

# Hudson Area Library Local Historical Photographs Collection

Circa 1800s-2000s [bulk 1890s-1990s]

The Hudson Area Library History Room

Hudson Area Library

Hudson, New York

## Contact Information:

Hudson Area Library

51 North 5th St.

Hudson, New York 12534

Phone 518-828-1792

Email: [reference@hudsonarealibrary.org](mailto:reference@hudsonarealibrary.org)

**Collection Title:** Hudson Area Library Local Historical Photographs Collection

**Collection ID:** A2023-005

**Creator:** The Hudson Area Library

**Extent:** About 1,100 items, 10 linear feet

**Dates:** Circa 1800s-2000s [bulk 1890s-1990s]

**Language:** English

**Repository:** The Hudson Area Library History Room

**Restrictions to Access:** The collection is open for research.

**Public Rights:** Property rights reside with the Hudson Area Library. For permission to reproduce or to publish, please contact the Library: 518-828-1792 Ext. 100 or [reference@hudsonarealibrary.org](mailto:reference@hudsonarealibrary.org)

**Preferred Citation:** Hudson Area Library Local Historical Photographs Collection, Hudson Area Library History Room, Hudson NY.

**Copyright Notice:** These images are made available for education and research purposes. Rights may be reserved. Responsibility for securing permissions to distribute, publish, reproduce or other use rest with the user. There is no overarching copyright status for the entire collection. Individual items in the collection may have different copyright statuses. For guidance on the copyright status of a specific item, please contact the library: [reference@hudsonarealibrary.org](mailto:reference@hudsonarealibrary.org)

**Processing Information:** Processing completed December 2023 by archivist Nina Boutsikaris.

**Abstract:** This collection assembles hundreds of photographs and some slides that have come into the possession of the Hudson Area Library over the years, either by donation or purchase. Photographs date from the early 1800s to the mid-2000s and depict people, places, and activities in Hudson, N.Y. as well as wider Columbia County.

**Scope and Content Note:** The hundreds of images in this collection, circa early-1800s to mid-2000s, depict buildings, people, sites and landscapes, homes, events, schools, infrastructure, local businesses, and community organizations, mostly in Hudson, N.Y. but also across Columbia County. The collection consists of original black-and-white and color photographic prints – including cyanotype, daguerreotype, and albumen (cartes-de-visite and cabinet cards) – as well as more recent prints of black and white prints that were originally created in the 19th century. The collection also contains a series of slides. The collection offers researchers a visual reference of life in Hudson, N.Y., especially from the mid-1800s to the early 1900s. Many of the images have original descriptive titles and notes written on them and in some cases title information at the folder level comes (in whole or part) from image titles or notes. In other cases titles have been supplied by the library (in whole or part). If the original creator of an image is known it is noted in the title in parentheses.

**Acquisition information:** The items in this collection were acquired by the Library either by purchase or by donation. Any known donor information for specific images has been noted in the item's folder. For more information about individual donations please contact the library: [reference@hudsonarealibrary.org](mailto:reference@hudsonarealibrary.org)

**Related Materials:**

- City of Hudson Collection
- Columbia County Collection
- City of Hudson Postcard Collection
- Rowles' Studio Collection
- Jinny & Wendy Neefus Photographers Collection
- Hudson Area Library Local Historical Maps & Atlases Collection
- Spanish-American War: 23rd Separate Company Photo Album
- Cipkowski Family Photographs
- The Papers of Columbia Memorial Hospital School of Nursing

**Arrangement:** The collection is arranged in 10 series. The series arrangement was imposed by the archivist; materials within Series 6, 7, and 10 retain their original order.

**Series 1: Arts and Entertainment****Series 2: Government****Series 3: Historic Homes and Buildings****Series 4: Views and Landscapes****Series 5: Infrastructure****Series 6: George J. Markowitz Photographs****Series 7: Local Historical Studio Portraiture****Series 8: Business and Industry****Series 9: Community****Series 10: 1984 Columbia County Historic Resources Committee Slides**

**Series 1: Arts & Entertainment, c. 1890s-1900s, 1993, 21st C** (*Box 1, Folders 1-5; Box 16, Folder 284*)

**Extent:** about 33 photographs

**Scope and Content:** Photographs (c. 1890s-1900s, 1993, 21st C) related to the history of theater, film, and visual arts in Hudson, N.Y. and Columbia County.

**Arrangement:** This series is arranged without subseries.

**Series 2: Government, c. 1870s-1980s** (*Box 2, Folders 6-19; Box 11, Folder 214; Box 14; Flat File 10, Folders 308-313*)

**Extent:** about 68 photographs

**Scope and Content:** Photographs (c. 1870s-1980s) documenting the history of local governance, board of education, police, and military activity and inductions (particularly during World War I and II) in Hudson, N.Y. and Columbia County. This series contains several original and oversized prints.

**Arrangement:** There are three subseries.

**Subseries 2.1: Board of Education**

**Subseries 2.2: Local Governance**

**Subseries 2.3: Military**

**Series 3: Historic Homes and Buildings, c. mid-1800s-1970s, 2015 [bulk pre-1920]** (*Box 3, Folders 20-74; Box 11, Folders 212-213; Box 13, Folder 215; Box 16, Folders 238-270; Flat File 10, Folder 314-315; History Room Cabinet*)

**Extent:** about 200 photographs, 3 booklets

**Scope and Content:** Photographs (c. mid-1800s-1970s, 2015) of historic homes and buildings and other built landmarks such as banks, lighthouses, schools, places of worship, courthouses, and toll gates in Hudson, N.Y. and Columbia County, including sites that no longer exist or have been repurposed. This series contains original and oversized prints.

**Arrangement:** This series is arranged without subseries.

**Series 4: Views & Landscapes, c. 1800s-1980s, 2015** (*Box 4, Folders 75-99; Box 13, Folder 218; Box 16, Folders 219-237; Flat File 10, Folders 316-319*)

**Extent:** about 127 photographs, 10 negatives

**Scope and Content:** Images (c. 1800s-1980s, 2015) that depict mostly landscape and cityscape in Hudson, N.Y. and Columbia County. Original and oversized prints, a small number of original negatives, as well as images of 19th and early 20th century visual art depicting the local landscape (artist unknown).

**Arrangement:** This series is arranged without subseries.

**Series 5: Infrastructure, c. 1880-1970s** (*Box 5, Folders 100-113; Box 16, Folders 271-283; Flat File, Folder 320*)

**Extent:** about 51 photographs

**Scope and Content:** Photos (c. 1880-1970s) depicting infrastructure and public spaces in Hudson, N.Y. and Columbia County.

**Arrangement:** There are two subseries.

**Subseries 5.1: Public Services**

**Subseries 5.2: Public Spaces**

**Series 6: George J. Markowitz Photograph Album, mid-1880s to mid-1900s (*Box 6*)**

**Extent:** 59 photographs

**Scope and Content:** Black and white photographs (mid-1880s to mid-1890s) from an album created by George J. Markowitz, a resident of Hudson, N.Y. who lived at 64 Worth Ave, and who died circa 1991. Depicts the city of Hudson, N.Y. and Columbia County, notably buildings and businesses in the City of Hudson pre-Urban Renewal, construction of the Hudson Berkshire Railroad Line, parades, trains, and factories in the mid-19th to mid-20th century. These images have been scanned by the library and can also be viewed on the History Room computer. The donor requested that the photos be kept together and separate.

**Arrangement:** This series is arranged in the creator's original order. There are no subseries.

**Series 7: Local Historical Studio Portraiture, 19th C (*Box 7*)**

**Extent:** 28 photographs

**Scope and Content:** Cartes-de-visite and Cabinet Cards (19th C) of unidentified people, made by 19th century photograph studios located on Warren Street in Hudson, N.Y.: F. Forshew, Instantaneous Photograph Co., Sullivan Bros., Russell, and Whitbeck Studio.

**Arrangement:** This series is arranged alphabetically by studio name. There are no subseries.

**Series 8: Business and Industry, c. mid-1800s to late-1900s (*Box 8, Folders 114-142; Box 13, Folders 216-217; Box 16, Folders 285 - 300; History Room Cabinet*)**

**Extent:** about 194 photographs, 1 matchbook

**Scope and Content:** Images (c. mid-1800s to late-1900s) depicting factories and mills, local businesses, and transportation companies in Hudson, N.Y. and Columbia County. There are also a series of many photographs documenting the filming of the 1987 movie *Ironweed* in Hudson.

**Arrangement:** There are three subseries.

**Subseries 8.1: Local Businesses**

**Subseries 8.2: Manufacturing**

**Subseries 8.3: Transportation**

**Subseries 8.4: Tourism**

**Series 9: Community, c. mid-1800s to early-2000s** (*Box 9, Folders 143-183; Box 10, Folders 184-205, 326; Box 11, Folders 207-211; Box 12; Box 16, 301-307; Flat File 10, 321-324*)

**Extent:** about 335 photographs, 1 photo album

**Scope and Content:** Includes images (mid-1800s to early-2000s) related to education and schools, community celebrations, local disasters, city development, organizations and places of worship and street scenes in Hudson, N.Y., as well as Columbia County.

**Arrangement:** There are seven subseries.

**Subseries 9.1: Daily Life**

**Subseries 9.2: Development**

**Subseries 9.3: Education**

**Subseries 9.4: Events**

**Subseries 9.5: Organizations**

**Subseries 9.6: People**

**Subseries 9.7: Places of Worship**

**Series 10: 1984 Columbia County Historic Resources Committee Slides, c. 1770-1880** (*Box 15*)

**Extent:** 2 slide carousels, 1 cassette tape, 1 newspaper clipping

**Scope and Content:** Two slide carousels containing a slide presentation depicting life in Columbia County from 1770-1880, prepared by the Columbia County Historic Resources Committee in 1984, entitled "A Family Album: Growing Up in Columbia County." The slides, and the corresponding cassette tape (included), were prepared for grade school students. They focus on family life during the Colonial period and the Victorian period and depict information about tenant farmers residing in Livingston Manor, textile mill workers in the Valatie area, and a lawyer's family in the city of Hudson. The project was created with resources from the Columbia County Historical Society's collection, area museums and historic sites, and the collections of Chatham Librarian Mary Maynard and Town of Stuyvesant Historian Priscilla Frisbee. Co-authors were Sally Botiggi and Linda Mazur, an employee of Martin Van Buren National Historic Site. A newspaper clipping (included) from *The Register-Star* on 11/04/1984 offers further background on the project.

**Arrangement:** This series is arranged in the creator's original order. There are no subseries.

**Subject Headings**

Columbia County (N.Y.)--Photographs

Hudson (N.Y.)--Photographs

Moul, Henry S.

Jinny & Wendy Neefus Photographers

Rowles' Studio

Columbia County Historic Resources Committee

Photographs

Negatives (Photographs)

Slides

**Link to [Collection Inventory](#)**