Finding aid for the
Paul L. Anderson Collection, 1899-1973

AG 40

Finding aid updated by Meghan Jordan, May 2016
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Creator

Anderson, Paul L.

Abstract

This collection largely consists of the personal library (1899-1973) of Paul L. Anderson (1880-1956), as well as his writings, and family photographs. The collection also includes minimal amounts of correspondence, an interview with Paul L. Anderson, newspaper clippings, two formulas, a drawing, and a few pieces of memorabilia.

Quantity/Extent

5 linear feet

Language of Materials

English

Biographical Note

Paul Lewis Anderson was born October 8, 1880, in Trenton, New Jersey. He attended Lehigh University and graduated in 1901 with a degree in electrical engineering. In 1910, Paul L. Anderson left the field of engineering, bringing with him the methodical skills of the trade, and opened a portrait studio in East Orange, New Jersey where he lived with his wife, Mary Green Anderson and his two daughters, Priscilla and Ruth. At the same time, Anderson opened another photo studio in New York City with the cinematographer Karl Struss, eventually taking over once Struss entered military service. He published his first book, Pictorial landscape-photography, in 1914 and began teaching at the Clarence H. White School of Photography in East Canaan, Connecticut in 1916. In addition to practicing photography, Anderson also wrote classical history novels and regularly contributed to photographic periodicals until his death in 1956.

Scope and Content Note

As a self-taught photographer having previously worked as an engineer, Paul L. Anderson was extremely interested in photographic technique and methodology. As he slowly mastered the pictorialist aesthetic, Anderson documented his thoughts on various techniques and his own experimentation within the medium. Anderson’s interest and work with technique are documented within his writings, within the books that he published, and to a lesser degree, within the photos that he took of his family.
These comprise the largest portions of the collection. In addition, the collection includes a few pieces of correspondence, an interview, a drawing, newspaper clippings, formulas, Paul L. Anderson’s personal library, photographic materials, and a few pieces of memorabilia.

The Correspondence series contains two items: a letter to Paul L. Anderson as acting editor of the East Orange Camera Club’s publication from 1937 as well as a contract between Anderson and The Scholastic from 1931.

The Interview series contains one, undated, written interview with Paul L. Anderson.

The Writings series contains multiple drafts of articles and book chapters, many of which are hand written, ranging in date from 1918-1943.

The Clippings series includes book reviews and clippings related to Paul L. Anderson from 1930-1953.

The Drawing series contains a single drawing of a boomerang.

The Formulas series contains two formulas: one for an ozobrome sensitizer and one for kalogen™.

The Personal Library series makes up the majority of the Paul L. Anderson collection and is divided into two subseries: Books and Periodicals

The Books subseries contains photography books that were both owned or written by Paul L. Anderson, some of which have been inscribed by Anderson himself. Some book reviews can be found pasted in the front of The Technique of Pictorial Photography.

The Periodicals subseries includes periodicals to which Paul L. Anderson contributed or that he owned.

The Photographic Materials series comprises the second largest portion of the collection and contains family photographs mostly taken by Paul L. Anderson of his wife, Mary Green Anderson, and his two daughters, Priscilla (sometimes referred to as ‘Pinkie’) and Ruth. This series also includes both a large and a small scrapbook with detailed guides to the photographs.

The Memorabilia series includes an award of merit given to Anderson, well the backings to three of his photographs, and a tear sheet of a Karl Struss photograph published in a 1915 edition of Travel.

**Arrangement**

Series 1: Correspondence
Series 2: Interview
Series 3: Writings
Series 4: Drawing
Series 5: Clippings
Series 6: Formulas
Series 7: Personal Library
  Subseries 1: Books
  Subseries 2: Periodicals
Series 8: Photographic Materials
Series 9: Memorabilia

Names and Subject Terms

Anderson, Paul Lewis (1880-1956)
Photography

Restrictions

Conditions Governing Access

Access to this collection requires an appointment with the Volkerding Study Center.

Conditions Governing Use

It is the responsibility of the user to obtain permission from the copyright owner (which could be the institution, the creator of the record, the author or his/her transferees, heirs, legates or literary executors) prior to any copyright-protected uses of the collection.

The user agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Arizona Board of Regents, the University of Arizona, Center of Creative Photography, including its officers, employees, and agents, from and against all claims made relating to copyright or other intellectual property infringement.

Provenance

This collection was a gift of Mrs. Raymond Collins to the Center for Creative Photography beginning in 1980.

Preferred Citation


Processing Information

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Container List

Series 1: Correspondence
4  1  The Scholastic (magazine), 1931
    2  Hasenpfeffer, Heinrich J., 1937

Series 2: Interview
3  With Paul L. Anderson “On Photography as a Fine Art,” undated

Series 3: Writings
4  “Paper Negatives Direct in the Camera”, 1943
5  “On the Question of Print Size”, 1942
6  “The Rationale of Pictorial Art”, 1942
7  “The Rationale of Pictorial Composition”, 1939
8  “Winter Work”, 1921
9  “Values”, 1926
10  “Platinum Paper for Portraiture”, 1925
11  “Carbon and Carbro for Portraiture”, 1923
12  “Outdoor Portraiture”, 1922
13  “The Hess-Ives Process of Color Photography”, 1918
14  “Roma Imortalis”, undated
15  “Miscellaneous Remarks”, undated
16  “Art Principles in Photographic Illustration”, 1940
17  “Concerning Modern Salon Methods”, undated
19  “Modernistic Reactionaries”, undated
20  “Further Thoughts on Modern Photography”, circa 1933

Series 4: Drawing
21  A Boomerang
Series 5: Clippings

22  1930-1953

Series 6: Formulas

23  Ozobrome sensitizer: formula and instructions, undated
24  Kalogen™ formula, undated

Series 7: Personal Library

Subseries 1: Books


Anderson, Paul L. *Pictorial landscape-photography*, Boston: Wilfred A. French, 1914. [Two copies, one signed by Paul L. Anderson]


Anderson, Paul L. *The Technique of Pictorial Photography*, Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott Company, 1939 [book reviews are pasted on to the front pages] [dust jacket]


*Orthochromatic filters*. Croyden, England: Wratten and Wainwright, Ltd., 1911

Subseries 2: Periodicals

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*American annual of photography*, 1918, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1925, 1926, 1939, 1942, 1944


*Camera craft*, 45:6 (June 1938)

*Harper's monthly magazine*, 126:755 (April 1913), 130:777 (February 1915), 137:818 (July 1918)

*Harper's new monthly magazine*, 119:714 (November 1909)

*Journal of the Photographic Society of America*, 10:9 (November 1944)

*The mentor*, 6:12 (August 1, 1918)

*New country life*, 32:5 (September 1917)

*Photo technique*, 2:8 (August 1940)

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*The Photo Miniature*, 1:7 (October 1899), 1:10 (January 1900), 2:17 (August 1900), 2:19 (October 1900), 2:21 (December 1900), 4:40 (July 1902), 4:47 (February 1903), 6:64 (July 1904), 6:65 (August 1904), 6:69 (December 1904), 6:70 (July 1905), 7:74 (November 1905), 7:81 (September 1907), 8:86 (February 1908), 9:106 (March 1910), 9:108 (May 1910), 10:115 (May 1911), 10:118 (January 1912), 11:127 (June 1913)

*Die photographische Kunst in Jahre*, vol. 12, 1913

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*Quest*, December 1938

*Suburban society*, 2:22 (January 20, 1917)

*Platinum print*, 1:5 (August 1914), 1:6 (November 1914)
Series 8: Photographic Materials

5  Miscellaneous family photos [most taken by Paul L. Anderson]

6  Small scrapbook [with guide]
   Large scrapbook [with guide]

Series 9: Memorabilia

3  Award of Merit, 1938-1939
   Backings
      Freshman Year- The Letter Home, undated
      Home Portrait- Ruth Anderson, undated
      Outdoor Portrait-Ruth A., 1938
   Tear Sheet
      Struss, Karl. “Return of the Natives.” Travel XXV: 6 (1915): 7-8