

INVENTORY

Collection 101

Richard Magrath Collection

**The Brick Store Museum
Kennebunk, Maine**

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Archivist
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COLLECTION #101

Richard Magrath Collection

This collection consists of the negatives and prints of Richard “Dick” Magrath, a local artist, pianist and photographer, who copied photographs for local people (and usually kept a copy for himself). It spans the years from 1973 to 2006. The collection was obtained by Joyce Butler and Sandy Armentrout approximately one year after Dick’s death, from the executor of Mr. Magrath’s estate.

Dick was born in Lowell, Massachusetts, and employed at Baird-Atomic in Cambridge, developing optical filters for which his company received many patents. The filters were used in the early days of space exploration. He retired in the late 1960s and moved to Maine, where earlier he had spent his summers. When he retired he indulged in his favorite passions photography and painting, and his work was available at the River Club Art Show and at local galleries as “history souvenirs.” To produce a painting he found an existing copy of a piece of artwork and, using it for inspiration, photographed and adapted it to Kennebunk. He also restored art work. He was a cat lover, and his door was always open to stray felines. He loved to fly, and many of his negatives and prints are of the surrounding area.

The collection is divided into the negatives, the prints and copies of his artwork. The photos that have been added to the collection are in the photo file, #2007.042.0001 to #2007.042.0312. Also found in the collection are copies of the Ken Joy negatives. The first two volumes are negatives, and they are arranged in the order in which Dick put them. The negatives and prints have not been paired. Perhaps in the future someone can do this.

Volume 1 is the earliest, and the date of the negatives is pasted to the sleeve. There are approximately 70 slides. Also in Volume 1 are the Ken Joy negatives, which are a combination of slides and negatives.

Volume 2 is arranged in the same order as Dick left them. Each sleeve is marked with the date, type of film used and any other information Dick felt was important. Volumes 1 and 2 are somewhat incomplete because many of the paper strips Dick made to hold the negatives were empty. This volume also includes the odd sized negatives, with accompanying notes.

Volume 3 is aerials of Biddeford Pool, Scarborough, South Freeport, Ogunquit, York Harbor, Drakes Island, Wells Harbor, Dock Square, Arundel Road, St. Ann’s, Ocean Avenue and Skipper Joe’s Point.

Volume 4 is aerials of Goose Rocks Beach, Turbat’s Creek, Cleaves Cove, Cape Porpoise, Kennebunk Beach, Parsons Beach, Cape Arundel Golf course, Durrell’s Bridge and Picnic Rocks, and Summer Street and downtown Kennebunk.

Volume 5 includes aerials, photographs of ideas for Dick's artwork and works for sale, Claudia, Carroll and Perry Hopf and their gardens/flowers, cats, local people (unnamed), and Kennebunk/Kennebunkport scenes.