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Twentieth century photograph collection

Title: Twentieth century photograph collection
Collection No: MSS.462
Extent: 4 cubic feet
Inclusive Dates: circa 1900-1991 and undated

Abstract: The collection contains a variety of photographic images, both individual and in albums. The images include family snapshots and photographs taken by state agencies, military units and other groups.

Processed by: Gerald Chaudron, 2015-2024.
Access: Open to all researchers.
Language: English
Preferred Citation: Twentieth century photograph collection, Special Collections Department, University Libraries, University of Memphis.

Publication date: 2024 April
Scope and contents

The collection is an artificial one containing a variety of photographic images, both individual and in albums. Their provenance is known in some cases but not all. The images include family snapshots as well as photographs taken by groups including state agencies and military units. An album of interest is A. Frank Eby’s that documents a visit to Shiloh National Military Park by Eby and other Indiana Civil War veterans around 1904 soon after many of the monuments were installed.

Subject terms

Aarons, Henry—Photographs.
Eby, A. Frank—Photographs.
Mississippi River--1930-1940—Photographs.
Orgill family—Photographs.
Reagan, Ronald—Photographs.
Shiloh National Military Park (Tenn. and Miss.)—Photographs.
Wilson, Elizabeth.
Wilson family—Photographs.

Inventory

Box 1

Folder

1 Reclamation work on the Mississippi River at Mellwood Bend, Arkansas, 1939. Four 8” x 10” b/w prints of building of willow mat and sinking of the mat with rocks from a barge towed by the sternwheeler “Chisca”. Also two small b/w prints of reclamation work, undated.

2 Photograph album: 120 b/w prints with no binding. Images of an unidentified (Memphis?) family, houses, and places they visited, including Helen Hunt Falls, Colorado, circa 1910.


4 Stells Big Medicine Company, undated: 2 b/w prints. Group of African-American men and women in costume and with musical instruments on a makeshift stage, with a
Caucasian man and woman in Western clothing, and a man in a suit; Caucasian man and woman in Western clothing, and a man in a suit standing on same stage.

Box 2
Photograph album: 300 b/w prints. Belonged to Adele Kendrick Orgill (1898-1978) of Memphis, Tennessee. Images of her family and friends in Memphis, Bolivar and traveling, circa 1917.

Box 3
1 Aarons’ photographs, 1922-1938 and undated: 24 b/w prints. Includes: Henry Aarons with car in San Antonio, Texas, December 26, 1922, and in Mississippi; two images taken at Wellesley College in 1927; two images of a group of people from 1938; one image of S. Steinberg & Company building on Jefferson Avenue, Memphis, circa 1935.
2 A. Frank Eby photograph album, circa 1904. Suede-bound photograph album containing 35 b/w images of visit to Shiloh National Military Park taken by A. Frank Eby and other Indiana Civil War veterans around 1904. The images show some of the newly erected monuments and the boats on the Tennessee River which brought visitors to the park. Eby (b. 1844) served in the 54th Indiana Volunteer Infantry and the 40th Indiana Infantry.
3 Album of color photographs (82): Trains, engines, railroad stations and yards, Memphis, Jackson, Tennessee; Arkansas, Mississippi, 1974. Photographer is unknown.

Box 4
1 University Lions Club social, 1977. 7 color prints of a group of people eating and playing croquet in the backyard of an unidentified house.
3 Loose prints.
4 Ephemera, 1940-1957 and undated. Includes: Elizabeth Wilson’s Arlington Elementary School report, 1940; Arlington School graduation program, 1944, and; Nicholas Blackwell High School commencement program, 1944.
5 Mounted photographs, unidentified, undated.
6 Identified, undated: Mr. and Mrs. Schwab interviewed by Ann Rickey of Real to Reel Productions, circa 1977; Harold Robbins, undated; W.J. Michael (Mike) Cody, Memphis, Tenn., undated; Doughboy statue (5), Overton Park, Memphis, Tenn., undated; Columbia Institute, Columbia, Tenn., circa 1925 (3); Mrs. Podesta pictures, undated (4); Overton Park Zoo, Memphis, Tenn., includes copy print of bear “Natchez” by Lawrence H. Wyckoff, 1905, and bear cages; Mallory Air Force Specialized Depot, Jackson Avenue, Memphis, Tenn., circa 1950; Hillsborough, N.C., circa 1974.

Box 5
1 Unidentified, undated. Includes image of man taking fingerprints off a safe from the
Memphis Police Bureau of Identification, photographer: Tuttle; photographers include: Biltmore Studio, 1944; Moffett, Chicago, Ill.; J. Mack Moore, Vicksburg, Miss; photographic processors in Meridian Miss., Memphis, Tenn.

Father Nicholas L. Vieron and Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, Memphis, Tenn., 1977 (b/w & color, 29).

Depot House, Holly Springs, Miss., 1977 January (color, 17).

Mounted photographs: unidentified. Image of woman signed “…from Mamie”; photographers include: Ramsey, Gainesville, Ga., 1919; Outland & Stanton, Long Beach, California; Bingham, Memphis, Tenn.; Wootton, Martin, Tenn.

Negatives: 1. Three lumber trucks parked in Franklin Street, Corinth, Mississippi, late 1920s.
2. Foley and Burk Shows, undated (color, 8).
3. Court Square from Main Street at Court Avenue, Memphis, Tenn., 1914 May 18. Photographer: Charles B. Medin, Illinois.

Automobiles on roads in Tennessee and Kentucky, undated (c.1915). Automobile has Little Rock pennant on folded down roof. Refers to Dobbyns family assisting the photographer near Fulton, Ky. Photographs processed in Atlanta, Ga.

Memphis, Tenn., downtown and waterfront, from Mud Island and Arkansas river bank, circa 1970, unknown photographer (b/w, 6).

Foundry workers. B/w image of 9 unidentified workers in front of a stack of ingots, n.p., circa 1930?.


Post Office, Memphis, Tenn., 1914 and undated (3). Interior views of male and female employees at their desks. Names noted include: J.W. Meyers, Clarke, Jack Conners, Frank Ross, Paul Park, Johnnie Jones.


**Box 6**
- 9 x 12 cm (832).

**Box 7**
- 6 x 8.5 cm (554).

**Box 8**
2. Album pages, 1904-1917. 22 snapshots and a portrait, including views of Memphis
waterfront, Gartley-Ramsey Hospital, Ellis-Hessig Wholesale Drug Company building, and Confederate Park. Names include Winnie Childress, Phil and Bernice Weinrich, Anne L. Schoefer, Leo Shoefer, George and Hattie Oran, Walter and Edward Fukbish?

3 Park Field, Millington, Tenn., 1919 November 6. Donated by Barbara Plyler, Memphis, Tenn.


5 Negatives, 35mm, b&w: Downtown Memphis, boat houses on the Mississippi River, Jefferson Davis Park, oldest house in West Tennessee, 1976 November; ice on Mississippi River near Mud Island, 1977 January. Photographer unknown.

6 Dan Stewart Murrell collection:
Dan Stewart Murrell (1933-2010) served nine years in the regular army, including three years in Germany, before returning to the University of Mississippi to attend law school. Upon receipt of the Juris Doctor Degree, he joined the General Crimes Division of the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. and entered George Washington University School of Law where he earned the LL.M. He joined the faculty of the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law at Memphis State University in 1970 and taught until 2001. His courses included constitutional law, criminal law, criminal procedure and a course he developed, law in literature. He also served two years as university legal counsel. He was active in international law, spending time with the American Bar Association’s Center for Eastern European Legal Initiatives in Moldova and as a visiting professor in Budapest, Hungary. Murrell was an active member of and volunteer for multiple organizations, including the Lions Club, Boy Scout Troop 40, CASA, the Shelby County Juvenile Court, and St. Luke’s United Methodist Church.

The inscribed photographs were collected during Murrell’s time at the Justice Department.
James O. Eastland, U.S. Senator for Mississippi.
Hubert H. Humphrey, U.S. Vice-President.
J. Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, 1970.
Spiro T. Agnew, U.S. Vice-President.

7 James Alexander Hulbert (born 1906), librarian and author of An Introduction to Library Service (New York: Exposition Press, 1971), and two unidentified men, undated.

8 Hand-colored images of an unidentified woman standing and seated with bouquets of flowers, possibly from a wedding (2). One image dated August 5, 1918. Photographer: Clifford H. Poland

9 Printed aerial images (3) of Memphis, Tennessee, undated. Includes: Downtown Memphis, Memphis Museum, Memphis Municipal Airport.

10 Snapshots, b&w (6), unknown photographer, circa 1949. Images taken along the
Mississippi River, including road onto Harahan Bridge, Memphis, with police box; cars aboard a ferry; cars lined up before a raised bridge; entry to Huey P. Long Bridge, Jefferson Parish, La.; view of boats docked along the Mississippi River; view of cargo ship on Mississippi River.


12 1. Lee Line side wheeler packet steamer "James Lee", Memphis, Tennessee, 1916 October. The "James Lee" was built in 1898 and sailed the Memphis-Friar's Point, Mississippi, run. Converted to an excursion boat in 1917 and renamed "DeSoto", the boat was crushed by ice on the Mississippi River during the winter of 1917-1918.

2. Kennedy Hospital entrance from Getwell Road, 1944 August. Established in January 1943, the hospital became the largest Army general hospital in the country during World War II. Later it became a Veterans Affairs Hospital before closing in 1967. The site became the South Campus of Memphis State University.

   Photographer: Wootton, Martin, Tenn. The West Tennessee Wholesale Grocery Company was established in 1902 by Thomas Harris Farmer (1861-1946) and W.N. Lovelace. In 1918, it became the Lovelace-Farmer Grocery Company and existed in downtown Martin for 74 years.

2. Thomas B. Cannon home, 1776 Vinton Avenue, Memphis, Tenn., circa 1915. Cannon was Department Manager at The John Gerber Company from 1914 to 1916.


14 1. South Court Avenue, Memphis, Tenn., circa 1948.


3. Showboat “City of Memphis”, near Cairo Mississippi Bridge?, undated (1930s).

   1. “Placing sand bags in the street to form a levee.” Corner of Second and Main Streets, North Little Rock, Ark.
   2. “Inhabitants surrounded by the rising waters.”
   3. “Shopping in canoes became necessary when the flood waters rose and inundated the street.” North Little Rock, Ark.
   4. “Coming to the aid of ladies stranded on a balcony in a canoe.”


17 Memphis Elementary School graduating class, Cleveland, Ohio, 1916.

18 1. S and F Cotton Oil Company premises, Memphis, Tenn., undated. 2 images of a man beside stacks of lumber near buildings with name of S and F Cotton Oil Co painted on them. The S and F Cotton Oil Company had premises on the corner of Lamar and Park.

2. City of Memphis, Tennessee, Department of Public Works truck being loaded with gravel at a crushing plant, undated (circa 1940). The photograph was produced by the Iowa Manufacturing Company Advertising Department which manufactured the plant.

3. Unidentified man in masonic uniform, undated. The words “Mazda Patrol” are on his Hat, and “Memphis” is visible on the front of his shirt.


2. Mounted photograph: Memphis Cotton Exchange interior, 1912 November 14. View of the interior of the Memphis Cotton Exchange in Memphis, Tennessee, with a group of brokers and clerks after the close of business at 2 p.m. on November 14, 1912. This information is noted on the verso. The Memphis Cotton Exchange was in the Exchange Building at Court and Second until a new building was constructed in 1924-1925 at the corner of Union and Front.

3. Dedication of flag at the Crippled Children’s Hospital at 2009 Lamar, Memphis, Tenn., undated (1940s). The hospital was established in 1919 and served thousands of children until 1982 when the declining need for hospital care saw the property sold to Methodist Health Systems.


2. Slide: Aerial view looking south to Beale Street, and MLGW building and Orpheum Theatre on Main Street, 1979

3. Slide: Thomas F. Gailor Memorial Psychiatric Hospital, 42 S. Dunlap Street, Memphis, Tenn., 1958. Opened in 1942 as an intensive, short-term treatment facility for the mentally ill, it was the first hospital of its kind in the city. Gailor closed in 1960 and became an outpatient clinic.

21 1. Postcard: Washington Street, Memphis, Tenn., looking east past the Memphis Police Department on the corner of Second Street to the Shelby County Court House on the right, circa 1910.

2. 102nd Reunion, Scottish Rite of Freemasonry Abe Goodman Sr. 33rd Degree Memorial Class, Memphis, Tennessee, November 16-18, 1943.

3. Postcard reprint: Memphis Union Station, Calhoun Street, Memphis, Tennessee, circa 1940. The station opened in 1912 for passenger and express operations for railroads operating through Memphis east and west. Most services stopped in 1964 and the building was demolished in 1969.

Box 9

1. Memphis, Tenn., 1909 (7). Snapshots of Cossitt Library and Customs House, Madison Avenue, Main Street, Memphis High School, Shelby County Courthouse, Tennessee Club, Mississippi riverfront. Unknown photographer.
2. John Gaston Hospital nurses’ home, Memphis, Tenn., 1946.
5. Pure Oil gas station, (South?) Parkway and Willett Street, Memphis, Tenn., circa 1956.
7. Dealer New Car Planning Committee, Memphis, Tenn., 1938 May 10. Photographer: Goodman Commercial Photographers, Loews Palace Theater Building, Memphis. A faded page attached to the print identifies the committee as Group No. 4 and the participants are apparently Chevrolet dealers. Most of the individuals’ names are illegible but their dealerships or location can mostly be identified: (l-r): ____ Chevrolet Company, Van Buren, Ark.; City Motor Company, Fulton, Ky.; Haney? Chevrolet Company, Oxford, Miss.; ____ Chevrolet Company, Memphis, Tenn.; Assistant Zone Manager in charge of new cars, Memphis Zone; Mr. Young, Young Chevrolet Company, Hope, Ark.; Clark (or Clary?) James Motor Company, Clarksville, Ark.; Secretary; Riverside? Chevrolet Company, Batesville, Miss.; Paragould Motor Company, Paragould, Ark.; Mr. Carter, Carter Chevrolet Company, Lexington, Miss. It is noted that Mr. Whittington of Whittington Chevrolet Company, Miss., was not present for the photograph.
8. Snapshots of the Naval Air Technical Training Center commissary, Millington, Tenn., being demolished after a fire in January or February 1966. Photographer: Tom Gorth, Jet Engine Mechanics School, NATTC.
9. 1. Snapshots (2), 1930s?: Man and 2 women standing beside a car underneath a large tree festooned with Spanish moss, with “Memphis” written on verso; Interior identified on verso as “Claridge Hotel, Memphis”.
2. Mounted photographs (2), circa 1910?: Exterior front view of large house with columns, identified on verso as being in Memphis; Man and six children sitting outside the same house.
10. Mulberry Street Methodist Baraca Bible Class, unidentified location, 1921 April 3.
11. Mounted photograph: Clarence Saunders Sole Owner of My Name store no. 3, Memphis, Tenn., undated. After losing control of his Piggly Wiggly store chain in 1924, self-service store pioneer Saunders (1881-1953) established new stores in Memphis the same year simply called Clarence Saunders: Sole Owner of My Name and by June there were already four in the city. The chain expanded across the country to number 220 stores by 1927. The Depression bankrupted Saunders and the Sole Owner stores were all gone by 1935.
12. Views (20, some duplicated) of flooded roads, a railroad, houses, factory and timber yard, possibly the Fisher Lumber Company between Thomas Street and Second
Street near the Wolf River, Memphis, Tennessee, 1927. The photographer may have been Orville F. Long whose name is printed on the return address of the envelope the prints were received in. An electrical engineer who worked for the Fisher Lumber Company, Long was its powerhouse superintendent in 1930.

8 Slide: Memphis Central Station, 545 S. Main Street, Memphis, Tenn., 1967 November. Photographer: William I. White, Memphis.

9 Mounted photograph: Lyman Winn, 694 Marshall Avenue, Memphis, Tenn., circa 1923. The store operated between 1922 and 1925 and sold automobile parts. Also small promotional notebook.

10 John H. Allen collection:
23 contact prints of photographs taken by John Hodges Allen (d.1971) in June 1924 of the parade celebrating the 34th annual United Confederate Veterans Association national reunion held in Memphis, Tennessee. It was the third time the city had hosted the reunion since the organization was founded in 1889. The previous reunions in Memphis had been in 1901 and 1909. The convention ran June 4-6 and was held at the new—and unfinished—Memphis Auditorium (later renamed Ellis Auditorium) on the corner of Poplar and Front Streets. The veterans participated in two parades: Civic Flower parade on Wednesday afternoon, June 4, and the grand parade on Friday morning, June 6.

11 16 contact prints of photographs taken by John Hodges Allen in June 1924. While the primary subject of the photographs was the reunion, a number contain background subjects including the Lincoln-American Tower under construction on the corner of Court and North Main Streets; Court Square and the Hebe Fountain; Confederate Park; steamboats moored along the Mississippi River front; Memphis Auditorium; Peabody School; Shelby County Courthouse.

12 Views of Memphis, Tenn., waterfront, circa 1900. Unknown photographer.

13 Slides: 1. Memphis, Tenn., 1955 May: Southern Bell Telephone Building from Court Square.
6. Memphis, Tenn., 1961 November. South Fourth Street looking north from near Beale Street. Harlem House restaurant at 159 S. Fourth is at left.

2. Postcard: L.M. Stratton house, 1433 Union Avenue, Memphis, Tenn., 1922. Photographer, E.I. Philpot. The house was built for lumberman Rowland J. Darnell in 1907. A.R. Orgill bought it in 1917 and a year later it was sold to Leslie Martin Stratton (1881-1949) who lived there for the next five and a half years. Stratton was president of Stratton-Warren Hardware Company, Early-Stratton Company, Memphis Queensware Company, and Mississippi Valley Furniture Company. The house was bought by the Nineteenth Century Club in 1926.
3. View of Main Street, Memphis, Tenn., looking south from the Madison Avenue intersection, 5:45 pm, 1912 August 5. Photographer: J.C. Coovert, Memphis.
4. Postcard: Aerial view of downtown Memphis, Tenn., including Mud Island, circa 1933.

Box 10
1 Memphis, Tenn., street repairs funded by the Public Works Administration, 1936 April. Includes Chelsea Avenue, Lick Creek drainage work on Union Avenue west of Cooper, new Cypress Creek Bridge, Watkins Rd Extended, widening Hollywood Street from Jackson to Chelsea.
2 1. Mounted photograph: Woman and girl outside Cossitt Library, Memphis, Tenn., with view of Front Street, circa 1900.  
2. Idlewild Elementary School, Memphis, Tenn., 2nd grade class 2B, 1929.
3 Mississippi River waterfront flooding at Memphis, Tenn., undated (probably 1937).
   (16)  
4 Memphis, Tenn., flood, undated (1912-1913?). (9)  
6 Memphis, circa 1930. (4). Main Street looking north from Union; Main Street at Madison; Main Street looking south at Adams; Main Street looking north from near Madison.
7 Parkway Pumping Station, Memphis, Tenn., 1920s. (5). Views of building exterior and interior. Built in the 1920s on the corner of Dunlap and North Parkway for Memphis Light, Gas and Water, and later renamed the Mallory Pumping Station, the ground water treatment plant is the oldest in Shelby County. Photographer: Poland.

9 University of Tennessee College of Medicine, Memphis, Tenn., medical units construction, undated. Photographer: Poland.

10 Transportation, Memphis, Tenn., 1909, 1920s?, 1932, circa 1935, circa 1960 and undated (34). Rock Island Lines railroad; seaplanes, 1920s?; Mid-South Airways, Memphis Airport, 1932; Office staff, Room 10, Poplar Street Station, Memphis, 1909 April 13; Poplar Street Station, Poplar & Front, Memphis, circa 1935; Memphis Transit Company bus #75, circa 1960; unidentified couple in front of the Curtiss-Wright Flying Service building, undated (early 1930s); Streetcars: Florida Street line #577, Suburban-Forest Hill line #566, Fair Grounds line #544, undated (1910s?).


Box 11

1 Constructing levee at the Panther Forest Brake near Luna Landing, Ark., 1912. (6 copy photographs). Views of workers, mules and machinery, tent camp.


2 Snapshots: Overton Square, Memphis, Tenn., with artificial snow, 1976. (14)


4 Forrest Park, Memphis, Tenn., 1929-1952. (5)

5 Columbian Mutual Tower, Memphis, Tenn., 1924, 1931 and undated. (3) The 22-story building was built for Lloyd Binford's Columbia Mutual Insurance Company and construction began the previous year. One of the first steel-frame buildings in Memphis, it was also the tallest in West Tennessee. The building was later renamed the Lincoln American Tower.

6 Memphis, Tennessee, 1906, 1919 and undated. (6). Overton Park; Main Street; parade of soldiers returning from France, 1919.


8 Mississippi River flood, 1927 (3). Greenville, Miss.; “Chisca” towboat.
9 Memphis, Tenn., Police Department, 1912 and undated. (6). Memphis Police Station, circa 1911. Photographer: Bluff City Engraving Co.; Memphis police officers, 1912; groups of Memphis police officers with Commissioner of Public Safety Clifford Davis, 1930s.


12 Sterick Building, Memphis, Tenn., 1929, 1930 and undated. (3) Images of building under construction, dedication ceremony, Wyatt C. Hedrick, and elevator operators.


2. Clarence Saunders at opening of Keedoozle store, Memphis, Tenn., 1937 February.

Box 12

1 Memphis, Tenn., schools, circa 1923-1934 and undated. L.C. Humes High School, circa 1925, 1932; Crockett Technical High School, circa 1923; Sacred Heart School, 1930. Photographer: Poland; Peabody School, undated. Photographer: Bluff City Engraving Co.; Central High School, 1929. Photographer: Memphis Engraving Photo Department; Messick High School, 1932; St. Agnes Academy, 1932; Immaculate Conception Cathedral School, 1932; Hollywood School, 1934; Shelby County Industrial School, 1933; Guthrie School, circa 1923; Madison Heights School, circa 1923 (2); Lenox School, circa 1923; Lausanne School, 1926. Photographer: Bluff City Engraving Co.

2 Mississippi River flood, Memphis, 1937. View upstream from Columbia Mutual Tower, 1937 February 9; Wolf River floodwall, 1937 February 9; View of Nonconnah Creek backwater east from Highway 61 bridge, 1937 February 10.


4 Memphis business and industry, 1926-1945 and undated. Includes Plough Chemical


6 Tennessee, 1940 and undated. Covington warehouse (unidentified), undated; Dan Archer’s bus, Covington to Ripley route, undated; Pinson, Tenn., school, undated; “Glenwood”, Martin, Tenn., undated (2); First Presbyterian Church, Main and Church Streets, Jackson, Tenn., 1940; Eads, Tenn., railroad station, undated (circa 1950); Girls’ art class, undated (1900s). Photographer: Reeves, Clarksville, Tennessee; Cocke’s Hospital, undated. Possibly at Western State Hospital for the Insane, Bolivar, Tenn. Dr. Edwin W. Cocke was superintendent, 1918-1936.


8 Holiday Inn Rivermont, Memphis, Tenn., undated (1970s) (3).


Avenue and Somerville Street, 1923. Photographer: Bluff City Engraving Co.;
Willis C. Campbell Clinic, 869 Madison Avenue, 1923. Photographer: Bluff City
Engraving Co.; Sanders-Warr Clinic, 20 N. Dunlap Street, 1923. Photographer:
Bluff City Engraving Co.; St. Joseph Hospital, Jackson Avenue, circa 1915. Bluff
City Engraving Co.; Methodist Hospital, Union Avenue, 1929. Memphis
Engraving Photo Department.; Methodist Hospital, Union Avenue, circa 1924;
Methodist Hospital, Lamar Avenue, circa 1921. Bluff City Engraving Co.;
Methodist Hospital, Lamar Avenue, circa 1922.

11 Hansonhurst Creamery, Brunswick, Tenn., 1923. (11) Established by Charles Clinton
Hanson (1867-1952) at his property on Rosemark Road about 25 miles northeast
of Memphis in 1922. Included a store, cotton gin and community hall. Venture
failed with the Great Depression and was sold in 1930.

Box 13

1 Memphis buildings, 1921-1939. Brooks Memorial Art Gallery, 1921; Brooks Memorial
Art Gallery entrance, undated. Photographer: Bluff City Engraving Company,
Memphis; Episcopal Church Home, 750 Jackson Avenue, 1929; Clover Farm
Dairy Company, 173 Walnut Street, 1929. Photographer: Bluff City Engraving
Company, Memphis; DeSoto Station Post Office, 161 E. Calhoun Street, 1929;
Ella Oliver Home, 903 Walker Avenue. Photographer: Bluff City Engraving
Company, Memphis; McDowell-Monteverde Funeral Home, 531 Vance Avenue,
1939; Glenview Community House, 1251 S. Willett Street, 1927. Photographer:
Bluff City Engraving Company, Memphis; Colonial Country Club, Southern
Avenue, undated (1920s); James Lee Memorial Academy of Art house and
garden, 1934; Peabody Community Center, Tanglewood and Central, 1929;
Wesley Institute, 562 N. Fifth Street, undated (1920s); Shelby County
Courthouse, 1926; Peabody Hotel, Union Avenue, undated (1920s); DeSoto
Station Post Office, Calhoun and Second Streets, possibly rear of building, 1924.
Photographer: Bluff City Engraving Company, Memphis.

15, 1267 Madison Avenue, undated; Mr. Bowers’ Stores, Inc., No.
27, 120 S. Wellington Street, undated; Open Air School, undated. Photographer: 
Bluff City Engraving Company, Memphis; Installation of electric streetlights
on Peabody Avenue, undated (circa 1930). Photographer: Goodman; U.S. Custom
House, undated (1900s); Memphis Police Station, undated (circa 1911).
Photographer: Bluff City Engraving Company, Memphis; Patterson Bayou
Tunnel, 1920 April 27. Photographer: C.H. Poland; Unidentified construction site,
undated. Photographer: C.H. Poland; Memphis Chamber of Commerce directors,
1922-1923, 1921 October. Photographer: Gray. Left to right: Front row: Frank
Fenton, John H. McDowell; Second row: H.R. Chears, J.B. Vesey, R.B. Hagerty,
Third row: Ewing Carruthers, Ernest Adams, T.B. Hooker, H.F. Ozburn, Gilmer
Winston, unidentified, A. Arthur Halle, Horace Hull; Fourth row: Fred Beneke,
W.P. Armstrong, W.I. Moody, Wassell Randolph, B.L. Mallory, John W. McCall,
F.H. Gailor, Baird S. Cairns; U.S. Parcel Post vans and parcels, U.S. Custom
House, 1914 December 23; Cotton bale arch, Monroe Avenue, Memphis, undated (circa 1930) (copy); Kidd and Grisham dairy wagon, Madison Avenue, Memphis, 1913. The Tri-State Baptist Hospital is in the background.

3 United Confederate Veterans, Memphis, 1909, 1924 (3). Confederate veterans John Davis (Fourth Kentucky) (left) and James Augustus Lomenick (1845-1930) (Fifth Tennessee) meet for the first time since 1863 in Memphis, Tennessee, on June 5, 1924, during the United Confederate Veterans' national reunion. Photographer: Bluff City Engraving Company, Memphis; Former Confederate General Clement Evans, Commander in Chief of the United Confederate Veterans (left), greets General Frederick Dent Grant, son of the former Union commander, General Ulysses S. Grant, in Court Square in Memphis, Tennessee, on June 10, 1909, during the UCV national reunion. Photographer: Bluff City Engraving Company, Memphis; General William B. Haldeman (1846-1924), commander of the United Confederate Veterans, and his staff at the UCV national reunion, Memphis, Tennessee, 1924. Photographer: Poland, Memphis. Individuals noted on verso (left-right): Thomas B. Osborne (Kentucky), Hi P. Barnard, Col. Powell (aide de camp), General W.C. Rinsaling? (Tennessee), Maj. Cooke, Gen. Haldeman, Fagg, Felix Robson?.

4 Memphis buildings, 1907 and undated. Architectural rendering of National Bank of Commerce Building (One Commerce Square), S. Main and Monroe, completed 1973; Old Stage Restaurant, 1400 Union Avenue, undated, built in 1979 on site of former Frank Fontaine Hill house demolished 1978; Bartlett High School (Bartlett Courthouse School), Bartlett, Tenn., 1907 (copy).

5 University Club, 1346 Central Avenue, Memphis, September 1924 (5). Photographer: Bluff City Engraving Co., Memphis. Supermarket pioneer Clarence Saunders had just sold the property.

631 Monroe Avenue, Memphis, circa 1923; Mayor Watkins Overton, Commissioner of Fire and Police Cliff Davis, and Finance and Institutions Commissioner Joe Boyle (standing left-right on the truck) inspect the new fire truck for the Municipal Airport under the gaze of Chief Iry Klinck, Memphis, Tennessee, 1936 December 6; South Third Street viaduct opening, Memphis, 1934 April 2. Mayor Watkins Overton opened the new connection to Mississippi; Mayor Watkins Overton and his son, Samuel Watkins Overton, Jr. at the opening of the Third Street viaduct, 1934 April 2.

7 B’nai B’rith Home for the Aged, 131 N. Tucker Street, Memphis, Tenn., 1927, 1930 and undated. (4)


9 Les Passees Cheerfield Farm, 1923-1929 (15). Includes views of pavilion at Oakville Sanitarium.

10 Unidentified. Two groups of young women graduates in outdoor setting; two small images of a woman; bridge.


Box 14

1 Aerial photographs: location (Tennessee?) and photographer unknown, “21 VV MED M 199 311AF 7 Feb 46 6P116 153.3 10,000”- “71 VV MED M 199 311AF 7 Feb 46 6P116 153.3 10,000”.


4 Rust cotton picker, 1936 (3). Demonstration to the press of the cotton picker invented by John and Mack Rust at the Delta Experiment Station in Stoneville, Miss., 1936 August 31.

5 Tri State Fairgrounds, Memphis, 1923-circa 1929. Swine and sheep barn, 1923. Photographer: Poland; Woman’s Building, 1923, circa 1925. Photographer: Poland; Shelby County Building, circa 1923. Photographer: Poland; Shelby County Building, circa 1930; Tri-State Fair, circa 1929 (9).

6 Memphis people, circa 1901-circa 1977.

   1. Family portrait, circa 1929. Sitting (l-r): Mrs. Isaac Ottenheimer (Baltimore), Mrs. Dora (Jacob) Goldsmith (1855-1934), Jacob Goldsmith (1850-1933), Miss Sophia Goldsmith (1876-1963); Standing: Elias Jacob Goldsmith (1882-1965), Mrs. A.C. Herzberg, Leo Goldsmith (1884-1954), Mrs. Sylvan Newman
2. Portrait: Mr. Jacob and Mrs. Dora Goldsmith, circa 1929. Photographer: Ritz Studio, 627 Boardwalk, Atlantic City, N.J.

3. Portrait: Fred Goldsmith, Jr. (1915-1994) in uniform of Culver Military Academy, Culver, IN, 1934. Fred graduated in June 1934 and was the grandson of Jacob Goldsmith.


5. Abe Plough and siblings, Memphis, circa 1901. Copy of studio portrait of the children of Moses Plough, left-right: Alfred, Barney, Abe, Sam, Morris and Clara. Abe Plough (1891-1984) started the Plough Chemical Company in 1908 making patent medicines and later cosmetics. His company evolved into Plough, Inc., and then Schering-Plough Corporation, a major pharmaceutical company.

6. Men’s Bible Class, Highland Heights Baptist Church, 675 National Street, Memphis, Tenn., 1930.

7 Memphis Defense Depot, circa 1965 (7).

8 Arkansas, 1926-1977. Helena, Ark., 1929 (8): Municipal River Terminal; Public Library, 623 Pecan Street; Train transfer boat “William B. Duncan”; Sternwheeler “Carolyn”; Confederate Memorial. Photographer: Jack Watson; Crittenden County Courthouse, Marion, Ark., December 1977. Photographer: Jenneweth; Hot Springs, Ark., 1960, Chamber of Commerce photograph; Paragould, Ark., December 1926: Paragould Trust Company building, First National Bank building, Adolph Bertig house, Bertig Bros. department store. Adolph Bertig (1853-1926) and his brothers owned many businesses in the Paragould area including the Bertig Bros. department store and they were directors of the banks. The collapse of the Paragould Trust Company and the deteriorating cotton markets had a serious impact on the Bertig empire and on December 12, 1926, Adolph committed suicide; Jonesboro Baptist College Administration Building, 1938; R.E. Lee Wilson Hall, Arkansas State College, Jonesboro, 1933; Armory, First District A&M College, Jonesboro, 1929; Cotton Experiment Station, Marianna, 1929 (4): Gin, tool house and barn; gin and seedhouse; main residence, office and garage; tenant cottage.

9 Mississippi River Bridge, Cape Girardeau, Missouri, circa 1927. Photograph of illustration of planned bridge.

Memphis Memorial Stadium, Memphis, undated. (2)

Negative: View north from Court Square, Memphis, Tenn., 1936 April 8.
Photographer: Charles Medin, Illinois.

Memphis, Tennessee, snapshots, 1969 May 3 (2): Aerial view of downtown Memphis looking south to Sterick Building and First National Bank Building; Madison Avenue looking west towards downtown from bridge over Danny Thomas Boulevard under construction.

Memphis, Tenn., circa 1932. Postcard view northeast of the downtown skyline from the Cotton Exchange Building on Front Street.

Box 15
Oscar Bowles Polk was born March 1, 1849, the son of J.J. Polk. He took over his father’s large plantation after his death in 1871, and married Ada Clarissa Boyle Lowe in 1879. They had four children: Oscar Boyle, Ada C., Pearl, and Elizabeth. Oscar died in 1920 and Ada died the following year.

1. Polk family, 1905.
2. Polk family, 1909?
4. Polk family, undated.

OS1
Tennessee Soil Conservation Service photographs, 1947-1956 and undated. 9 b/w prints, 16” x 20”, mounted on card. Images of farming activities in Tennessee.

7. Multiflora rose fence, R.M. Benson farm, Ethridge, Lawrence County, Tenn., 1956 May 10.
1. “Dedication of monument on Elks Rest, Memphis, Tenn., March 16, 1913.” Memorial deceased members of Memphis Lodge No. 27, B.P.O. Elks, with participants to listed. Photographer: J.C. Coover, Memphis.

2. Large group of people, mostly men, standing on steps of unidentified building, with some individuals holding musical instruments, circa 1915. Photographer: Poland, Memphis.

3. Print showing a nineteenth century and a twentieth century image of the waterfront, Memphis, Tenn.


9. Unidentified military unit (National Guard?) with tents in background, address on verso: “214 North Vine St., Nashville, Tenn.”, undated (circa 1905), photographer: Calvert Bros., Nashville, Tenn.

10. Unidentified young boy, 4 views, undated.


OS3

1. Unidentified group of people standing behind two seated men, undated. Possibly related to H.C. McKellar, Memphis postmaster.

2. Memphis downtown, sectional overlay aerial photograph, City of Memphis, Division of Public Works, sheet no. 786296, undated (1960s?).


OS4

1. Fourth degree class, Memphis Assembly #616, Knights of Columbus, Memphis, 1919 October 12. Photographer: Poland.


5. Central High School, Memphis, Tenn., senior class, 1929 June.


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4. Downtown Memphis, Tennessee, circa 1940. View looking south from above the Gayoso Bayou Pumping Station along Front Street to the left and the industrial
area along the Wolf River to the right.

5. Carter Seed Company, 85 Front Street, Memphis, Tennessee, 1975. Photographer: Sam Brackstone. Nick Carter sitting in the store he and his brother Cecil ran in a number of locations on Front in its more than 50-year history until it was sold in 1979. Nick Carter died in 1981.

6. Group of men seated in a room with easels, bunting and stacked cans displaying Libby’s food products, undated (circa 1935). Photographer: C.H. Poland, Memphis. Libby, McNeill and Libby was founded in 1869 in Chicago, Illinois, and produced canned meat. By 1900, the company had expanded to canning fruit and vegetables and in the 1920s it was acquired by Swift and Company. In 1970, it was purchased by Nestlé.


OS6

1. Aerial view of Memphis, Tennessee, downtown and riverfront looking from the customs house and Cossitt Library eastwards, undated (1940s?).


4. Mounted photograph: Unidentified Girl Scout troop, Memphis, Tenn., circa 1925. Photographer: Denison Studio, Memphis. Some of the girls have initials written on their image. “Rebekah Dean” is noted on the verso.


6. Shelby County Building, Mid-South Fairgrounds, Memphis, Tenn., undated (1930s?).

7. Plough Chemical Company sales force, Chisca Hotel meeting, Memphis, Tenn., 1923 December 27-29. Photographer: Poland.