

FINDING AID FOR THE

BEAUMONT AND NANCY NEWHALL COLLECTION AG 48

Center for Creative Photography
University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721-0103

For further information about the archives at the Center for Creative Photography, please contact the Archivist: phone 520-621-6273; fax 520-621-9444

DESCRIPTION

Correspondence, writings, and subject files, 1930 - 1983, of Beaumont Newhall (1908 - 1993), and Nancy Newhall (1908 - 1974), art historians, curators, teachers, and authors. Includes correspondence with noted photographers Ansel Adams, Edward Weston, and others; published and unpublished manuscripts by Nancy Newhall concerning Ansel Adams, such as *Death Valley* (1953), *The Eloquent Light* (1963), and "The Enduring Moment" (ca.1971); writings by Beaumont Newhall including *Photography: Essays and Images* (1980) and his revised and enlarged edition of *The History of Photography* (1981); and printed materials relating to their wide interests.
9.5 linear feet

PROVENANCE

This collection began as a gift from Beaumont Newhall to the Center for Creative Photography in 1975.

RIGHTS AND PERMISSIONS

Copyright to images and writings by the Newhalls is held in trust. For more information contact: The Getty Research Institute, 1200 Getty Center Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90049-1682.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

These papers represent one important segment of the personal papers of Nancy Newhall, and to a lesser extent those of Beaumont Newhall. These letters and writings were culled by Beaumont Newhall, and were sent to the Center after Nancy Newhall's death in 1974. They were intended to complement the archive of Ansel Adams which had already been committed to the Center. Some of the Nancy Newhall papers were at one time integrated into the Adams archive, but an attempt has been made to return those papers to this collection. Researchers should, however, consult both collections, especially the correspondence series.

The bulk of the material in this collection relates to the career of Nancy Newhall and begins in the late 1930s and continues until her death in 1974; a lesser amount of material is present for Beaumont Newhall, especially his *Photography: Essays and Images*, and his final revision of *The History of Photography*. The general correspondence, 1942-78, contains personal and business correspondence between the Newhalls and editors, publishers, artists, curators, museums and universities. Since the Newhalls worked together and often on similar topics, much of the personal correspondence is directed to both of them. However, in the specific business and subject files, the material is directed to that person with a major concern in the particular project. A selected index has been prepared to cover the many personal and institutional names in this correspondence. In addition, a selected index has been made for the Adams-Newhall letters.

Correspondence

Series one: Correspondence, 1937 - 1974. Consists of handwritten originals, carbon copies, and photocopies of letters. There are many enclosures of other correspondence and printed materials in this series. Where possible, these enclosures were filed with the letters that they originally accompanied, otherwise they were filed chronologically with the general correspondence. Adams often sent many small postcards to the Newhalls; these cards were separated from the letter-size correspondence and filed together chronologically.

The bulk of the correspondence is between Nancy Newhall and Ansel Adams. Their letters, postcards, and telegrams are often lengthy; sometimes adding up to two or three notes a day. The topics of these letters are their joint projects including books, exhibitions, portfolios, and workshops; their personal acquaintances; and other matters. This correspondence includes many discussions, commentaries, and criticisms regarding contemporary developments in photography, conservation, and politics. The letters also serve as an index to the sundry assignments and proposed schemes of Adams and the Newhalls. A letter often extends into several typewritten pages itemizing the status of several concurrent projects, or relating their work schedules for the near future. This correspondence between good friends is frank, humorous, and detailed.

The Newhalls began a long friendship with Edward Weston around 1940. Through publications, exhibitions, and print sales, the Newhalls promoted Weston's work in the last two decades of his life. Before and after his death in 1958, Nancy Newhall, who was also Adams' appointed biographer, produced several monographs and articles about Weston. She had a decisive role in editing Weston's *Daybooks*, his personal diaries from the early 1920s onwards which were published in two volumes in 1961 and 1966. Beginning in 1937 with a letter from Weston to Beaumont congratulating him on his catalog for the exhibition "Photography 1839-1937" at the Museum of Modern Art, the correspondence between Weston and the Newhalls continues until 1945. The letters concern arrangements for meetings; mutual friends and adversaries; Weston's

production of his books, prints, and numerous exhibitions; the intrusion of the war; the clan of cats in Carmel; brief observations on the activities of the Photo League; the Newhalls activities at the Museum of Modern Art, and later at the George Eastman House; and Weston's struggle with Parkinson's disease. These letters are photocopies of the originals which were given to the Museum of Modern Art by Beaumont Newhall.

Writings

Series two: Writings, ca. 1933 - 1981. Arranged alphabetically by author, and then chronologically. These files often contain correspondence, research materials, and drafts of essays which relate to a particular topic, however, several of the files contain only fragments of the entire text.

The bulk of this series was authored by either Nancy or Beaumont Newhall, but there is a four page typescript, with corrections, by Ansel Adams titled "Statement for Camera Craft: f/64" which was written for publication in that periodical.

The writings of Nancy Newhall, 1937 - ca. 1971, are largely concerned with her projects done in conjunction with Ansel Adams. Of particular interest are the following titles: "The Photographer and Reality," ca. 1948, probably her first unpublished biography of Adams; *Mission San Xavier Del Bac*, 1953- 68, concerning the research and writing of an article and book on that mission near Tucson, Arizona; *The Eloquent Light*, ca. 1960s, her first published biographical volume on Adams covering his career from 1902 to 1938 and including her research notes and extracts from Adams' personal correspondence; *Fiat Lux: The University of California*, 1965-68, a comprehensive photographic essay which was commissioned for the centennial celebration of that institution; and "The Enduring Moment," ca. 1971, her unfinished second volume of Adams' biography documenting the middle years of his life.

There are only a few writings by Beaumont Newhall. These include some brief chronological notes outlining Adams' career; an article in French on Degas; a short introduction to the exhibition "Photo Eyes of the 20s"; and an inventory with photographs documenting a retrospective exhibition of the work of Brett Weston selected by the Newhalls. More complete are the final manuscript draft for *Photography: Essays and Images*, and drafts for the revised and enlarged edition of *The History of Photography*.

Subject files

Series three: Subject files, 1930 - 1983. Consists of clippings, correspondence, research notes, photocopies of printed materials, photographs, catalogs, and other items relating to a wide variety of activities by both Newhalls, but especially Nancy. These materials were sorted into artificial subject categories and relate to topics or organizations in which she had an interest. Selected headings in this group include architecture, conservation, the Sierra Club, photography, and radio.

There are several folders relating to the activities of Beaumont Newhall. Of exceptional interest is a 243 page photocopy of a course outline to a museum studies class at Harvard taught by noted curator Paul Sachs. Beaumont Newhall was a student in this class in the early 1930s. In addition, there are bibliographies of articles and monographs by Newhall, a brief listing of some books from his personal library donated to the Center in 1981, and his curriculum vitae current as of 1983. There are a few miscellaneous personal photographs in this series.

ORGANIZATION

This collection has been designated as Archive Group (AG) 48. It was arranged according to the following outline:

Correspondence

General, 1942-83

Newhall, Nancy and Beaumont, 1952-69

Adams, Ansel, 1937-74

Weston, Edward, 1937-45

Writings

Adams, Ansel, ca. 1933

Newhall, Beaumont, 1963-81

Newhall, Nancy, ca.1937-71

Subject Files, 1930-83

INVENTORY

CORRESPONDENCE

AG48:1 General

Miscellaneous unknown and/or undated, 1942-83

Between Nancy and Beaumont Newhall, 1952, 1954, 1969

Adams, Ansel, n.d., 1937-46

AG48:2 Adams, Ansel, 1947-53

AG48:3 Adams, Ansel, 1954-61

AG48:4 Adams, Ansel, 1962-67

AG48:5 Adams, Ansel, 1968-75

AG48:6 Adams, Ansel, postcards, 1945-74

AG48:7 Weston, Edward, photocopies, 1937-57

WRITINGS

- AG48:8 Adams, Ansel: "Statement for Camera Craft: f/64," ca.1933
Newhall, Beaumont: "Degas Photographie Amateur," *Gazette Des Beaux Arts*, 1963
"Eye of the 20's," statement on exhibition, 1970
Notes by B. Newhall for a lecture on Adams at SUNY, 1970
"Voyage of the Eye: A Fifty Year Retrospective (1925-75) The Work of Brett Weston,"
1975
Photography: Essays and Images, final ms., 1980
History of Photography, drafts chapters 1-16; notes and bibliography; plate captions
Southwest Log, 1947. [Photocopy of manuscript account of trip to the southwest with
Edward Weston.]
- AG48:9 Newhall, Nancy:
"Introduction to France," ca.1937
"Maloney Book"
 Correspondence, 1941-45
 Illustrations list, ca. 1942
 Manuscripts and books, ca. 1942
"Alfred Stieglitz," 1946
"Hors d'Oeuvre a la Russe," correspondence and text, 1946
Reminiscences of Musya Sheeler, ca.1946
"The Enduring Moment," research notes, ca. 1940s-63
"The Photographer and Reality: Ansel Adams," ca. 1948
"Always the Far Horizon,"
 Correspondence, 1950-51
 Notes, 1951
 Typescript dummy, 1951
"Death Valley," correspondence, 1952-55
"Death Valley," 1954
"The Pageant of History," 1953-55
"An Act of Dedication," pageant for Campfire Day, ca. 1953-71
- AG48:10 "Mission San Xavier Del Bac,"
 Correspondence, 1953-69
 Research notes and printed materials, 1953-69
 Photocopy of manuscript with comments by Father Celestine, 1954
 Rough drafts, 1954
 Drafts, 1954
 Carbon copy of final draft, 1954
 Galley, 1954
 Copy of 1st edition, 1954
"This is the American Earth"; exhibit correspondence, 1954-58
 Rough drafts, 1955-59;
 Notes and text for display panels, 1956-58;
 Reviews, 1956-58
 Book correspondence, 1959
 Correspondence, Jan.-Aug. 1960

AG48:11 "This is the American Earth" (continued)
Correspondence, Sept.-Dec. 1960
Correspondence, 1960-70
Correspondence, 1960-70
Slip cased correction dummy, 1961 [oversize]
2nd ed. corrections, 1960
German translation and related papers, 1962
German translation photocopies, ca. 1962
Reviews, 1966
Sheet music, record album using Newhall's text, 1976, 1978 [oversize]
Article on Ynez Mexia, 1955
John Muir Film, 1956
"The Negro Exhibit," progress report and correspondence, 1956
A Contribution to the Heritage of Every American, 1956-58
"A Nation of Nations," correspondence and reviews, 1957
Masters of Photography, "Ansel Adams," ca. 1958
"Portrait of the Universe," outline, ca. 1959
"History of Yosemite," research notes, ca. 1959
"The San Francisco Book," correspondence and outline, 1959
"The Santuario at Chimayo," rough drafts, 1960; printers dummies, 1960

AG48:11 "The Eloquent Light,"
Research notes, n.d.
Research notes: typed extracts from Adams correspondence, 1920s
Bibliography, ca. 1963
Drafts, ca. 1963
Exhibition catalog, 1963
Letters of congratulations, 1963-64
"Fiat Lux,"
Correspondence, 1965-66
Correspondence, 1967-68
Rough drafts and notes, 1967
Research materials, 1967
Reviews, 1967-68

AG48:12 "Introduction to the *Persistence of Beauty*, 1969 (oversize)
"Great Classics: Ansel Adams," 1969
The Tetons and the Yellowstone, book review, 1971
"The Enduring Moment," ca.1971
chapters 1-6

SUBJECT FILES

AG48:13 Architecture: clippings, 1938,51,58
Art: Paul Sachs Museum Course, 1930

Bibliographic:

bibliography of Beaumont Newhall, 1971

Books by Beaumont Newhall, 1937-83

Selected book inventory by Beaumont Newhall, Library, 1981

Biographical: curriculum vitae of B. Newhall, 1983

Conservation:

Clippings, 1960-72

Pamphlets, 1954-71

Music: notes, programs, 1952, 1955

Photographs, ca. 1974

Photography:

Catalogs, 1962

Clippings, 1962, 1969

Radio:

Clippings, 1934-39

Notes, correspondence, publications, ca. 1939

Sierra Club:

Clippings, 1967-69

Statements, memos, 1963-69

Election materials, 1955-71

Financial statements, 1963-68

Outings, openings, exhibitions, 1965-68

Foundation, 1960

Miscellaneous, 1966

Newsletter, 1969-71

Publications, announcements, 1962-68

Publications, *The Argonaut*, 1965, 1969

Publications, *Bulletin*, 1958

Publications, *Southern Sierra*, 1968

Trustees for Conservation: minutes of meetings, 1962, 1965-66

Miscellaneous, ca. 1960s

OVERSIZE MATERIALS

AG48:14 Writings:

This is the American Earth, ca. 1961

dummy, slip case dummy, correction copy

The Persistence of Beauty: Portfolio I, 1969

"This is the American Earth" sheet music,

INDEX TO GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Adams, Anne, 1944, 1950, 1952

Adams, Anne, *see also* Mayhew, Anne Adams

Adams, Charles, 1951

Adams, Jeanne and Michael, 1965

American Conservation Association, 1965
Aperture, 1971
Armitage, Merle, 1963

Bohn, David, 1968
Brower, David, 1963, 1968
Brower, David, *see also* Sierra Club

Camera Club of New York, 1964
Caulfield, Pat, 1953
Chapman, Albert K., 1954
Chinn, Celestine, 1953
Coast Films (San Francisco, CA), 1956
Coke, Van Deren, *see* University of New Mexico
Cornell University (Ithaca, NY), 1970

Dawson, Laurence, 1965
DeVoto, Bernard, 1954
Diamond, Henry, *see* American Conservation Association
Dixon, Dan, 1953
Duson, Dede, 1975(?), 1983

Eastman Kodak Company (Rochester, NY), 1951

Five Associates (San Francisco, CA), 1964

Hallett, Laurence E., *see* Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain
Hirschberg, Nell, n.d.
Hoffman, Michael E., 1966
Hudson River Valley Commission, 1967

Judge, Jacquelyn, 1951, 1953(?)

Knight, Philip, 1948

LandMark Society (Rochester, NY), 1951
Lange, Dorothea, 1953
Little, Brown and Company, 1952, 1971
Long, Henrietta, 1954

McAlpin, David H., 1942, 1945, 1952-53, 1963-64
McGraw, Dick, 1956
McLanatha, Richard, n.d.
Marshall, George and Betty, 1973
Mayhew, Anne, *see also* Adams, Anne
Mayhew, Charles and Anne Adams, 1956, 1959, 1969(?), 1971
Mazzeo, Rosario, 1964
Memorial Art Gallery (Rochester, NY), 1952, 1955

Morgan, Barbara, 1954, 1968
Museum of Modern Art (NY), 1952

New Yorker, 1967

O'Keeffe, Georgia, 1962

Parker, Mrs. Johnson, 1953

Prather, Winter, 1953

Purcell, Jean Rivers, 1953

Quest, 1960

Refocus, 1972

Rochester Historical Society, n.d., 1955, 1969

Rothstein, Arthur, 1953

Rotkin, Charles, *see Quest*

Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain (London), 1964

Saturday Review, 1967

Sharpe, Gerry, 1964

Sheeler, Charles, 1956, 1964

Sheeler, Musya, 1951, 1956, 1964

Sierra Club (San Francisco, CA), n.d., 1954, 1960-62, 1964-64, 1967-72

Smithsonian Institution (Washington, DC), 1963

Szarkowski, John, 1965

Trustees for Conservation (Washington, DC), 1961, 1967

University of California, Berkeley, 1966

University of California, Santa Cruz, 1968

University of New Mexico (Albuquerque), 1965

University of Rochester, 1953

Van Dyke, Willard, 1948(?)

Wallace, Kevin, *see New Yorker*

Waters, George, 1951, 1954

Waters, George, *see also* Eastman Kodak Company, 1951

Weston, Edward, 1953-57

White, Minor, 1952

Wilentz, Theodore, *see* Sierra Club

Wilkinson, Scott, 1981

Wright, George, 1948(?), 1951

SELECTED INDEX TO ENCLOSURES IN THE ANSEL ADAMS-NEWHALL CORRESPONDENCE

American Broadcasting Company, Sept. 1968
American Photographic Publishing Company (Boston, MA), Sept. 1945
American Society of Magazine Photographers (NY), May 1966
Amon Carter Museum of Western Art (Fort Worth, TX), Jan. 1966
Arizona Highways, May 1952, May 1965

Baruch, Ruth Marion, Sept. 1945
Brooks, Paul, Sept. 1968
Brower, David, *see* Sierra Club
Bullock, Wynn, Dec. 1953
Bunnell, Peter, *see* Museum of Modern Art, Nov. 1967, Dec. 1970, June 1972
Burden, Shirley, Oct. 1953, Nov. 1953, Mar. 1957

Clergue, Lucien, Nov. 1973
Coke, Van Deren, May 1965, Aug. 1969, Dec. 1973
Crane, Arnold, Aug. 1970

Doherty, Robert J., *see* George Eastman House, 1973

Famous Photographers School (Westport, CT), Nov. 1967

George Eastman House (Rochester, NY), Jan. 1959, Nov. 1962, Oct. 1973
Grand Teton Lodge Company (San Francisco, CA), Mar. 1969

Harper's Magazine, June 1967

Infinity, Feb. 1970

Leonard and Dole (Lawyers: San Francisco, CA), Apr. 1957

McAlpin, David H., Apr. 1965
Magnum, Feb., Mar. 1952, Mar. 1953
Mitchell, John, 1972, Apr..
Morgan, Barbara, 1968, Jan..
Munkacsi, Martin, 1946, Nov.
Museum of Modern Art (NY), Dec. 1942, Apr. 1946, Jan. 1966, Dec. 1967, Dec. 1970,
June 1972

New Yorker, Oct. 1967
Norman, Dorothy, Jan. 1951

Owens, Nathaniel, Apr. 1965, Mar. 1970

Parasol Press, Feb., Sept. Oct. 1973
Photo League (NY), Aug. 1949

Polaroid Corporation (Cambridge, MA.), Jan. 1957, Oct. 1960, July, Nov. 1967, Jan. 1968,
Jan., Sept. 1969

Pope, Alexander, May 1957

Rockefeller, Laurance, Feb. 1966

Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain (London), July 1969

Schumaker, George, Oct. 1964

Sierra Club (San Francisco, CA), Jan. 1960, Jan., Feb., Apr. 1961, Apr. 1964, Aug., Sept. 1968,
Feb. 1969, Jan., Mar. 1970, Dec. 1971

Steichen, Edward, Jan. 1960

Strand, Paul, Apr. 1964

Syracuse University, June 1966

Szarkowski, John, *see* Museum of Modern Art, Jan. 1966, June 1972,

Udall, Stuart L., Apr. 1965, Apr. 1968

University of Arizona, Sept. 1969

University of California, Berkeley, Feb. 1961, Sept. 1965, June, July 1966

University of California, Davis, May 1966

University of California, Riverside, Jan. 1966

University of California, Santa Cruz, Feb. 1961, July 1963, June, Oct., Nov. 1967, Jan. 1968

Waters, George, June 1969, Jan., July 1970, Oct. 1973

Welpott, Jack, Feb. 1972

Weston, Edward, Apr. 1951

White, Minor, May 1964; 1968, 1969, Feb..

Wilson, Adrian, 1967, July, Mar. 1969 Sept., Oct. 1973

Wisdom, Jan. 1957

SELECTED INDEX TO CORRESPONDENCE IN WRITINGS

"Maloney Book," 1941-45

Adams, Ansel

Maloney, Tom

Museum of Modern Art (NY)

Taft, Robert

"Hors d'Oeuvre a la Russe," 1946

Sheeler, Musya

"An Act of Dedication: Pageant for Campfire Day," ca. 1953-71

Adams, Ansel

"Always the Far Horizon," 1950-51

Adams, Ansel

Adams, Virginia

Houghton-Mifflin

Mackland, Ray

Oxford University Press
Paepcke, Walter

"San Xavier Del Bac," 1953-69

Adams, Ansel
Arizona Highways
Chinn, Celestine
Dobyns, Henry F.
Ivancovich, Jane
Stoner, Victor
University of Arizona Press (Tucson)

"Mexia," 1955

Adams, Ansel
Bracelin, N. Floy
Colby, William E.

"Death Valley," 1952-55

Adams, Ansel
H.S. Crocker Company
United States. Department of the Interior

"A Contribution to the Heritage of Every American," 1956-58

Adams, Ansel
Albright, Horace M.
Earl Newson and Company
McAlpin, David
Norman, Dorothy
United States. Department of the Interior

"Fiat Lux," 1965-68

Adams, Ansel
McGraw-Hill Book Company
University of California, Berkeley
Wilson, Adrian

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