JOHN CANDELARIO COLLECTION

New Mexico Museum of Art Library and Archives

Extent: 2.33 linear feet
Dates: 1940-1997
Language: English

Separated Materials
Papers that were acquired with this collection which pertained to an exhibition Candelario had at the Governor's Gallery in 1987 were moved to the Governor's Gallery Collection.

Books that came with the archives were moved to the museum library.

Related Materials
Information about exhibitions of Candelario's works held at this museum can be found in the museum's exhibition files and corresponding catalogs.

The museum library contains a separate biographical file for John Candelario.

The Porters Parsons Collection contains additional materials concerning New Mexico photographer, Eliot Porter.
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Biographic Prologue

John S. Candelario [JSC], a seventh-generation New Mexican and a long-time friend of Georgia O’Keeffe, was born in Santa Fe in 1916.

A master of photography, he achieved a brilliant reputation in his field and in time was listed in Who’s Who in the West and International Who’s Who for distinguished work and his contribution to photography. He became a Fellow of the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain, winning many other honors throughout the world of photography.

Early in his career, he did photographic work for Life Magazine, Holiday, Look, Saturday Evening Post, U.S. Camera, Popular Photography and other national and international magazines.


He worked as a camera-man, producer, director, and writer in the motion picture industry. For outstanding work in those pursuits he was awarded a TV Emmy, a Peabody Award, a Golden Reel Award, A Silver Reel Award, many blue ribbons, first awards and honorable mentions in the U.S., Latin America, and at various film festivals in Europe. He died in late 1993 at the age of 77 years.

SECTION I

MAGAZINES : JSC’S PHOTOGRAPHIC WORKS

   Cover: Maria Chavez of Isleta Pueblo. By JSC.

   Cover: Journey's End. By JSC.

   Cover: Navajo Boy. By JSC.

   Cover: Buffalo Dancers. By JSC.
   Cover: RFD (*Rationed for Duration*). By JSC.

6. Ibid. Vol. 21, No. 4. April 1943. 2cc.
   Cover: *Chapel at Chimayo*. By JSC.

   Cover: *Church at San Felipe Pueblo*. By JSC.
   Pueblo pictures by JSC, pp. 15-17.

8. Ibid. Vol. 22, No. 4. April 1944. 2cc.
   Cover: *Village Church (San Ildefonso)*. By JSC.

   Cover by H.D. Walter.

    Cover: *Navajo Girl*. By JSC.
    Duplicate oversize picture enclosed.

    Cover by C.M. Montgomery.
    Table settings for holiday meals. By JSC.

    Photos by JSC.

    Articles and pictures by JSC.

    Article: Comidas Mejicanas. Pictures and article by JSC. Pgs. 32-36.
    Enclosed: letter dated 1-20-66 from (Mrs.) Mike Mora Jr.
    discussing recipes. 2pp.

    Article: Arizona: Land of Flowering Cactus Jewels.

    Photo of Engelman prickly pear cactus.
    By: JSC. Pg. 32.

    Cover: Cover: *Lupita (Santa Cruz Girl)*. By JSC.
   Photo of Red Deer, Taos Pueblo. By Henry Prior Clark.
   [Good friend of JSC.]

   Cover: Mother and child. By JSC.
   Photo of golden aspens in Fall. By JSC. Pg. 37.

   Photo of Taos plains with Sangre de Cristo mountains in
   background. By JSC. Pgs. 28-29.

   Cover: Indian Woman in doorway of Taos Pueblo home. By JSC.

   Cover: Penitente Cross. By JSC.
   Article: John Candelario, Photographer.
   Pgs. 10-11. Photo by JSC of a curious goat.

22-A.

   5-15-43: Letter. Minicam Photography to JSC.
   Learned of JSC photos exhibited at Marshall Field & Company
   [vide Section III, infra], and would like to publish some of them.

   5-17-43: TWX. Minicam to JSC.
   Airmail list of 13 prints desired.

   List of 13 prints with questions concerning them.

   5-20-43: Letter. JSC to Minicam.
   Sets forth conditions for reproduction of photos, copies
   of which were being sent airmail. Attached to retained
   copy: catalog of 61 photos with 13 identified by red Xs.

    By JSC. Pgs. 50-59. Profusely illustrated with JSC photographs, including The
    Mail Wagon.


27. Tear Sheet. [Source unknown; n.d.] Photographs in color (2) by JSC. One, of golden aspens display; other, of Navajo mother and child.

SECTION II

GALLUP CEREMONIALS (INTER-TRIBAL)

The so-called Gallup Meet refers to an inter-tribal Ceremonial held each year during the 1940s in Gallup, New Mexico known as “the Indian Capital.” Approximately 7,000 Native Americans from the most prominent tribes of the Southwest participated in different, sectional dances and sports events during the three or four days of the meet. Its general nature is explained in an article to be found in a military magazine called Bombsight, an issue of which is contained in Folder 1. The other folders in this Section II contain brochures published contemporaneously with the yearly events. They make various references to the involvement of JSC, as pointed out by brief notes still attached to the brochures made by his surviving wife Gayle (Gail) Candelario. Those references have been adopted in the cataloguing that follows.

1. Military magazine. Bombsight, August 1, 1943, published at the Army Air Forces Bombardier School at Kirtland Field, New Mexico - An article written by Corporal C.E. Redman titled Gallup Inter-Tribal Ceremonial describes the origins of the annual meetings, pgs. 14-15. Photos by Harold Kellogg and JSC illustrate the article.

   Contents: letter dated Aug. 6, 1941. Governor John E. Miles to the people of Gallup. Greetings to 20th Annual Ceremonial. Programs. Pg. 7: JSC photo of Maria Chavez, Isleta Pueblo. Also unused tickets to shows, August 13-16.


   Pgs. 15, 17, 19: JSC photos.
   Pg. 7: Officers, directors, committee members.
SECTION III

MARSHALL FIELD & CO. SHOW


4. Letter. May 12, 1943. Kay Behrins, Chicago, to JSC. Thanking him for allowing her to “reserve” and acquire Item 19 [Church Texture, in Catalogue].


SECTION IV

FOTOFEST SHOW

The papers in this Section describe an aborted show of JSC’s photography in late 1994 occasioned in part by his untimely death.]


   Outlining show requirements:

3-12-93: Letter. FotoFest [Buitrón] to JSC.
   Moving ahead with exhibition plans.

11-24-93: Letter. Robert Buitrón and Kathy Vargas [Co-curator] to JSC.
   Moving along.

   Confirming JSC’s acceptance of participation in October-November 1994 exhibitions. Inquires as to details.

   Pressing for reply to 12-20-93 letter.

   Sets forth details for submission of prints and insurance.

   Discussing details.

c. 3-94: Schedule. FotoFest.
   Sets forth dates for delivery of letter agreement, press prints, biographical information, etc.

3-29-94: Letter agreement. 6 pp. Typewriter. Signed by Houston FotoFest, Inc. [Frederick C. Baldwin, Pres.]. No countersignature.

   Discloses that 40 artists will participate. Encloses contract [Folder 4, supra], Exhibit A; additional items requested.
6-25.94: Letter. Lores K. Candelario to Buitrón, Vargas, Barber [certified mail.]
Withdraws husband’s name from show, claiming ethnic snub.

6. FotoFest show material. General release to press, etc.

SECTION V

CATALOGS & EXHIBITIONS

   126 prints on display. Print No. 15: *Madre Maria.* By JSC.

   165 prints on display. Print No. 23: *Shadows.* By JSC.

   Pg. eight: No. 37: *Iglesia de Buena Vista.* By JSC.

   With letter. 6-8-42: Donnelley to JSC. Returning eight black and white photos.

   Includes JSC [pg. 4, Section VI], pursuant to Extended Loan Agreement. [Prints not identified.]

6. Letter. 10-31-45: Office of War Information; Interim International Information Service to JSC.
   Asking on behalf of the Cairo Outpost for JSC’s work [four or five] for show in Egypt and in Europe.
   Pencil subscript: Pencil list of five chosen by JSC.
   Pg. 3: Candelario. *Penitente Cross and Chapel.*

   Pg. 8 *Llano Quemado.* By JSC.

9. (Folder deleted)

10. (Folder deleted)

11. TWX. 3-19-87: Joan and Les Tremayne to JSC.
    Regret they cannot view his “magnificent photography” at Governor’s Gallery.


    Three artists featured, one is JSC. Pgs. 3-7: essay on life of JSC. Four black and white photos of his work.


16. Show stickers (10) for use at exhibitions of JSC work.
    Also: one black and white photo, 3½ x 4, of head of unidentified woman.
SECTION VI

PHOTOGRAPHS, INVENTORIES, PRICE LISTS

[Most photographs have no identifying or descriptive comments. However, an unsigned Temporary Transaction Transmittal Sheet addressed to the Museum of New Mexico does shed some light on the material, and will be used in the descriptive notes below.]

The material in this Section is to be found in Oversize Box 24.

1. Photograph, color. 8x10 Cibachrome. Native American profile with blue blanket around head. [Left in envelope as found.] Untitled.

2. Photographs, color (3). 8x10 Cibachromes. Untitled. [Left in envelope as found.]
   = Aspen trees.
   = Red Clouds.
   = Santa Barbara Mission.


4. Proof (contact) sheets (27); fragments (3). Black and white Gelatin silver. Various New Mexico subjects, including Navajo portraits near Gallup and Northern villages and pueblos. [Left in envelope as found.]
   (a) 8 (one a duplicate) with descriptive comments on reverse sides.
   (b) 3 fragments.
   (c) 19 without descriptive comments.

5. Color contact sheets (7). Life in Northern New Mexico.
   = 2, 8 x 9¾, have reverse-side comment:
     “Gallup proof.”
   = 3, various sizes, have reverse-side comment:
     “George Lopez bulto carver Chimayó, NM.”

   = 13 shots from film. 8x10.
   = 9 shots from film. 5x3½.

   Also some duplicates of the above are loose in the album.
   = 1 color negative. 4x5. Loose in album.

8. Screen credits. 1 sheet. Typewritten. Of RUN WILD.

9. Georgia O’Keeffe. Portraits, black and white. By JSC. All but one in same clothes.

   (a) 7x9. Note on reverse side: “***put in U.S. Camera 1947. Photo selected by Ed Steichen.” [Vide U.S. Camera 1947, p. 273, for reproduction of this photo. Folder 10, infra.]
   (b) 7x9. Same pose, but with kitten on her left shoulder.
   = Photocopy of same photograph.
   = Same picture. 3x4.
   = Same picture. 2½ x 3. Two copies.
   (c) 5x7. Two (different) frontal studies, one with whimsical, closed-eyes expression.
   (d) 8x10. Photocopy of museum collection item 1993.21.10.
   = Study of O’Keeffe next to skull on mount. Different clothes.

10. (folder deleted)

11. Color photos (33), 4x6. Taken at unidentified JSC show opening; many of them of JSC.


    Divided into groups of platinum prints (1-19); bromoil prints (20-22); and cibachrome prints (23-24), with titles, dates taken, and some descriptive comments. Preceded by short statement of platinum process and history of the prints.
   Same prints, except Nos. 1 and 5 omitted.

15. 2-4-80: Letter. Brandywine Galleries, Ltd. Albuquerque, N.M. to JSC.
   Appraisal for insurance purposes.
   Lists 20 platinum prints in leather volume.

16. 3-1-83: Letter. MFA [Steve Yates, Curator] to JSC.
   Expresses regret that JSC is terminating loan of photography book
   of New Mexico.

SECTION VII

PERSONAL LETTERS

MISCELLANEOUS MATERIAL

A. Personal Letters.

Most of the following letters were written by Georgia O’Keeffe to John S. Canderlario
[JSC]. [Their names will be assumed. Where one or both parties are different, their
names will be set forth.]

Only letters of special interest will be summarized; but all letters are catalogued.

* * *

1. 1941-1942

11-9-41: Postcard. Edward Weston [EW] to JSC.
   Will be away for two months.
1-15-42: Postcard. [Same parties]
8-13[?]-42: Letter.
8-20-42: Letter. Inviting JSC to her house in Abiquiu.
8-26-42: Postcard.
11-[?]-42: Letter. “You are a bad slave.” [In a jocular sense.]
11-30-42: Letter. On letterhead of The Chief [Santa Fe
   Railroad].
   From on board train [to Chicago?].
12-10-42: Letter. Suggests he take Vitamin B Complex pills [for a cold].

2. 1943

1-19-43: Letter. From Chicago. Announces that her show is about to open there.

2-12-43: Postcard. EW to JSC. From Carmel, CA.

3-10-43. Letter. 3 pp. Alfred [Stieglitz] enjoyed his pictures; will write to him shortly. Chicago Tribune did a story on her show on February 28: full page of her work in color.

3-22-43: Postcard. EW to JSC.

3-25-43: Letter. EW to JSC. Contains critique of his photographs, but adds: “don’t let them satisfy you. I am still trying to improve after 40 years work.”


4-9-43: Letter. Offers to sell “two or three,” if he tells her their prices.

4-19-43: Letter. 2pp. Discloses that Museum of Modern Art wants some of his photographs for forthcoming show. GOK tells him not to agree: he must first do his own show.

4-23-43: Postcard. EW to JSC. Their plans adversely affected by war restrictions.

11-1-43: Letter. Asks him to send rug to 59E. 54 St. N.Y.C.


1-6-44: Envelope. Georgia O’Keeffe to JSC.
2-1-44: Letter. Typewritten. Maria - to JSC. Congratulates him on being drafted.

2-2-44: Letter. Museum of Modern Art to JSC.

2-2-44: Letter. 3pp.

6-[?] 44: Letter.

7-24-44: Letter. 2pp. Reports on sales of JSC photos.

7-26-[?] 44: Letter. States her pleasure at seeing JSC, Gayle [wife], and their baby at her Abiquiu house.


7-8-45: Letter. Invites him to visit her.

B. Articles.


6. Brochure. The History of Photography in New Mexico. Art Museum, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, N.M.

   Introduction by Beaumont Newhall.
   Exhibitions scheduled:

   Check list of photographers, titles of works, media. Pgs. 2-16. Illustration black and white.


   Photographers listed with their works. JSC work included: Boy By Chapel at Chimayó, 1942.
C. Recording Ventures.

[A fragmentary record of various recording deals by JSC. Evidently Vick Knight (VK) was acting on behalf of JSC.]


11. Letterhead, sample. JSC.


13. Miscellaneous correspondence.


10-20-62: Drummark Record Company [Anthony John Spaguola] to who it may concern. Appoints JSC his agent with 10% commission.

4-5-66: Receipt for JSC master tapes, eight boxes with titles of contents. Signed by Mrs. Alva Simpson Jr.

6-23-70: Dunhill International List Company, Inc. [Robert Dunhill] to JSC. Explaining his listing facilities.

3-31-73: Key Records [Vick Knight (VK)] to JSC. Explaining his sales methods.
4-1-73: JSC to VK.
   Enclosing his Indian album.
4-14-73: VK to JSC.
   Setting up deal [?].
5-27-73: Round Table Music [VK] to JSC.
   Progress report.
8-20-73: JSC to VK [Kay Records].
   Enclosing tentative record jacket.
8-28-73: Round Table Music [VK] to JSC.
   Advising him how to make foreign deal.
6-25-75: VK to JS.
   Progress report. [None.]
3-8-78: Children’s Book and Music Center [Miriam Sherman] to JSC.
   Solicitation.
5-2-78: Arizona State University [J. Richard Haefer, Ass’t Prof. Music] to JSC.
   Seeks permission to re-issue one of JSC’s dance songs.
12-26-89: JSC to George Aravalo, N.Y.C. Granting him permission to use one of his Indian songs.
ADDENDUM

Subsequent to the completion of work on the material comprising the primary portion of the John Candelario Collection (Boxes 94-95, O.B. 24], his widow, Lores Alice Klingbell Candelario, donated and sold additional material to the MFA. It is digested in the following pages of this addendum (see Table of Contents, at supra) and is stored in Box 122. Some of the material overlaps (but does not duplicate) items in the primary portion.

The Candelario material is divided between this museum and the Photography Archives of the History Library of the Palace of the Governors. Additional material is retained in the estate files. Each of these sources maintains its own inventories and is available on request. Records in the MFA are itemized in this Candelario digest and in the Registrar’s Office.

Material in this Addendum is assembled under the following headings.

SECTION VIII

BIOGRAPHIC & AUTOBIOGRAPHIC MATERIAL

1. Biographic statement relating to Joseph S. Candelario [hereafter JSC]. Mentions his death in 1993 and his instructions for his photographic, audio, and film archive to be offered to the MFA for acquisition. Lists categories, numbers of items, etc. Calls attention to present storage of some materials at the Photographs Archives of the History Library of the Palace of the Governors and in the Collections Department of the Museum of Fine Arts [hereafter MFA].

2. Profiles (4) of JSC. Various versions of autobiographic statements. N.d.

3. Biographic statements (2) relating to son Christopher. [Slightly different versions.] N.d.

4. Biographic statement relating to grandson Shan. N.d.

5. Autobiographic statement, computer printout, by JSC. 3 pp. N.d.


Other films (listed).

= Recording companies.
Candelario recordings.
Thunderbird Records.

= Commercial printing company.
Custom Craft, Ltd.

SECTION IX

LITERARY ENTERPRISES

[This material is in the form of Computer Printouts. The pages are mostly not numbered.]

   Cover sheet.
   Story ideas.
   Play.

2. Synopsis. Original story. 2 cc., one 6 pp., other missing a pg. By JSC. N.d.
   Cover sheet indicates membership in Writers Guild of America. Story about Paco, a twelve year-old boy.

   Reviews his career experiences.

   Exposé on Henry A. Wallace. Vice-President, Secretary of Agriculture, Secretary of Commerce, etc., alleging he “gave secrets that helped Russia” and calling his activities “treason.”

   Story about Mitch Sanger, a hunter, who killed another hunter.


SECTION X
PHOTOGRAPHS

The pictures in this Section X are photocopies of prints and negatives either in art collection at the New Mexico Museum of Art or in the Photograph Archives of the Palace of the Governor.

1. JSC platinum portfolio (6). Partial.

2. JSC contact prints (52 sheets). Many contain multiple prints. Many are photos of Georgia O’Keeffe.

SECTION XI
MISCELLANEOUS

A. Correspondence, memorandums

1941-1987

1. 10-7-41: [Sender?] to JSC. From Kansas City, MO. Comments on conditions in K.C. Mentions “my pupil Rowena Frith” who is “top of the quality list in American Photography***.”
Attached: List of Ten Illustrated Talks on Picture Grammar and Composition. 
By Nicholas Haz. [Describes each topic.]

c. 3-44: Museum of Modern Art, NYC. Photography Center. [Incomplete.] 
Lists six “rising” photographers [some names missing] whose works are to be exhibited March 1 – April 30, 1944. 
One of them JSC and a biographic sketch. 
Checklist of JSC works (17) with descriptive titles.

Accepts his gift of photographs. 
Seeks titles, dates, etc.

2-8-87: JSC to Arthur H. Wolf [Millicent Rogers Museum, Taos]. 
Discloses that his photo training was largely self-taught.

2. 3-30-93: Museum of Modern Art [Virginia Dodier, Study Center Supervisor] to Van Deren Coke, Santa Fe. 
Encloses list [3-44, supra] which includes JSC. 
Mentions Kathy Vargas, who is organizing exhibition titled “American Voices for 1994 Photofest”, and has interest in JSC.

Acknowledges word of JSC’s demise. [October 1993].

1994
Encloses a list of photo books. 
Enclosure: list of ten books [titles, authors, dates, etc.].

7-12-94: Museum of Modern Art to Lores Candelario. 
List 20 works in the collection of the Dept. of Photography. 
Attached: Longhand list. Right-hand margin: descriptive comments.

Enclosing photocopies (3) of three images by JSC with which widow is unfamiliar.

10-10-94: Lores Klingbeil to Echo Ridge Homes Cooperative Barring family members from co-op apartment.
4. Deleted.

1995
   Thanking her for gift of 16 mm. films and reels of audio tape.
   Descriptive detail.

10-4-95: Memorandum. Steve Yates [MFA] to Stuart A. Ashman [Director, MFA].
   Discusses Lores Candelario’s plan.

11-14-95: Lores A. Klingbeil to Steve Yates.
   Announces she is prepared to negotiate sale of prints and archive materials.

1996-1997
   - Lists and reviews the photographic estate of JSC.
   - Appraises value of each platinum print (15).
   - Details various B & W negatives (5,000), color transparencies, negatives, etc.
   - Sets forth 13 categories:
     photos; documentation; published work: awards; reels; audios; tapes; records; cassette tapes; correspondence; scripts; pictures; etc.

8-23-96: [Same parties.]
   Amends letter dated 8-1-96.

   Information about JSC’s former wives.

   B. Locations of materials.

7. 8-1-96: Placement of photographic work of JSC. 3 pp. 2cc.
   - List of museums.
   - Shows.
   - Publications.

   C. Temporary transaction/transmittal sheets;
      acquisition proposal.

8. Temporary transactions/transmittal sheets (6). 1993 – 1996. All photocopies
   Description of items donated and sold to the Museums of Art and
   Palace of the Governors Photographic Archives.
7-11-94: Memorandum. SY to David G. Turner [Director, MFA].
Explain materials sold and transferred as above.

10-2-87: Acquisition Proposal. 2 platinum prints. Attachments.

D. Last Will and Testament, JSC