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# GEN MS 05 Walker Evans Photographs Finding Aid

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SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

**WALKER EVANS PHOTOGRAPHS  
GEN MS 5**

**Total Boxes: 3  
Linear Feet: 4.5**

**By  
Siobain C. Monahan**

**Portland, Maine  
December, 2000**

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## **Administrative Information**

Provenance: In 1970, Juris Ubans, as Director of the Art Gallery was trying to create inexpensive exhibitions. While at the Library of Congress for a John Ford film festival, he stumbled across the Farm Security Administration Act photographs, and thus the Walker and Shahn photographs. With the 150th anniversary of USM in 1974, he decided to get copies of (or in Walker's case prints from the original negatives) photographs related mostly to Maine and New England.

In 1991, the exhibition created with the Ben Shahn photographs traveled to Leningrad in the then Soviet Union.

This information was provided by Juris Ubans to Susie R. Bock on April 5, 2018, at a meeting in Special Collections.

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Cite as: Walker Evans Photographs, Special Collections, University of Southern Maine Library.

Restrictions on access: This collection is open for research

## **Description of the Papers**

These are original photographs printed from the Library of Congress' negatives. They are part of the Farm Security Administration – Office of War Information Photograph Collection, which is found in the Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division. These reproductions were probably obtained by the University of Southern Maine Art Gallery, who eventually donated them to Special Collections. The University Art Gallery exhibited these photographs in "Walker Evans Photographs," on display from November 1 through November 19, 1978. One listing has 58 photographs, while Special Collections was given only 50.

A detailed description can be found on the Library of Congress website (see [http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/print/052\\_fsa.html](http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/print/052_fsa.html)). These descriptions have been printed out as part of this finding aid.

The dates in the Box listing refer to when the original photograph was created, not to these reproductions.

In the Ben Shahn Photograph Collection, the final photograph, "New York, New York, 61<sup>st</sup> Street between 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenues, 1938" was included in the USM Art Gallery's exhibit of his work. However, since this time, the Library of Congress has realized that the photograph was actually created by Walker Evans. As a result, USM Special Collections placed this photograph in the Walker Evans Collection.

Box	Photo #	Photo description	Date
1	1	Typical houses of Morgantown, West Virginia	1935 Jun
	2	Interior of unemployed man's house. Morgantown, West Virginia	1935 Jul
	3	Interior of Miner's shack. Scott's Run outside of Morgantown, West Virginia	1935 Jul
	4	Scott's Run mining camps near Morgantown, West Virginia	1935 Jul
	5	Scott's Run mining camps near Morgantown, West Virginia. Domestic interior. Shack at Osage	1935 Jul
	6	Filling station. Reedsville, West Virginia	1935 Jun
	7	View of Easton, Pennsylvania	1935 Nov
	8	Victorian House. Easton, Pennsylvania	1935 Nov
	9	Crowded housing in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania	1935 Nov
	10	Household supply store. Bethlehem, Pennsylvania	1935 Nov
	11	Movie theatre on Saint Charles Street. Liberty Theatre, New Orleans, Louisiana	[1935 or 1936]
	12	Negro house in New Orleans, Louisiana	1936 Jan
	13	Waterfront in new Orleans. French market sidewalk scene. Louisiana	1935 Dec
	14	View of railroad station. Edwards, Mississippi	1936 Feb
	15	Negro houses. Tupelo, Mississippi	1936 Mar
	16	Vicksburg street. Mississippi	1936 Mar

Box	Photo #	Photo description	Date
1	17	Seed store interior. Vicksburg, Mississippi	1936 Mar
2	18	Negro quarter houses and people. Vicksburg, Mississippi	1936 Mar
	19	Ferry and river men. Vicksburg, Mississippi	1936 Feb
	20	Hitchhikers near Vicksburg, Mississippi	1936 Feb
	21	Houses. Atlanta, Georgia	1936 Mar
	22	Negroes and houses. Atlanta, Georgia	1936 Mar
	23	Negro barber shop. Atlanta, Georgia	1936 Mar
	24	Auto parts shop. Atlanta, Georgia	1936 Mar
	25	Fruit sign. Beaufort, South Carolina	1936 Mar
	26	Main street architecture. Selma, Alabama	1935 Dec
	27	Sidewalk scene in Selma, Alabama	1935 Dec
	28	Roadside stand near Birmingham, Alabama	1936
	29	Steel mill. Vicinity of Montgomery, Alabama	1936 Aug
	30	Steel mill and workers' houses. Birmingham, Alabama	1936 Mar
	31	Steel mill workers' houses. Birmingham, Alabama. Owned by Republic Steel Company	1936 Mar
	32	Alabama miners' houses near Birmingham, Alabama	1935 Dec
	33	Photographer's window of penny portraits. Birmingham, Alabama	1936 Mar

Box	Photo #	Photo description	Date
3	34	Local signboard of Birmingham, Alabama: "Did you know? McDonald Furniture Company can furnish your home..."	1936 Mar
	35 [missing]	County seat of Hale, County, Alabama	[1935 or 1936]
	36	Moundville, Alabama. Mayor's office	[1935 or 1936]
	37	Washstand in the dog run and kitchen of Floyd Burroughs' cabin. Hale County, Alabama	[1935 or 1936]
	38	Corner of kitchen in Floyd Burroughs' cabin. Hale County, Alabama	[1935 or 1936]
	39	Part of the bedroom of Floyd Burroughs' cabin. Hale County, Alabama	[1935 or 1936]
	40	Elizabeth and Dora Mae Tenge, Hale County, Alabama	1936
	41 [missing]	Bud Fields with his daughter-in-law and granddaughter. Hale County, Alabama	[1935 or 1936]
	42	Sharecropper's grave. Hale County, Alabama	[1935 or 1936]
	43	Sidewalk scene, Alabama	1936
	44	Church interior. Alabama or Tennessee	1936
	45	Café. Alabama	1936
	46	Converted antebellum residence into Tuscaloosa Wrecking Company and Auto Parts	[1935 or 1936]
	47	Minstrel poster in Alabama town	1936 Jan
	48	[Walker Evans?] [Untitled]	[between 1935 and 1942]

Box	Photo #	Photo description	Date
3	49	The Church of the Nazarene. Tennessee	1936
	50	Entrance to Marianna, Arkansas, during the 1936 flood	1937 Feb
	51	New York, New York. 61 <sup>st</sup> Street between 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Avenues	1938

Note: A copy of the poster for the exhibit in the Gorham campus art gallery is located in the USM archives (RG 5/2a, mapcase 1, drawer 9, acc# 090513 f.1)