OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Title: Arnold D. Kates Film Collection

Collection Date(s): circa 1929-1931

Extent and Forms of Material: 1 film reel

Creator: Arnold D. Kates

Abstract: Arnold D. Kates was an officer in the Association of Young Advertising Men of New York in the 1930s. As an officer, he visited Washington, D.C., to attend the annual meeting of the Advertising Federation of America and took home movies of the capital, including a formal reception at the White House, the Washington Monument, and the Lincoln Memorial. Additional film footage includes scenes on a ship, cityscapes and industrial landscapes of New York City.

Repository: Archives Center, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. archivescenter@si.edu 202 633 3270 www.americanhistory.si.edu/archives

Collection Number: AC0259

Processing Note: Processed by C. Jeremy Barney, July, 2007; supervised by Wendy Shay, archivist.

INFORMATION FOR USERS OF THE COLLECTION

Conditions Governing Access: The collection is available for research use.

Physical Access: There are no reference copies.

Technical Access: Viewing of the film can only be done over a light table. Viewing requires a special appointment with the audio-visual archivist.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use: No copyright or other intellectual property rights issues. Films may be duplicated.

Preferred Citation: Kates Film Collection, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

For more information contact the Archives Center at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270
IN-DEPTH INFORMATION ABOUT THE COLLECTION

**Scope and Content:** Four small reels, combined into a single compilation reel by Archives Center staff, of 16mm black and white, silent, camera original reversal motion picture film. One film depicts scenes of Washington, D.C., including a receiving line at the White House for the annual meeting of the Advertising Federation of America. A second film shows people on a boat, people in a car, and a woman with a calf. The third depicts a Manhattan, New York cityscape, docks and ships, industrial buildings, railyards and railcars, and shipping trucks. Trucks from the Railway Express Agency and the Bush Terminal Co. appear, as well as buildings possibly owned and/or operated by the Bush Terminal Co. Lastly, the fourth film contains images of automobiles and individuals outside of a building possibly identified as the Cypress Hills Hotel Abbey.

Arnold D. Kates dated the film contents to 1931 based on writing on the boxes the films were contained in when he donated the films. An examination of the Eastman Kodak film stock codes gives dates of 1929 and 1930 for the actual film stock. The four films have been combined into a single compilation reel based on the film stock chronology. The first three films have stock dating 1929 and the final film’s stock on the compilation reel dates 1930. No other chronological linkages could be determined.

**Acquisition Information:** Arnold D. Kates donated this film collection in August 1983.

**Access Points:**

40 Wall Street / The Bank of Manhattan Company Building
Automobiles – 1920s / 1930s
Bush Terminal Company
Cityscapes
Cypress Hills Hotel Abbey
Guynia-America Line
Harbors
Lincoln Memorial
New York City, New York – 1920s / 1930s
Railways
Rail Express Agency
Ships
Shipping
U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. – 1920s / 1930s
Washington Monument

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**CONTAINER LISTING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Film/Video</th>
<th>Film Information</th>
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| OF 259.1| **Kates Film Collection, circa 1929-1931** 16mm, black and white, silent, camera original reversal motion picture film, 450 ft. (compilation reel created by the Archives Center) | Content Description:  
   Shot primarily in Washington, D.C., this section includes footage of cityscapes, street scenes, and industrial landscapes including shots of a rail yard and train cars. Also includes footage of automobile traffic on a bridge, a woman riding a horse with automobiles in the background, exterior shots of the Lincoln Memorial, the Washington Monument and the Capitol Building viewed from across the Reflecting Pool, people in front of the White House, and a receiving line in front of the White House that may include President Harding.  
2. **Boat and Car Footage, Woman with a Calf, circa 1929-1931 [1929 – film stock]**  
   Includes footage of New York City cityscape with a building under construction in the background (40 Wall Street / The Bank of Manhattan Company Building (?)).  
4. **Cypress Hills Hotel Abbey (?), circa 1929-1931 [1930 – film stock]** |