

# Paul Bowles:

## Photography Collection Literary File at the Harry Ransom Center

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### Descriptive Summary

<b>Creator:</b>	Bowles, Paul, 1910-1999
<b>Title:</b>	Paul Bowles Literary File
<b>Dates:</b>	Circa 1850s-1950s
<b>Extent:</b>	698 items
<b>Abstract:</b>	The Paul Bowles Literary File consists of 698 photographs, the majority of which are images of various people, including Bowles, his wife Jane Auer, his parents and other family members, as well as friends and associates.
<b>Call Number:</b>	Photography Collection PH-00281
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Access:</b>	Open for research

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### Scope and Contents

The Paul Bowles Literary File consists of 698 photographs, the majority of which are images of various people, including Bowles, his wife Jane Auer, his parents and other family members, as well as Truman Capote, Oliver Smith, Virgil Thomson, Tennessee Williams, and other friends and associates, many of whom are unidentified. Most of the images in the rest of the file are views of North Africa and various other places, including Spain and Sri Lanka. There are duplicate prints and/or enlargements of some images in Boxes 2-6 (957:0027:0001-0443). An index at the end of this guide lists photographers whose work is featured in this file. Further descriptions of some items are available in a card catalog in the repository.

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### Related Material

The Ransom Center also holds manuscript materials by Paul Bowles.

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- Accession / P Number:** P1-P40, P41A-P41B, P42, P43A-P43B, P44-P76  
**Description:** Portraits of Bowles from infancy through middle-age (P46-P48 are contact sheets of 35mm negatives; P41B and P43B are larger prints of frames 30 and 11 from P41A and P43A respectively). **Container**  
LA:Box 1
- Accession / P Number:** P77-P79 **Description:** Snapshots of Bowles as a middle-aged man with his mother, Rena. **Container**  
LA:Box 1
- Accession / P Number:** P81-P88 **Description:** Photographs of Bowles with various people (P85-86 are original negatives with reference prints; P88 is an original negative only). **Container**  
LA:Box 1
- Accession / P Number:** P89-P95 **Description:** Portraits of Bowles' mother, Rena Winnerwisser, as a baby (P89) and as a child with her siblings (P90-P92). **Container**  
LA:Box 1
- Accession / P Number:** P96-P99 **Description:** Portraits of Rena Winnerwisser as a child. **Container**  
LA:Box 2
- Accession / P Number:** P100 **Description:** Tintype group portrait of four people, including Bowles' mother, Rena Winnerwisser, at Coney Island, August 1897. **Container**  
LA:Box 2
- Accession / P Number:** P101 **Description:** Group portrait of 4 girls, including Rena Winnerwisser. **Container**  
LA:Box 2
- Accession / P Number:** P102-P103, P105-P107 **Description:** Portraits of various people, including Bowles' maternal grandfather, August Winnerwisser (P105). **Container**  
LA:Box 2
- Accession / P Number:** P108 **Description:** Group portrait of the Winnerwisser family, including Bowles' parents(?). **Container**  
LA:Box 2

- Accession / P Number:** P109-P119 **Description:** Photographs of Bowles' parents, Claude and Rena. **Container**  
LA:Box 2
- Accession / P Number:** P122-P126 **Description:** Photographs of Bowles' wife, Jane. **Container**  
LA:Box 2
- Accession / P Number:** P127-P129, P131-P133 **Description:** Photographs of various people, including Virgil Thomson (P127), William S. Burroughs (P128), and Libby Holman (P131). **Container**  
LA:Box 2
- Accession / P Number:** P134-P136 **Description:** Snapshots of Bowles with various unidentified men. **Container**  
LA:Box 2
- Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0001-0030 **Description:** Views of Tangier, Morocco, including the terrace of Bowles' residence (957:0027:0017), as well as other places in North Africa and various places in Asia; also a view of Ronda, Spain (957:0027:0026). **Container**  
LA:Box 2
- Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0031-0045 **Description:** Commercial views of various places in Morocco. **Container**  
LA:Box 2
- Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0046-0132 **Description:** Photographic postcards and snapshots of Fes, Marrakech, Tangier, Beni Abbes, and other places in North Africa, as well as various places in other parts of the world, including Sri Lanka and Spain; also a view of Bowles' great aunt's residence in Watkins Glen, New York (957:0027:0105). **Container**  
LA:Box 3
- Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0133-0228 **Description:** Snapshots of various places apparently in North Africa, as well as other parts of the world, including Sri Lanka and Spain. **Container**  
LA:Box 4

**Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0229-0252 **Description:** Snapshots of various places apparently in North Africa and Asia, as well as Spain, including 4 identified by inscription on verso as Cordoba (957:0027:0229, 0231, 0234, 0235) and 1 as Ronda (957:0027:0236). **Container**  
LA:Box 5

**Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0253 **Description:** View of a house with a woman and 4 children (Bowles' relatives?) standing in front, circa 1900. Photo is faded and mounted. **Container**  
LA:Box 5

**Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0254-0311 **Description:** Snapshots of various people, including Truman Capote in a bathing suit on an unidentified coast (957:0027:0271-0272), as well as various places probably in North Africa and Spain. **Container**  
LA:Box 5

**Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0312 **Description:** Photograph of a cat and a parrot (Bowles' pets?). **Container**  
LA:Box 5

**Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0313 **Description:** Cabinet card portrait of an unidentified toddler. **Container**  
LA:Box 5

**Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0314 **Description:** Mounted photograph of an unidentified young man and woman with a dog on a snow-covered street, 26 March 1892. **Container**  
LA:Box 5

**Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0315-0332 **Description:** Snapshots and formal portraits of various people. **Container**  
LA:Box 5

**Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0333-0337 **Description:** Photographic reproductions of paintings depicting farmers and fishermen. **Container**  
LA:Box 5

**Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0338-0375 **Description:** Chiefly snapshots and formal portraits of various people (mostly men). **Container**  
LA:Box 6

- Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0376-0382, 0385-0386, 0389-0397, 0399-0406, 0408-0411, 0413-0420, 0422-0429, 0431-0442 **Description:** Portraits of Bowles (957:0027:0376-0380), his wife Jane (957:0027:0425, 0433), Tennessee Williams (957:0027:0401, 0404), and various other people (mostly men), as well as views of various places (reference prints for original negatives in Nitrate Vault). **Container**  
LA:Box 6
- Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0443 **Description:** Snapshot of Truman Capote in a bathing suit (taken on the same occasion as 957:0027:0271-0272) **Container**  
LA:Box 6
- Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0444 [was T100] **Description:** Tintype portrait of an unidentified young woman. **Container**  
LA:Box 6
- Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0445 [was T101] **Description:** Tintype portrait of an unidentified young woman; in circular black case. **Container**  
LA:Box 6
- Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0446 [was T97] **Description:** Tintype portrait of an unidentified girl; in gold frame. **Container**  
LA:Box 6
- Accession / P Number:** P80 **Description:** Portrait of Oliver Smith and Jane and Paul Bowles (left to right). **Container**  
OV Box,  
Medium
- Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0404 **Description:** Portrait of Tennessee Williams in a white terry cloth robe. **Container**  
OV Box,  
Large
- Accession / P Number:** [was P120] **Description:** 31 snapshots of Bowles and his parents. **Container**  
Album 1
- Accession / P Number:** [was P121] **Description:** 20 snapshots of Bowles and his parents. **Container**  
Album 2

**Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0447 (D155) **Description:** Daguerreotype portrait of an unidentified toddler (girl?); in gold frame and black case.

**Container**  
Cased  
Items Box  
2

**Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0448 (D156) **Description:** Daguerreotype portrait of an unidentified older woman; in gold frame and black case.

**Container**  
Cased  
Items Box  
2

**Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0449 (D154) **Description:** Daguerreotype portrait of an unidentified older woman; in gold frame.

**Container**  
Cased  
Items Box  
2

**Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0450 (A180) **Description:** Ambrotype portrait of an unidentified baby; in gold frame and black case.

**Container**  
Cased  
Items Box  
2

**Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0451 (A181) **Description:** Ambrotype portrait of Mary Ellen Ridoc(?) as a young woman; in gold frame and black case.

**Container**  
Cased  
Items Box  
2

**Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0452 (A179) **Description:** Ambrotype portrait of an unidentified boy; in gold frame.

**Container**  
Cased  
Items Box  
2

**Accession / P Number:** 957:0027:0373-0420, 0422-0442 **Description:** Nitrate negatives of portraits of Bowles (957:0027:0376-0380), his wife Jane (957:0027:0407, 0425, 0433), Tennessee Williams (957:0027:0401, 0404), and various other people, as well as views of various places (references prints for most in Box 6; 957:0027:0412 corresponds to original print 957:0027:0346).

**Container**  
NV:LF  
Boxes

**Index of Photographers**

- Angus, Donald, photographer--P13-P15
- Bailey, photographer--P1
- Blake, Frederick J.--P89-P91, P93-P95
- Blechman, Marcus--P131; 957:0027:0369-0370
- Cooper, Siegel--P105
- Cruz, photographer, fl. 1950s--P132
- Cunningham (Exeter, N.H.)--P96-P99; 957:0027:0353
- Dain, Martin J.--P46-P48
- E. H. T.--P3-P6
- Freeman's Studio--P108
- Gentile, Carlo, 1835-1893--957:0027:0313
- Langill, H. H. H., 1849-1914--P104
- Linton, David, photographer-P41-P45
- Neuer, Rodolphe--957:0027:0010-0011
- Osler, W. F.--957:0027:0352
- Penn, Irving--P80
- Rowley, W. C.--P7
- Savage, Naomi, 1927- --P11, P20-P24
- Swift, G. W., photographer--P103
- Van Vechten, Carl, 1880-1964--P17-P19
- Yacoubi, Ahmed--P32