

Missouri State Archives

Finding Aid [998.192]

GERALD R. MASSIE COLLECTION MS 192

Abstract: Materials related to life and photographic work of Gerald R. Massie, both in his capacity as State Photographer and in his personal life. Items include photographic prints, negatives and other formats as well as published materials containing his work, personal papers and other items. The collection dates between 1924-1994; bulk dates 1945-1974.

Extent: Approximately 30 ½ cubic feet.

Physical Description: Color and black and white Photograph Prints, Negatives, Transparencies, Slides; Postcards; Paper; Published Books; Magazines, Newspapers; Pamphlets, Brochures, Tourist Guides, Calendars, Puzzles, Cutouts and other Objects; Scrapbooks; Artwork.

Location: Missouri State Archives; Stacks. Digitization of collection has been haphazard; prints and negatives scanned are often located: \\sosnt62\Digital Photo Collections without finding aids

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Alternative Formats: See physical description for format information.

Access Restrictions: No special restrictions

Publication Restrictions: Copyright is in the public domain

Preferred Citation: [Item description], [date]; *Gerald R. Massie Photograph Collection*; MS 192; Missouri State Archives, Jefferson City.

Acquisition Information: Donated January 1992. Accession number 1992-0014.

Processing Information: Initial processing completed by Laura Jolley. Updated index compiled by Amy Moorman, Visual Materials Archivist, on October 30, 2012.

This collection contains unprocessed materials that have not yet been identified or described. The finding aid will be updated as these materials become fully available.

HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Gerald R. Massie (1911-1989) was Missouri's first official state photographer, holding that position from 1945 to 1974. His interest in photography developed early in life as a youth in his native Clinton, Missouri, when, at the age of ten, he won a July Fourth bicycle race around the courthouse and as a prize, his first camera, a \$1.98 Brownie. In 1936 he landed a night job for the *Kansas City Star (Times)* as a journeyman linotype operator, while doing freelance photography during the day.

Drafted in the Army in early 1942, he served during World War II with the U.S. Strategic Air Force as an aerial photographer, documenting the effects of bombing missions and taking ground news photos. In England he supervised a 22-man photo lab.

In 1945 Massie returned to Missouri, and found a position as the state's photographer in the newly formed Resources and Development Commission, later called Commerce and Industrial Development.

Assigned the task of promoting Missouri, Massie sent a steady stream of photographs to the Commission, and produced sixteen recreational booklets on Missouri regions. To produce the Missouri regional series of booklets over a period of eight years, Massie traveled about 15,000 miles per year to take 1,500 photographs annually to arrive at some 300 quality prints.

Massie's images appeared in national magazines and newspapers, as well as Missouri state publications, on television stations, in encyclopedias and school textbooks; publishers also printed them in foreign advertisements about Missouri, included reproductions on cake box tins, china plates, silver spoons, silk scarves, glass, postcards, and puzzles.

Excerpted from: "Missouri's Gerald Massie: The State Photographer on the James River." Carolyn Collings and Lynn Morrow. *White River Valley Historical Quarterly*. Vol. 32, No. 1, Fall 1992. <http://thelibrary.org/lochist/periodicals/wrv/v32/n1/f92c.html>

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Other Finding Aids

[Index to Gerald R. Massie Collection](#)

Related Material

Department of Economic Development, Division of Tourism Photograph Collection
Commerce and Industrial Development Photograph Collection
Whitey Owens Photograph Collection, MS 346

SERIES

The records are broken down into the following series:

1. Photographs
2. Postcards
3. Personal Papers
4. Books
5. Periodicals
6. Promotional Materials

PHOTOGRAPHS, 1945-1974

Extent: 9 ½ Cubic feet; 19 boxes; Approximately 2338 prints and negatives

Arrangement: Arranged by subject.

Scope and Content

Photograph prints and negatives of images taken in capacity as state photographer as well as personal and family photographs.

Container List

Location	Box	Folder	Contents	Date
17A/2/1	107	1-102	Agriculture	
	108	1-24	Agriculture	
	108	25-92	Industrial	
	109	1-30	Industrial	
	109	31-90	Scenic	
	110	1-90	Scenic	
	111	1-90	Scenic	
	112	1-80	Scenic	
	113	1-77	Sport	
	114	1-25	Sport	
	114	1-71	History	
	115	1-77	History	
	116	1-31	Whiteman	
	116	32-42	Flood of Kansas City	
	116	43-61	Bob Cummings	
	116	62-83	State Government	
	117	1-52B	State Government	
	117	53-66	Miscellaneous	
	117	67-74	State Government	
	117	75-79	Miscellaneous	
17A/4/4	A	1-72	Various Subjects	
	B	1-6	Various Subjects	
	C	1-245	Various Subjects	
	D	1-318	Various Subjects	
	E	1-319	Various Subjects	
	F	1-226	Various Subjects	
	G	1-15	Various Subjects	
	H	1-16	Various Subjects	

POSTCARDS, 1945-1974

Extent: ½ cubic foot; 1 box; 184 postcards

Arrangement: Unarranged

Scope and Content

Postcards featuring images by Gerald Massie.

Container List

Location	Box	Folder	Contents	Date
1A/2/1	85		184 Postcards	

PERSONAL PAPERS, 1945-1974

Extent: 1 ½ cubic feet; 3 boxes; 590 items

Arrangement: Unarranged

Scope and Content

Contains correspondence, speeches and presentations, programs and invitations, certificates and awards, reports, meeting minutes and other similar items.

Container List

Location	Box	Folder	Contents	Date
1A/2/1	80		Correspondence; Speeches and Presentations	
	81		Correspondence; Certificates and Awards; Meeting Minutes	
	82		Reports; Programs and Invitations	

BOOKS, 1904-1967

Extent: 2 cubic feet; 2 boxes; 28 items

Arrangement: Unarranged

Scope and Content

Published books, most containing credit to image by Gerald Massie.

Container List

Location	Box	Folder	Contents	Date
21B/5/6	78		Various Titles	
	79		Various Titles	

PERIODICALS, 1924-1994

Extent: Approximately 8 cubic feet; 14 boxes; 750 items

Arrangement: Arranged by size and thereunder alphabetically by name of publication.

Scope and Content

This series is made up of magazines and other publications involving the work of Gerald Massie. This includes publication of his photographs, articles about him or editorial work.

Container List

Location	Box	Folder	Contents	Date
1A/1/8	65		Almanac, Missouri Sheriff's TO Foundations from the Past: Missouri's Historic Preservation Program	
	66		Gala Missouri TO Harbinger, The: Missouri Magazine	
	67		Historic Missouri Can Show You... TO Long's Vacation Tour Book	
	68		Missouri Agriculture Report TO Missouri's "Show Me" Family Vacationland	
	69		Journal of the Missouri Bar TO Missouri, Family Vacationland	
	70		Missouri Holiday TO Missouri News Magazine	
1A/1/9	71		Missouri Nurse, The TO Souvenir Program Moon Rock Dedication	
	72		Missouri, Variety Vacations TO Outdoor Sportsman	
	73		Ozark Frontier Trail, Adventures Along the TO Recreation	
	74		Resort Blue Book TO School and Community	
	75		School and Community TO St. Louis Area, Motoring in the	
	76		Summer Fun TO Watt News	
	77		Westminster College Bulletin TO Young Democratic Clubs of America	
1A/2/1	86		Oversize Publications	
-	MF		Newspaper clippings	

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS, 1945-1974

Extent: Approximately 4 ½ cubic feet; 5 boxes; 51 items

Arrangement: Unarranged

Scope and Content

This series includes items created for promotional material, featuring photographs by Gerald Massie. Items include pamphlets, guides, and objects.

Container List

Location	Box	Folder	Contents	Date
1A/2/1	83		Cutouts (photos in shape of state)	
	84		Cutouts (photos in shape of state)	
	87		Calendars; Puzzles	
	87a		Calendars	
	88		Objects (cookie tin; apron; etc.)	