Archives X A-7 EKT

Ektachrome transparencies (Series K), 1952-1970: Guide

The Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University

© 2012 President and Fellows of Harvard College
Descriptive Summary

Repository: Archives of the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, Jamaica Plain, MA
Call No.: X A-7 EKT
Creator: Heman Howard
Location: Archives
Title: Ektachrome transparencies (Series K), 1952-1970
Date(s): 1952-1970
Quantity: 2 boxes
Abstract: Consists of 109, 5”x7” Kodak Ektachrome color transparencies made between 1950 and 1970 by Heman Howard. The collection was the source of images for a long-standing exhibit about the Arboretum’s living collections that was displayed in illuminated wooden cases in the Hunnewell Building. The index to the collection includes either the botanical name of the plant or description of the subject, as well as a description of the image such as “foliage fall color,” and usually the month and year.

Language of material: English
Note: Access to Finding Aid record in Hollis.
Preferred Citation: Ektachrome transparencies (Series K), 1952-1970. Archives of the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University.

Additional Material: For more Heman Howard photographs, see also collections X A-6.2 L: 35mm negatives (Series "L"), 1959-1970; X A-6.5: Heman Howard Collection (H Series), 1960-1961

Acquisition Information

Provenance: This collection was transferred from the Arnold Arboretum’s departmental holdings to the Arboretum’s Archives in 1984 when the Archive was created.

Processing: 2006 Josh Lascell, revised 2012 Sheila Connor, Liz Francis

Terms of Access

Researchers seeking to examine archival materials are strongly encouraged to make an appointment. The Director, or an office of origin, may place restrictions on the use of some or all of its records. The extent and length of the restriction will be determined by the Director, office of origin, and the Archivist.

Terms of Use

The copyright is held by The President and Fellows of Harvard College for the Arnold Arboretum Archives of Harvard University. The copyright on some materials in the collection may be held by the original author or the author’s heirs or assigns. Researchers are responsible for obtaining written permission from the holder(s) of copyright and the Arnold Arboretum Archives prior to publishing any quotations or images from materials in this collection.
Photocopies may be made at the discretion of the Arnold Arboretum Archives staff. Permission to make photocopies does not constitute permission to reproduce or publish materials outside the bounds of the fair use guidelines.

**Historical Note**
The collection consists of 109 primarily 5”x7” Kodak Ektachrome color transparencies labeled Series K in the Arboretum’s negative series. The images were made between 1950 and 1970 by Heman Howard and Howard’s notebook containing an index to the images accompanies the collection. Howard joined the staff on September 9, 1929 and, with the exception of 3 years (1943-1945) when he served with the armed forces, spent the next 38 years working at the Arnold Arboretum. In addition to being the Arboretum’s unofficial photographer, as Assistant Horticulturist under Donald Wyman, Heman Howard was responsible for checking, mapping and labeling the plants in the living collections. In July 1970, Howard retired from the Arnold Arboretum to accept the full-time position as Horticulturist of Heritage Plantation, Grove St., Sandwich, Massachusetts, where he had served as a part time horticultural advisor for the previous three years. He retired from Heritage Plantation in 1977.

Howard’s color transparencies were the source material for a long standing exhibit about the Arboretum’s living collections. The Director’s Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1952 described its creation and installation: “Two display cases have been made and equipped with fluorescent lighting to show large Ektachrome transparencies of interesting Arboretum scenes. All the pictures for these cases were taken by Mr. Howard. Each case has 20-25 large color pictures and it is hoped two more cases will be made in order to illustrate the four seasons in the Arnold Arboretum.” Two more cases were made to hold additional transparencies in 1970. In addition to landscape views of the Arboretum, images of specimen trees and shrubs at the Arboretum and the Case Estates in Weston, Massachusetts, and close-ups of flowers or fruits were included in the display.

Up until the late 1993 these illuminated wooden cases, whose lighting could be activated by the visitor, were exhibited in the Hunnewell Building either in the entrance hall or lecture hall. Upon occasion the cases were displayed at other locations outside the Arboretum in

In 1955, the “lecture and demonstration” room was created on the first floor of the Hunnewell Building and the Ektachrome display panels were installed. *From “Annual Report” 1955*
conjunction with horticultural or botanical meetings or conferences.

The index to the collection, titled “Ektachrome Transparencies for Illuminated Display Cases” is arranged by number, K-1 to K-372. The index includes either the botanical name of the plant or description of the subject, as well as a description of the image such as “foliage fall color,” and usually the month and year. The index is heavily annotated and the annotations are reflected in the corresponding index cards filed with the transparencies. There is a second, incomplete (K-1 to K-290) carbon copy of the index that has not been annotated. The annotations chiefly consist of deaccession notes dating from 1967 and 1968 and it appears that the images themselves as well all the glassine enclosures, as that held these transparencies were removed at that time. However, there are numerous empty enclosures. It is likely that these were place holders for the images that were on display in the cases which were discarded along with the display. Howard’s accompanying blue notebook contains a numerically ascending list of the negatives as they were stored in the box. However, the box was arranged internally by two systems: first, by an alphabetical listing by genera and second by subject. Each section was preceded by an index card that listed the transparencies by series and number – this organization appears to be loosely held to. However, the general subject grouping appears to have been maintained. The Ektachrome transparencies were stored in a wooden “NegaFile” box (approximately 8”x7”x7”) made by the NegaFile Company, Doylestown, PA and labeled: “5x7 Ektachromes.” The Index to the collection was housed in a blue 3-ring binder with the spine label: “5x7 Ektachrome Numerical List, H. Howard, K List.” In 2006, the transparencies and the index were re-housed in acid free enclosures. The current storage system maintains the original organization.

Series I
Box 1
Contains 109 5”x7” color Ektachrome transparencies with labeled index cards:
• Genera
• Arboretum Exhibits
• Christmas Decorations
• Case Estate
• Flower Arrangements
• Arboretum Views: General
• Arnold Arboretum Views: Crab Apples
• Arnold Arboretum Views: Cherries
• Arnold Arboretum Views: Dwarf Conifers
• Arnold Arboretum Views: Hedges
• Arnold Arboretum Views: Lilacs
• Arnold Arboretum Views: Rhododendrons
• Arnold Arboretum Views: Shrub Collection
• Arnold Arboretum Views: Snow Scenes
• Misc. outside of Arboretum

Alphabetical listing of the 109 Ektachrome transparencies arranged within the headings described on the index cards beginning with Genera (from Acer to Syringa) followed by an alphabetical listing of subjects (from Bonsai to Snow Scenes). All descriptions taken from information provided on sleeves. Please note that the K series number indicates that the series itself exceeded the 109 images selected for exhibit in the display cases.
### Genera index

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Genera Index</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Acer rubrum schlesengeri</em> with <em>Rhus aromatica</em> in foreground</td>
<td>K-283</td>
<td>1963-10-02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Albizzia julibrissi rosea</em>. Close-up in flower.</td>
<td>K-3</td>
<td>1953-07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Albizzia julibrissi rosea</em>. Habit in flower</td>
<td>K-4</td>
<td>1953-07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Amalanchier arborea</em>. Habit in fall color</td>
<td>K-286</td>
<td>1963-10-02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Carya sp.</em> Fall color</td>
<td>nd</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Celastrus orbiculata</em>. Fruit arrangement in vase</td>
<td>K-10</td>
<td>1952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Cornus florida</em>. Vertical. Habit in fall color</td>
<td>K-287</td>
<td>1963-10-03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Cytisus praecox lutes</em> and <em>Cytisus praecox</em>. Habit</td>
<td>K-325</td>
<td>1967-06-06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Cytisus praecox lutes</em>, <em>Cytisus praecox</em> with <em>Rhododendron nudiflorum</em> in foreground. Habit flowering</td>
<td>K-329</td>
<td>1967-06-06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Davidia involucrata</em>. Close-up of flowers</td>
<td>K-356</td>
<td>1968-05-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Euonymus alata compacta</em>. Habit fall color</td>
<td>K-25</td>
<td>1952-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Hamamelis</em> 'Arnolds Promise'. Close-up of flower</td>
<td>K-32</td>
<td>1955-03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Ilex verticillata</em>. Close-up of fruits arranged in vase</td>
<td>K-36</td>
<td>nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Magnolia liliflora</em> nigra. Close-up of flower</td>
<td>K-44</td>
<td>1955-05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Magnolia</em> 'Merrill'. Habit in flower. Background tree is <em>Magnolia proctoriana</em></td>
<td>K-339</td>
<td>1968-04-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Magnolia obovata</em>. Close-up of foliage and flower</td>
<td>K-46</td>
<td>1955-05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Malus atrosanguinea</em>. Habit in flower, 2 trees</td>
<td>K-352</td>
<td>1968-05-07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Malus</em> &quot;Dorothea&quot;. Close-up in flower.</td>
<td>K-66</td>
<td>1953-05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Malus hupehensis</em>. Close-up of flowering branch</td>
<td>K-60</td>
<td>1953-05-06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Malus micormalus</em>. Habit in flower of tree near Forest Hills entrance. Slightly overexposed but still good</td>
<td>K-257</td>
<td>1963-05-06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Malus purpurea</em>. Habit in flower</td>
<td>K-63</td>
<td>1954-05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Nyssa sylvatica biflora</em>. Fall color</td>
<td>K-288</td>
<td>1963-10-03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Paeonia suffruticosa</em> var. Close-up in flower.</td>
<td>K-71</td>
<td>1953-05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Phellodendron amurense</em>. Close-up of trunk</td>
<td>K-297</td>
<td>1966-05-03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Prunus</em> 'Daybreak'. 2 trees. Habit flowering</td>
<td>K-313</td>
<td>1967-05-06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Prunus</em> 'Hally Jolivette'. Habit in flower</td>
<td>K-344</td>
<td>1968-05-03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Prunus</em> 'Kwanzan'. Close-up of flower cluster end of branch</td>
<td>K-326</td>
<td>1967-05-23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Prunus</em> 'Kwanzan' and White Birch. Habit in flower</td>
<td>K-80</td>
<td>1956-05-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Rhododendron calendulaeum</em>. Habit in flower</td>
<td>K-83</td>
<td>nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Rhododendron</em> &quot;H.W. Sargent&quot; Close-up of flowers</td>
<td>K-122</td>
<td>1955-05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• *Rhododendron vaseyi.* Close-up of flowers. Slightly underexposed K-234 1962-05-22
• *Rhododendron vaseyi.* Habit flower. Mass planting Close-up with large oak in center K-264 1963-05-16
• *Syringa* "Captain Baltet" Close-up of flowers K-127 1955-05
• *Syringa* "Monge" Habit in flower. Half of large bush K-129 1953-05
• *Syringa* "Mont Blanc", Close-up in flower. K-130 1953-05-18
• *Syringa* 'Primrose' Close-up flowers. Slight under exposure. Retake another year K-359 1968-05-15
• *Syringa* 'Primrose', *Syringa* 'Mont Blanc'. Close-up of flowers. Slight underexposure. Retake another year K-360 1968-05-15

**Subject index**

• Bonsai House Interior. Left view, Japanese stone lantern on right. Film scratched during processing K-310 1966-05-27
• Christmas Greens Display. Wreath Making Materials K-192 1954-12

• Christmas Greens Display. Administration Building. "Horticulturally" Decorated Tree and Mrs. Polly Bourgeois adding to the decorations. [information from sleeve] *(above)* K-193 1954-12
• Christmas Decorations. Made by Florence D. Wyman. Finished Cone Wreath and foundation only of White Pine cones K-195 1956-11-15
• Christmas Decorations. Made by Florence D. Wyman. Left: Wreath of *Taxus cuspidata* trimmed with Pine cones, Trumpet Keeper pods, and *Albizia* pods (curled). Right: Wreath of Douglas Fir


• Christmas Decorations. Made by Florence D. Wyman. Star of *Ilex crenata convexa* on plywood cut out. Small wreath of Bearberry on jar rubber, upper left wreath started with *Buxus*. Corsages of dried materials

• Ground Cover Plot. Case Estates, Weston

• Perennial Garden. Case Estates

• Ground Cover Plot, Case Estates. Color negative for reprints enclosed. Note: Similar to K301 except only light shadow in lower left foreground. [Original Ektachrome missing. Negative (10 x 12.5 cm.) for reprint made 6/22/1966.]

• Ground Cover Plot, Case Estates. Color negative for reprints enclosed. Note: Similar to K-301 except only light shadow in lower left foreground. [Original Ektachrome missing. Negative (10 x 12.5 cm.) for reprint made 6/22/1966.]

• *Malus* 'Henrietta Crosby'. Morning Sun. Mass planting along Wellesley Street at Case Estates. Yellow Traffic sign at extreme left. [Color negative (10 x 12.5 cm.) for reprints enclosed 6/22/1966] [information from sleeve]


• *Pyracantha coccinea lelandi, Leucothoe catesbae*. Vase arrangement

• *Pyracantha coccinea lelandi, Leucothoe catesbae*. Vase arrangement.[information from sleeve]

• *Chaenomeles* Bouquet. Arrangement of several varieties. Same as K-255

• *Rhododendron obtusum kaempferi*. Close-up of flowers. Arrangement in Copper Vase

K-196 1956-11
K-197 1956-11-15
K-198 1956-11-15
K-199 1956-11-15
K-177 1955-5
K-179 1955-5
K-299 1966-05-23
K-300 1966-05-23
K-260 1963-05-13
K-262 1963-05-13
K-191 1955-10
K-190 1955-10
K-254 1963-05-06
K-100 nd
• Arnold Arboretum Greenhouses. Front. Front View taken from Woods Knoll outside fence. (above)  K-289  1963-10-03

• *Magnolia stellata*. Habit in flower. Dull light conditions  K-341  1968-04-17


• View - Crab Apples. From top of ledge looking toward Peters Hill summit  K-349  1968-05-07

• View - Dwarf Conifer collection with *Picea pungens hunnewelliana* in foreground. Cocoa Bean mulch recently applied (above)  K-163  1956-10

• View - Dwarf Conifer collection with *Picea pungens hunnewelliana* in foreground. Cocoa Bean mulch recently applied.  K-164  '1956-10
• View Dwarf Conifer Beds near Bonsai House. Stone wall at lower right. New bed - planted Fall 1966 K-320 1967-05-23
• New Dwarf Conifer Bed. View from above. Looking towards Hedge Collection below K-336 1967-10-20
• View - Hedge Collection. Half of collection nearest greenhouses. [view A of panorama shot including houses. See also K-172B] K-172A nd
• View - Hedge Collection. Half of collection nearest greenhouses. [view B of panorama shot excluding houses. See also K-172A] K-172B nd
• *Chaenomeles lagenaria.* Hedge in flower K-12 1956-05-20
• *Rosa virginiana.* Hedge along road near ponds K-126 1953-06
• *Syringa* Varieties. View - Lilacs. From across road at upper end near double bench. Habit in flower K-143 nd
• View Lilac Collection. *S. 'Madame Lemoine' (left), S. 'Congo' (right), S. 'Lucie Baltet' (center) K-362 1970-05-20
• View Lilac Collection towards Torch Azaleas. From Upper Lilac Path K-366 1970-05-20
• View of Lilac Collection. Flower. Lady in light coat, lower right, just walking back of lilac. Framed at top left by oak branch K-371 1970-05-20
• *Rhododendron calendulaceum*. Mass Planting under Oaks

* Rhododendron obtusum kaempferi. Torch Azaleas along Meadow Road. Light streak, could be cropped

* Rhododendron obtusum kaempferi. Torch Azaleas along Meadow Road. Overcast sky (above)

* Rhododendron obtusum kaempferi. Habit in Flower

* Rhododendron obtusum kaempferi. View - From Torch Azaleas looking towards Lilacs

* Rhododendron vaseyi. Mass Planting. View near Pond with Torch Azaleas background

* Rhododendron Collection

* Rhododendron calendulaceum. Mass planting, looking through vista from Bussey Hill road towards Peters Hill


* Rhododendron vaseyi. Mass planting. Taken from across pond to show reflection on water. [Original Ektachrome missing. Negative (10 x 12.5 cm.) for reprint made 6/22/1966.]

* Rhododendron vaseyi. Mass planting along right side Meadow Road. [Original Ektachrome missing. Negative (10 x 12.5 cm.) for reprint made 6/22/1966.]

* Rododendron obtusum kaempferi. Slight overexposure. Mass planting Torch Azaleas with *Rhododendron vaseyi* on right


* View Shrub Collection. *Malus sargentii* partially in foreground shade

K-90 1953-06

K-102 1956-06-01

K-104 1956-05-31

K-107 1955-05

K-108 1956-05-31

K-115 1955-05

K-161 1952-05

K-174 1953-06

1962-05-22

K-263 1963-05-16

K-302 1966-05-24

K-368 1970-05-20

K-372 1970-05-20

K-303 1966-05-24

K-304 1966-05-24
• [loose Ektachrome, corresponding sleeve and information not found] K-
• [loose Ektachrome, corresponding sleeve and information not found] K-
• [loose Ektachrome, corresponding sleeve and information not found] K-

**Box 2 (large folder enclosure)**
**Folder**

1. Index of K series transparencies titled:  
   “Ektachrome Transparencies for Illuminated Display Cases, Numerical list, the letter "K" preceding number identifies this series of photographs. All are 5"x6" unless an * is placed before number. All photographs taken by H. Howard unless otherwise noted. Added in pen, in Donald Wyman’s hand “ Those listed as discarded, in most cases had faded considerably from exposure to light in fluorescent light cases.” Material was removed from a three ring binder, 12 pages.
2. Numerical list of Ektachrome Transparencies 1952 ------------, 8 pages