

MS-532: Dayton (Ohio) Fire Department Negatives

Collection Number: MS-532

Title: Dayton (Ohio) Fire Department Negatives

Dates: circa 1940-1975

Creator: Dayton (Ohio). Fire Department

Summary/Abstract:

The collection contains several hundred film negatives, as well as a few photographs and slides, featuring images of burned out buildings, fire damage, and derelict structures. The photos were created by the Dayton Fire Department during the course of investigations. Some content may be considered graphic.

Quantity/Physical Description: 4.4 linear feet (several hundred files)

Language(s): English

Repository:

Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-0001, (937) 775-2092

Restrictions on Access: There are no restrictions on accessing material in this collection.

Restrictions on Use:

Copyright restrictions may apply. Unpublished manuscripts are protected by copyright. Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the repository and the copyright holder.

Preferred Citation:

[Description of item, Date, Box #, Folder #], MS-532, Dayton (Ohio) Fire Department Negatives, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio

Acquisition:

The collection was donated to Special Collections and Archives, Wright State University Libraries, by Dayton History in October 2012.

Custodial History:

The collection had been donated to Dayton History (previously known as the Montgomery County Historical Society) sometime in the 1990s but was never cataloged.

Other Finding Aid:

The finding aid is available on the Special Collections & Archives, Wright State University Libraries web site at <https://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms532.pdf>. It is also available in the OhioLINK Finding Aid Repository at <http://ead.ohiolink.edu/xtf-ead/>.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:

Researchers may find a light box or flatbed scanner useful for viewing negatives and slides.

Related Material:

The local government records for the city of Dayton, including additional Fire Department records, are also preserved by Special Collections and Archives, Wright State University Libraries. For more information, visit our Montgomery County Local Government Records web page at <https://libraries.wright.edu/special/localgovernment/montgomery>.

The Dayton Fire Department still has in its possession additional images and photo indexing information as well.

Processing Information:

This collection has been minimally processed and minimally organized. Negatives received in envelopes remain in their original envelopes, with original file number and description. (These are found in Series I, in boxes 1-10.) Negatives received in polypropylene sleeve pages remain in such pages and had little or no descriptive information attached to them. Loose negatives, slides, and photographs have been placed in new archival sleeve pages. (Items in sleeve pages are found in Series II, in boxes 11-13.)

Processed by:

Processed by Bill Stolz and Buddhika Senanayake.

Finding aid written according to DACS standards by Lisa Rickey, September 2019.

Arrangement:

The collection is arranged in two series, according to housing and identification:

Series I: Identified Materials, circa 1940-1975

Series II: Unidentified Materials, circa 1940-circa 1975?

Biographical/Historical Note:

The first volunteer fire company in Dayton was formed in 1827, and the city's first paid fire department began in 1863. For a detailed history of the Dayton Fire department, including lists of notable fires in each decade, see *Dayton Fire Department: 150 Years of Professional Firefighting* (2014), call number TH9505.D309 D39 2014.

Scope and Content Note:

The collection contains several hundred film negatives (all size 3" x 4" or smaller, including 120mm, 60mm, and 35mm), as well as a few photographs and slides. Images feature burned out buildings, fire damage, and derelict structures. The photos were created by the Dayton Fire Department during the course of investigations. **Some content may be considered graphic** and

may include human remains. Such graphic photos are rare in the collection, but they are not clearly marked.

Series I, Identified Materials, includes negatives (mostly 120mm, approximately 3" x 4") filed in individual, numbered envelopes. Some envelopes include identification as to locations, dates, and circumstances. Note that while the envelope file numbers range from 300 to 7401 in this series, not every file number is present. Items in this series date from approximately 1940 to 1975.

Series II, Unidentified Materials, includes negatives (mostly 120, some 60mm and some 35mm), as well as a limited number of photographs and slides, which are not identified. No items in this series are dated but may date from approximately 1940 to 1975. (The meaning of the number codes, starting with "1996," written on some sleeve pages is unclear: these may indicate the date of photo or, more likely, possibly the date of accessioning by Dayton History.)

Subject Terms

Places

Dayton (Ohio). Fire Department

Subjects (General)

Arson -- Ohio -- Dayton

Fires -- Ohio -- Dayton

Material Types

Negatives

Photographs

Slides

Occupations

Fire fighters -- Ohio -- Dayton

Collection Inventory

Box	File	Description	Date
Series I: Identified Materials			Circa 1940-1975
1	300-899	Negatives	Undated (circa 1940-circa 1950?)
2	900-1299	Negatives	Undated (circa 1940-circa 1950?)
3	1300-1799	Negatives	1951, undated
4	1800-2099	Negatives	1952-1954, undated
5	2100-3199	Negatives	1954-1960, undated
6	3200-3899	Negatives	1960-1963, undated
7	3900-4599	Negatives	1963-1966, undated
8	4600-5899	Negatives	1966-1970
9	5900-7099	Negatives	1970-1973
10	7100-7401	Negatives	1961, 1973-1975, undated
Series II: Unidentified Materials			circa 1940-circa 1975?
11-13		Unidentified Negatives, Photos, and Slides	Circa 1940-1990?