



Guide to the May Bradford Photograph Collection

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Persistent URL for this finding aid: <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1hh2p>

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Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical Note	3
Scope and Contents Note	4
Arrangement	4
Administrative Information	4
Related Materials	5
Names and Subjects	5
Collection Inventory	6

Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Shockley, May Bradford, 1879-1977
Contributor:	Doughty, Nanelia, 1907-1987
Title:	May Bradford Photograph Collection
ID:	PH-00242
Date [inclusive]:	1870-1976
Physical Description:	0.18 Cubic Feet (2 folders, 1 oversized folder, 2 shared boxes)
Physical Description:	2.92 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The May Bradford Photograph Collection (1870-1976) consists primarily of black-and-white photographs depicting Bradford's life including her time in Tonopah, Nevada. The collection also includes images of her early life and her family in Missouri. Other photographs document her son as an infant, as well as the family's time spent living abroad.

Preferred Citation

May Bradford Photograph Collection, 1870-1976. PH-00242. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical Note

May Bradford was born May 11, 1879 in Missouri. Her parents named her Cora May, but she almost always went by the name May. Growing up, she lived in mining camps in New Mexico, Colorado, and Oregon, where her father worked. She graduated from high school in Carthage, Missouri. She attended Stanford and studied art and mathematics, earning her degree in 1902. She then taught high school for one year in Seattle, Washington to earn the money to go to Paris and study art and was able to spend the next year in Paris.

In 1904, May Bradford formed a surveying and engineering partnership with her father S.K. Bradford, in Tonopah, Nevada. She was appointed U.S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor in 1906.

She traveled throughout Europe in 1906 and 1907 before returning to Tonopah. In 1908, she met William Hillman Shockley, and the couple married on January 20, 1908 in San Francisco, California. After their marriage, they lived in Tonopah for a year. The couple then traveled extensively in Europe and lived in London for several years. In 1910, she gave birth to her son, William Bradford Shockley. In 1913, the Shockleys moved to Palo Alto, California.

May Bradford participated in community organizations and continued to make art. Her paintings were shown throughout the west coast of the United States, as well as in New York and Washington, D.C. She later lived in Los Angeles, before returning to Palo Alto. She passed away on March 7, 1977 at the age of 97.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents Note

The May Bradford Photograph Collection (1870-1976) consists primarily of black-and-white photographs depicting Bradford's life including her time in Tonopah, Nevada. The collection also includes images of her early life and her family in Missouri. Other photographs document her son as an infant, as well as the family's time spent living abroad. Other images depict Senator William M. Stewart and his law office in Rhyolite, Nevada. The collection offers important insight into early Nevada mining communities.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

Materials remain as they were received.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 1979 by Nan Doughty; accession number 1979-273.

Processing Note

Material was processed by Special Collections staff. In 2019, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, Angela Moor revised the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards, wrote the finding aid, and entered the data into ArchivesSpace.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Related Collections

The following resources may provide additional information related to the materials in this collection:

Nan Doughty Family Collection, 1845-1993. MS-00021. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

William Hillman Shockley Photograph Collection, 1875-1925, 1951. PH-00241. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- photographs
- women artists
- Tonopah (Nev.)

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Bradford's uncle George Carter and family outside home, Centralia, Missouri, approximately 1870 (0242_0001) (view online)	folder 01
Nancy M. Carter Ward (Mrs. John Nelson Ward), grandmother of May Bradford with unidentified young women, undated (0242_0002) (view online)	folder 01
May Bradford high school graduation portrait, Carthage, Missouri, 1898 June (0242_0003) (view online)	folder 01
May's parents, Sallie Jane Leona and Seymour Kimball Bradford, 1906 (0242_0004) (view online)	folder 01
Reproduction of cartoon from Tonopah Daily Sun depicting May Bradford as "Belinda Bluegrass", 1905 (0242_0005) (view online)	folder 01
May Bradford on steamer ship bound for Europe, 1906 July (0242_0006) (view online)	folder 01
May Bradford on her horse in Tonopah, Nevada, 1906 (0242_0007) (view online)	folder 01
Dr. Frank Dyer Chester, Consul-General to Hungary, 1906 (0242_0008) (view online)	folder 01
Dr. Frank Dyer Chester with two unidentified women, 1906 (0242_0009) (view online)	folder 01
Buildings in Budapest, Hungary, 1906 (0242_0010) (view online)	folder 01
Boat in Hungary, 1906 (0242_0011) (view online)	folder 01
Unidentified couple in Hungary, 1906 (0242_0012) (view online)	folder 01
Mrs. Humphrey and Mrs. Mary Richards, friends of the Siegfriedts, Manhattan, Nevada, 1906 (0242_0013) (view online)	folder 01
Mr. and Mrs. Siegfriedt at claim in Manhattan, Nevada, unidentified man on left, approximately 1906 (0242_0014) (view online)	folder 01
May Bradford with friend and baby, 1907 (0242_0015) (view online)	folder 01
May Bradford, enlargement from 0242_0015, 1907 (0242_0016) (view online)	folder 01
Tonopah Riding Club, May Bradford at far left, 1907 (0242_0017) (view online)	folder 01
May Bradford, enlargement from 0242_0017, 1907 (0242_0018) (view online)	

	folder 01
May Bradford, second from left, at a party, 1907 (0242_0019) (view online)	folder 01
Little May, Paiute granddaughter of Mary, who cleaned for the Bradfords, outside, 1908 (0242_0020) (view online)	folder 01
Little May, Paiute granddaughter of Mary, who cleaned for the Bradfords, with jump rope, 1908 (0242_0021) (view online)	folder 01
Little May, Paiute granddaughter of Mary, who cleaned for the Bradfords, hugging May Bradford, 1908 (0242_0022) (view online)	folder 01
Little May, Paiute granddaughter of Mary, who cleaned for the Bradfords, drinking inside home, 1908 (0242_0023) (view online)	folder 01
May Bradford painting in Tonopah, 1908 (0242_0024) (view online)	folder 01
Photograph of May Bradford paintings, undated (0242_0024a) (view online)	
May Bradford standing outside, 1908 (0242_0025) (view online)	folder 01
May Bradford sitting on rocks, 1908 (0242_0026) (view online)	folder 01
May Bradford standing on rocks, 1908 (0242_0027) (view online)	folder 01
May Bradford sitting on rock, wearing hat with owl feather, 1908 (0242_0028) (view online)	folder 01
May Bradford with sagebrush plant, 1908 (0242_0029) (view online)	folder 01
May Bradford sitting on rocks with books, 1908 (0242_0030) (view online)	folder 01
May Bradford leaning against rock wall, 1908 (0242_0031) (view online)	folder 01
May Bradford standing on hill, 1908 (0242_0032) (view online)	folder 01
William Hillman Shockley with Little May, Paiute granddaughter of Mary, who cleaned for the Bradfords, 1908 (0242_0033) (view online)	folder 01
William Hillman Shockley, enlargement from 0242_0033, 1908 (0242_0034) (view online)	folder 01
House in Tonopah, Nevada, 1908 (0242_0035) (view online)	folder 01
William Bradford Shockley in baby carriage, approximately 1910 (0242_0036) (view online)	folder 01
May Bradford holding son William Bradford Shockley, approximately 1910 (0242_0037) (view online)	folder 01

William Hillman Shockley holding son William Bradford Shockley in London, England, 1910 (0242_0038) (view online)	folder 01
May Bradford in London, England, approximately 1910 (0242_0039) (view online)	folder 02
May Bradford outside in London, England, approximately 1915 (0242_0040) (view online)	folder 02
May Bradford passport photograph, 1956 (0242_0041) (view online)	folder 02
May Bradford (left) and unidentified woman, color, 1959 (0242_0042) (view online)	folder 02
Left to right: Dr. Gordon H. Baker, Emmy (Mrs. William Bradford Shockley), Victoria (Mrs. Gordon H. Baker), Dr. William Bradford Shockley, May Bradford, Frankfurt, Germany, 1956 December (0242_0043) (view online)	folder 02
May Bradford at Stanford Plaza, I. Magnin store, approximately 1970 (0242_0044) (view online)	folder 02
May Bradford (left) and Jean Siegfried, color, 1966 July (0242_0045) (view online)	folder 02
May Bradford seated in her apartment with bust of William Hillman Shockley behind her, color, 1973 (0242_0046) (view online)	folder 02
May Bradford in wheelchair outside of nursing home, color, 1976 July (0242_0047) (view online)	folder 02
Bookcase in May Bradford's apartment, 1973 (0242_0048) (view online)	folder 02
Bust of William Hillman Shockley in May Bradford's apartment, 1973 (0242_0049) (view online)	folder 02
Senator William M. Stewart with horse carriage, Rhyolite, 1905 (0242_0050) (view online)	folder 02
Senator William M. Stewart outside his law office in Rhyolite, 1905 (0242_0051) (view online)	folder 02
Senator William M. Stewart home in Rhyolite, 1905 (0242_0052) (view online)	folder 02
Exterior of William M. Stewart law office in Rhyolite, 1905 (0242_0053) (view online)	folder 02
Senator William M. Stewart and others sitting on porch of his home in Rhyolite, 1905 (0242_0054) (view online)	folder 02
Weather station, Mt. Brougher, Tonopah, probably roof of Little House, 1908 (0242_0055) (view online)	folder 02
Landscape outside Tonopah, 1908 (0242_0056) (view online)	folder 02
Power lines and houses in Tonopah, 1908 (0242_0057) (view online)	

	folder 02
Railroad outside Tonopah, 1908 (0242_0058) (view online)	folder 02
Landscape and buildings in Blair, Nevada, 1908 (0242_0059) (view online)	folder 02
Parade float with S.K. Bradford standing behind the driver and May Bradford sitting holding surveyor's rod, 1906 July 04 (0242_0060) (view online)	folder 02
Drilling contest at Railroad Carnival Tonopah, 1904 July (0242_0061) (view online)	folder 02
Postcard of Tonopah, 1910 (0242_0062) (view online)	folder 02
"Entire Population of Tonopah," group photo, 1902 (0242_0063) (view online)	folder 02
"Boom Days," photo of crowd on Main St. in Tonopah, approximately 1906 (0242_0064) (view online)	folder 02
"Drilling Contest" in Tonopah, 1903 July 04 (0242_0065) (view online)	folder 02
"75,000 silver bullion," Montana Tonopah Mining Company, Tonopah, approximately 1906 (0242_0066) (view online)	folder 02
"Built with 5 gal oil cans," building, Tonopah, 1905 (0242_0067) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of Tonopah plat map drawn by May Bradford, undated (0242_0068) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of Tonopah mining district map drawn by May Bradford (1), undated (0242_0069) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of Tonopah mining district map drawn by May Bradford (2), undated (0242_0070) (view online)	folder 02
Color photograph of Tonopah mining district map drawn by May Bradford (1), undated (0242_0071) (view online)	folder 02
Color photograph of Tonopah mining district map drawn by May Bradford (2), undated (0242_0072) (view online)	folder 02
Negatives of Bradford farm and Carthage, Missouri; Columbia River; early Tonopah; May Bradford as young adult, undated (0242_0073)	folder 02
Photograph of map of Bullfrog mining district drawn by May Bradford, undated (0242_0074) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of Minnesota-Nevada Copper Mines Company mine, Douglas County, map drawn by May Bradford, undated (0242_0075) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of mining diagrams drawn by May Bradford, undated (0242_0076) (view online)	folder 02
Postcard of downtown Reno, 1941 (0242_0077) (view online)	

folder
02