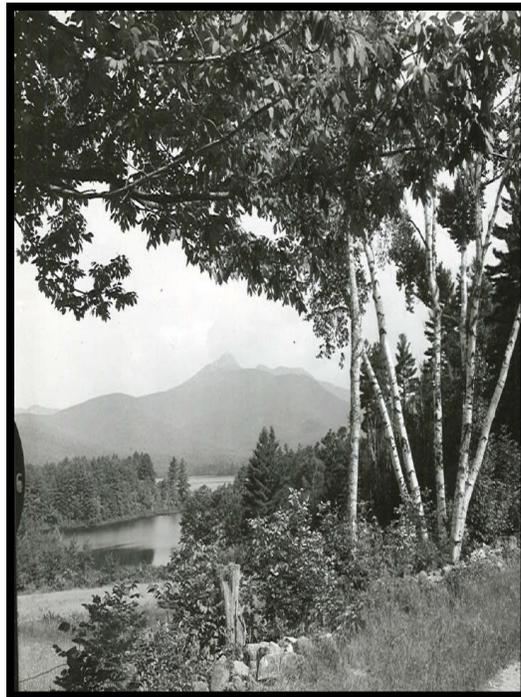


New Hampshire State Library



**New Hampshire Photographs from the Mid-20th Century,
taken for the NH Planning and Development Commission**



Call #: BV 917.42 R31ph
Finding Aid
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Scope and Content: The collection consists of 2,065 black and white photographs, approx. 3 x 5", taken by several photographers for the New Hampshire Planning and Development Commission in the mid-20th century. A few of the photographs have captions hand-penciled on the back. Others are attached to cards which provide identification information. Most of the photographs have only the photographer's identification code, for which no key is extant.

The subject matter includes areas of interest to New Hampshire visitors, e.g. winter sports, summer camps, the White Mountains, historic towns and buildings, fairs, autumn scenery, the seacoast, Lake Winnepesaukee, etc.

The photographs of Eric Sanford dominate the collection but the work of studios and other photographers, notably Harold Orne, is also represented.

Administrative history / Provenance: The photographs were stored by the New Hampshire Planning and Development Commission at the state-owned Daniel Webster birthplace in Franklin, N.H., and were the responsibility of Philip and Lillian Delehanty, the elderly caretakers of the site. When Philip Delehanty died in 1978, Lillian went to live with friends, Gerald and Claire Gauthier, storing many of her belongings, including the photographs, in the Gauthiers' barn. After Lillian's death in 2006, the photographs were re-discovered when Gerald Gauthier was cleaning out the barn. The Gauthiers donated the photographs to the NH Division of Travel and Tourism, who in turn donated them to the New Hampshire State Library in August, 2014.

In addition to the photographs, the collection contained three photographs which had been greatly enlarged and framed. The photographs were of historic homes in Alton, Fitzwilliam, and Mason, N.H. Due to space considerations, these were donated to the towns in January, 2015.

Biographical information on Eric Sanford:

Sanford was born in Vienna, Austria and emigrated to the United States sometime before the start of World War II. He served in the U.S. Army in that war and in the Korean War. He operated a photography studio in Manchester, N.H. from the 1950s to the 1990s. His photographs appeared in numerous publications, including the National Geographic and the New York Times. An exhibit of his work was hosted by the Manchester Historical Association in November of 2012 at the Millyard Museum and Research Center.

(Information taken from news release by Steven St. Pierre on the exhibit: "Special Photography Exhibit: Eric Sanford, November 1, 2012), published online at <http://financialadvisornh.com/special-photography-exhibit-eric-sanford/>)

Span Dates: 1940s and 1950s.

Photographers and studios in the collection, listed by number of photographs (in parentheses)

Sanford, Eric M. (1,856)

Orne, Harold (134)

Smith, Dick (13)

Piper, Harold J. (11)

U.S. Forest Service (11)

Sieburg, Don (8)

Lear, Arthur F. (7)

Ellis, T.C. (6)
Swenson [of Concord, N.H.] (6)
Eames Studio (3)
Fisk, Harrison (3)
Heath, A. M. (2)
Bouchard, Adrian (1)

Dunlap Photo Service (1)
Newman, Leonard (1)
Perry, Bernice B. (1)
Peterson, Arthur Allen (1)
Street, A. B. (1)

Collection strengths: Researchers, genealogists, and historians may find a useful visual record of towns, homes, businesses, and landscapes in New Hampshire as they were at mid-century.

Collection Size: There are more than 2000 photographs, stored in 9 archival boxes, spanning approx. 3 linear feet.

Copyright Status and Access: The collection is owned by the New Hampshire State Library. It does not circulate but may be viewed at the library upon request.

Subjects:

Boating	Mountain scenery
Camps	New Hampshire - Description and travel
Canoeing	New Hampshire - Tourism
Churches	Rivers - New Hampshire
Cities - New Hampshire	Sailing
Covered bridges	Scenic drives
Fairs	Skiing
Farms and farming	Towns and villages - New Hampshire
Fishing	Waterskiing
Historic homes -New Hampshire	Winter landscapes
Horseback riding	Winter sports
Lakes - New Hampshire	
Landscapes	

Arrangement and Description: The collection is organized into three series, comprising 123 envelopes in 9 boxes, with one additional 9 x 12 envelope containing documentation.

Many of the photographs had been contained in small cardboard boxes which had begun coming apart; others were in envelopes or just loose in the banker's box which contained the whole collection. Most of the photos had curled almost beyond use. To flatten them, the cataloger organized them front to back and placed them under weights for several weeks. Due to the number of photographs, the decision was made not to place them in individual sleeves or to use albums. The photographs have been placed in archival envelopes, and the envelopes placed in archival flip-top storage boxes (10 x 7 x 4").

The photographs did not appear to be in any particular order, although Sanford's were separate from the others, and the 205 photographs pasted on to cards had been organized by topic and location.

In order to optimize accessibility, the photographs were categorized first by photographer and then by subject, using the photographer's own categories when available, or creating categories based on apparent subject matter. The Sanford photographs were also organized by the photographer's number written on the back.

NHSL Library employees were included in the process of identifying places in the photographs but in many instances, there was not enough subject matter to precisely identify a certain building, mountain view, or river, etc. Some places were identified through online searches. However, there remain numerous photographs for which the exact location has not been determined.

Container List:

Series I. Eric M. Sanford (headings supplied by cataloger except where an asterisk indicates photographer headings)

Box 1, Envelope 1: Amherst N.H. open house (4)*

2. Antique car show (10)
3. Archery (6)
4. Artists and art shows (10)
5. Auctions (3)
6. Baseball (3)
7. Beaches, oceanfront, lighthouses (23)
8. Boat building (5)
9. Bridges (5)
10. Camping (2)
11. Camps (22)
12. Canoeing (20)
13. Canoeing - Contoocook River (3)
14. Canoeing - Lake Ossipee (5)
15. Canoeing - white water, New Boston (16)*
16. Cities (15)
17. Cities: Berlin, Hanover, Keene, Nashua, Newcastle, Portsmouth, Rochester (8)
17. Cities: Manchester (30)
18. Cities: Unidentified (15)
19. Children's activities (24)
20. Churches (32)

Box 2

21. Cog Railway, Mt. Washington (15)
22. Concord Coach (1)
23. Cookouts, picnics (37)
24. Covered bridges (23)
25. Currier Art Gallery (2)
26. Dancing (6)
27. Dartmouth College (12)

- 28. Dog sledding (3)
- 29. Echo Lake (6)
- 30. Fairs - Craft (32)
- 31. Fairs - Farm animals (9)
- 32. Fairs - Midway and rides (14)
- 33. Farm buildings (34)
- 34. Farming (6)
- 35. Farming - Cows (38)

- Box 3**
- 36. Farming - Horses and sheep (14)
 - 37. Farming - Pumpkins (16)
 - 38. Farming - Turkeys (18)
 - 39. Fishing (28)
 - 40. Gardens (34)
 - 41. Golfing (12)
 - 42. Gondolas (25)
 - 43. Hearths (16)
 - 44. Highways (5)
 - 45. Hiking (2)
 - 46. Historic homes (47)
 - 47. Horseback riding (22)
 - 48. Hunting (2)

- Box 4**
- 49. Ice fishing (12)
 - 50. Ice harvesting (5)
 - 51. Ice skating / ice hockey (25)
 - 52. Indian Head Mountain, Lincoln, NH (7)
 - 53. Lake Ossipee (5)
 - 54. Lake scenery 1 (42)
 - 55. Lake scenery 2 (44)
 - 56. Lakeshore activities 1 (37)
 - 57. Lakeshore activities 2 (35)
 - 58. Lakeshore activities 3 (36)
 - 59. Lake Winnepesaukee (45)

- Box 5**
- 60. Landscapes (non-winter) (23)
 - 61. Logging (3)
 - 62. Maple sugaring (31)
 - 63. Merrimack Fish Rearing Station (2)
 - 64. Moose (3)
 - 65. Morse Museum, Warren, NH (5)
 - 66. Motorcycling (5)
 - 67. Mount Agassiz Scenic Ride, Bethlehem, NH (4)
 - 68. Mount Chocorua (27)
 - 69. Mountain scenery 1 (20)
 - 70. Mountain scenery 2 (23)

- 71. Mountain scenery 3 (19)
- 72. Mount Monadnock (3)
- 73. Mount Washington (18)
- 74. Old Man of the Mountain (6)
- 75. Phillips Exeter Academy (4)
- 76. Public, commercial, educational buildings (10)
- 77. Performances and theater (5)
- 78. Resorts (9)
- 79. Rivers 1 (24)
- 80. Rivers 2 (26)

Box 6

- 81. Sailing (45)
- 82. Scenic drives 1 (32)
- 83. Scenic drives 2 (25)
- 84. Scenic walks (20)
- 85. Seafood (5)
- 86. Skiing 1 (36)
- 87. Skiing 2 (30)
- 88. Skiing 3 (30)
- 89. Skiing 4 (14)
- 90. Skiing 5 (23)

Box 7

- 91. Skiing - Belknap Mountain, Gilford (25)
- 92. Skiing - Cannon Mountain, Franconia Notch (6)
- 93. Skiing - Cranmore Mountain, North Conway (26)
- 94. Skiing - Mount Sunapee (5)
- 95. Sleighrides (6)
- 96. Snow plowing (6)
- 97. Spofford Lake (2)
- 98. State House (9)
- 99. State park signs (2)
- 100. Summer ski jumping, Belknap Mountain (11)
- 101. Tennis (2)
- 102. Tobogganing and sledding (7)
- 103. Towns and villages 1 (24)
- 104. Towns and villages 2 (31)
- 105. Trees (18)
- 106. Trailer parks (2)
- 107. Waterskiing (43)
- 108. Winter landscapes 1 (28)
- 109. Winter landscapes 2 (20)
- 110. Miscellaneous (22)

Series II. Harold Orne (headings provided by photographer)

Box 8

- 111. Agriculture - Bridges (27)

- 112. Camps - Girls' Camps (26)
- 113. Golf-Lake Sunapee (26)
- 114. Lake Winnepesaukee - Orfordville (27)
- 115. Pittsfield - Westmoreland (28)

Series III. Other Photographers and Studios

- Box 9**
- 116. Ellis, T.C. (6): Maxfield Parrish posters; manufacturing; Crawford Notch; State seal
 - 117. Lear, Arthur F. (7): Ice harness racing, Derry; Hunting, Derry; Maple sugar orchard, East Hebron
 - 118. Piper, Harold J. (11): Belknap Mountains Recreational Area; Lake Winnepesaukee; West Campton; skiing
 - 119. Sieburg, Don (8): Lake Sunapee; boating; canoeing; covered bridges; fishing
 - 120. Smith, Dick (14): Cross-country skiing, scenic walks, Jackson, NH; Mount Chocorua; Skiing, Mt. Cranmore; Crawford Notch; Mt. Washington
 - 121. Swenson (6): Fishing; Mt. Chocorua; covered bridges; mountain scenery
 - 122. U.S. Forest Service (11): Cannon Mt.; tobogganing; sailing, Lake Winnepesaukee; Eastern Slopes Ski School; Mt. Washington; Pinkham Notch; skiing; snowplowing
 - 123. Various (14):
 - Bouchard, Adrian (1): Canoeing
 - Dunlap Photo Service (1): Poster by Dwight Shepler
 - Eames Studio (3): Boys' camp, Lake Winnepesaukee; swimming
 - Fisk, Harrison (3): Plymouth, Tamworth Ski School
 - Heath, A. M. (2): Moose Brook State Park
 - Newman, Leonard (1): Forest fire protection - fire tower
 - Perry, Bernice B. (1): Manufacturing - shoe factory, Manchester
 - Peterson, Arthur Allen (1): Canadian border customs
 - Street, A. B. (1): Pinkham Notch

Series IV. Accompanying papers and documentation:

1. A written narrative from 7/24/1945 of a special meeting on industrial advertising at which \$850 was voted for the services of Harold Orne, followed by two brief paragraph reports from the Publicity Director, dated Aug. 14, 1945 and January 9, 1946, detailing Orne's travels to photograph different areas of the state;
2. Photocopy of the news release concerning the exhibit of Eric Sanford's photographs by the Manchester Historical Association;
3. Photocopy of the archive record for the Eric M. Sanford photography scrapbooks at the Manchester Historic (sic) Association;
4. Photocopies of news clippings containing obituary notices for Philip and Lillian Delehanty;

5. Photocopy of email correspondence between Brittany Littlefield of the NH Division of Travel and Tourism, and Donna Gilbreth, Head of Reference at the New Hampshire State Library, concerning the donation of the collection to NHSL, dated August 18, 2014;
6. Photocopy of a thank you letter sent to Gerald and Claire Gauthier by Donna Gilbreth, thanking them for their donation of the collection to the NH Division of Travel and Tourism, dated October 1, 2014;
7. Handwritten summary of the history of the collection, prepared by Donna Gilbreth;
8. Photographic cards, missing photographs, for work by Leo Litwin (1), Moody Studio of Bristol, N.H. (4), Harold Orne (2), Eric M. Sanford (2); as well as cards providing file location information for several photographs, and one blank card;
9. One sheet on onion skin paper, providing captions for 7 photographs;
10. Three sheets documenting submission of photographic contact sheets to the NH State Planning and Development Commission by Sanford's studio, dated December 30, 1955, October 19, 1956, and February 7, 1957.

Other Resources at NHSL

New Hampshire travel & tourism photos: circa 1930-1998. New Hampshire Dept. of Resources & Economic Development.

ARC 917.4 N533ne

Vacation regions of New Hampshire. State Planning and Development Commission. 1940.

BV 917.42 N534vr

Note. The New Hampshire State Library has numerous titles containing vintage photographs of New Hampshire. A search of the subject heading "New Hampshire—History—Pictorial works" will produce a long list, mainly under call numbers 917.42 and 974.2.