

PARSONS, H. J.
H. J. Parsons photographs, 2014-2016

Emory University
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Parsons, H. J.
Title: H. J. Parsons photographs, 2014-2016
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 1505
Extent: .5 linear ft. (1 box); 3.95 GB born digital material (1,130 files)
Abstract: Digital photographs taken by photographer H. J. Parsons depicting graffiti and street art in Atlanta, Georgia, and around the South.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

Special restrictions apply: Access to processed born digital materials is only available in the Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (the Rose Library). Use of the original digital media is restricted.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Source

Purchased from H. J. Parsons, 2020

Custodial History

Parsons prepared the digital files, saved them to an external hard drive, and shipped them to the Rose Library under the direction of Curator of Modern Political and Historical Collections Randy Gue and Accessioning Archivist Meaghan O'Riordan.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], H. J. Parsons photographs, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Appraisal Note

Curator of Modern Political and Historical Collections Randy Gue acquired the collection as part of the Rose Library's holdings in contemporary photography. All material originally received with the collection has been retained.

Processing

Arranged and described at the file level by Katherine Fisher, 2022. Born digital material was received as TIFF files on an external hard drive, from which Fisher created a forensic disk image using Guymager. Fisher extracted individual files from the disk image using FTK Imager and scanned for viruses using McAfee's anti-virus software; none were found. Fisher migrated image files to JPG format to create access copies. Access copies remain organized in Parsons's original order, organized into folders based on the year the photographs were created. Access copies also retain the images' original file names, which appear to include the date Parsons took each photograph. File dates have changed from their original creation dates.

This finding aid may include language that is offensive or harmful. Please refer to the Rose Library's [harmful language statement](#) for more information about why such language may appear and ongoing efforts to remediate racist, ableist, sexist, homophobic, euphemistic and other oppressive language. If you are concerned about language used in this finding aid, please contact us at rose.library@emory.edu.

Collection Description

Biographical Note

H. J. Parsons grew up in the suburbs west of Atlanta and learned digital photography through his work in aerial mapping. He began photographing aerosol art in 2013 while visiting abandoned places around the city, which were favorite destinations for graffiti writers. Parsons's photography documenting graffiti and style writing has appeared in *Juxtapoz Magazine*, *The Streets Magazine*, and *Bombingscience.com*. He also shares his work on Instagram as part of a larger community of graffiti photographers. H. J. Parsons is a pseudonym.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of digital photographs created by H. J. Parsons documenting graffiti and street art between 2014 and 2016. The photographs capture art in locations such as train tunnels, abandoned buildings, and highway underpasses. Some photographs document aerosol art connected with specific events or exhibitions, such as Atlanta's Forward Warrior, the Ogden Museum of Southern Art's *Top Mob: A History of New Orleans Graffiti*, and the Tim Faulkner Gallery's *Often Seen Rarely Heard* show featuring the work of the MFK crew. Most photographs depict locations in the Atlanta, Georgia, area, but the collection also includes images taken in New Orleans, Louisiana; Louisville, Kentucky; and elsewhere in the South. Notable writers whose art appears in the photos include WANE, POE, WEB ONE, BASER, and VAYNE.

Arrangement Note

Arranged in chronological order.

Container List

Box	Folder	Content
RRL	1	Photographs, 2014 [Reading Room access ONLY]
RRL	2	Photographs, 2015 [Reading Room access ONLY]
RRL	3	Photographs, 2016 [Reading Room access ONLY]
BD1	-	Disk drive containing digital photographs [Original RESTRICTED]
