

# Post Card Collection, circa 1890- 1930

State Archives Record Group no. 64

Picture Group no. 800

## History

The post card collection contains approximately 37,000 cards dating from the late nineteenth century to the mid- twentieth century. Many of the cards belonged to Mr. J. August Smith of Hartford who willed his collection to the State Library at the death in 1953. Mr. Smith says "that as he cannot travel around the world, he intends to bring as much of the world to him as possible, by means of photographic reproductions of its principal buildings and most beautiful scenic sections." Most of his collection was acquired from the various Good Templars of the world. Miss Helen Moore of Norwich also contributed a large collection. Other cards came from Miss Stella Olmstead of Hazardville.

## Scope and Content

The post cards are organized into four major categories: Connecticut, United States, International, and Miscellaneous. Each category is arranged alphabetically.

All of Connecticut's cities and towns are represented and have various subcategories, such as churches and cemeteries, street scenes, buildings and residences, and parks, just to name a few common ones. There are also subcategories for other places of interest specific to the town or city. For example, Coventry (Nathan Hale), New Haven (West Rock), Hartford (Charter Oak), etc.

All 50 states are also represented and most have smaller divisions for cities, parks, and tourist attractions, i.e. California's Redwood, New York's Time Square, and Arizona's Grand Canyon.

The largest divisions in the International section are England, Germany, Sweden, and Switzerland. Places of interest and major cities are also cited within each country that is specified, e.g. Italy (Rome), Egypt (Nile Ruins), England (London), etc. The Miscellaneous file contains cards that fit no where else, and includes many greetings cards.

## Provenance

\* See History

## Related Materials

All the following related materials are available at the Connecticut State Library:

Burdick, Jefferson R., Pioneer Postcards, New York, circa 1957, call no. NC1872 .B83 This is the story of mailing cards to 1898, with an illustrated checklist of publishers and titles.

Hill, Cuthbert William, Discovering Picture Postcards, Shire Publications, 1970, call no. NC1872 .H5 Interesting montage of the collectors and the collected.

Staff, Frank, The Picture Postcard and Its Origins, New York, F.A. Praeger 1966, call no. -NC1872 .S7 Finding out not only where postcards started from, but where the idea of the picture stems from.

Collection of Connecticut post cards digitized by the Museum of Connecticut History, <https://museumofcthistory.org/connecticut-postcards/>, and Index to the Connecticut post cards digitized by the Museum of Connecticut History, <https://www.ctatatelibrarydata.org/updated-july-2018/>. [Information added by State Library staff on September 1, 2022]

## Container List

### Box List

The box list is the listing specifically of what box the postcards are in. After citing the box number please refer to the item list to see if there are any items for the subject you are looking for.

Andover- Bridgeport	<b>Box 1</b>
Bridgewater- Danbury	<b>Box 2</b>
Danbury- Essex	<b>Box 3</b>
Fairfield- Hartford	<b>Box 4</b>
Hartford cont.	<b>Box 5</b>
Hartford cont.	<b>Box 6</b>
Hartford - Meriden	<b>Box 7</b>
Middletown - Milford	<b>Box 8</b>
Milford- New Haven	<b>Box 9</b>
New Haven cont.	<b>Box 10</b>
New Haven cont.	<b>Box 11</b>
New Haven- New London	<b>Box 12</b>
New London- Norwich	<b>Box 13</b>
Norwich- Stamford	<b>Box 14</b>
Stamford- Washington	<b>Box 15</b>
Waterbury- Winchester	<b>Box 16</b>
Winsted- Woodstock	<b>Box 16a</b>
Principal cities in the U.S.- California	<b>Box 17</b>
California- Colorado	<b>Box 18</b>
Colorado- Illinois	<b>Box 19</b>
Illinois- Maine	<b>Box 20</b>
Maine- Massachusetts	<b>Box 21</b>
Massachusetts cont.	<b>Boxes 22, 23, 24</b>
Massachusetts- Mississippi	<b>Box 25</b>
Missouri- New Hampshire	<b>Box 26</b>
New Hampshire- New Jersey	<b>Box 27</b>
New Jersey- New York	<b>Box 28</b>
New York cont.	<b>Boxes 29, 30, 31</b>
New York- Pennsylvania	<b>Box 32</b>
Pennsylvania- Rhode Island	<b>Box 33</b>
Rhode Island- Texas	<b>Box 34</b>
Utah- Washington, D.C.	<b>Box 35</b>
Washington, D.C.- Yellowstone National Park	<b>Box 36</b>
Algeria- Canada	<b>Box 37</b>
Canada- England	<b>Box 38</b>
England- France	<b>Box 39</b>
International Cites- Holland	<b>Box 40</b>
Holland- Italy	<b>Box 41</b>
Italy- Singapore	<b>Box 42</b>
South Africa- Sweden	<b>Box 43</b>
Sweden- Switzerland	<b>Box 44</b>
Switzerland- Greeting cards	<b>Box 45</b>
Greeting cards- Photofolios of Britain	<b>Box 46</b>
Ships- War Monuments	<b>Box 47</b>

### Item List

The items are listed alphabetically and only Connecticut towns have sections broken down by letter. Towns in Connecticut that have no postcards either aren't listed or after the town it will read "none". All postcards that were individually counted will just be listed all others that were roughly counted will state "approx." before the number of items which is short for approximately.

#### **-A-**

Andover- none  
Ansonia- approx. 20 items  
Ashford- none  
Avon- 1 items

#### **-B-**

Barkhamsted- 12 items  
Beacon Falls- 5 items  
Berlin- 12 items  
Bethany- none  
Bethel- none  
Bethlehem- 17 items  
Bloomfield- 14 items  
Bolton- 3 items  
Bozrah- 2 items  
Branford- approx. 210 items  
Bridgeport- approx. 465 items  
Bridgewater- none  
Bristol- approx. 200 items  
Brookfield- 1 items  
Brooklyn- 4 items  
Burlington- approx. 35 items

#### **-C-**

Canaan- approx. 52 items  
Canterbury- none  
Canton- approx. 50 items  
(Centerbrook—See Essex)  
(Centerville—See New Fairfield)  
Chaplin- none  
Cheshire- 13 items  
Chester- 13 items  
Clinton- approx. 105 items  
(Cobalt—See East Hampton)  
Colchester- 18 items  
Colebrook- 23 items  
(Collinsville—See Canton)  
Columbia- 22 items  
Cornwall- 6 items  
Coventry- approx. 87 items  
(Crescent Beach – See East Lyme)  
Cromwell- approx. 52 items

#### **-D-**

Danbury- approx. 157 items  
(Danielson—See Killingly)  
Darien- 17 items  
Deep River- approx. 122 items  
Derby- approx. 70 items  
Durham- 8 items

#### **-E-**

(Eagleville— See Mansfield)  
(East Canaan—See North Branford)  
Eastford- none  
East Granby- 23 items  
East Haddam- 37 items  
East Hampton- approx. 70 items  
East Hartford- 13 items  
East Haven- 26 items  
East Lyme- approx. 90 items  
(East Norwalk—See Norwalk)  
(East River—See Madison)  
Easton- none  
(East Thompson—See Thompson)  
(East Village—See Monroe)  
East Windsor- 20 items  
Enfield- approx. 35 items  
Essex- approx. 87 items

#### **-F-**

Fairfield- 19 items  
(Fairhaven—See New Haven)  
(Falls Village—See Canaan)  
Farmington- approx. 35 items  
(Flanders—See Lyme)  
(Forrestville—See Stafford)  
Franklin- 1 item

#### **-G-**

(Gales Ferry—See Ledyard)  
Glastonbury- 6 items  
Goshen- 4 items  
Granby- 12 items  
Greenwich- approx. 122 items  
Guilford- approx. 105 items

**-H-**

Haddam- approx. 52 items  
  
 (Hadlyme—See Lyme)  
 (Hamburg—See Lyme)  
 Hamden- none  
 Hampton- none  
 Hartford- approx. 2065 items, 6 oversized items  
 Hartland- 11 items  
 Harwinton- 22  
 (Hazardville—See Enfield)  
 Hebron- 27 items  
 (Higganum—See Haddam)  
 (Hotchkissville—See Woodbury)

**-I-**

(Indian Neck—See Branford)  
 (Ivoryton—See Essex)

**-J-**

(Jewett City—See Griswold)

**-K-**

(Kensington—See Berlin)  
 Kent- 14 items  
 Killingly- 20 items  
 Killingworth- none

**-L-**

(Lakeville—see Salisbury)  
 Lisbon- none  
 Litchfield- approx. 87 items  
 Lyme- approx. 35 items

**-M-**

Madison- approx. 105 items  
 Manchester- approx. 140 items  
 Mansfield- 15 items  
 Marlborough- 7 items  
 Meriden- approx. 332 items  
 Middlebury- 14 items  
 Middlefield- 3 items  
 (Middle Haddam—See East Hampton)  
 Middletown- approx. 455 items  
 Milford- approx. 227 items  
 (Milldale—See Southington)  
 (Millington—See East Haddam)  
 Monroe- 1 item  
 Montville- 4 items  
 (Moodus—See East Haddam)  
 Moosup—See Plainfield)  
 Morris- 6 items  
 (Mystic—See Stonington)

**-N-**

Naugatuck- approx. 80 items  
 New Britain- approx. 245 items

New Canaan- 14 items  
 New Fairfield- 1 item

New Hartford- 14 items  
 New Haven- approx. 2240 items  
 Newington- none  
 New London- approx. 490 items  
 New Milford- approx. 35 items  
 Newtown- 8 items  
 (Niantic—See East Lyme)  
 (Noank—See Groton)  
 Norfolk- approx. 175 items  
 (Noroton—See Darien)  
 (Noroton Heights—See Darien)  
 North Branford- 1 item  
 North Canaan- 4 items  
 North Haven- none  
 (North Madison—See Madison)  
 North Stonington- 4 items  
 (North Woodbury—See Woodbury)  
 Norwalk- approx. 140 items

**-O-**

Old Lyme- approx. 70 items  
 Old Saybrook- approx. 42 items  
 Orange- 3 items  
 Oxford- 1 item

**-P-**

(Pine Grove—See East Lyme)  
 (Pine Orchard—See Branford)  
 Plainfield- 5 items  
 Plainville- approx. 35 items  
 (Plantsville—See Southington)  
 (Pleasant Valley—See Barkhamsted)  
 Plymouth- approx. 30 items  
 Pomfret- 16 items  
 Portland- 29 items  
 Preston- 1 item  
 Prospect- none  
 Putnam- approx. 35 items

**-R-**

Redding- 22 items  
 Ridgefield- 18 items  
 (Riverton—See Barkhamsted)  
 (Robertsville—See Colebrook)  
 (Rockfall—See Middlefield)  
 Rockville—See Vernon)  
 Rocky Hill- 21 items  
 (Rowayton—See Norwalk)  
 Roxbury- 4 items

**-S-**

Salem- none

Salisbury- approx. 70 items  
(Saugatuck—See Westport)

(Saybrook—See Deep River)  
Scotland- none  
Seymour- 22 items  
Sharon- 18 items  
Shelton- 10 items  
Sherman- 1 item  
(Short Beach—See Branford)  
Simsbury- 42 items  
Somers- 3 items  
(Sound View—See Old Lyme)  
Southbury- 1 item  
Southington- 18 items  
(South Lyme—See Old Lyme)  
(South Manchester—See Manchester)  
(South Norwalk—See Norwalk)  
(South Windham—See Windham)  
South Windsor- 3 items  
Sprague- 1 item  
Stafford- 39 items  
(Stafford Springs—See Stafford)  
(Staffordville—See Stafford)  
Stamford- approx. 140 items  
Sterling- none  
Stonington- approx. 87  
(Stony Creek—See Branford)  
(Storrs—See Mansfield)  
Stratford- 33 items  
Suffield- 12 items

**-T-**

(Taftville—See Norwich)  
(Tariffville—See Simsbury)  
Thomaston- none  
Thompson- approx. 87 items  
(Thompsonville—See Enfield)  
Tolland- 15 items  
Torrington- approx. 157 items  
Trumbull- 3 items  
(Twin Lakes—See Salisbury)

**-U-**

Union- 1 item

**-V-**

Vernon- 122 items  
Voluntown- none

**-W-**

Wallingford- approx. 87 items  
(Wapping—See South Windsor)  
(Warehouse Point—See East Windsor)  
Warren- none  
Washington- 15 items

Waterbury- approx. 367 items  
Waterford- 7 items

Watertown- 16 items  
(Waterville—See Waterbury)  
(Weatogue—See Simsbury)  
Westbrook- none  
West Hartford- 34 items  
West Haven- approx. 35 items  
Weston- none  
Westport- approx. 87 items  
(Westville—See New Haven)  
Wethersfield- approx. 70 items  
(Williamantic—See Windham)  
Willington- none  
Wilton- 6 items  
Winchester- approx. 420 items  
Windham- 22 items  
Windsor- approx. 52 items  
Windsor Locks- 19 items  
(Winsted—See Winchester)  
Wolcott- none  
Woodbridge- 3 items  
Woodbury- approx. 70 items  
(Woodmount—See Milford)  
Woodstock- 8 items

**UNITED STATES**

Alabama- approx. 20 items  
Alaska- approx. 50 items  
Arizona- approx. 70 items  
Arkansas- approx. 60 items  
California- approx. 1300 items  
Colorado- approx. 300 items  
Delaware- approx. 60 items  
Florida- approx. 330 items  
Georgia- approx. 90 items  
Hawaii- approx. 35 items  
Idaho- 15 items  
Illinois- approx. 350 items  
Indiana- approx. 40 items  
Iowa- approx. 40 items  
Kansas- approx. 70 items  
Kentucky- approx. 50 items  
Louisiana- approx. 70 items  
Maine- approx. 735 items  
Maryland- approx. 90 items  
Massachusetts- approx. 3400 items  
Michigan- approx. 200 items  
Minnesota- approx. 200 items  
Mississippi- approx. 30 items  
Montana- approx. 40 items  
Nebraska- approx. 50 items

Nevada- approx. 25 items  
New Hampshire- approx. 840 items

New Jersey- approx. 560 items  
New York- approx. 3300 items  
North Carolina- approx. 230 items  
North Dakota- 20 items  
Ohio- approx. 330 items  
Oklahoma- 19 items  
Oregon- approx. 140 items  
Pennsylvania- approx. 525 items  
Rhode Island- approx. 770 items  
South Carolina- 120 items  
South Dakota- 6 items  
Tennessee- approx. 80 items  
Texas- approx. 105 items  
Utah- approx. 90 items  
Vermont- approx. 300 items  
Virginia- approx. 350 items  
Washington, D.C.- approx. 370 items  
Washington, state- approx.- 75 items  
West Virginia- approx. 35 items  
Wisconsin- approx. 105 items  
Wyoming- approx. 145 items

#### **INTERNATIONAL AND MISCELLANOUS**

Algeria- approx. 35 items  
Argentina- 7 items  
Australia- approx. 120 items  
Austria- approx. 52 items  
Bahamas- 18 items  
Barbados- 3 items  
Bavarian Alps- approx. 35 items  
Belgium- approx. 105 items  
Bermuda- approx. 35 items  
Brazil- 16 items  
Canada- approx. 510 items  
Ceylon- 1 item  
Chile- 16 items  
China- 15 items  
Columbia- approx. 52 items  
Cyprus- 7 items  
Denmark- approx. 45 items  
Egypt- approx. 105 items  
England- approx. 1050 items  
Fiji Islands- 2 items  
Finland- approx. 40 items  
France- approx. 295 items  
Germany- approx. 540 items  
Gibraltar- 9 items  
Guatemala- 9 items  
Holland and Netherlands- approx. 175  
items

The Holy Lands (Jerusalem, Jericho,  
and Bethlehem)- approx. 50 items

Hungary- 4 items  
Iceland- 13 items  
Indonesia- 2 items  
Ireland- approx. 140 items  
Italy- approx. 295 items  
Jamaica- 1 item  
Japan- approx. 140 items  
Korea- 8 items  
Libya- 3 items  
Malaysia- approx. 35 items  
Malta- 13 items  
Mexico- approx. 140 items  
Morocco- 1 item  
Newfoundland- 1 item  
New Zealand- approx. 35 items  
Norway- approx. 120 items  
Peru- 3 items  
Philippines- 3 items  
Portugal- 22 items  
Puerto Rico- approx. 50 items  
Russia- approx. 35 items  
Scotland- approx. 192 items  
Singapore- 12 items  
South Africa- approx. 70 items  
Spain- approx. 122 items, 1 oversized  
item  
Sweden- approx. 1190 items  
Switzerland- approx. 350 items  
Trinidad- 13 items  
Turkey- approx. 40 items  
United Kingdom- 6 items  
Venezuela- 1 item  
Vietnam- 2 items  
Virgin Islands- 1 item

Abraham Lincoln- approx. 140 items  
Advertisements- 15 items  
Automobiles- 15 items  
Birds- 8 items  
Chateaux- approx. 35 items  
College pennant girls- 9 items  
Connecticut Tercentenary- approx. 75  
items  
EXPOSITIONS- approx. 140 items  
French Ruins- approx. 20 items  
George Washington- approx. 15 items  
Greeting cards- approx. 210 items  
Indians- 3 items  
Military cards- approx. 35 items  
Misc.- approx. 20 items  
Paintings, people and flowers- approx.  
35 items  
Patriotic cards (U.S.)- 11 items

People, unidentified- 6 items  
Photofolios of Britain- 101 Photofolios

Ships- 14 items  
Ships, foreign- 14 items  
Ships, misc.- 4 items  
Ships, U.S.- approx. 52 items  
Political Cards- approx. 2 items  
Scenes from U.S. History-5 items  
Sears, Capt. B. A. Collection- approx.  
160 items  
Unidentified scenes approx.- 70 items  
U.S. capitols- approx. 35 items  
U.S. Navy- approx. 60 items  
Cards with verses and poems- approx.  
20 items  
War Monuments-6 items

Picture Group 800, Post Card Collection, HARTFORD

Box 4

Hartford, Aerial Views

- Almshouses and Orphan houses
- Amusements
- Apartment buildings
- Arsenals & Armories
- Bridges, old & new
- Buildings

Box 5

Hartford, Bushnell Park

- Capitol
- Cemeteries
- Charter Oak
- Churches
- Clubs
- Colt Park
- Colt's Factory
- Colt Park's Homes & Memorial
- Connecticut River
- Corning Fountain & Arch
- Elisabeth Park
- Factories
- Fire Departments
- Goodwin Park
- Hartford Bridge
- Harriet Beecher Stowe House
- Hartford, High

Box 6

Hartford, Hospitals

- Hotel
- Insurance Buildings
- Keney Park
- Keney Tower
- Laurel Park
- Luna Park
- Mark Twain House
- Miscellaneous
- Monuments & Memorials
- Mortar Memorial (near State Capitol)
- Old Covered Bridge
- Old Post Office
- Old State House
- Police Dept., Court Houses, & Jails
- Pope Park
- Railroad Stations
- Residences
- Riverside Park



Rose Gardens  
Schools  
Soldier's Memorial Arch  
State Library  
Stores  
Street Scenes (cont. in box 7)

Box 7

Hartford, Street Scenes (cont.)  
Trinity College  
YMCA  
Wadsworth Athenaeum

Picture Group 800, Post Card Collection, NEW HAVEN

Box 9

New Haven, Uncategorized  
Bennett Memorial  
Bridges  
Buildings  
Churches

Box 10

New Haven, City Hall & Court House  
East Rock  
Fort Hale Park  
Green  
Homes  
Library  
Lighthouse Point  
Monument  
Morris Cove  
Mount Caramel  
Parks  
Railroad Station  
Savin Rock (cont. next box)

Box 11

New Haven, Savin Rock (cont.)  
Savin Rock Amusement Park  
Savin Rock Chute  
Savin Rock Shore Scenes  
Schools  
Shore Scenes  
Short Beach  
West Rock  
Yale University  
Yale Campus  
Yale Boat House  
Yale Bowl

Box 12

New Haven, Yale Buildings  
Yale Battel Chapel  
Yale Libraries  
Yale Old Middle Brick  
Yale Osborn Hall  
Yale Phelps Hall  
Yale Vanderbilt Hall  
Yale Woodsey Hall  
Yale Harkness Memorial Tower  
Yale-Harvard Boat Race  
Westville