

# Helmut and Alison Gernsheim:

## An Inventory of Their Collection of Photographic Copy Prints at the Harry Ransom Center

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### Descriptive Summary

- Creator:** Gernsheim, Helmut, 1913-1995; and Gernsheim, Alison
- Title:** Helmut and Alison Gernsheim Collection of Photographic Copy Prints
- Dates:** circa 1900-1950s
- Extent:** 39 document boxes, 11 newspaper boxes (34.63 linear feet)
- Abstract:** Photographic copy prints, made and/or collected by Helmut and Alison Gernsheim, of photographs that range in date from the early to mid-20th century. The prints relate to the photographs from the Gernsheim Collection held at the Ransom Center and the couple's research into the history of photography.
- Call Number:** Photography Collection PH-02412
- Language:** English
- Access:** Open for research. **Part or all of this collection is housed off-site and may require up to three business days' notice for access in the Ransom Center's Reading and Viewing Room. Please contact the Center before requesting this material: [reference@hrc.utexas.edu](mailto:reference@hrc.utexas.edu).**
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### Administrative Information

- Acquisition:** Purchase, 1963
- Processed by:** Hagan Barber, Jack Boettcher, Heather Bollinger, Kelsey Handler, 2012 **Note:** This finding aid replicates some information previously available only in a card catalog. Please see the explanatory note at the end of this finding aid for information regarding the arrangement of the manuscripts as well as the abbreviations commonly used in descriptions.
- Repository:** [Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin](#)



## Scope and Contents

The collection consists of photographic copy prints made and/or collected by Helmut and Alison Gernsheim. The prints relate to the photographs from the Gernsheim Collection held at the Ransom Center and the couple's research into the history of photography. The copy prints are of photographs, advertisements, and photography-related ephemera from the Gernsheims' personal collection as well as other photographs held in museums. The prints are of photographs that range in date from the early 20th century to the 1950s.

The collection is arranged into the following four series: I. Photographers, II. Subjects, III. Art and Photography Processes, and IV. Exhibition Prints. The first series is comprised of copy prints of photographs by various photographers, and it is arranged alphabetically by the photographers' last names or studio name. Photographers well represented include: Antonio Beato, Julia Margaret Cameron, Philip Henry Delamotte, Charles Lutwidge Dodgson (Lewis Carroll), Harold Edgerton, Peter Henry Emerson, Roger Fenton, J. E. Mayall, Oscar Gustave Rejlander, John Thomson, and W. & D. Downey.

Series II. Subjects, is arranged alphabetically by subject heading. It includes a large volume of architectural photography in addition to photographs of historical events and figures, royalty, and men, women and children. The photographs of historical events and figures are further broken down between images found within the Ransom Center's holdings and those from other institutions.

The third series, Art and Photographic Processes, consists of copy prints of different artistic and photographic techniques. Examples of processes include calotypes, daguerreotypes, and lithographs. The series also includes copy prints of photographic equipment and advertisements.

Series IV. Exhibition Prints, contains copy prints made by the Gernsheims which were intended for exhibition. The prints are arranged according to the type of support used to mount each image and/or by surface treatment; the majority of the prints are mounted on Masonite. Each group of photographs were likely produced for different exhibitions. Many of the exhibition prints are duplicates of copy prints found in the other three series.

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**Series I. Photographers**

Aa-Ai	<b>Container 1.1</b>
Queen Alexandra	<b>Container 1.2</b>
An	<b>Container 1.3</b>
Ar-As	<b>Container 1.4</b>
Atget, Eugene	<b>Container 1.5</b>
Ba-Ben	<b>Container 1.6</b>
Bambridge, William	<b>Container 1.7</b>
Barnett, H. Walter	<b>Container 1.8</b>
Barraud, Herbert	<b>Container 1.9</b>
Barrett, Arthur	<b>Container 1.10</b>
Bayard, Hippolyte	<b>Container 1.11</b>
Beard, Richard	<b>Container 1.12</b>
Beato, Antonio	<b>Container 1.13, 38.1</b>
Ber-Bo	<b>Container 1.14</b>
Br-Bz	<b>Container 2.1</b>
Brady, Matthew	<b>Container 2.2</b>
Braun, Adolphe	<b>Container 2.3</b>
C	<b>Container 2.4</b>
Caldesi, Leonida	<b>Container 2.5</b>
Cameron, Henry Herschel Hay	<b>Container 2.6</b>
Cameron, Julia Margaret	<b>Container 2.7-8, 38.2</b>
Carjat, Etienne	<b>Container 2.9</b>
Clark & Hyde	<b>Container 2.10</b>

Claudet, Antoine	<b>Container 2.11</b>
Clifford, Charles	<b>Container 2.12</b>
Coburn, Alvin Langdon	<b>Container 2.13</b>
Coster, Howard	<b>Container 2.14</b>
Da	<b>Container 3.1</b>
Daguerre, Louis-Jacques-Mandé	<b>Container 3.2</b>
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Delamotte, Philip Henry	<b>Container 3.4-5, 38.3</b>
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Disdéri, Andre	<b>Container 3.7, 38.4</b>
Dodgson, Charles Lutwidge (Lewis Carroll)	<b>Container 3.8-4.2</b>
Dr	<b>Container 4.5</b>
Du	<b>Container 4.6</b>
E	<b>Container 4.7</b>
Edgerton, Harold	<b>Container 4.8, 38.5</b>
Elfelt, Peter	<b>Container 4.9</b>
Elliott & Fry	<b>Container 5.1</b>
Emerson, Peter Henry	<b>Container 5.2, 38.6</b>
England, William	<b>Container 5.3, 38.7</b>
Evans, Frederick H.	<b>Container 5.4</b>
Evans, Walker	<b>Container 5.5</b>
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Fenton, Roger	<b>Container 5.7-9, 38.8</b>
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Fyson, Rev.	<b>Container 5.11</b>

Ga-Gh	<b>Container 6.1</b>
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Girault de Prangey, Joseph-Philibert	<b>Container 6.3</b>
Gl-Gu	<b>Container 6.4</b>
Ha	<b>Container 6.5</b>
He	<b>Container 6.6</b>
Hill & Adamson	<b>Container 6.7-8</b>
Hi-Ho	<b>Container 6.9</b>
Howlett, Robert	<b>Container 6.10</b>
Hu	<b>Container 6.13</b>
Hughes, Alice	<b>Container 6.11</b>
Hughes & Mullin	<b>Container 6.12</b>
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K	<b>Container 7.1</b>
Kilburn, William Edward	<b>Container 7.2</b>
La-Loc	<b>Container 7.3</b>
Lafayette, James	<b>Container 7.4</b>
Le Secq, Henri	<b>Container 38.10</b>
Loe-Lu	<b>Container 7.6</b>
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Mo-Mz	<b>Container 7.13</b>
Mullins, Gustave	<b>Container 7.14</b>
N	<b>Container 8.1</b>
Nadar, Felix and Paul	<b>Container 8.2, 38.15</b>
Negre, Charles	<b>Container 38.16</b>
Ney, Elizabet	<b>Container 38.17</b>
Niépce, Joseph Nicéphore	<b>Container 8.3</b>
O'Sullivan, Timothy	<b>Container 8.4</b>
Owen, Hugh	<b>Container 8.5</b>
Parkhurst	<b>Container 38.18</b>
Pe-Pi	<b>Container 8.6</b>
Photographic Society Club	<b>Container 38.19</b>
Pl-Pu	<b>Container 8.7</b>
Pumphrey, William	<b>Container 8.8</b>
R	<b>Container 8.9</b>
Renger-Patzsch, Albert	<b>Container 8.10</b>
Rejlander, Oscar Gustave	<b>Container 8.11, 38.20</b>
Riis, Jacob	<b>Container 8.12</b>
Robertson, James	<b>Container 9.1</b>
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Sa	<b>Container 9.4</b>
Sch-Se	<b>Container 9.5</b>
Sescall, Paul	<b>Container 38.21</b>
Shaw, George Bernard	<b>Container 38.24</b>
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Sl-Sm	<b>Container 9.7</b>
Smith, A. G. Dew	<b>Container 9.8,</b>
Smith, John Shaw	<b>Container 9.9</b>
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Steichen, Edward	<b>Container 9.12, 38.22</b>
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Stone, John Benjamin	<b>Container 38.23</b>
Str	<b>Container 9.11</b>
Strand, Paul	<b>Container 9.14</b>
Su-Sy	<b>Container 9.15</b>
Ta-Tho	<b>Container 10.1</b>
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White, Clarence H.	<b>Container 11.4</b>
Williams, T. R.	<b>Container 11.5</b>
Wilson, George Washington	<b>Container 11.6</b>
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Cardinal's Closet	<b>Container 17.6</b>
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King's Audience Chamber	<b>Container 17.9</b>
King's Dressing Room	<b>Container 17.10</b>
King's Great Staircase	<b>Container 17.11</b>
King's State Bedroom	<b>Container 17.12</b>
King's Writing Room	<b>Container 17.13</b>
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Queen's Audience Chamber	<b>Container 17.15</b>
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Queen's Drawing Room	<b>Container 18.1</b>
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Queen's Guard Room	<b>Container 18.3</b>
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**BAR CODE LIST**

- Box 1: 059188000055347
- Box 2: 059188000055358
- Box 3: 059188000055370
- Box 4: 059188000055369
- Box 5: 059188000055380
- Box 6: 059188000055391
- Box 7: 059188000055336
- Box 8: 059188000055325
- Box 9: 059188000055314
- Box 10: 059188000055303
- Box 11: 059188000055290
- Box 12: 059188000055449
- Box 13: 059188000055609
- Box 14: 059188000055610
- Box 15: 059188000055620
- Box 16: 059188000055450
- Box 17: 059188000055438
- Box 18: 059188000055471
- Box 19: 059188000055493
- Box 20: 059188000055482
- Box 21: 059188000055507
- Box 22: 059188000055518
- Box 23: 059188000055460
- Box 24: 059188000055529
- Box 25: 059188000055551
- Box 26: 059188000055530
- Box 27: 059188000055540
- Box 28: 059188000055675
- Box 29: 059188000055664
- Box 30: 059188000055642
- Box 31: 059188000055653
- Box 32: 059188000055562
- Box 33: 059188000055573
- Box 34: 059188000055584
- Box 35: 059188000055405
- Box 36: 059188000055416
- Box 37: 059188000055427
- Box 38: 059188000055631
- Box 39: 059188000055595
- Box 40: 059188000055686
- Box 41: 059188000055697
- Box 42: 059188000055700
- Box 43: 059188000055711
- Box 44: 059188000055722
- Box 45: 059188000055788
- Box 46: 059188000055799
- Box 47: 059188000055733
- Box 48: 059188000055744
- Box 49: 059188000055777

- Box 50: 059188000055766

## Explanatory Note Concerning Manuscript Collections Cataloged in the Card Catalog

Prior to 1990 when archival cataloging procedures were adopted at the Ransom Center, all manuscript collections were described in a card catalog.

### Organization of Collections:

- Manuscripts for each author collection were organized into four categories:
- **Works:** manuscripts by the author, arranged alphabetically by title;
- **Letters:** the author's outgoing correspondence, arranged alphabetically by recipient name;
- **Recipient:** the author's incoming correspondence, arranged alphabetically by the author of the letter; and
- **Miscellaneous:** all other manuscripts and correspondence, arranged alphabetically by creator.

Materials that did not fit into these categories, such as art, photographs, books, and near-print materials such as newspaper clippings, were dispersed to other Ransom Center collections for cataloging and storage.

### Abbreviations Used in Descriptions:

The symbols below were used in combinations. For example **ALS** means autograph letter signed; **Tccms** means typed carbon copy manuscript, etc.

- **A** = autograph (i.e., handwritten)
- **T** = typed
- **S** = signed
- **I** = initialed
- **Ms** = manuscript
- **Mss** = manuscripts
- **L** = letter
- **FL** = form letter
- **N** = note
- **D** = document
- **C** = card
- **PC** = post card
- **cc** = carbon copy
- **p** = page
- **pp** = pages
- **l** = leaf
- **ll** = leaves
- **nd** = no date
- **inc d** = incomplete date