

# ARTSTOR

ARTSTOR INTERDISCIPLINARY

## ARTSTOR RESOURCES IN THE HISTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHY

The ARTstor Digital Library is a visual resource of value to scholars, teachers, and students across the arts, humanities, social sciences, and beyond. This handout is part of a growing series designed to highlight ARTstor's relevance to a variety of fields of study.

### ARTSTOR COLLECTIONS RELEVANT TO THE HISTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHY



Several ARTstor collections will be of interest to scholars, teachers, and students of the History of Photography. Key works – including many of those photographs illustrated in standard survey texts – may be found in the Art History Survey Collection. The encyclopedic Image Gallery contains works by significant photographers from the late 19th century to the present, as well as images documenting the development of photography as a technology. Female photographers, both professional and amateur, are highlighted in the Schlesinger History of Women in American Collection from the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University.

There are several collections specifically devoted to photography. Of particular note is the collection from the George Eastman House, one of the world's oldest museums of photography. This collection contains works that document noted photographers, as well as landmark processes and technologies, from early daguerreotypes to contemporary prints. Other relevant specialized collections include:

- ❖ The Andrew Dickson White Collection of Architectural Photographs from Cornell University
- ❖ The Clarence Ward Archive of Medieval French and American Architecture from the National Gallery of Art
- ❖ The Library of Congress Collection, which contains more than 16,000 examples of historical photographs
- ❖ The Native American Art and Culture collection from the National Anthropological Archives at the Smithsonian Institution, with over 10,000 images that were digitized from large-format glass plate negatives

## HELPFUL SEARCH TIPS

Keyword searches are likely to be most successful. Truncating your search term (e.g. photo\* or photograph\*) in order to retrieve terms with variant endings will enlarge your search results. For more precise searches, you can search for phrases within quotation marks (“...”), or use the Advanced Search feature to limit your searches by date or geographic region.

- ❖ A search for “fox talbot” yields nearly 200 images
- ❖ Searching for “daguerreotype” produces more than 500 results
- ❖ “gelatin silver print” or “albumen print” will both return more than 1000 images each

## HELPFUL BROWSING CATEGORIES

ARTstor’s collections may be browsed in a number of ways. Some collections may be browsed by topic or medium. For example, the Art History Survey Collection has a browsing category for the “History of Photography,” while the ARTstor Slide Gallery is organized by object type and contains a category for “Photography.” You may also browse across all of ARTstor’s collections by geography or object classification, so that those specializing in specific areas of the History of Photography may access images relevant to their primary interests. For example, you can browse ARTstor for “Photographs” and then expand that browsing category to narrow the set down to “France.” Alternatively, you can start by browsing geographically first, such as selecting “United States” or “Germany” from a controlled list of countries, and then choosing the category for “Decorative Arts, Utilitarian Objects, and Interior Design” to view examples of cameras and tripods.



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### Image Credits:

- 1) Oscar Wilde, 1882 | Napoleon Sarony, Canadian, 1821-1896 | The Image Gallery
- 2) Pepper No. 30, 1930 | Edward Weston, American, 1886-1958 | George Eastman House
- 3) Terrors and Pleasures of Levitation, No. 474, 1954 | Aaron Siskind, American, 1903-1991 | George Eastman House
- 4) Wind Tunnel Construction Ft. Peck Dam, Montana, 1936 | Margaret Bourke-White, American, 1904-1971 | The Image Gallery
- 5) Walls and Windows, 1929 | Walker Evans, American, 1903-1975 | The Image Gallery
- 6) Sumo Wrestlers, ca. 1890 | Japanese | Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco
- 7) Untitled (Memphis), 1971 | William Eggleston, American, b.1939 | The Image Gallery