

Guide to the Kimball Photograph Portfolio, approximately 1865-1929

Administrative Information

Title and Dates:

Kimball Photograph Portfolio, approximately 1865-1929

Repository:

New Hampshire Historical Society
30 Park Street
Concord, NH 03301
603-228-6688
<http://www.nhhistory.org/>

Collection Number:

S 1992.68.2

Author of Finding Aid:

Sandra L. Wheeler

Creator:

Kimball, H. A. (Howard A.), 1845-1929

Language:

The materials in this collection are in English.

Extent:

1 oversize box ; 1.63 linear feet

Abstract:

Portfolio of 120 photographic prints from Kimball Studio consisting of New Hampshire governors and prominent citizens.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:

The Kimball Photograph Portfolio was purchased at auction on November 7, 1992.

Processing Information:

The creator glued the photographs to large poster board sheets (16" x 23") and placed them in a leather portfolio. The sheets were encapsulated in 2010 and removed from the deteriorating leather to an archival box in 2015. The sheets were removed from their encapsulation at the same time and are now stored with a sheet of mylar between each sheet. The finding aid was written by Sandra L. Wheeler in October 2015. This finding aid follows the standards set forth by *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.

Access Restrictions:

Available for research.

Location:

The collection is housed at the New Hampshire Historical Society in Concord, New Hampshire.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:

These photographs were glued to large poster board sheets by their creator. There are no technical requirements for use.

Copyright/Conditions Governing Use:

For permission to reproduce or publish materials from this collection, please contact the New Hampshire Historical Society. Users are responsible for following all copyright and intellectual property laws.

Preferred Citation:

Item title, Kimball Photograph Portfolio, S 1992.68.2. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH. Date accessed.

Collection Overview

Biographical Information

Howard Algernon Kimball was born in Philadelphia, PA, on June 20, 1845, son of William H. and Sarah M. Kimball. At Concord on October 10, 1878, he married Ida B. Chesley, daughter of James G. and Mary (Brock) Chesley, born July 12, 1853 at Dover, NH. Ida's only child, Ruth, was born at Concord on November 23, 1885 and died there on December 16, 1888. Kimball was a photographer who lived and worked in Concord, NH. He died at Concord on September 25, 1929 and is buried in Blossom Hill Cemetery in Concord, NH. Ida died at Concord on January 7, 1926.

On the first page of the portfolio, in addition to explaining the photographs (transcribed below in Scope and Content Note), Kimball wrote a short account of a winter he spent on Mount Washington. A transcription reads:

“I have been asked to write something of my winter spent on Mr. Washington especially of my ascent on Nov. 30th 1870. We started from the base of the mountain where the railway commences at about one o’clock. We had to follow the track which was covered with snow and ice until we reached Jacobs ladder about five o’clock, where the storm struck us forcing us to leave the track as we were in more or less exhausted from the climb to this point. The storm was blowing at hurricane force with mercury at near zero, so we realized that the mile and a half from this point to the summit would be a struggle for our lives. Clough and Cheney were more used to mountain travel than I and without their strenuous work I never could have reached the summit as I was so exhausted it was difficult to keep me awake, at no time did we gain over 40 or 50 ft against the gale in our steep climb upward over rocks covered with ice and snow. They tied a stout cord over my right arm which Clough passed over his shoulder and Cheney locked his arm in my left arm and this is the way we struggled up the last mile and a half and when we reached the Lizzie Bourne Monument we knew we were safe as the top was but a few hundred feet away. In as much as several lives have been lost in summer storms on the mountain, it is quite remarkable that we survived against a terrific winter storm with freezing temperature and wind at over 100 miles an hour. Howard A. Kimball

Members of the party who spent the winter of 1870-71 on Mount Washington were as follows. Prof. J.H. Huntington of Dartmouth College. Amos Clough and Howard A. Kimball, Photographers. S.A. Nelson and Seargent Smith, Signal Corpse [sic] Observer, sent by the Weather Bureau.”

Collection Scope and Content Note

Photographer Howard A. Kimball’s note:

“In making this series of pictures it was first planned to make some of the governors and noted New Hampshire people of historical interest, but it has later developed into a complete set of all the Governors since the State became independent, as well as some of the provincial executives, and it is the only complete set in existence aside from the oil portraits in the State House, and in to the portraits have been added photos of many buildings of historical interest which adds greatly to the value of the collection which is without doubt the most interesting and valuable the “Kimball Studio” have ever issued.”

As Kimball says, there are formal photos of New Hampshire governors, ending with Huntly Spaulding in 1929. An assortment of nineteenth-century political figures is also represented, along with some colonial officials. Some representations of people are photographs of statues or oil portraits.

Kimball also documented buildings: there are images of New Hampshire Capitol buildings as well as of the New Hampshire Historical Society. In addition to official buildings, Kimball photographed a few houses he felt were important because they were built in the eighteenth century or were associated with famous people. Most of these are in Portsmouth, NH, but also among them is Daniel Webster’s birthplace in Franklin, NH, taken in 1877 before it was restored

(page 3) and again later, and General John Sullivan's house and the slave quarters behind it in Dover, NH (page 9).

Although Kimball dated the terms of the governors and the construction of the buildings he documented, the photographs themselves are almost never dated.

Arrangement:

The portfolio has been kept in original order. The pages are numbered. In the contents list below, images are listed in clockwise order around the page beginning in the upper left corner. Titles listed are as given by Kimball, except that all abbreviated titles have been spelled out. The spelling of proper names has been corrected and Kimball's original spelling noted in brackets.

Contents List

Box 1

- Page 1 House in which the first N.H. Legislature met in 1782.
General John A. Dix was in command in New York City during the Civil War and issued command "If anyone pulled down the American flag, shoot him on the Shot." [sic]
Cyrus A. Sulloway, born at Grafton N.H. 1839, Served several terms as Member of Congress until his death in 1917.
The Count Rumford House, Concord. Now used as the Rolfe-Rumford Asylum. It was built by the widow Rolfe in 1762. Mrs. Rolfe later married Benjamin Thompson who later was made a Count.
- Page 2 Boardman House Doorway. Portsmouth N.H.
Reception group of Japan-Russia Envoys. [with key]
Simeon Olcott. Chief Justice 1795.
Franklin Pierce as a General in the Mexican War in 1848.
Franklin Pierce. Was President in 1853 to 1857.
Mrs. Franklin Pierce.
- Page 3 House in which Webster was born 1782, Salisbury N.H. Above photo was made 50 years ago (1877) and no change had been made in house since his birth, only that it was the ell of house at left built nearly 100 years ago by a Mr. Shaw.
Daniel Webster. From portrait in Historical Society.
Daniel Webster. Copied from an old daguerreotype, and it must be an accurate likeness.
Oak tree on the farm at Webster Place, lower Franklin, on which Webster hung his scythe when he left for Dartmouth College.
Webster birthplace restored at one hundredth anniversary celebration of his birth, some of the old furniture and kitchen utensils used in early days by the family are in the house.
- Page 4 Gateway, Fort Constitution, Portsmouth
Harriet P. Dame, one of the most noted Civil War nurses. She was captured by the Confederates but was released and escorted through the lines to continue work among wounded Union soldiers.

- General Henry Dearborn, was on Gen. Washington's staff during the Revolutionary War.
- General James Reed. Served in the Revolutionary War.
- Page 5 Public Library Doorway, Portsmouth. Charles Bulfinch Architect, built in 1809.
- Warner House, Portsmouth. Built in 1718-23 with brick from Holland and still containing the original furniture. Benjamin Franklin put lightning rods on this house.
- Benjamin Thompson, "Count Rumford," born in Woburn in 1753 died in Paris 1814. Was made Count in Munich, Bavaria.
- Countess Rumford. Daughter of Count Rumford. She gave land to the State on which the State Hospital buildings are located.
- General Joseph Cilley. Served in the War of 1812.
- Page 6 Old Block House. Fort McClary, Portsmouth.
- New Hampshire State House.
- Daniel Webster Statue.
- Hannah Dustin Monument. She was captured by Indians in Haverhill and brought to Pennacook in the night while the Indians were in a drunken sleep, she with another woman and a 16 year old boy killed them all.
- Commodore George H. Perkins Statue in rear of State House. Admiral Farrigut stated that he was the bravest man who ever trod the decks of a ship.
- General Stark Statue.
- Page 7 The P.A.C. House Portsmouth. Wall paper on room of 2nd floor.
- John P. Hale. U.S. Senator 1847-1853. Minister to Spain 1865-69.
- General John Stark. Served in the French and Indian War in command at the battle of Bennington.
- May House hallway Portsmouth.
- Page 8 The Moffatt-Ladd House Portsmouth. Built in 1783, and later occupied by General William Whipple of Revolutionary War fame.
- General Wm. Whipple. Signer of the Declaration of Independence, and was a general in the Revolutionary War.
- Lord Boscawen. The town of Boscawen was named after him. [Kimball's spelling: Boscawan]
- Langdon House, Portsmouth. Built in 1784 by Governor John Langdon. Washington, Lafayette, and Louis Phillipe were entertained in it.
- Page 9 General Sullivan's slave house, in rear of his house.
- Robert Morris. He helped finance the country during the Revolution.
- General John Sullivan. President, Governor 1786, 88, 89, 90. Served during the Revolutionary war with distinction.
- Admiral DeGrasse. Was the first foreign officer to salute the American flag.
- Page 10 General Sullivan's house. Durham N.H. [Kimball's spelling: DeGraffe]
- B.A. Kimball, intimate friend of Edward Tuck, and through his influence Mr. Tuck built and gave to the state, the Historical Society building.
- Edward Tuck, Paris, France. Who gave to the State the Historical Society building.
- Jacob H. Gallinger, Concord. N.H. Senator for nearly 30 years.
- George H. Moses, Concord. U.S. Senator and at present President pro tem of the

Senate.

Edward H. Rollins, Concord. U.S. Senator 1877 to 1883

William E. Chandler, Concord. U.S. Senator, Secy of Navy under President Hayes.

- Page 11 Joseph Dudley, Roxbury, Mass. Provincial Executive, 1686, 87, 1702, 16.
Simon Bradstreet, Salem, Mass. Provincial Governor, 1689-92.
William Burnet, Boston, Mass. Provincial Executive, 1728-30.
Benning Wentworth, Portsmouth. Governor, 1741-66
John Wentworth, Portsmouth. Lieutenant Governor, 1723-28.
Jonathan Belcher, Boston, Mass. Provincial Executive 1730-41
- Page 12 John Wentworth. Colonial Governor 1767-75. It was mainly through his influence that Dartmouth College was founded.
Matthew Thornton. President of Convention 1775-6.
Josiah Bartlett, Kingston. President, Governor 1790-94.
Woodbury Langdon, Portsmouth. Was first president of State Senate in 1784.
John Gilman, Exeter. Governor 1794, 1805-13-16.
John Langdon, Portsmouth. President, Governor 1785, 86-88-89.
- Page 13 Jeremiah Smith, Exeter. Governor 1809-10.
Levi Woodbury, Portsmouth. Governor 1823-24.
David L. Morrill, Goffstown. Governor 1824-27. [Kimball's spelling: Morrill]
Benjamin Pierce, Hillsborough. Governor 1827, 28, 29-30.
Samuel Bell, Chester. Governor 1819-23.
William Plumer, Epping. Governor 1812, 13, 16-19.
- Page 14 John Bell, Chester. Governor 1828-29.
William Badger, Gilmanton. Governor 1834-36.
Isaac Hill, Concord. Governor 1836-39.
John Page, Haverhill. Governor 1839-42.
Samuel Dinsmoor, Keene. Governor 1831-34. [Kimball's spelling: Dinsmore]
Matthew Harvey, Hopkinton. Governor 1830-31.
- Page 15 Henry Hubbard, Charlestown. Governor 1842, 44.
Jared W. Williams, Lancaster. Governor 1847, 49.
Samuel Dinsmoor, Keene. Governor 1849, 52. [Kimball's spelling: Dinsmore]
Noah Martin, Dover. Governor 1852-54.
Anthony Colby, New London. Governor 1846-47.
John H. Steele, Peterborough. Governor 1844-46.
- Page 16 Nathaniel B. Baker, Concord. Governor 1854-55.
Ichabod Goodwin, Portsmouth. Governor 1859, 61.
Nathaniel S. Berry, Hebron. Governor 1861-63.
Joseph A. Gilmore, Concord. Governor 1863-65.
William Haile, Hinsdale. Governor 1857-59.
Ralph Metcalf, Concord. Governor 1855-57.
- Page 17 Frederick Smyth, Manchester. Governor 1866-67.
James A. Weston, Manchester. [blank space where dates usually found]
Ezekiel A. Straw, Manchester. Governor 1872-74.
Person C. Cheney, Manchester. Governor 1875-77.
Onslow Stearns, Concord. Governor 1869-71.

- Page 18 Walter Harriman, Warner. Governor 1867, 69.
Benjamin F. Prescott, Epping. Governor 1879-77 [sic].
Samuel W. Hale, Keene. Governor 1883-85.
Moody Currier, Manchester. Governor 1886-87.
Charles A. Sawyer, Dover. Governor 1887-89.
Charles H. Bell, Exeter. Governor 1881-83.
Natt Head, Hooksett. Governor 1879-81.
- Page 19 David H. Goodell, Antrim. Governor 1889-91.
Charles A. Busiel, Laconia. Governor 1895-97.
George A. Ramsdell, Nashua. Governor 1897-99.
Frank W. Rollins, Concord. Governor 1899-1901.
John B. Smith, Hillsborough. Governor 1893-95.
Hiram A. Tuttle, Pittsfield. Governor 1891-93.
- Page 20 Chester B. Jordan, Lancaster. Governor 1901-3.
Charles M. Floyd, Manchester. Governor 1907-9.
Henry B. Quinby, Laconia. Governor 1909-11. [Kimball's spelling: Quimby]
Robert P. Bass, Peterborough. Governor 1911-13.
John McLane, Milford. Governor 1903, 7.
Nahoun J. Bachelder, Andover. Governor 1903-5.
- Page 21 Samuel D. Felker, Rochester. Governor 1913-15.
John M. Bartlett, Portsmouth. Governor 1919-21.
Albert O. Brown, Manchester. Governor 1921-23.
Fred H. Brown, Somersworth. Governor 1923-25.
Henry W. Keyes, Haverhill. Governor 1917-19.
Roland H. Spaulding, Rochester. Governor 1915-17.
- Page 22 Entrance to Historical Building
Ex President Pierce Statue. State House Plaza.
John G. Winant, Concord. Governor 1925-27.
Huntly Spaulding, Rochester. Governor 1927-29.
N.H. Historical Society Building, Concord N.H. Given by Edward Tuck of Paris,
France.

Subject Terms

People:

- Bachelder, N. J. (Nahum Josiah), 1854-1934
- Badger, William, 1779-1852
- Baker, Nathaniel B. (Nathaniel Bradley), 1818-1876
- Bartlett, John H., 1869-1952
- Bartlett, Josiah, 1729-1795
- Bass, Robert P. (Robert Perkins), 1873-1960
- Belcher, Jonathan, 1681-1757
- Bell, Charles Henry, 1823-1893
- Bell, John, 1765-1836
- Bell, Samuel, 1770-1850
- Berry, Nathaniel Springer, 1796-1894

Boscawen, Lord Edward, 1787-1841
Bradstreet, Simon, 1603-1697
Brown, Albert O., 1853-1937
Brown, Fred H., 1879-1955
Burnet, William, 1687-1729
Busiel, Charles A., 1842-1901
Chandler, William E. (William Eaton), 1835-1917
Cheney, Person Colby, 1828-1901
Cilley, Joseph, 1791-1887
Colby, Anthony, 1792-1873
Currier, Moody, 1806-1898
Dame, Harriet Patience, 1815-1900
Dearborn, Henry, 1751-1829
Dinsmoor, Samuel, 1766-1835
Dinsmoor, Samuel, 1799-1869
Dix, John A. (John Adams), 1798-1879
Dudley, Joseph, 1647-1720
Duston, Hannah Emerson, 1657-
Felker, Samuel D., 1859-1932
Floyd, Charles M., 1861-1923
Gallinger, Jacob H. (Jacob Harold), 1837-1918
Gilman, John Taylor, 1753-1828
Gilmore, Joseph Albee, 1811-1867
Goodell, David H., 1834-1915
Goodwin, Ichabod, 1794-1882
Haile, William, 1807-1876
Hale, John P. (John Parker), 1806-1873
Hale, Samuel W., 1823-1891
Harriman, Walter, 1817-1884
Harvey, Matthew, 1781-1866
Hill, Isaac, 1789-1851
Hubbard, Henry, 1784-1857
Langdon, John, 1741-1819
Jordan, Chester B. (Chester Bradley), 1839-1914
Keyes, Henry Wilder, 1863-1938
Kimball, H. A. (Howard A.), 1845-1929
Langdon, Woodbury, approximately 1738-1805
Martin, Noah, 1801-1863
McLane, John, 1852-1911
Metcalf, Ralph, 1798-1858
Morril, David L., 1772-1849
Morris, Robert, 1734-1806
Moses, George H. (George Higgins), 1869-1944
Olcott, Simeon, 1735-1815
Page, John, 1787-1865
Perkins, George Hamilton, 1835-1899

Pierce, Benjamin, 1757-1839
Pierce, Franklin, 1804-1869
Pierce, Jane M. (Jane Means), 1806-1863
Plumer, William, 1759-1850
Prescott, Benjamin F. (Benjamin Franklin), 1833-1895
Quinby, Henry B., 1846-1924
Ramsdell, George A. (George Allen), 1834-1900
Reed, James, 1722-1807
Rollins, Edward Henry, 1824-1889
Rollins, Frank W. (Frank West), 1860-1915
Rumford, Benjamin, Graf von, 1753-1814
Rumford, Sarah Thompson, Countess, 1774-1852
Sawyer, Charles H., 1840-1908
Smith, Jeremiah, 1759-1842
Smith, John Butler, 1838-1914
Smyth, Frederick, 1819-1899
Spaulding, Huntley Newell, 1869-1955
Spaulding, Rolland H., 1873-1942
Stark, John, 1728-1822
Stearns, Onslow, 1810-1878
Steele, John Hardy, 1789-1865
Straw, Ezekiel Albert, 1819-1882
Sullivan, John, 1740-1795
Suloway, Cyrus A. (Cyrus Adams), 1839-1917
Thornton, Matthew, 1714?-1803
Tuck, Edward, 1842-1938
Tuttle, Hiram A., 1837-1911
Webster, Daniel, 1782-1852
Weston, James A., 1827-1895
Wentworth, Benning, 1696-1770
Wentworth, John, 1671-1730
Whipple, William, 1730-1785
Williams, Jared Warner, 1796-1864
Winant, John G. (John Gilbert), 1889-1947
Woodbury, Levi, 1789-1851

Organizations:

Kimball Studio (Concord, N.H.)
New Hampshire Historical Society
New Hampshire State House
United States. Congress. Senate

Subjects:

Architecture, Domestic
Dwellings
New Hampshire--History--Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775
Politics and government
Portrait photography

Slavery
Slaves--Dwellings
Statues
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865
United States--History--French and Indian War, 1754-1763
United States--History--Revolution, 1775-1783
Winter storms

Locations:

Concord, NH
Dover, NH
Franklin, NH
Mount Washington, NH
Portsmouth, NH

Occupations:

Governors
Legislators
Nurses
Politicians