

Title: Sheffer, Walter Papers

Reference Code: Mss-1923

Inclusive Dates: 1955 – 1981

Quantity: 000.4 cu. ft.

Location: BV, Sh. 262

Abstract: Walter Sheffer (1918-2002) was one of Milwaukee's most influential photographers of the 20th century. He was born in Pennsylvania and moved to Milwaukee in 1945 to work for John Platz, a prominent society portraitist. After Platz retired, Sheffer established his own successful portrait studio. His list of clients included actor Jimmy Stewart, Wisconsin Senator Joseph McCarthy, and comedienne Tallulah Bankhead. Sheffer also photographed distinctive architectural elements around the city of Milwaukee, but he gained national fame for his "Faces of Aging" photographic series in the 1980s. In addition to his studio work, Sheffer also taught portraiture at the Layton School of Art from 1952 to 1970.

Scope and Content: The collection consists primarily of photos, but it also includes a small amount of newspaper clippings, correspondence, programs, newsletters, and other ephemera.

Access and Use: No restrictions

Language: English

Notes: Collection donated by Michele Beaulieux, October 2015.

Arrangement:

Folder Heading	Box #	Folder #
Sheffer, Walter – Miscellaneous	1	1
Portraits of Joe & Nancy White & Twins Michele & Jacqueline	1	2
Portraits – Unidentified	1	3
Miscellaneous Photos	1	4
See also: Oversize Photos # 2644-2658		