

RANDALL SURVEY OF NEW HAVEN
AND ENVIRONS, 1880-1920

Introduction

This is primarily a photographic "survey" of New Haven as it was between 1880 and 1920. Shown are the public buildings, businesses, streets, homes, parks and some of the events that were part of the life of the city and its environs. There are also pictures of an earlier New Haven - photographs made of old prints of the New Haven Green and Yale College. The photography is attributed to Herbert Randall, donor of the 1210 glass plate negatives.

There are two different sets of negatives in the Randall Survey, one 8" x 10," the other 5" x 7". In 1977 both sets were printed and the negatives transferred to acid-free envelopes. Original numbering and captions from the old envelopes were retained. Therefore, the Survey consists of the two sets of numbered negatives, the corresponding prints and two lists of the photographs.

The second part of the Collection - Other Randall Photographs - consists of 852 photographs divided in two categories, printed and unprinted. As with the survey, the printing was done in 1977. Printing was done selectively, the object being to provide a cross-section of Randall's work. Some prints were also made of items with possible historical significance. Negatives that were printed have been numbered.

Also included in this worksheet is one list identifying negatives used in the Connecticut Magazine and another that indicates by checkmark which governors' portraits (negatives) are in the collection. The letter, clippings and articles relating to Mr. Randall aided in attributing the collection to him and in composing the biographical sketch. Most of this material came from the Library's manuscript collection (see Related Materials.)

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF HERBERT RANDALL

Herbert Randall, 1850-1926, was born in Massachusetts and moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan at 32, where he operated an art and photography business. 1894 found him in New Haven where he opened a studio. A third studio was at 11 Pratt Street in Hartford. He is described in newspaper and magazine articles of his day as a critic who promoted photography as an art form. Randall specialized in children's portraits and wrote poetry which he illustrated with photographs. In his "genre" pictures, evidently popular, people were posed artfully, often in peasant clothing.

As contributor^{to} and then president of the Connecticut Magazine, he supported an effort to promote an appreciation of the beauty, resources and history of Connecticut.

Explanation of Guide to
Randall Survey of New Haven

The following guides were compiled from captions on the original negative envelopes. The source of the captions is unknown. All information was transferred exactly as it appeared on the original envelopes. Where letters or words were missing or obscured, dashes were transferred. In some instances, previously written words were crossed out and others written in. This has been duplicated in the lists.

The Survey photographs were originally numbered and described according to size, 5" x 7" and 8" x 10". This organization has been retained. Among the 8" x 10" photos. are a few exceptions (6 1/2" x 8 1/2") which are indicated.

Arrangement

Prints are stored in six document boxes, negatives in the Randall Files. Broken plates are stored together in the Files. All printed plates are numbered.

1. Randall Survey of New Haven. 1210 plates

641 8" x 10" prints, 1977

#1-166 --- Box 1

#167-317 --- Box 2

#318-498 --- Box 3

#499-703 --- Box 4

569 5" x 7" prints, 1977

#187-736 --- Box 5

1210 8" x 10" and 5" x 7" negatives --- Randall Files
Lists of photographs are attached to this registration sheet

2. Other Randall Photographs - Printed. 225 prints --- Box 6

Portraits - 71 5" x 7" and 8" x 10" pictures of

Randall, his family and presumably, his

clients. Some of the photos. are of

earlier portraits. Additional information

when known. P1-P71.

Lincoln portraits - 49 photos. of pictures of Abraham

Lincoln. A few with his family.

L-L48.

Other portraits - 4 photos. printed prior 1977.

No negatives.

Colonial Artifacts - The negatives for these were

found with miscellaneous Randall

Colonial Artifacts - negatives (see below.)

Original captions, written on
the negatives are in quotes.

These may have been used in
the Conn. Magazine. CA1-8.

- CA1 "32-B Powder Horn of Nathan Hale"
- CA2 "33-A Parson Marther powder horn"
- CA3 "33-B Cartridge Box of Abraham Tuttle-Battle
of Bunker Hill"
- CA4 "35-B Camp Basket of Capt. Nathan Hale"
- CA5 "35-D Maj. John Andre's pocket book"
- CA6 "36-A Watch one time owned by Benedict Arnold"
- CA7 "36-C Brass Standards of Measure"
- CA8 "Mail Bag between Hartford, Middletown & New
Haven 1775"

Floral Photography - Six 8" x 10" floral portraits. Fl-6
New Haven - 29 mostly unidentified photos.
probably of New Haven and environs
NH1-29.

Political party tickets - 18 photos. of U.S. political party
tickets 1848-1889. PT1-18

Special effects - 40 photos., most portraits, especially
of children, posed to convey an artistic
idea. Spl-40

Negatives

--- Randall Files

3. Other Randall Photographs - unprinted. --- Randall Files
627 negatives

In the boxes of negatives attributed to Randall were a number of contemporary portraits, plates that were used for the Connecticut Magazine and negatives of the "Portraits of the Governors." Most of the contemporary portraits were printed (See Box 6, above.) Negatives which could be identified with pictures in the Connecticut Magazine and in The Governors of Connecticut have been grouped separately. Lists for each are attached. The remaining negatives are stored as Miscellaneous; some have captions. With the exception of the portraits, the box numbers from which the negatives came are recorded in the lower left corner of the envelopes.

- Connecticut Governors - 33 8" x 10" and 2 5" x 7" glass
"CG" negatives for Norton's The
Governors of Connecticut. List.
- Connecticut Magazine - 268 negatives for articles on
"CM" Conn. towns, early lighting,
iron mining, etc. A few
unidentified, closely related
negatives. List.
- Miscellaneous 326 negatives including:
- 282 mostly 5" x 7" glass plates.
Those stored with Connecticut
Magazine negatives were found
with them. Subject matter is

- Miscellaneous primarily historical figures
and places, and paintings. Some
Randall family and contemporaries.
- 5 Hartford 5" x 7" and 5" x 8"
glass plates of the State Capitol
and Memorial Arch
 - 7 Gov's. Foot Guard. 8" x 10"
films printed in the 2nd Co.
Governor's Foot Guards. Souvenir
History 150th Ann. 1775-1925
 - 8 Revolutionary Army Record
plates 6 1/2" x 8 1/2"
 - 11 Bible plates. 6 1/2" x 8 1/2"
(Conn. Mag. Vol. 5 p. 147)
 - Oversize. 13 large plates. 3
portraits, religious paintings,
Bradford and Brewster genealogies

Related Materials

- 974.6 Connecticut Magazine. Hartford & New Haven.
C768 1898-1908
V.1-12
- a129.72=Nh9 New Haven Architecture. Selections from the
Gov't. Doc's. Historic American Buildings Survey #9 June 1970
- 920.0746 Norton, Frederick C. The Governors of
N826 Connecticut.
- Main Randall, Herbert. Papers, photographers &
Vault. clippings. 1891-1914
920
R139p