities represented include Annapolis, Maryland, Atlanta, Georgia, Baltimore, Maryland, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Bristol, Rhode Island, Chicago, Illinois, Coolidge Dam, Denver, Colorado, the Hudson River, the Grand Canyon, the Jefferson Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial, Maine and the Maine Coast, Manhattan, Mount Vernon, New York City, Niagra Falls, the Painted Desert, Arizona, Quebec, Canada, the Smokey Mountains, the Statue of Liberty, Washington D.C., and West Point.

Arrangement

The Emerson Shaw Photographic Slide Collection is arranged into three series: I. California Slides, II. East Coast Slides, and III. Scenic Slides. The photographer's index are arranged by subject and by date.

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Historic Buildings

National Parks and Reserves

History--California

Monuments & memorials

Tourism

Scenery

Boxes 1-2

Series : I**California Slides 1944-1950****Physical Description:** 2 boxes**Scope and Content Note**

This series consists of color slides depicting California cities, landmarks, tourist destinations, scenery, and includes photographs of the Shaw family and their friends. Some of the California places of note include: Capitola, Carmel, Carmel Mission, China Town, Fisherman's Wharf, San Francisco, Del Monte Lodge, Dorsey's Station, the Golden Gate Bridge, Half Dome, Lakes Tahoe, Donner, and Angora, aerial views of San Francisco and Oakland, Point Lobos, Sacramento, San Francisco, San Francisco Bay and Docks, Santa Cruz town and beach, Stanford University, Sutter's Fort, University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), and Yosemite Park. Shaw did not annotate the dates for all of the slides represented.

Arrangement

This series is arranged by date.

Box 1, Slide 1

Carmel Mission 1944**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 1, Slide 7

Point Lobos 1944**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 1, Slide 44

Sutter's Fort n.d**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 1, Slide 76

Weed, California 1944**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 1, Slide 78

Shasta Dam n.d**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 1, Slide 94

Yosemite Valley undated**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 1, Slide 115

General Sherman Tree undated**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 1, Slide 130

San Juan Capistrano undated**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 1, Slide 144

Army Day 1940**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 1, Slide 183

Emerson's First Picture undated**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 1, Slide 197

Geisenhoff Ranch undated**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 1, Slide 204

World's Fair undated**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 1, Slide 218

Golden Gate Park undated**Physical Description:** 1 slide

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| Box 1, Slide 223 | Golden Gate Bridge undated Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 1, Slide 239 | Coit Tower on Telegraph Hill from "Russian Hill" undated Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 1, Slide 241 | Legion of Honor Art Gallery undated Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 1, Slide 263 | San Francisco Aerial Views undated Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 1, Slide 283 | Napa Valley undated Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 1, Slide 300 | Sonoma Mission undated Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 1, Slide 308 | Western Pacific undated Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 2, Slide 336 | San Juan Town and Mission undated Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 2, Slide 410 | Desolation Valley undated Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 2, Slide 449 | Road Races 1951 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 2, Slide 519 | Hollywood Hills September 1951 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 2, Slide 533 | Mt. Waterman undated Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 2, Slide 563 | San Simeon undated Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 2, Slide 584 | Route 1 Half Moon undated Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 2, Slide 593 | Saratoga Summit 1948 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 2, Slide 684 | Fort Ross 1950 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 2, Slide 698 | Trinity County undated Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 2, Slide 723 | Virginia City undated Physical Description: 1 slide |

Boxes 3-4

Series : II**East Coast Slides 1940-1945****Physical Description:** 2 boxes**Scope and Content Note**

In 1939 and 1947 Emerson Shaw and his wife traveled to the East Coast. This series visually documents their travel and includes scenic views of the Southwest and Midwest, photographs of cities, monuments, parks, and other tourist destinations across the country. The highlights include : Atlanta, Georgia, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Bristol, Rhode Island, Chicago, Denver, Colorado, the Grand Canyon, Grand Lake, Colorado, the Hudson River, Illinois, Coolidge Dam, Jefferson Memorial, Lake Michigan, Lincoln Memorial, Maine and Maine Coast, Manhattan, New York, Mount Vernon, the National Art Gallery, Niagra Falls, Norris Dam, Tennessee, Rocky Mountain National Park, the Smokey Mountains, the Statue of Liberty, University of Chicago, Valley Forge, Washington DC, and West Point.

Arrangement

This series is aranged by date.

Box 3, Slide 2

Chicago 1939**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 3, Slide 8

University of Chicago 1939**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 3, Slide 20

Bridges, Barges, and Boats 1939**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 3, Slide 70

Niagra Falls 1939**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 3, Slide 74

Statue of Liberty 1939**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 3, Slide 96

Hudson River 1939**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 3, Slide 97

West Point 1939**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 3, Slide 105

Norris Dam, Tennessee 1939**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 3, Slide 120

Painted Desert, Arizona 1939**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 3, Slide 141

Superstition Mountain 5/24/1947**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 3, Slide 142

Coolidge Dam 5/25/1947**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 3, Slide 146

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 5/28/1947**Physical Description:** 1 slide

Box 3, Slide 152

New Orleans, Louisiana 5/28/1947**Physical Description:** 1 slide

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| Box 3, Slide 162 | Atlanta, Georgia 6/1/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 3, Slide 171 | Warm Springs, Georgia 6/5/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 3, Slide 177 | Cherokee Indian Chief 6/9/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 3, Slide 180 | Smoky Mountains 6/9/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 3, Slide 192 | Lincoln Memorial 6/12/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 3, Slide 197 | Jefferson Memorial 6/15/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 3, Slide 204 | Mount Vernon 6/13/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 3, Slide 216 | Washington Monument 1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 3, Slide 232 | Valley Forge 6/20/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 4, Slide 242 | New London, Connecticut 6/22/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 4, Slide 256 | Maine 1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 4, Slide 263 | Lake Chocorua and Mt. Chocorua 6/25/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 4, Slide 270 | Scituate Harbor 7/2/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 4, Slide 282 | Bristol, Rhode Island 7/4/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 4, Slide 296 | New York City- Central Park 7/17/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 4, Slide 307 | Statue of Liberty and New York Skyline 7/18/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 4, Slide 317 | Niagra Falls 7/28/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 4, Slide 322 | Boston 1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |

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| Box 4, Slide 333 | Plymouth, Massachusetts 7/23/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 4, Slide 338 | Cranberry Bog 7/23/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 4, Slide 351 | Hudson River Looking North 7/26/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 4, Slide 361 | Niagra Falls 7/28/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 4, Slide 377 | Barberton, Ohio 7/30/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 4, Slide 401 | Chicago and Lake Michigan 8/3/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 4, Slide 425 | Rocky Mountain National Park 8/9/1947 Physical Description: 1 slide |
| Box 5 | Series : III Scenic Slides 1952-1957 Physical Description: 1 box Scope and Content Note This series of slides consists of seasonal scenic views of California taken during Shaw family vacations. Many of the images depict family camping, fishing, and ski trips. Ski locations include the Lake Tahoe region and feature Squaw Valley. Scenic views include Angora Lake, where the Shaw Family had a summer cabin, Lake Tahoe, rivers, streams, lakes, forests, sunsets, Echo Summit, Rubicon Valley, Yosemite, and Lake Hellen. Arrangement This series is aranged by date. |
| Box 5, Slides 1-481 | Lake Tahoe and Lake Angora, seasonal scenic views 1952-1957 Physical Description: 481 slides |