

BENTLEY HISTORICAL LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
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Creator: Rasch, Charles.
Title: Charles Rasch Collection.
Inclusive dates: 1890-2011
Bulk dates: 1953-2005
Extent: 23 oversize volumes, 4 linear feet (in 6 boxes), and 1 oversized folder
Call number: 2011157 Aa 2; UAm

Language: Material is in English
Acquisition: The collection was donated by Howard and Rose Rasch (donor no. 10655) in October 2011.
Accruals: No additions to the collection are expected.
Access: The collection is open without restriction.
Photographs: Photographs can be found throughout the collection.
Copyright: Copyright is held by the Regents of the University of Michigan.
Processed By: Julia Corrin, November 2011

Abstract

Charles (“Charlie”) Rasch was a professional pianist, talented photographer, and graduate of the University of Michigan. The collection contains scrapbooks, photographs, and negatives documenting his life in Michigan. The majority of photographs and negatives are labeled with the date and location.

Biography

A native of Birmingham, MI, Charles (“Charlie”) Rasch was a ragtime pianist, artist, and talented nature photographer. He received both his BA and MA from the University of Michigan, and served two years in the U.S. Army.

Scope and Content Note

The Charles Rasch Collection (23 oversize volumes and 5 linear feet) is primarily composed of photographs and negatives documenting Michigan scenery. There is particularly strong coverage of Birmingham, MI, Harsen’s Island, MI, the Island Lake Recreation Area in Brighton, MI, and the Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Oakland, MI. Many of these photographs, especially his early black and white work, display his artistic training and sensibilities. Rasch’s scrapbooks also offer a rich representation of the ragtime music scene in Michigan and the Ann Arbor area. This collection is also notable for the care Rasch took to annotate his photographs. Many negatives and prints are individually labeled, and all include some information relating to the date and location.

The collection has been arranged in the following series: **Scrapbooks and Albums, Papers, Individual Photographs, Photographs, and Photographic Negatives.**

The **Scrapbooks and Albums** (23 oversized volumes and 0.5 linear feet) series is composed primarily of scrapbooks compiled by Rasch, in addition to a family album and an album of photographs of passenger ferries collected by Rasch. The scrapbooks contain clippings, photographs, and ephemera. The scrapbooks contain items relating to Rasch’s time at the University of Michigan and his career in music.

The **Papers** (0.2 linear feet) series contains biographical material on Rasch and genealogical material on the Rasch family.

The **Individual Photographs** (0.7 linear feet) series contains photographs that originally came to the library framed. All photographs are labeled with the date and information relating to the subject and the location of the photograph. Many also include information on the process Rasch used to frame them. The photographs have been removed from their frames for storage purposes.

The **Photographs** (1 linear foot) series includes photographs taken by Rasch between 1988 and 2005. The majority of the photographs are of wildlife. The series also includes a number of family photographs from the 1930s and 1940s.

The **Photographic Negatives** (2 linear feet) series makes up the bulk of the collection and includes both black and white and color negatives of photographs taken by Rasch. The series is arranged chronologically, and thereunder by subject or location. Many negatives have been individually labeled by Rasch.

Box No. Description

Scrapbooks and Albums**Oversize Volumes**

Blue Water District, 1953 (outsized vol. no. 1)
 1954 (outsized vol. no. 2)
 1955 (outsized vol. no. 3)
 1956 (outsized vol. no. 4)
 1957 (outsized vol. no. 5)
 1958 (outsized vol. no. 6)
 1960 (outsized vol. no. 7)
 1964 (outsized vol. no. 8)
 1965 (outsized vol. no. 9)
 1968 (outsized vol. no. 10)
 1975-1979 (outsized vol. no. 11)
 1980-1984 (outsized vol. no. 12)
 1985-1989 (outsized vol. no. 13)
 1990-1991 (outsized vol. no. 14)
 1992-1993 (outsized vol. no. 15)
 1994-1995 (outsized vol. no. 16)
 1996-1997 (outsized vol. no. 17)
 1998-1999 (outsized vol. no. 18)
 2000-2003 (outsized vol. no. 19)
 2004-2005 (outsized vol. no. 20)
 2006-2007 (outsized vol. no. 21)
 2008 (outsized vol. no. 22)
 Cabin (outsized vol. no. 23)

Box 1

Family Photograph Album, ca. 1890
 Passenger Ferry Album

Papers

An Alphabet of Nature, 2010
 Ann Arbor Federation of Musicians, 1994
 Ann Arbor Postcard, 1914
 Christmas Card, 1987
 Commission to Colonelcy, 1928 (see oversized folder)
 Descendants of Florian Rasch I, 2003
 Frog Sketch, c. 1975 (see oversized folder)
 Obituary, 2011
 Ragtime Down the Trail
 Soft Turtles Print, 1898

Individual Photographs (formerly framed with Rasch's identification)

Family Portraits, undated
 Allen Arthur Rasch
 Charles Andrew Rasch
 Robert William Rasch
 View of Harsen's Island, 1898
 Allen Rich Rasch on Harsen's Island, MI, c. 1925
 Petoskey Street (Harsen's Island, MI), 1957
 Steward Road Bridge (Harsen's Island, MI), 1958
 Frank Rasch Cottage, 1959

Box No. Description

Individual Photographs (cont.)**Box 1 (cont.)**

Ann Arbor Canoe Livery, 1960
 Ken and Carole on the Huron River, 1960
 Kate and Me, 1964
 Theodore Vernon Stein II, 1964
 Whoopee Bridge Over Snooks Highway (Harsen's Island, MI), 1966
 Joe Foder's Riverboat Shufflers at the Anchor Inn (Portage, MI),
 1970
 Kate and Me at the Ann Arbor Moose Club, 1972
 Huron River Across from the Poison Ivy Camp, 1973
 Huron River North of Dexter at the Rock Dam, 1973
 Canoeing at the Arch, 1974
 Huron River (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1977
 Gossamer by the Road to Trout Lake, 1989
 Footbridge (Bald Mountain Recreation Area), 1990
 Footbridge on the Orange Trail (Bald Mountain Recreation Area), 1990
 Trout Lake (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1990
 Blue Trail (Bald Mountain Recreation Area), 1991
 Blazing Star Near Trout Lake, 1992
 Huron River (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1992
 The Big Oak by the Trail (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1993
 Blue Trail (Bald Mountain Recreation Area), 1993
 Footbridge (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1993
 Huron River (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1993
 Mullein-Rosette (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1993
 October Blue and Gold (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1993
 Trout Lake (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1993
 White Trail (Bald Mountain Recreation Area), 1993
 Ant Hills (Bald Mountain Recreation Area), 1994
 Coffee Rock (Bald Mountain Recreation Area), 1994
 East Graham Lake Footbridge, 1994
 Prairie Dock, 1994
 Queen Anne's Lace (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1994
 Footbridge (Bald Mountain Recreation Area), 1995
 New Footbridge (Bald Mountain Recreation Area), 1995
 Chief Pontiac Trail Footbridge (Proud Lake Recreation Area), 1996
 Lunaria Seed Discs, 1997
 Mayapples (Kensington Metropark), 1997
 Rivulet flowing under the Red Trail (Bald Mountain Recreation Area),
 1997
 Trillium by the Red Trail (Bald Mountain Recreation Area), 1997
 Milkweed (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1998
 Milkweed (Island Lake Recreation Area), 2003
 Linda's Backyard (Birmingham, MI), 2005
 White Oak on the Hill (Kensington Metropark), 2005

Box 2

At the Canada Club (St. Clair River), 1953
 Tashmoo Dock, 1953 (see oversized folder)
 The Lady S. on the Canadian March (Harsen's Island, MI), 1956
 The Lady S. at Uphalls (Harsen's Island, MI), 1959
 Canal on Green Drive (Harsen's Island, MI), 1967

Box No. Description

Individual Photographs (cont.)**Box 2 (cont.)**

Huron River Just Below Barton Dam, 1967
 Camp on Norton Creek, 1973
 Huron River Across from the Poison Ivy Camp, 1973
 Huron River Below McCabe Road Bridge, 1973
 Huron River, 1974
 Huron River Near Dexter, 1974
 Huron River (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1979 (see oversized folder)
 John Hester on the middle Branch River (Osceola County, MI), 1984
 Hornet's Nest (Bald Mountain Recreation Area), 1989
 Huron River (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1990
 Footbridge Over Mann Creek (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1991
 On the Loop Trail Near Placeway Road (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1991
 Trout Lake Northeast End (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1991
 Footbridge Over the Creek (Bald Mountain Recreation Area), 1992
 Trout Lake (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1992
 Huron River (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1993
 Trail North of the Huron (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1993
 Trout Lake (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1993

Box 3

Huron River (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1994
 Trout Lake (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1994
 Huron River Just Below the Kent Lake Dam (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1995
 Looking Down the Huron by Mann Creek (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1995
 River Trip – Looking Down the Huron River (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1995
 Road to Trout Lake (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1996
 Trout Lake (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1996
 Looking North on the Red Trail (Bald Mountain Recreation Area), 1997
 Looking Up the Huron (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1997
 Sunset by the Road to Trout Lake (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1997
 Blue Trail Near Point Five (Bald Mountain Recreation Area), 1998
 Looking Down the Blue Line Trail (Bald Mountain Recreation Area), 1999
 Looking West on the Trail South of the Huron (Island Lake Recreation Area), 1999
 Trout Lake (Island Lake Recreation Area), 2000
 Huron River Trip (Island Lake Recreation Area), 2003

Photographs

Family Photographs, ca. 1937-ca.1942
 Miscellaneous
 Portraits, undated

Box No. Description

Photographs (cont.)

Box 4

Photograph Wallets (Milford Area), 1971-1972
1988
1989
1990
1991 (2 envelopes)
1992 (3 envelopes)
1993 (3 envelopes)
1994 (4 envelopes)
1995 (2 envelopes)
1996 (2 envelopes)
1997 (2 envelopes)
1998
1999 (2 envelopes)
2000
2000-2001 (2 envelopes)
2002
2003 (2 envelopes)
2004 (2 envelopes)
2005 (3 envelopes)

Photograph Negatives

Mill's Pharmacy Candy Counter, 1955-1956

"The New Old Family Album"

Box 5

Allen R. Rasch Family Christmas, 1937
Birmingham
Birmingham (color)
Charles A. Rasch Bus Station Photo
Detroit, 1953
Large Size Negatives
Neighborhood Views, 1953 and 1983
Standard and Small Size Negatives
1953
Algonac
Along the Road
Anchor Bay Area
Canada
Harsen's Island
Marine City
New Baltimore
Port Huron
River Boat
St. Clair
St. Clair Flats
1954
Algonac
Along the Road
Anchor Bay
Birmingham and Area (2 envelopes)

Box No. Description

Photographs Negatives (cont.)

1954 (cont.)

Box 5 (cont.)

Birmingham and Area (color)

Christmas

Detroit and Area

Harsen's Island

Marine City

River Boat

St. Clair

Miscellaneous

1955

Along the Road

Birmingham and Area (2 envelopes)

Birmingham High School Washington Trip (3 envelopes)

Christmas

College Days

Colored Photographs

Detroit and Area

Harsen' Island

Senior Skip Day – Camp Ohiyesa Fish Lake (Holly, MI), July 6,
1955

Sue Allen's Party – Fenton Lake, July 17, 1955

1956

Along the Road

Birmingham and Area

College Days

Detroit and Area

Harsen's Island

Railroad Excursion (Greenville, MI), September 1956

1957

Along the Road (2 envelopes)

Birmingham and Area (Color and Black and White)

Birmingham and Area

College Days (color)

College Days

Detroit and Area

End of the Semester

Harsen's Island

Railroad Excursion (Stratford Ontario), September 1957

Trip to New Hampshire and Dartmouth College

Trip to New Hampshire and Dartmouth College (color)

1958

Along the Road

Birmingham and Area

Chicago

College Days

Color Negatives

Harsen's Island

Merrill Palmer Camp (2 folders)

Railroad Excursion (Pigeon, MI)

Small Negatives (color and black and white)

College Days

Along the Road

Box No. Description

Photographs Negatives (cont.)

1959

Box 5 (cont.)

Along the Road
Birmingham and Area
College Days
Harsen's Island
Merrill Palmer Camp
Small Photograph Negatives
Term Paper House Negatives
The Three Graces at Home (Ann Arbor)

1960

Along the Road
Birmingham and Area
College Days
Colored Photograph Negatives
Harsens Island
Gravestones

1961

Along the Road
Birmingham and Area
Harsen's Island

1964

Along the Road
Ann Arbor
Birmingham and Area
Black and White Small Negatives
Harsen's Island
Ragtime Charlie and Sister Kate

1965

Box 6

Along the Road
Ann Arbor
Birmingham and Area
Harsen's Island

1966

Along the Road
Ann Arbor
Birmingham and Area
Harsen's Island

1967

Along the Road
Ann Arbor
Birmingham and Area
Harsen's Island
Panorama of Harsen's Island, October 12, 1967

1968

4th of July
10 Years Later
Along the Road
Ann Arbor

Box No. Description

Photographs Negatives (cont.)

1968 (cont.)

Box 6 (cont.)

Ann Arbor (People)
 Birmingham and Area
 Harsen's Island
 Joe and Sandie Knollenberg's Party, July 1968
 Labor Day Weekend (Bay City)
 Visit with Wilbur and Loretta Jacobs (Torch Lake), August 1968

1973-1989

Along the Road and River, 1973
 Old Bridges, 1976
 Belle River
 Huron River
 Saline River
 River Raisin
 Hester's Cabin, 1977
 Huron River Camping Trip and New Huron Street Bridge, 1977
 Rouge River, Linden Park, Birmingham and Camp Boxes, 1978
 Hester's Cabin and Huron River, 1979
 1983
 1984
 Bray's Cabin, 1985
 Miscellaneous, 1988 (2 envelopes)
 Bald Mountain and Island Lake State Recreation Areas, 1988
 Views of Garden (7), 1989
 Bald Mountain State Recreation Area, 1989
 My Wildflower Garden, 1989
 Trout Lake and Miscellaneous, 1989 (4 envelopes)

1990-2005

1990 (11 envelopes)
 1991 (13 envelopes)
 1992 (14 envelopes)
 1993 (17 envelopes)
 1994 (16 envelopes)
 1995 (10 envelopes)
 1996 (10 envelopes)
 1997 (13 envelopes)
 1998 (8 envelopes)
 1999 (12 envelopes)
 2000 (8 envelopes)
 2001 (8 envelopes)
 2002 (8 envelopes)
 2003 (12 envelopes)
 2004 (12 envelopes)
 2005 (14 envelopes)

Miscellaneous

Tombstone Negatives (9), 1962
 Harsen's Island Historical Photographs and Negatives
 Postcards (2 envelopes)
 Sister Kate in her Flapper Costumes, 1971
 Mill's Pharmacy Candy Counter, 1955-1956