



Israel Jacob Baumgardner Photograph Collection (R1299)

Collection Number: R1299

Collection Title: Israel Jacob Baumgardner Photograph Collection

Dates: 1880-1940

Creator: Baumgardner, Israel Jacob, 1870-1942

Abstract: The Israel J. Baumgardner Photograph Collection contains the negatives created by Baumgardner, a photographer in Rolla, Missouri. Many of the images are studio portraits, but others include roadside landmarks of Route 66, World War I and II era images, and the local area. He also engaged in commercial and advertising photography.

Collection Size: 5 cubic feet
(58 folders, 18 CDs, 3,685 negatives, 14 plate glass negatives)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center - Rolla](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at rolla@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given and assigned to the Society all rights of copyright, which the Donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor's works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the University from others.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Israel Jacob Baumgardner Photograph Collection* (R1299); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

Donor Information: The collection was loaned to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Geraldine Baumgardner on June 12, 2012 (Accession No. RA1561). An additional loan was made on March 28, 2012 by Allen K. Baumgardner (Accession No. RA1562). An addition was donated by the Phelps County Historical Society on December 9, 2013 (Accession No. RA1600). An addition was made by Dan Henke on July 7, 2020 (Accession No. RA1694).

Custodial History: The Phelps County Historical Society purchased an estimated 26,000 negatives from the Baumgardner Studio in 1943. The PCHS dispersed many of these negatives

during the 1940s and 1950s at ‘photograph parties’ held by the PCHS. Approximately, 4,000 of Baumgardner’s negatives remained and were donated to the State Historical Society.

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the Israel Jacob Baumgardner Photograph Collection can be found in the following collections:

William D. Sands Photograph Collection (R1291)

Parry and Tilford Families Photograph Collection (R1295)

Processed by: Processed by Carole Goggin, July 31, 2018. Revised by Kathleen Seale, November 25, 2019.

Historical Note:

Israel Jacob Baumgardner was born in Akron, Ohio, in 1870. According to his family, as an adult, he changed the spelling of his name to Baumgardner after a family argument. He grew up in Bluffton, Ohio, where he apprenticed for three years with photographer Benjamin Ashbacher. Around 1890, Baumgardner’s family moved to Bluffton, Indiana, where he met his future wife, Arnette Dell Reese. They married in 1898, and moved to nearby Markle, Indiana, on the bluffs of the Wabash River. Here he opened his first studio and billed himself as ‘The Leading Photographer.’ Two sons, Earl and Benjamin “Kent” were born before the Baumgardners moved to Rolla, Missouri, in 1912. His sons attended Rolla schools, graduating from high school in 1916 and 1920. Earl served during World War I and Kent attend the Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy (now Missouri University of Science and Technology) in 1921. Baumgardner died in 1942, and his studio was dismantled in 1943.

Upon his move to Rolla, Baumgardner establish a photographer’s studio and became the town’s main commercial photographer for the next thirty years. Individual and group portraiture was his mainstay, but he engaged in commercial and advertising photography, as well as on the scene photography to document the area’s roadside landmarks along the brand-new US Highway 66. The Baumgardner Studio was located on Pine Street, Rolla’s main thoroughfare and part of Historic Route 66. Baumgardner offered portrait photography and serviced the growing ‘Kodak’ market of amateur photographers with supplies, photograph finishing, and Ansco cameras.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following three series with two subseries:

Business Records

CDs

Negatives

8x10

Glass Plate

Scope and Content Note:

Business Records

This series consists of two ledgers that served as Baumgardner’s studio registers and contain a listing of photographs he took in his studio in Rolla. Each ledger is arranged alphabetically and

each session has a number that corresponds with a negative. Not all of the images listed in the ledgers are present in the collection. The ledgers cover the years 1920 to 1942. This series is arranged chronologically.

CDs

This series contains the digitized images from the materials loaned by Geraldine Baumgardner and Allen K. Baumgardner. These materials include scans of Baumgardner family papers and photographs, mostly from Rolla, Missouri.

Negatives

This series consists of images scanned from the identified negatives depicting scenes of Rolla, US Highway 66, and community events. Folder 7 contains photographs and scans of documents related to the Baumgardner family and the Baumgardner Studio. This includes business advertisements, genealogical materials, and newspaper clippings. Miscellaneous business and personal documents donated by the family along with 270 negatives have been scanned. The bulk of the negatives are not digitized. The 8x10 subseries contains larger negatives separated out by the photographer and given their own numbering sequence. The glass plate negatives are miscellaneous images, most of which are unidentified. This series is arranged numerically by the photographer's assigned numbers.

Container List:

f. 1-3		Business Records
Box 001	f. 1	Studio register – No. 6315-22285, 1920-1941
Box 002	f. 2	Studio register – No. 22286-24400, 1941-1942
	f. 3	Miscellaneous, no date
f. 4-8		CDs
	f. 4	Rolla images, no date
	f. 5	Rolla, Route 66 images, no date
	f. 6	Bethesda Sanatorium, St. James, group portraits, no date
	f. 7	Cuba, Missouri, portraits, family papers, no date
	f. 8	Miscellaneous images, no date
f. 9-58		Negatives
	f. 9	Identified, 1920s-1940s, no date
Box 003	f. 10	No. 6-11742, 1920s-1930s
	f. 11	No. 11750-12479, 1930s
	f. 12	No. 12480-12659, 1920s-1930s
	f. 13	No. 12660-13094, 1930s
	f. 14	No. 13111-13590, 1930s
Box 004	f. 15	No. 13600-14233, 1930s-1940s
	f. 16	No. 14237-14697, 1930s-1940s
	f. 17	No. 14701-15227, 1930s-1940s
	f. 18	No. 15234-15626, 1930s-1940s
	f. 19	No. 15631-15990, 1930s-1940s
Box 005	f. 20	No. 16001-16177, 1930s-1940s
	f. 21	No. 16185-16498, 1930s-1940s
	f. 22	No. 16500-17064, 1930s-1940s
	f. 23	No. 17074-17772, 1930s-1940s

	f. 24	No. 17779-18299, 1930s-1940s
Box 006	f. 25	No. 18301-18989, 1930s-1940s
	f. 26	No. 19010-19698, 1930s-1940s
	f. 27	No. 19709-20117, 1930s-1940s
	f. 28	No. 20120-10764, 1930s-1940s
	f. 29	No. 20777-21485, 1930s-1940s
	f. 30	No. 21488-21939, 1930s-1940s
Box 007	f. 31	No. 22017-22279, 1930s-1940s
	f. 32	No. 22280-22639, 1940s
	f. 33	No. 22640-22809, 1940s
	f. 34	No. 22811-23054, 1940s
	f. 35	No. 23063-23398, 1940s
	f. 36	No. 23402-23898, 1940s
Box 008	f. 37	No. 23900-71939, 1940s
	f. 38	Unidentified women, no date
	f. 39	Unidentified men, no date
	f. 40	Unidentified men in military uniforms, 1940s
	f. 41	Unidentified family groups, no date
	f. 42	Legal documents, 1829-1942
	f. 43	Organizations, no date
	f. 44	Unidentified theatrical/dance groups, no date
	f. 45	Unidentified buildings, no date
	f. 46	Unidentified funerals, no date
	f. 47	Landscapes, no date
	f. 48	Miscellaneous, no date
	f. 49-57	8x10
Box 009	f. 49	No. 22-175, 1930s-1940s
	f. 50	No. 6212-17333, 1920s-1930s
	f. 51	No. 17412-17773, 1930s
	f. 52	No. 17805-18366, 1930s
	f. 53	No. 18617-19369, 1930s-1940s
	f. 54	No. 19377-19963, 1930s-1940s
	f. 55	No. 19992-20207, 1930s-1940s
Box 010	f. 56	No. 22254-239111, 1930s-1940s
	f. 57	Miscellaneous, no date
	f. 58	Glass plate, no date

Index:

Index Term	Folder	Image
Arlington (Mo.)	5, 9, 11-12, 26	Yes
Baumgardner family	3, 20-21	
Baumgardner, Earl, 1899-1977	3	Yes
Baumgardner, Israel Jacob, 1870-1942	1-58	
Cuba (Mo.)	5, 7-9, 49, 51, 55	Yes
Dance--Photographs	14-18, 20, 22-24, 44	Yes
Fanning (Mo.)	4-5, 9, 13	Yes
Fort Leonard Wood (Mo.)	29	Yes

Index Term	Folder	Image
Missouri University of Science and Technology	4-5, 9-10, 17, 28, 48, 55	Yes
Newburg (Mo.)	48, 50, 52, 56	Yes
Ozark Hotel (Rolla, Mo.)	50	Yes
Parade	4, 20	Yes
Pennant Hotel (Rolla, Mo.)	4-5, 8, 10, 15	Yes
Photography--Studios and dark rooms.	1-58	
Railroad	4-5, 9, 23, 47-48, 50, 53	Yes
Rolla (Mo.)	1-58	Yes
Rollamo Theater (Rolla, Mo.)	55	Yes
Russell Brothers Circus (Rolla, Mo.)	4, 8-9, 11	Yes
St. James (Mo.)	5-6, 10-11, 27, 53, 57	Yes
St. Patrick's Day decorations	55	Yes
Trachoma Hospital (Rolla, Mo.)	25-26	Yes
United States Highway 66	4-5, 8-13, 15-17, 26-28, 31, 49, 52-53	Yes
World War, 1914-1918--Photographs	3, 56	Yes
World War, 1939-1945--Photographs	9, 27, 31-37, 40	Yes