

Finding Aid to the Irene Turli Photograph Collection

Irene Turli Photograph Collection, circa 1950s-2000s

174 photographic prints

6 slides

4 negatives

Photo 2138

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OVERVIEW

Links: [Finding aid to the Irene Turli Papers](#)

Access: The collection is open under the rules and regulations of the Institute.

Provenance: Donated by Ken Skrivseth in 2016 (Acc. 2016-037).

Property rights: The Institute for Regional Studies owns the property rights to this collection.

Copyrights: Copyrights to this collection is held by the Institute.

Citation: [Identification of item]. Irene Turli Photographs (Photo 2138), NDSU Archives, North Dakota State University, Fargo.

BIOGRAPHY

Irene Anna Turli, born September 9, 1926 and died November 16, 2014 in Mitchell, SD. She was the third of three daughters born to Lars Ivarson Turli and Ingeborg Ellendsdatter Hamre Turli, both immigrants from Norway in the early 1900s. She grew up near Brockway, MT in McCone County, attended high school in Buffalo, NY and graduated in 1947 from Montana State University (now University of Montana). Irene had a long career in journalism, including writing and editing papers in

Bismarck, Williston and Mandan, ND, and a number of years for the Mitchell Daily Republic in South Dakota, and was prominent in women's career groups. She published a history of her family's early years in Montana "I Call It Adventure" and a volume of poetry. She also wrote several novels (unpublished) including "The Three Red Hills." Her later years were spent in Mitchell, and following a stroke, for a number of years she lived at the Firesteel Health Center in Mitchell. As a resident she continued her journalistic endeavors, writing for the newsletter, and was an avid photographer. In 2012 two of her photographs won the South Dakota MasterWorks Artshow Masters Photography 80+ category. (Excerpt from obituary published in *The Daily Republic*, Mitchell, South Dakota. November 22, 2014)

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The **Irene Turli Photograph Collection** includes a wide variety of images many likely taken by her and of her taken mostly in Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota. They are organized into three series: Irene Turli, Topical, and Slides. The file titles in the Irene Turli and Topical series are based upon the text on the original envelopes in which the photographs were located when received from the donor. There is limited additional information written on the back of the photographs.

The **Irene Turli Series** includes many photographs of her spanning from youth to elderly. Some also are of her with other people, although no identification of them. Most of the photographs do not have any written text on them or who took them. The Bridal files likely were taken by Irene Turli of brides and one is of a hand featuring a ring. The two Art photographs are of art images likely taken outside. The Office photographs include views of office and people working. The Homes photographs are exterior images of a number of houses likely where she lived but location not given. One has written on back 'where I lived for a time' and another 'my place.'

The **Topical Series** file names are based upon the text on envelopes in which the photographs were when received from the donor. The Band Day files images are views of bands and individual people marching with musical instruments. The original envelope has "Williston, ND?" written on it and on back of most of the photographs is "Band Way." The Bismarck, N.D. Industrial files are images of various buildings with "Bismarck Industrial" written on the back of them. The original envelope has dates written of "1950s early 1960s."

The Celebrity file images include portraits of Frank Borman, Richard Burton, Taylor Caldwell, Farley, John Hillerman and three not identified. The McClusky, N.D. files images include of businesses, farming scenes and several events. They have "McClusky" written on the back of the prints.

The Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota file images are town and rural area scenes. Among them are the following identification written on the back, "Terry Hills, Montana," "Minot Garry Yard," "Sod House near Missouri River, Williston area," "Williston Diamond Rail after it moved from Main Street," "RR lines near Williston," "Court House, Huron, S.D.," "Tina's Café," "Old Whittier School," "Bruch Lake,:" and "Lincoln Block House."

The Montana State University file images are campus scenes and one with text on back “Missoula from the hill at night.” The Thespian Activities files images may be taken in Bismarck, N.D. in 1960 based on text on original envelope. It includes many views of group performances. The Unknown People file images are of groups of people and several individual. One is a Christmas postcard with five images of people and sent by “Pastor and Mrs. Casper B. Nervig in 1957.”

The **Slides Series** includes six slides of Irene Turli, five taken of her outside with house and garden in background and one of her on downtown street sidewalk.

There are four 35mm color negatives of scenery in a house but no person included. They are located in Institute photograph collection: c.35mm – 181.1-4.

FOLDER LIST

| Box/File | Description (Number of images) |
|-----------------|--|
| 1/1 | Finding aid |
| | Irene Turli Series |
| 1/2 | Irene Turli Portraits (10) |
| 1/3 | Irene Turli Portraits (10) |
| 1/4 | Irene Turli Portraits (10) |
| 1/5 | Irene Turli Portraits (10) |
| 1/6 | Irene Turli Portraits (11) |
| 1/7 | Irene Turli Bridal (2) |
| 1/8 | Irene Turli Art (2) |
| 1/9 | Irene Turli Office (6) |
| 1/10 | Irene Turli Homes (10) |
| 1/11 | Irene Turli Homes (6) |
| | Topical Series |
| 1/12 | Band Day (10) |
| 1/13 | Band Day (10) |
| 2/14 | Band Day (2) |
| 2/15 | Bismarck, N.D. Industrial (10) |
| 2/16 | Bismarck, N.D. Industrial (10) |
| 2/17 | Celebrity Photographs (10) |
| 2/18 | McClusky, N.D. (10) |
| 2/19 | McClusky, N.D. (3) |
| 2/20 | Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota (11) |
| 2/21 | Montana State University (4) |

- 2/22 Thespian Activities (10)
- 2/23 Thespian Activities (2)
- 2/24 Unknown People (5)

Slides Series

- 2/25 Irene Turli slides (6)

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