



Guide to the Esther Titcomb Photograph Collection, 1963-1982

Administrative Information

Title and Dates:

Esther Titcomb Photograph Collection, 1963-1982

Repository:

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

Collection Number:

S 1996.041

Author of Finding Aid:

Suzanne Huggard

Creator:

Titcomb, Esther, 1915-1955

Language:

The materials in this collection are in English.

Extent:

14 boxes (of various sizes)

Abstract:

The Esther Titcomb Photograph Collection, 1963-1982, contains photographic prints and negatives taken by Esther Titcomb, primarily of Deering, NH. The photographs most often depict New Hampshire scenes and people though there are some photographs from other parts of New England, California, Southwest United States, and New York City.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:

The Esther Titcomb Photograph Collection was a gift of the Estate of Esther Titcomb in 1996.

Processing Information:

This collection was processed by Suzanne Huggard. The finding aid was written by Suzanne Huggard. 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:

This collection contains photographic negatives. Gloves must be worn when handling negatives.

Copyright/Conditions Governing Use:

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

Preferred Citation:

Item title, Esther Titcomb Photograph Collection, S 1996.041. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH. Date Accessed.

Collection Overview

Biographical Information/ Administrative Information:

Esther Titcomb was born on June 15, 1918 to Harold and Bertha (Goetz) Titcomb. During her childhood, Esther lived in Deering, NH. She later moved to Boston, MA where she mostly worked as a waitress and a secretary. During World War II, Titcomb worked as an electrician's helper in the South Boston Naval Yard. Titcomb returned to Deering where she was a secretary at Nathaniel Hawthorne College in Antrim, NH and later the Contoocook Valley Mental Health Center in Henniker, NH.

Titcomb began taking photographs in the 1940's. When she lived in Boston and its suburbs, Titcomb took her photographs as color slides except for portraits that were commissioned in black and white. Upon her return to Deering, Titcomb began to study photography in more detail at New England College. In the 1960's, she studied with Lotte Jacobi, a portrait photographer. During this time, Titcomb often went by the name

“Esther of Weare.” Esther exhibited at juried shows and at her own personal exhibits throughout New England. Her photographs were also published in *Yankee Magazine*, *Profiles*, various newspapers, and a textbook. Titcomb also published a pamphlet called “Dandelion in Winter,” a history of the Town of Deering, and *The First 200 Years of the Deering Church*. Esther Titcomb died on October 5, 1995.

Collection Scope and Content Note:

The Esther Titcomb Photograph Collection, 1963-1982, contains photographic prints and negatives taken by Esther Titcomb, primarily of Deering, NH. The photographs most often depict New Hampshire scenes and people though there are some photographs from other parts of New England, California, Southwest United States, and New York City. Most of the photographs are housed in Titcomb’s original storage envelopes with her notes about subjects, dates, events, and locations. Some of the loose photographs were identified, but a good number remain unidentified. In addition to prints, there are also some albums in the collection. Photographs in the album were taken primarily in Deering, NH and Weare, NH. There are also some written notes within the collection.

Arrangement:

The Esther Titcomb Photograph Collection is organized by type of material. The prints and negatives are further organized chronologically.

Contents List

Box 1

- Folder 1 Prints and negatives, 1963
- Folders 2-19 Prints and negatives of California, the Southwest, and New York City, 1966
- Folders 20-24 Prints and negatives of New England scenes: Deering, NH; Weare, NH; Maine, 1967-1968

Box 2

- Folder 1 Prints and negatives of New Hampshire scenes: Weare, Antrim, 1970
- Folders 2-7 Prints and negatives of New Hampshire scenes: Weare, Antrim, 1971
- Folders 8-19 Prints and negatives of New Hampshire scenes: Weare, Antrim, 1972

Box 3

- Folders 1-12 Prints and negatives of New Hampshire scenes and people, 1973
- Folders 13-22 Prints and negatives of New Hampshire scenes and people, 1974

Box 4

- Folders 1-2 Prints and negatives of New Hampshire scenes and people, 1975
- Folder 3 Prints and negatives of New Hampshire scenes and people, 1977
- Folders 4-5 Prints and negatives of New Hampshire scenes and people including Gordon Tiffany, 1979
- Folders 6-8 Prints and negatives of New Hampshire scenes and people, 1980
- Folder 9 Prints and negatives of New Hampshire scenes and people, 1982

Folder 10 Prints and negatives of New Hampshire scenes and people, 1983
Folders 11-26 Prints and negatives of New Hampshire scenes and people, 1984

Box 5

Folders 1-3 Prints and negatives of New Hampshire scenes and people, 1986
Folders 4-10 Prints and negatives of New Hampshire scenes and people, 1987
Folders 11-21 Prints and negatives of New Hampshire scenes and people, 1989
Folders 22-24 Prints and negatives of New Hampshire scenes and people, undated
Folder 25 Notes, undated

Box 6

Box 6 contains 83 sleeved prints of people who have been identified. Each photograph has a number on the back that is circled. This number relates to the numbered list that follows. There are two other packs of photographs. One package is of unidentified people and the other of subjects.

1. George Wolf (1950's)
2. George Wolf, Billie Anderson, and ___ Ramsey (child)
3. No name
4. No name
5. No name
6. No name
7. Walter Tong, Peg Tong
8. Walter Tong
9. Peg Tong
10. Anna Rae Tong, Reverend Lloyd Rossy
11. John Ramsey
12. Billie Anderson, George Wolf, Beatrice Hunter
13. Billie Anderson, Beatrice Hunter
14. Abigail Titcomb Bartlett
15. Abigail Titcomb Bartlett
16. Abigail Titcomb Bartlett
17. Abigail Titcomb Bartlett
18. Abigail Titcomb Bartlett
19. Abigail Titcomb Bartlett
20. Abigail Titcomb Bartlett
21. Abigail Titcomb Bartlett
22. Abigail Titcomb Bartlett
23. Earl Dearborn
24. Earl Dearborn
25. Earl Dearborn
26. Jean Bartlett (Esther's sister)
27. Jeanne Bartlett
28. Abigail Titcomb Bartlett
29. Abigail Titcomb Bartlett
30. Abigail Titcomb Bartlett

31. Kay Bliss at her home
32. No name
33. No name
34. Kim Titcomb and Fred Titcomb
35. Kim Titcomb
36. Kay Bliss
37. Kay Bliss
38. Kay Bliss
39. Esther Titcomb
40. Esther Titcomb
41. John Henry Titcomb and Rosalyn Titcomb
42. John Henry Titcomb and Rosalyn Titcomb
43. John Henry Titcomb and Rosalyn Titcomb
44. John Henry Titcomb and Rosalyn Titcomb
45. John Henry Titcomb and Rosalyn Titcomb
46. John Henry Titcomb and Rosalyn Titcomb
47. Earl Dearbon and his work at Weare cemetery
48. Earl Dearbon and his work at Weare cemetery
49. Earl Dearbon and his work at Weare cemetery
50. Earl Dearbon and his work at Weare cemetery
51. Earl Dearbon and his work at Weare cemetery
52. Earl Dearbon and his work at Weare cemetery
53. Earl Dearbon and his work at Weare cemetery
54. Earl Dearbon and his work at Weare cemetery
55. Earl Dearbon and his work at Weare cemetery
56. John Henry Titcomb
57. John Henry Titcomb
58. John Henry Titcomb
59. John Henry Titcomb
60. John Henry Titcomb
61. John Henry Titcomb
62. John Henry Titcomb
63. John Henry Titcomb
64. John Henry Titcomb
65. John Henry Titcomb
66. John Henry Titcomb
67. John Henry Titcomb
68. John Henry Titcomb
69. John Henry Titcomb
70. John Henry Titcomb
71. Goldie Murray's stone bridge
72. Goldie Murray's stone bridge
73. Susan Bartlett
74. Susan Bartlett
75. Jane Bartlett Millon
76. Jane Bartlett Millon

- 77. Jane Bartlett Millon
- 78. John Henry Titcomb and Rosalyn Titcomb
- 79. John Henry Titcomb and Rosalyn Titcomb
- 80. George Salmon
- 81. George Salmon
- 82. George Salmon
- 83. George Salmon

Box 7 Unidentified negative strips (in sleeves)

Box 8

Folder 1 Oversize prints: identified

Index of identified people in the photographs is below and relate to the circled number on the back

- 40. Jeanne Bartlett and her children: Holly, Sarah, and Billy
- 41. Jeff Weinberg and Billy Bartlett
- 42. Jean Titcomb
- 43. Sarah McLean
- 44. Schmidt's barn
- 45. George Henkel
- 46. Jeff Weinberg and Billy Bartlett
- 47. Lotte Jacobi and Jane Bartlett
- 48. Lotte Jacobi and Jane Bartlett
- 49. Dorothy Wood and Edith Daniels
- 50. Ruby and Harold Thomson
- 51. Ruby and Harold Thomson
- 52. Etta Dwinnelli Rhodenizer
- 53. Jane Bartlett
- 54. Harold Thomson
- 55. Harold Thomson
- 56. Earl Dearborn
- 57. Emily Duncan
- 58. Emily Duncan
- 59. Emily Duncan
- 60. Emily Duncan
- 61. Ruby and Harold Thomson
- 62. Ruby and Harold Thomson
- 63. Ruby and Harold Thomson
- 64. Ruby and Harold Thomson

Folder 2 Oversize prints: unidentified

Box 9

Folder 1 Oversize prints: animals

Folder 2 Oversize prints, adults

Folder 3 Oversize prints, children

- Folder 4 Oversize prints, compositions
Folder 5 Oversize prints, landscape
Folder 6 Oversize prints, buildings
- Box 10** Assorted prints, unidentified
- Box 11**
Rolled sign Sign used by Esther Titcomb at fairs and shows for her booth
Album 1 Reverend Stan Keach and wife, Lola (Stan was once Pastor of the Deering
 Community Church), 1984
Album 2 Deering Days, August 23-26, 1984
Album 3 Weare Old Home Days and Family days, 1976
Album 4 Weare Horse and Buggy Days, August 7-8, 1976
Album 5 Deering Bi-centennial, August 17-18, 1974
Album 6 Deering Old Home Days, 1967-1968, 1976
Album 7 The Colburn Brothers' lad day at their Weare store, 1975
- Box 12** Envelopes of negatives and print strips/contact sheets, Esther's records,
 1965-1971
- Box 13A** Envelopes of negatives and print strips/contact sheets, Esther's Records,
 1972-1976
- Box 13B** Envelopes of negatives and prints strips/contact sheets, Esther's records,
 1977-1982
- Box 14** Mounted prints

Subject Terms

People:

Jacobi, Lotte, 1896-1990
Titcomb, Esther, 1918-1995

Subjects:

Photography

Locations:

Antrim, NH
Boston, MA
Deering, NH
Weare, NH

Occupations:

Photographers
Secretaries