
Photographer:**Examples in the library collection:**

Bradley, H.**P138, P139, P300-P302**

All his known views are commissioned landscapes with the exception of P139 which, although evidently commissioned, seems to be a gathering of Grange or possibly G.A.R. members. In several cases the photographs are in double sets; one view of the farm home and the second of the barns. Common to the period but exaggerated in Bradley views is the use of personal possessions as props. In most all views, things such as furniture or horse teams are brought out to convey a sense of prosperity.

All known examples are mounted on a dark green pasteboard backing, 9" x 12". The prints may have a coded number in the bottom left corner which usually includes two digits (possibly backwards). Attribution to H. Bradley comes from one example in Ken Coin's family collection which has a small mimeographed paper label pasted on the reverse which reads simply: "Sam Krebel. No. 1- / H. Bradley (followed by a penciled scrawl 'Agt')". Dating the views, which are believed to have all been taken within a short time-frame of a few weeks, is based on the same view from Coin's collection (copy P302 in the library collection). The little girl pictured is Beulah Lewis who was born in June of 1896.

Hamilton, Emery**P60, P338-P348**

Unknown until 1995, his original photographs (only two are known to exist) do not include any identification. In fact, his attribution to the library's collection of glass plate negatives comes solely from the mailing address on the negative's original box.

Emery Hamilton was born in 1874 and was married in 1898 to Ethel Turner of Olive township, a daughter of Silas and Emma (Howe) Turner. For approximately twenty years Emery worked as a farm laborer and the couple lived at various locations north of DeWitt, usually with one of Ethel's bachelor uncles. By 1915 they had a small home on the east side of Alward Lake, on property purchased from Ethel's mother who had some acreage on the east side of Loomis Rd., north of Alward Rd.

At the end of World War I they moved to Lansing where Emery got a job at the REO factory. He remained employed there until the Depression when he got a job with the W.P.A. About 1920 they purchased a home on Cleveland Avenue where they remained until Ethel's death in 1934 and Emery's, about 1960. The couple had no children.

Hewitt, Robert**P95, P122-P124, P272**

Owner of a Lansing-based company, The Robert Hewitt Photographic Co., his only known works appear to be postcard views of the DeWitt business district. The company's stylish cartouche appears in the bottom left corner, enclosing a number. The number corresponded with the view. The number of views in the series is unknown.

Hewitt's first connection to photography dates to 1908 when he is listed in the Lansing City Directory as a photographer for the Olds Motor Works. By 1911 he is listed as a commercial photographer. In 1912, the name of the Robert Hewitt Photographic Co. makes its appearance in the directory.

The company remained in business until 1917 when it's office & studio in suite 607 of the Prudden Building was taken over by Roy N. Pusser who was followed in quick succession by George H. Bonnell in 1918. 1917 also seems

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to be the year which Hewitt and his wife Lizzie left Lansing. City directories after that date no longer mention either of them.

Negatives from this company were used by other post card producers prior to 1916. Many views were modified with new titles and only portions of the negatives image. In some cases the Hewitt Photo Co. cartouche is barely visible after attempts were made to remove it from the negative.

Jutting, Charles**P89,**

All his known views are commissioned landscapes. Although the library collection only owns two (both copies), several more are known to exist. The extent and years of his work is not known. His photographs are identified by a penciled "C. Jutting" signed on the bottom of the photograph.

Charles was born in Michigan in 1860, a son of German immigrants Christian and Christiane Jutting. The Jutting farm was located at the southwest corner of DeWitt and Cedarwood where, besides farming, Charles' father ran a hide tanning operation.

Prior to 1920, after the death of their parents, Charles and his sister Bertha moved to Holt. They, along with the parents, are buried in unmarked graves in the DeWitt Cemetery (Section B #106). According to a sexton's note, Charles died in 1937.

Moon, "Harry" Henry**P121**

As an amateur photographer, many of his landscape views were produced in postcard format to be sold in his general store on west Main street. Although numerous views are owned by family members, only one example is in the library's collection.

His darkroom and negative files were believed to have been in a back room of his store where they were destroyed in the 1930 DeWitt fire.

Harry was born in DeWitt in 1880, a son of Charles L. & Mary (Vincent) Moon. He was married to Minnie Marzke and lived most of his married life above his general store on W. Main. Besides being a merchant, in later years he was an area minister. He had no children.

Newcomb, H. J.**P85, P88, P92, P108, P110, P180-P182, P267**

Advertisements and notices in the DeWitt Motor from the mid-1890s indicate that H. J. Newcomb was a traveling photographer for they mention his "car" being in town. His range of activity is not however, thought to extend outside the greater DeWitt area for no prints, other than DeWitt subjects, have been located.

Commons studio posed prints are mounted on standard-sized white cabinet cards with the photographer's name rubber stamped on the back. Prints such as the Yanz family (P267), posed in an outdoor scene, give credibility to the assumption that Newcomb traveled the countryside.

Group photographs such as the G.A.R. (P85) requiring a larger format are usually mounted on a plain beige pasteboard. Oddly, although most of the known cabinet cards are in excellent condition, most of Newcomb's larger

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format prints have deteriorated or, at a minimum, discolored.

Norris, Mark**P4, P5, P61, P119, P127, P128, P296, P310,**

All of his known early works were produced in postcard format to be sold in the post office at which he was a long-time employee and postmaster. Unlike other "postcard photographers", many of Norris's views were group shots of people. Many of his postcards are distinct in that his name, "M Norris", is written out in script. Often too, a title is written out, sometime quite crudely. In certain instances, such as P310 and several others donated by Ken Coin, the attribution to Norris as the photographer comes from the memory of persons in the picture. Additionally, his common prints are often distinct with a wide white border encircling the image. A very rare series of his post card views were printed in a cyanotype process, making the prints a rich blue.

Several snapshots in the library collection were donated by Donald Reed who stated that the photographs were taken and given to him by Mark Norris. These date to the 1920s & '30s, after the postcard fad had run out. These views also lack the "people" which made his earlier views distinct.

Mark Norris was born in DeWitt, March 15, 1882. He was a longtime mail carrier in DeWitt, eventually becoming postmaster in 1930. He was also involved in residential construction/remodeling. In 1918 he built the home at the northeast corner of Market and Main. His later years were spent north of town on the property afterwards owned by Edward and Pat Parker. Mark was living in a chicken coop behind his neighbor Tom Staub's barn when he died suddenly from heart failure, August 15, 1937. He had been building the house later owned by the Parkers.

In 1908 he was married to Elizabeth Wetherall who died 1932. They had one son, Gayle who died in 1921 at the age of ten. In 1924 they adopted another son, Wayne who became a decorated veteran of World War II but died in a motorcycle accident in East Lansing in 1947. Mark's second marriage was to Eleanor Kutt-Duff. After Mark's death she married Vern Hoffman and moved to Lansing.

Pike, George S.**P141-P159, P161-P74**

An amateur photographer from Olive township, his works were mainly an expansion of his hobby as a family photographer. He acquired his camera while a young man at Michigan Agricultural College and he continued the hobby until after the birth of his sons.

Most of his views are of family; often the extended family of himself and his wife Edna Randall (his maternal second cousin and his fraternal third cousin). Supplementing this are a few landscape views. Also among the negatives still owned by Gerald Pike are those of an excursion taken about 1900 through northern Michigan, the Straits area, and Niagara Falls.

No prints of his works have been found outside the ownership of his family. Of those examples, development does not seem to have been his strong point for most original prints are faded and lack contrast.

Pike was born in Olive township in 1877, a son of Willard F. & Ella R (Simmons) Pike, both descendants of DeWitt area pioneers. Family connections held an important value in his upbringing. He was a family which had been intertwining and reconnecting itself for generations.

Photographer:

Examples in the library collection:

As his sister Agnes worked to document their tangled family history, George took measures to document his present family connections with numerous group photographs. Few of his photographs fail to have some connection to family, either past or present. The newest of his photographs are of his three sons, Glenwood, Lloyd and Gerald, as toddlers. He died at the young age of 37 in 1915.

All of the library's collection was taken directly from the original negatives which, along with his camera were still (1995) in the possession of George's son Gerald Pike of DeWitt. A more extensive collection, prints from all of Pike's negatives, was made by the Clinton County Historical Commission and donated to the State of Michigan Archives.

VanFleet, Earl**P47-P50, P86, P255-P260**

The first of VanFleet's works to come to light was the composite print owned by Gerald Pike showing four views of the opening of the Lansing - St. Johns Interurban. The four prints were mounted on one pasteboard back with captions, date and photographer printed on the pasteboard.

Earl was born in DeWitt in 1882, a son of Knight and Hattie VanFleet. He was married in 1908 at Detroit to Eva Simmons who was a first cousin to photographer George S. Pike. Earl & Eva had one child, Vincent VanFleet, born in DeWitt, 1914. Earl VanFleet died at Highland Park, MI, January 2, 1932 at the age of 49.

Three additional prints were acquired by the library in the Furgason collection (P255-P257). These distinct square prints mounted on drab pasteboard were rubber stamped on the back with VanFleet's name. Some also had a price noted on the back which indicates they were produced for commercial sale.

Mr. VanFleet's son Vincent was contacted in 1993 in hopes of locating original negatives. None were known to exist, however, several original prints were donated to the library.

March 5, 1996, Ken Coin