

Record Series #: 1121-080
Name: Edward Donald Rountree Photographs
Dates: 1950-1980, no date
Extent/Size: 41 digital files (4.65 MB)
Language: English

Creator:
Edward Donald Rountree

Biographical History:

Edward Donald Rountree (1930-2009) was a Savannah artist and longtime Seaboard Coastline Railroad train dispatcher.

Rountree was born on August 29, 1930, to Hugh Jordan Rountree (1890-1971) and Alma White Rountree (1895-2004) in Swainsboro, Georgia. He was one of six boys born to the family. Rountree moved to Savannah, Georgia when he was fifteen and graduated from Savannah High School in 1948.

Rountree was hired as the youngest train dispatcher by the Seaboard Air Line Railroad (known as CSX) in 1948. As the President of the national Train Dispatcher's Union (known now as American Train Dispatchers Association) he negotiated a safer working environment for workers. After over forty years of dedication, Rountree retired in 1990.

Rountree married Dorothy Ann Small (1930-1980) in 1949 and they had six children together. Rountree was a self-taught artist, but also trained at the Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. He created art in various mediums including photography, oil paintings, kiln-fired glass, copper and silver enamelwork, woodworking, watercolor portraiture, and more. Rountree's art and photographs are on display in the Ralph Mark Gilbert Civil Rights Museum, King-Tisdell Cottage, Gallery 209, and Bonaventure Cemetery Museum. His photography has also been featured in several publications, including on the cover of *Sites and Sounds of Savannah Jazz* by Dr. Julius "Boo" Hornstein, 1994. Rountree was also a writer, he wrote poetry and self-published a work on his ancestry, *Tenacity in Adversity: A History of the Rountree Family, 1550-1993*, 1993.

Rountree was a charter member, Sunday School teacher, and Board of Trustee of the Clayton P. Miller Memorial United Methodist Church (known now as Miller Inner City United Methodist Church). He served on the Board of Directors and as a docent of the Bonaventure Historical Society. Beginning in the 1950s, Rountree was a member of the Telfair Museum of Art and served on fundraising committees. He also was a member of the Savannah Art Association and a founding member and President of Gallery 209, a local artists' cooperative.

After the passing of his first wife, Rountree remarried around 1989 to Betty Sue Gomo Rountree (1933-2015) and gained two stepdaughters. Rountree died on September 23, 2009, and was buried in Bonaventure Cemetery in Savannah, Georgia.

For more information on Edward Donald Rountree and his family see:

Rountree, Edward Donald, *Tenacity in Adversity: A History of the Rountree Family, 1550-1993*, E. D. Rountree, Savannah, Georgia, 1993.

Record Series 1121-080, Edward Donald Rountree Photographs

Scope and Content:

Record Series 1121-080, Edward Donald Rountree Photographs includes 39 images of digitized photographs taken by Rountree. The majority of images are of downtown Savannah streets and buildings, but also feature local events, trains, and train stations.

System of Arrangement and Ordering:

Record Series 1121-080, Edward Donald Rountree Photographs are arranged by item number.

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Digital Access:

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Preferred Citation:

Record Series 1121-080, Edward Donald Rountree Photographs, City of Savannah Municipal Archives, Savannah, Georgia.

Processed by:

M. Kerkhoff, September 2023.

Record Series 1121-080, Edward Donald Rountree Photographs

Inventory:

**All items are available online in the [Municipal Archives Digital Catalog](#).*

<i>Item #</i>	<i>Description, Date</i>
1121-080_0001	Asendorf House, also known as the Gingerbread House, 1921 Bull St., no date
1121-080_0002	Aerial view on top of Rose of Sharon building, circa 1970s
1121-080_0003	Behind Union Station rail yard, 1960
1121-080_0004	Woman sitting outside confectionary, circa 1950s
1121-080_0005	Daddy Grace Bishop parade, 1960
1121-080_0006	Daddy Grace Bishop parade, 1960
1121-080_0007	House in downtown Savannah, circa 1960s
1121-080_0008	House in downtown Savannah before renovation, no date
1121-080_0009	East Broad Street looking north, circa 1960s
1121-080_0010	East Broad Street looking south, circa 1960s
1121-080_0011	Factor's Walk, 1953
1121-080_0012	Factor's Walk, 1953
1121-080_0013	Forsyth Park Fountain, 1961
1121-080_0014	Green-Meldrim House before Macon Street closing, no date
1121-080_0015	Hampton-Lillibridge House move to East St. Julian Street, 1963
1121-080_0016	Hampton-Lillibridge House move to East St. Julian Street, 1963
1121-080_0017	Harvey Badgeman Badgett, Daddy Grace, 1960
1121-080_0018	<i>June Sebastian Elcano</i> on the Savannah River, 1959
1121-080_0019	Juliette Gordon Low Home, circa 1950s
1121-080_0020	Original Talmadge Bridge, no date
1121-080_0021	Owens-Thomas House, circa 1950s
1121-080_0022	Pre-Billboard restrictions, no date
1121-080_0023	River Street, circa 1960s
1121-080_0024	River Street, circa 1960s
1121-080_0025	River Street, circa 1960s
1121-080_0026	River Street, 1980
1121-080_0027	Sander's Shoeshine Stand on Barnard Street, no date
1121-080_0028	Savannah Inn and Country Club, 1952
1121-080_0029	Selma Street, 1960
1121-080_0030	New Georgia train on River Street, circa 1970s
1121-080_0031	Union Station, 1960
1121-080_0032	Union Station, interior, 1959
1121-080_0033	Union Station yard, 1962
1121-080_0034	Submarine docked at River Street, circa 1960s
1121-080_0035	Visitor's Center rail yard, 1960
1121-080_0036	West Broad Street, 1959
1121-080_0037	West Broad Street, 1960

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<i>Item #</i>	<i>Description, Date</i>
1121-080_0038	Westside confectionary, no date
1121-080_0039	Building on Wheaton Street, 1960