

## **GEORGE TALOUMIS PHOTOGRAPH COLLECION**

Photo Collection Number 2

Physical Description: 18 photographic prints, 2 slides, 1 negative

Acquisition Information: Gift of George Taloumis, various dates.

Access: This collection is open for research.

Processed: September 2007 by Carrie F. Supple

Repository: Nichols House Museum, Inc.  
55 Mount Vernon Street  
Boston, MA 02108  
(617) 227-6993

## **ABSTRACT**

This collection contains photographs taken by George Taloumis, friend of Rose Standish Nichols a member of the Nichols House Museum's board of governors. The eighteen photographs were taken in the 1950s, though the prints vary in date. The images depict Rose Standish Nichols, a woman tentatively identified as Margaret Homer (Nichols) Shurcliff, and another unidentified woman.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

### **Rose Standish Nichols (1872-1960)**

Born in Boston to Arthur Howard Nichols and Elizabeth Fisher (Homer) Nichols. A pioneering woman in the profession of landscape architecture. Published three books on European garden design. Helped found the Woman's International League for Peace and Freedom and active in the women's rights movement, the peace movement, and other progressive causes of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Served as the Boston area agent for the sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens, who was married to her maternal aunt, Augusta (Homer) Saint-Gaudens. Lived in the Nichols family home at 55 Mount Vernon Street, Boston, from 1885 until her death in 1960. Bequeathed the home to a trust to operate as a house museum. The Nichols House Museum, Inc. has been open to the public since 1961.

### **Margaret Homer (Nichols) Shurcliff (1879-1959)**

Born in Boston to Arthur Howard Nichols and Elizabeth Fisher (Homer) Nichols. Married Arthur Asahel Shurtleff (spelled Shurcliff after 1930) in 1905. Had six children, Sidney Nichols Shurcliff, Sarah Parsons Shurcliff (later Ingelfinger), William Asahel Shurcliff, John Perkins Shurcliff, Elizabeth Homer Shurcliff (later Lowell), and Alice Warburton Shurcliff. Was an accomplished carpenter. Shared her father's hobby of hand bell ringing.

## **ACQUISITION NOTE**

The photographic prints were donated by George Taloumis to the Nichols House Museum on many different occasions between approximate 1960 and 2000. Mr. Taloumis also donated his photographs of the museum and museum events, which have been separated from the archival photograph collections.

Note: when found in 2007, photographs 2.19 and 2.20 were found with donations from Sarah Shurcliff Ingelfinger. They may be her copies of George Taloumis' photographs (given to her by Mr. Taloumis), or they may have been misfiled among her photographs.

Photo #	Contents
2.1	Nichols, Rose Standish Nichols at Rye Beach, New Hampshire, 2 Aug.1953. Taken by George Taloumis. Modern color reprint. Inscription on back: "Aug. 2, 1953"
2.2	Nichols, Rose Standish Nichols at Rye Beach, New Hampshire, 2 Aug.1953. Taken by George Taloumis. Modern color reprint. Inscription on back: "Aug. 2, 1953"
2.3	Nichols, Rose Standish Nichols at Rye Beach, New Hampshire, 2 Aug.1953. Taken by George Taloumis. Modern black and white cropped reprint. Inscription on back: "Aug. 2, 1953"
2.4	Nichols, Rose Standish Nichols at Rye Beach, New Hampshire, 2 Aug.1953. Taken by George Taloumis. Modern black and white cropped reprint. Inscription on back: "Aug. 2, 1953"
2.5	Nichols, Rose Standish Nichols at Rye Beach, New Hampshire, 2 Aug.1953. Taken by George Taloumis. Vintage black and white print. Image reversed.
2.6	Nichols, Rose Standish Nichols at Rye Beach, New Hampshire, 2 Aug.1953. Taken by George Taloumis. Vintage black and white print, marked for cropping. Image reversed. Inscription on back: "taken / Aug. 2, 1953"
2.7	Nichols, Rose Standish and William Asahel Shurcliff at Rye Beach, New Hampshire, 2 Aug.1953. Taken by George Taloumis. Vintage color print. Inscription on back: "MISS NICHOLS WITH HER NEPHEW / WILLIAM A. SHURCLIFF/ IPSWICH, MA. / 2 AUGUST 1953" [Note, the photo was actually taken at Rye Beach, New Hampshire, according to the photographers notes.]

Photo #	Contents
2.8	Nichols, Rose Standish and William Dudley at Exeter, New Hampshire, 2 July 1954. Taken by George Taloumis. Vintage color print. Inscription on back: "MISS NICHOLS WITH WILLIAM DUDLEY / EXETER, N.H. / JULY 3, 1954"
2.9	Nichols, Rose Standish and [Margaret Homer (Nichols) Shurcliff], ca. 1950s. Taken by George Taloumis. Vintage color print. Previously framed on Rose Standish Nichols' secretaire à abattant (1961.462).
2.10	Nichols, Rose Standish and [Margaret Homer (Nichols) Shurcliff], ca. 1950s. Taken by George Taloumis. Vintage color print. Same as 2.11. Inscription on back: [Kodak stamp, print date of April 1959]
2.11	Nichols, Rose Standish and [Margaret Homer (Nichols) Shurcliff], ca. 1950s. Taken by George Taloumis. Vintage color print. Same as 2.10. Inscription on back: [Kodak stamp, print date of April 1959]
2.12	Nichols, Rose Standish and [Margaret Homer (Nichols) Shurcliff], ca. 1950s. Taken by George Taloumis. Vintage color print. Same as 2.13. Inscription on back: [Kodak stamp, print date of April 1959]
2.13	Nichols, Rose Standish and [Margaret Homer (Nichols) Shurcliff], ca. 1950s. Taken by George Taloumis. Vintage color print. Same as 2.12. Inscription on back: [Kodak stamp, print date of April 1959]
2.14	Nichols, Rose Standish and unidentified woman, ca. 1950s. Taken by George Taloumis. Vintage color print. Previously framed on Rose Standish Nichols' secretaire à abattant (1961.462).
2.15	[Shurcliff, Margaret Homer (Nichols)], ca. 1950s. Taken by George Taloumis. Vintage color print. Inscription on back: [Kodak stamp, print date of April 1959]
2.16	[Shurcliff, Margaret Homer (Nichols)], ca. 1950s. Taken by George Taloumis. Vintage color print. Previously framed on Rose Standish Nichols' secretaire à abattant (1961.462).
2.17	Slide of 2.16. Wider view.
2.18	Slide of 2.9. Wider view.

<u>Photo #</u>	<u>Contents</u>
2.19	Nichols, Rose Standish Nichols at Rye Beach, New Hampshire, 2 Aug.1953. Taken by George Taloumis. Vintage color print. Inscription on back: [Kodak stamp, print date of January 1964]
2.20	Nichols, Rose Standish Nichols at Rye Beach, New Hampshire, 2 Aug.1953. Taken by George Taloumis. Modern color print.
2.21	Black and white full sheet negative of the image of Rose Standish Nichols at Rye Beach, New Hampshire, 2 Aug.1953.

Also stored with collection:

- Calling card, "Miss Rose Standish Nichols / 55 Mount Vernon Street"
- One page typed narrative by George Taloumis, describing the circumstances of photographing Rose Standish Nichols on 2 August 1953 at Rye Beach, New Hampshire.