

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE LIBRARIES  
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

**FARM SECURITY ADMINISTRATION PHOTOGRAPHS  
GEN MS 7**

**Total Boxes: 7  
Linear Feet: 12.5**

**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: Farm Security Administration Photographs, Special Collections, University of Southern Maine Libraries.

Restrictions on access: This collection is open for research

## **Description of the Photographs**

These are reproductions from the Library of Congress. 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 exhibit, entitled “As It Was: Photographs of the New England States from the Farm Security Administration Files,” was shown from September 20 through October 28, 1974.

A detailed description can be found on the Library of Congress website (see [http://loc.gov/rr/print/052\\_fsa.html](http://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.

| Box | Photo | Description  | Date(s)  |
|-----|-------|--|----------|
|     | 1     | Caribou, Maine (vicinity). Cunningham farm belonging to a FSA client<br>See Oversize   | 1942 Aug |
|     | 2     | Caribou, Maine (vicinity). Henry Cunningham and his prize ram<br>See Oversize  | 1942 Aug |
| 1   | 3     | Aroostook County, Maine. Children help with much of the work in the fields   | 1942 Aug |
|     | 4     | Aroostook County, Maine. Airing wool before spinning<br>See Oversize   | 1942 Aug |
| 1   | 5     | Caribou, Maine (vicinity). Deserted farm   | 1942 Aug |
|     | 6     | Fort Kent, Maine (vicinity). Wife of Albert Gagnon, Acadian FSA client   | 1942 Aug |
|     | 7     | Fort Kent, Maine (vicinity). Home of Albert Gagnon, Acadian FSA client   | 1942 Aug |
|     | 8     | Fort Kent, Maine (vicinity). Barn built by Gagnon's father on the uplands where he raises potatoes, barley, oats and wheat<br>See Oversize | 1942 Aug |
| 1   | 9     | Fort Kent, Maine (vicinity). Lenard Gagnon, Acadian farmer   | 1942 Aug |
|     | 10    | Aroostook County, Maine. Father Soucy on the steps of the community theatre which he organized<br>See Oversize                             | 1942 Aug |
| 1   | 11    | Fort Kent, Maine (vicinity). Edward Daigle's children  | 1942 Aug |
|     | 12    | Bulldozer driver, Maine  | 1943 Aug |
|     | 13    | "Old George." Fort Kent, Maine   | 1943 May |
|     | 14    | Woodsmen relaxing. Fort Kent, Maine  | 1943     |
|     | 15    | Young patriot, Memorial Day. Ashland, Maine  | 1943 May |
|     | 16    | Memorial Day. Ashland, Maine   | 1943 May |
|     | 17    | Spring Pulpwood drive. Fort Kent, Maine  | 1943 May |
|     | 18    | Memorial Day Parade. Ashland, Maine  | 1943 May |
|     | 19    | Spectators at the annual barrel rolling contest, Presque Isle, Me<br>See Oversize  | 1940 Oct |
| 1   | 20    | Two potato farmers in town Saturday afternoon in Caribou, Me   | 1940 Oct |
|     | 21    | Mrs. Patrick Dumond and two of her children at back door of their home in Lille, Maine   | 1940 Oct |
|     | 22    | Woman waiting for bus on a rainy day in Norwich, Connecticut   | 1940 Nov |
|     | 23    | Coming home from school on a rainy day in Norwich, Ct  | 1940 Nov |
|     | 24    | Geese on the farm of a French-Canadian farmer in Soldier Pond, Maine<br>See Oversize   | 1940 Oct |

| Box | Photo | Description   | Date(s)  |
|-----|-------|---|----------|
| 1   | 25    | Legionnaire at a carnival near Bellows Falls, Vermont   | 1941 Aug |
|     | 26    | At a "girlie" show at the fair in Rutland, Vermont  | 1941 Sep |
|     | 27    | Office of the sulky racing committee at the Rutland Fair, Rutland, Vermont  | 1941 Sep |
|     | 28    | At a sideshow at the Champlain Valley Exposition, Essex Junction, Vermont<br>See Oversize   | 1941 Aug |
| 1   | 29    | Watching the weight-pulling contest at the "World's Fair" in Tunbridge, Vermont   | 1941 Sep |
|     | 30    | Resting at the "World's Fair" in Tunbridge, Vermont<br>See Oversize   | 1941 Sep |
| 1   | 31    | Tunbridge, Vermont. One of the ballad singers at an exhibit of early American education at the "World's Fair"   | 1941 Sep |
| 2   | 32    | Wrestlers at the "World's Fair" in Tunbridge, Vermont   | 1941 Sep |
|     | 33    | Connecticut farmer, just finished stacking his corn. Suffield, Ct<br>See Oversize   | 1940 Sep |
| 2   | 34    | Spectators at the barrel rolling contest in Presque Isle, Maine   | 1940 Oct |
|     | 35    | The evening program after the barrel rolling contest consisted of dancing in the street (plenty of jitterbugging). Presque Isle, Maine                    | 1940 Oct |
|     | 36    | Advertisements for Maine potatoes used as decorations during the barrel rolling contest in Presque Isle, Maine  | 1940 Oct |
|     | 37    | The "Pototem" pole standing in the main street of Presque Isle, Maine, as an advertisement for the barrel rolling contest                                 | 1940 Oct |
|     | 38    | One of the winners of the boy's race at the barrel rolling contest in Presque Isle, Maine   | 1940 Oct |
|     | 39    | French-Canadian potato picker at the Woodman Potato Company farm, eleven miles north of Caribou, Maine  | 1940 Oct |
|     | 40    | Farmhouse at dusk near Presque Isle, Maine  | 1940 Oct |
|     | 41    | French-Canadian farm labor employed at the Woodman Potato Company, eleven miles north of Caribou, Maine   | 1940 Oct |
|     | 42    | French Canadian potato farmer on a horse-drawn digger. Near Caribou, Maine  | 1940 Oct |
|     | 43    | Old French potato picker on a large farm near Caribou, Maine  | 1940 Oct |
|     | 44    | House along the Saint John River near Van Buren, Maine  | 1940 Oct |
|     | 45    | On the main street of Fort Kent, Maine  | 1940 Oct |
|     | 46    | Mrs. Baptisite Jendreau, wife of French-Canadian FSA client and potato farmer near Saint David, Maine<br>See Oversize                                     | 1940 Oct |
| 2   | 47    | The raising of beef cattle such as this one on the farm of Waldo Holquist is encouraged by FSA to supplement the income from potatoes. Near Sweden, Maine | 1940 Oct |

| Box | Photo | Description   | Date(s)  |
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|     | 48    | Mrs. Eloie Cote. Her husband was out picking potatoes on their small farm near Lille, Maine<br>See Oversize                 | 1940 Oct |
| 2   | 49    | Young French-Canadian wife of poor potato farmer near Van Buren, Maine  | 1940 Oct |
|     | 50    | Children of Baptiste Deprui, French-Canadian potato farmer. Soldier Pond, Maine   | 1940 Oct |
|     | 51    | Potato trucks outside a starch factory in Caribou, Maine<br>See Oversize  | 1940 Oct |
| 2   | 52    | Museum containing relics of the first Swedish settlers at New Sweden, Maine   | 1940 Oct |
|     | 53    | Some of the 2000 pullets on the poultry farm of Mr. August Udal, Finnish FSA client. Canterbury, Connecticut                | 1940 Nov |
|     | 54    | One of the Jewish residents of Colchester, Connecticut after a service in the local synagogue                               | 1940 Nov |
|     | 55    | Bridge in Houlton, Maine  | 1940 Oct |
|     | 56    | Jeweler's store in Houlton, Maine   | 1940 Oct |
|     | 57    | Girl worker at the Denomah Mills, Taftville, Connecticut. Makers of rayon and cotton cloths<br>See Oversize                 | 1940 Nov |
| 2   | 58    | Bath Iron Works, shipbuilders and engineers. Bath, Maine  | 1940 Dec |
|     | 59    | Sign at entrance to Bath, Maine   | 1940 Dec |
| 3   | 60    | Portrait of shipyard worker. Bath, Maine  | 1940 Dec |
|     | 61    | Land for sale sign near Bath, Maine   | 1940 Dec |
|     | 62    | Grocery store window in Bath, Maine. Food prices do not seem to have gone up yet but are expected to                        | 1940 Dec |
|     | 63    | The family of John Kelly who works in the Navy yard in South Boston   | 1940 Dec |
|     | 64    | Mrs. John Rambone, wife of Italian FSA client, truck gardener in Johnston, Rhode Island                                     | 1940 Dec |
|     | 65    | One of the fabulous mansions. Newport, Rhode Island   | 1940 Dec |
|     | 66    | Portuguese steamship agency in New Bedford, Massachusetts   | 1941 Jan |
|     | 67    | Children skating. Lowell, Massachusetts   | 1941 Jan |
|     | 68    | Toll rate sign on the New Hampshire side of a bridge across the Connecticut River near Springfield, Vermont<br>See Oversize | 1941 Aug |
| 3   | 69    | Mrs. Horatio Weaver, wife of a FSA dairy farmer in the town of Tinmouth, Vermont  | 1941 Aug |
|     | 70    | The children of Mr. Ray Lyman, FSA dairy farmer near Castleton, Vermont   | 1941 Aug |

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| 3   | 71    | Members of the Youth Drum Corps Southington, Connecticut                   | 1942 Oct |
|     | 72    | Ice cream advertising near Berlin, Connecticut<br>See Oversize             | 1939 Oct |
| 3   | 73    | Clothes hanging on drying tree in backyard, Meriden, Ct                    | 1939 Oct |
|     | 74    | Farm woman with homemade jelly near Northampton, Mass.                     | 1939 Oct |
|     | 75    | Magazine stand, Windsor Locks, Connecticut<br>See Oversize                 | 1939 Oct |
| 3   | 76    | Entrance to home. Manchester, Vermont                                      | 1939 Oct |
|     | 77    | At Walden Pond, haunt of Thoreau, Concord, Massachusetts<br>See Oversize   | 1937 Sep |
| 3   | 78    | Street scene. Manchester, New Hampshire                                    | 1937 Sep |
|     | 79    | Street scene. Manchester, New Hampshire<br>See Oversize                    | 1937 Sep |
| 3   | 80    | Sunday morning. Manchester, New Hampshire                                  | 1937 Sep |
|     | 81    | Street corner. Manchester, New Hampshire                                   | 1937 Sep |
|     | 82    | Child in Manchester, New Hampshire   | 1937 Sep |
|     | 83    | Service station, near Bridgewater, Vermont<br>See Oversize                 | 1937 Sep |
| 3   | 84    | Market in Manchester, New Hampshire  | 1937 Sep |
|     | 85    | Circus posters near Proctor, Vermont                                       | 1937 Aug |
| 4   | 86    | The church at Sherburne, New Hampshire                                     | 1937 Aug |
|     | 87    | Lobsterman's home, Trevett, town of Boothbay, Maine                        | 1939 Aug |
|     | 88    | Tin-type photographer at Morrisville, Vermont fair                         | 1936 Aug |
|     | 89    | Roosevelt banner, Hardwick, Vermont  | 1936 Sep |
|     | 90    | Greek Orthodox Church, Pine Street, Amoskeag, Manchester,<br>New Hampshire | 1936 Sep |
| 4   | 91    | Old red barn and farmhouse near Lowell, Vermont                            | 1936 Aug |
|     | 92    | Political Americana on main highway. Manchester, NH                        | 1936 Sep |
| 4   | 93    | Near Britain, Connecticut 1943 Jun   |          |
|     | 94    | Monument to the Pilgrim mothers, Plymouth, Massachusetts                   | 1940 Sep |
|     | 95    | Summer visitors, Provincetown, Massachusetts                               | 1940 Aug |
|     | 96    | Tourists on the street. Provincetown, Massachusetts                        | 1940 Aug |
|     | 97    | Tourist house, Truro. Tourist at home, Truro, Massachusetts                | 1940 Aug |
|     | 98    | Cutting hay, Windsor County, Vermont                                       | 1937 Sep |
|     | 99    | Visitors at the State Fair, Rutland, Vermont See Oversize                  | 1937 Sep |
|     | 100   | Mansion on Main Street used by antique dealer, Rockland, Me                | 1937 Sep |

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|-----|-------|--|--------------------|
| 4   | 101   | Street corner, Rockland, Maine   | 1937 Sep           |
|     | 102   | Farm scene. Orange County, Vermont   | 1937 Sep           |
|     | 103   | Mr. and Mrs. William Moore. Rockland, Maine  | 1937 Sep           |
|     | 104   | Souvenir pillow. Rockland, Maine   | 1937 Sep           |
|     | 105   | Woodstock, Vermont has nine ski towns and is generally very crowded with skiers on weekends                                | [1939 or 1940 Mar] |
|     | 106   | Hired man on farm near Woodstock, Vermont  | [1939 or 1940 Mar] |
|     | 107   | Child bringing home suitcase on sled, Franconia, New Hampshire   | [1939 or 1940 Mar] |
|     | 108   | Signs in front of private home, evidence of boom town and crowded housing conditions. Hartford, Connecticut                | 1941 May-Jun       |
|     | 109   | Highways after blizzard. Brattleboro, Vermont  | 1940 Mar           |
|     | 110   | Drift fence, old home and barns on Main Street. Fryeburg, Me<br>See Oversize   | 1940 Mar           |
|     |       | <b>Oversize</b>  |                    |
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|     | 10    | Aroostook County, Maine. Father Soucy on the steps of the community theatre which he organized                             | 1942 Aug           |
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|     | 48    | Mrs. Eloie Cote. Her husband was out picking potatoes on their small farm near Lille, Maine                                | 1940 Oct           |
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