

MS-151: Jane Reece Photographic Collection

Collection Number: MS-151

Title: Jane Reece Photographic Collection

Creator: Reece, Jane, 1868-1961

Dates: 1903-1978 (Bulk 1903-1944)

Summary/Abstract: This collection consists of the glass plate and film negatives of an internationally known Dayton photographer, an associate of Steiglitz and Steichen, and one of the first professional female photographers in the United States. The collection contains nearly 10,000 images of portraits, many of prominent individuals, and the creative photographs of her salon. In addition, there is a small amount of supporting manuscript materials, including: photocopies of Reece's studio registers; a few proof prints; prints of Reece, her home, and studio by photographer Richard Fullerton; and publications referencing Jane Reece's work.

Quantity: 62 linear feet

Language: English

Repository:

Special Collections and Archives, Paul Laurence Dunbar Library, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-0001, (937) 775-2092

Restrictions on Access:

This collection is stored off-site; please provide at least 2 days advance notice to review any images. Glass plate negatives can be accessed with care; however, film negatives are in frozen storage for preservation and cannot be accessed for reference at this time. Also, a small number of images are physically in the custody of the Dayton Art Institute and cannot be accessed for reference at Wright State University at this time.

Restrictions on Use:

Copyright restrictions apply. Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the repository *and* the copyright holder, Dayton Art Institute.

Preferred Citation:

[Item Number, Description of Item, Date], MS-151, Jane Reece Photographic Collection, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio.

Acquisition Information: The collection has been on deposit from the Dayton Art Institute since 1978.

Sponsor: In 1978, National Endowment for the Arts generously supported a one year project for the processing and conservation of the glass plate and nitrate negatives.

Existence and Location of Originals: A small percentage of the images in this collection are physically in the custody of the Dayton Art Institute; these are indicated in the collection database and are not currently available for on-site research at Wright State University. Also, the Dayton Art Institute holds 400 Jane Reece photographs. Most of the negatives in this collection do not have contact prints.

Other Finding Aid:

The finding aid, including an item-level listing of images accessible for research, is available on the Special Collections & Archives, Wright State University Libraries website at:

<http://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms151.pdf>.

A collection-level description is also available in the OhioLINK Finding Aid Repository at:

<http://ead.ohiolink.edu/xtf-ead/>.

Special Collections and Archives also maintains a Microsoft Access database with item-level description of *all* photographic images, including those with access restrictions.

Related Materials:

MS-185 Jane Reece / Richard Fullerton Collection

<http://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms185.pdf>

MS-193 Josephine Schwarz / Jane Reece Photograph Collection

<http://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms193.pdf>

SC-74 Jane Reece Studio Collection

<http://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/sc74.pdf>

MS-437 Shivell Family, Jane Reece Collection

<http://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms437.pdf>

Processing Information: The collection was processed by Roberta Ritchie in 1979. Collection level finding aid written by Toni Vanden Bos, 2016 November; Restrictions on Access and Location of Originals fields revised and item-level listing generated from database added to PDF finding aid by Lisa Rickey, 2017. Rehousing of glass plates and processing of series II completed by Toni Vanden Bos and Alyssa Stark, 2018.

Arrangement:

The collection is arranged into 2 series:

Series I: Negatives, 1903-1944

Series II: Supporting Materials, 1903-1978 (bulk 1903-1928)

Subseries IIA: Autochrome Reference Negatives and Prints, Undated

Subseries IIB: Studio Registers (photocopies), 1903-1939

Subseries IIC: Proofs and Items from Negative Boxes, 1913-1919, Undated

Subseries IID: Prints and Publications Referencing Jane Reece, 1952-1963, 1978

Subseries IIE: Original Photographic Supply Boxes and Blank Plates, Undated

Biographical Sketch:

Jane Reece was a photographer, born in 1868, near West Jefferson, Ohio. Reece developed her talent with little formal training. She began her career in Dayton, Ohio, in 1903, opening her first photography studio in Dayton, Ohio. Reece became interested in Pictorialism, a style of photography that achieves a soft, romanticized look through experimentation with using various filters, lenses, developing and printing processes, and techniques to manipulate the image, such as hand shading with pencil. During her 40 years of work, Reece worked out many innovative photographic techniques, received numerous awards and tributes, and participated in hundreds of exhibitions. Reece influenced, and was influenced by many of the pioneer artistic photographers of her day, such as the Photo-Secessionists. Jane Reece died in Dayton in 1961.

Scope and Content Note:

The collection is arranged into two series consisting of negatives and a small amount of supporting materials.

Series I: Negatives, 1903-1944, is the bulk of the collection, consisting of nearly 10,000 negatives, of which 5346 are glass plates, and over 4000 are cellulose nitrate and acetate film negatives. Sizes range from 3"x5", 4"x5", 6 1/2"x8 1/2", and 8"x10". Numerous negatives exhibit Reece's retouching by hand.

The negatives are roughly divided into two portions: the portraits by which Reece made her living; and the creative photographs of her salon. Jane Reece photographed many recognizable names in Dayton's history, including Milton and Katharine Wright (father and sister of the Wright Brothers), Paul Katz (founder and long-time conductor of the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra) and his wife Phyllis, Josephine and Hermene Schwarz (founders of the Dayton Ballet), and hundreds of other individuals from the area. Reece also photographed visitors to the area, including the poet Robert Frost.

A card file index created by the collection processor, is maintained with the collection, and the data has also been entered into a Microsoft Access database. Information in the database includes: type of negative and dimensions, portrait description, date, notes, and Dayton Art Institute information.

Series II: Supporting Materials, 1903-1978 (bulk 1903-1928) is a small series of materials housed separately from the negatives during the original processing of the collection. The materials are arranged into five small subseries.

Subseries IIA: Autochrome Reference Negatives and Prints, are of autochromes created by Jane Reece. Autochromes are an early color photographic process using glass plates, which was patented in 1903. The original autochromes from which the reference negatives and prints in this series were made, are physically located at the Dayton Art Institute.

Series IIB: Studio Registers, 1903-1939, are photocopies of Jane Reece's own record of her studio work. Entry headings include the date ordered and the negative number assigned by Jane Reece. The studio registers also include the client's address, the number of prints ordered, the

kind of prints ordered (specifying size and tone), amount charged, amount paid, balance paid, date promised, date delivered, and remarks. Not all columns are filled in for each entry.

Subseries IIC: Proofs and Items from Negative Boxes, 1913-1919, Undated, contains a limited number of very dark proof prints dating from 1913-1915. In addition, this series includes materials found in two negative boxes. These items include addressed envelopes, notes on scrap paper, clippings on photography, and studio forms.

Subseries IID: Prints and Publications Referencing Jane Reece, 1952-1963, 1978, contains negatives and prints taken by photographer Richard Fullerton of Jane Reece, the renovation of her home and photography studio, and the Jane Reece Park. The majority of these negatives and prints can also be found in MS-185 Jane Reece / Richard Fullerton Collection. Also included in this series are photocopies of articles on or referencing Jane Reece's work, as well as two exhibition catalogs of Reece's work, a few photography pamphlets owned by Reece, and Reece's obituary.

Subseries IIE: Original Photographic Supply Boxes and Blank Plates, contains six empty boxes originally containing sensitized glass plates, acetate film, or photographic paper by major photographic suppliers. Also included in this series are blank glass plates.

Subject Terms:

Persons/Families

Reece, Jane, 1868-1961 – Photographs

Places

Dayton (Ohio)

Subjects (General)

Photography – Negatives – 20th century

Photographers – Ohio – Dayton – 20th century

Pictorialism (Photography movement)

Material Types

Photographs – 20th century

Black-and-white negatives

Gelatin dry plate negatives

Studio portraits

Collection Inventory:

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
Series I: Negatives			1903-1944
For a complete listing of individual images in this series that are available for research, refer to https://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms151series1.pdf , or ask an archivist on staff to search the Jane Reece Collection database.			
Series II: Supporting Materials			1903-1978 (bulk 1903-1928)
Subseries IIA: Autochrome Reference Negatives & Prints			Undated
175	1	Research Prints of Autochromes	Undated
175	2	Research Prints of Autochromes	Undated
175	3	Negatives of Autochromes	Undated
175	4	Negatives of Autochromes	Undated
175	5	Exhibition Prints from Autochromes	Undated
175	6	Exhibition Prints from Autochromes	Undated
Subseries IIB: Studio Registers			1903-1939
176	1	Studio Register	1903 Dec – 1913 Dec
176	2	Studio Register Index	1903 Dec – 1913 Dec
176	3	Studio Register	1914 Jan – 1919 Jun
176	4	Studio Register Index	1914 Jan – 1928 May
176	5	Studio Register	1920 Oct – 1928 May
176	6	Studio Register	1928 Jul – 1939 Jan
176	7	Studio Register Index	1928 Jul – 1939 Jan
Subseries IIC: Proofs and Items from Negative Boxes			1913-1919, undated
176	8	Proof Prints and Materials from Neg Boxes	1914, 1919, Undated
176	9	“JR Material from neg boxes I” Envelopes, notes on scrap paper, photography clippings	Undated
176	10	“JR Material from neg boxes II” Envelopes, notes on scrap paper, photography clippings, studio forms	Undated
176	11	Proof Portrait: Charlotte Davenport (434)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof Portrait: Charlotte Davenport (435)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Woman dressed up, standing at door (436)	Undated

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
176	11	Proof of Joe Simpson (438)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Joe Simpson (439)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Helen Compton (1032)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Anna Bell McKay (1033)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Mayme Taylor (1035)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Janet Eloise Lenman (1034)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Miss Lillian Mallory (1039)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Mrs. Luella Ward (1085)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Mrs. J. Wolf (1086)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Helen Conley (1093)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Miss Thiele (1210)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Theresa Block (1211)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Mrs. Ed Rike (1510)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Mrs. M. J. Gibbons Jr. (1511)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Mrs. M. J. Gibbons Jr. Children (1512)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Mrs. M. J. Gibbons Jr. Children (1513)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Mr. Samuel Perry (1898)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Ruth Newell (1901)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Ruth Newell (1904)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Nellie M. Dean (1905)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Mrs. Fowler S. Smith & Two Girls (1906)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Mrs. Samuel Perry (1907)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Mrs. W. Martindale (1935)	1914 Feb
176	11	Proof of Mrs. D. F. Gerber (1937)	1914 Feb
176	11	Proof of Jim Hatcher & mother (2017)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Little Smith Neilson (2029)	1913 Nov
176	11	Proof of Mrs. May Jackson (2023)	1913 Oct
176	11	Proof of Mary Ellen Meiler (2035)	1913 Nov
176	12	Proof of Regene Jacobs (2353)	1914 May
176	12	Proof of Leona & Regene Jacobs (2355)	1914 May
176	12	Proof of Mr. E. B. Wright (2466)	1913 Dec
176	12	Proof of Mrs. E. B. Wright (2468)	1913 Dec
176	12	Proof of Roslie Lowery (2471)	1913 Dec
176	12	Proof of Ida Kette (2473)	1913 Dec
176	12	Proof of Mrs. Frank Feicht (3211)	1914 Jun
176	12	Proof of Margaret E. Thompson (3213)	1914 Jun
176	12	Proof of Mrs. H. Fink & Child (3424, 3425, 3426)	1914 Jun
176	12	Proof of Charlotte Elizabeth Schwarz (3718)	1914 May
176	12	Proof of Mr. H. L. Newell (3918)	1915 Nov
176	12	Proof of Moosburgger Group (3926-3929)	1914 Jul
176	12	Proof of Mayme Taylor (4092)	1913 Nov
176	12	Proof of Leonard Glander (4565)	1913 Sept

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
176	12	Proof of Leonard Glander (4566)	1913 Sept
176	12	Proof of Man – Silhouette (5844)	Undated
176	12	Proof of Woman (Mrs. Shivell) – Silhouette (5847)	Undated
176	12	Proof of Woman – Silhouette (5848)	Undated
176	12	Proof of Mrs. Colman (6914)	1913 Nov
176	12	Proof of Phillis Peckham (6917)	1913 Dec
176	12	Oval Portraits: Unknown (665)	Undated
176	12	Proof of Hellen Conley (7473)	1913 Nov
176	13	Proof of Miss Glenna Graby (7500)	1913 Nov
176	13	Proof of Jane Miller (7501)	1913 Nov
176	13	Proof of Jane Miller (7502)	1913 Nov
176	13	Proof of Jane Miller (7503)	1913 Nov
176	13	Proof of Mrs. Joseph Kramer (7504)	1913 Nov
176	13	Proof of Mrs. Joseph Kramer (7505)	1913 Nov
176	13	Proof of Mrs. Joseph Kramer (7506)	1913 Nov
176	13	Proof of Mrs. Joseph Kramer (7507)	1913 Nov
176	13	Proof of Mrs. Joseph Kramer (7508)	1913 Nov
176	13	Proof of Mrs. Joseph Kramer (7509)	1913 Nov
		Series IID: Prints and Publications Referencing Jane Reece	1952-1963, 1978
177	1	Negatives and Reference Prints of Jane Reece and Studio by Richard Fullerton	Undated
177	2	Negatives and Reference Prints of Jane Reece and Studio by Richard Fullerton	Undated
177	3	Prints of Jane Reece and Studio from Richard Fullerton	Circa 1930-1976
177	4	Jane Reece New Park Sign: Story and Photographs by Richard D. Fullerton	Undated
177	5	Slides of Jane Reece (6 total)	Undated
177	6	List of Jane Reece Businesses and Residences; Socialist Pamphlet by Paul Shivell	Undated
177	7	Dayton Art Institute Jane Reece Exhibit Catalogs	1952, 1963
177	8	News Clippings: Jane Reece Obituary and 1978 Art Show	1961 Jun; 1978
177	9	Publications (photocopies) by and in Reference to Jane Reece	1915-1976
177	10	Photography Pamphlets	Undated
		Series IIE: Original Photographic Supply Boxes and Blank Plates	Undated
177	11	Eastman Kodak Co. Sensitized Paper Box	Undated
178	1	Hammer Opal Glass Plate Box	Undated
178	2	Crammer's Photo Dry Plate Box	Undated

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
178	3	Agfa Portrait Film Box	Undated
178	4	Unlabeled Glass Plate Box (Held 4 ½ x 5 ½ Plates)	Undated
178	5	Kodak Sheet Film Box	Undated
179		Blank Glass Plates	Undated