

Stephen L. Saltonstall Photograph Collection

Digital

1962

1 volume (0.1 linear ft.)

Call no.: PH 014



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In the summer 1962, future Harvard student Steve Saltonstall was one of the early wave of white northerners who went into the Jim Crow south to work for civil rights. During that summer, he worked with SNCC to organize public accommodations in Cairo, Ill., and with an AFSC crew to help clear brush from a drainage ditch near Circle City, Missouri, encountering local resistance in both places. Saltonstall later became an attorney and currently practices in Vermont.

The Saltonstall collection consists of approximately sixty photographs taken by John Engel during his tour with an AFSC crew during the summer of 1962. While most of the images depict the crew's work near Circle City, Missouri, six photos document a civil rights rally in Cairo, Ill. The images are available in digital form only.

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Background on Stephen L Saltonstall

In the summer 1962, future Harvard student Steve Saltonstall was one of the early wave of white northerners who went into the Jim Crow south to work for civil rights. Still a teenager, Saltonstall assisted a SNCC project in Cairo, Illinois, then a hotbed of KKK activity, that sought to integrate public accommodations built with federal funds.

From there, Saltonstall enlisted on a crew organized by the American Friends Service Committee, to travel fifty miles west to work on a seemingly more mundane project, to help clear a tree-filled drainage ditch near the segregated, all-white community of Circle City, Missouri, that caused the city to flood each year. The AFSC crew was integrated by a single African American woman who, as Saltonstall recalled, "ultimately left the camp for unknown reasons I never fully understood," and as a result, the northerners were visited nightly by night riders. "But the head camp counselor, Mick Micklem," Saltonstall wrote, "was a southerner who persuaded the rednecks to leave. We cleared the trees from the ditch and had a Quaker Meeting in it on the last day of camp. It was a beautiful sight, pink cotton flowers as far as one could see."

After college, Saltonstall spent some time as a back to the land hippie and later received a law degree from Northeastern University. Today he does civil trial work in Vermont, with a specialty in personal injury and wrongful death, criminal defense, and civil rights and civil liberties.

Scope of collection

The Saltonstall collection consists of approximately sixty photographs taken by John P. Engel during his tour with an AFSC crew during the summer of 1962. While most of the images depict the crew's work near Circle City, Missouri, six photos document a civil rights rally in Cairo, Ill. The images are available in digital form only.

Inventory



Civil Rights demonstration, Cairo

Engel, John P., photographer: Stephen Saltonstall and Priscilla Pace, posed outside white frame building

1962

Digital

1

Engel, John P., photographer: Man photographing young woman holding a baby outside small home

1962

Digital

2

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Unidentified man, apparently emerging from makeshift outdoor shower

1962

Digital

3

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Group of volunteers talking with elderly man

1962

Digital

4

Engel, John P., photographer: Volunteers posing in makeshift outdoor shower

1962

Digital

5

Engel, John P., photographer: Group of six volunteers taking lunch at picnic tables

1962

Digital

6

Engel, John P., photographer: Swimmers at a public swimming spot

1962

Digital

7

Engel, John P., photographer: Swimmers in a public swimming spot (image underexposed)

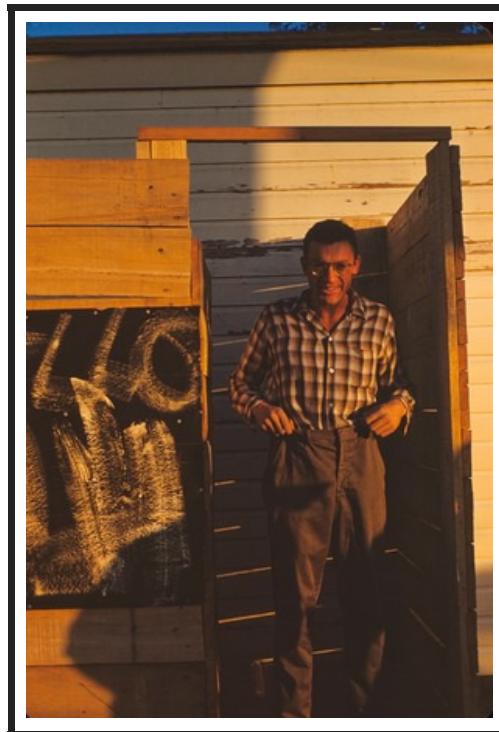
1962

Digital

8



Engel, John P.,
photographer: Volunteers
horsing around with
crutches, lying on a concrete
path
1962
Digital
9



Engel, John P.,
photographer: Volunteers
having lunch at a picnic
table, probably near
swimming spot
1962

Digital
10

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Dramatic
colors in the sunset sky
1962

Digital

11

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Dramatic
colors in the sunset sky
1962

Digital

12

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Dramatic
colors in the sunset sky
1962

Digital

13

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Door to
makeshift structure with
bumper sticker reading "In
event of nuclear attack, this
shelter will be useless."
1962

Digital

14

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Group of
volunteers heading to work
at the edge of a neatly
plowed cotton field
1962

Digital

15

Engel, John P., photographer: Group of volunteers heading to work at the edge of a neatly plowed cotton field
1962

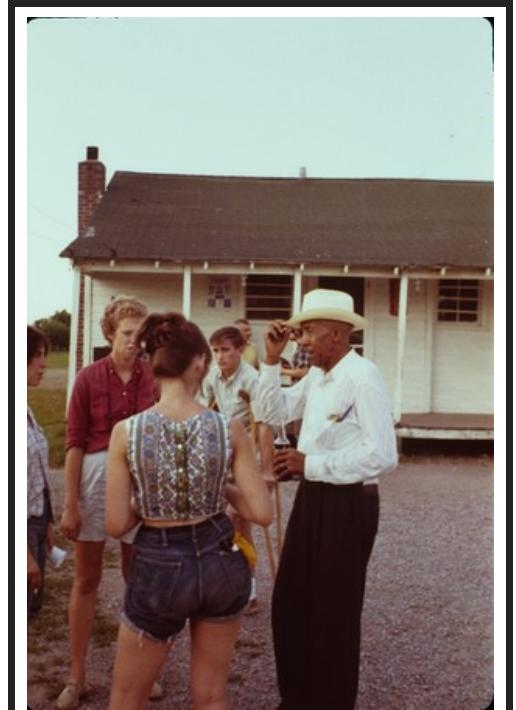
Digital

16

Engel, John P., photographer: Volunteers using axes and other tools to clear thick brush at the edge of fields
1962

Digital

17



Engel, John P.,
photographer: Volunteers
using axes and other tools
to clear thick brush at the
edge of fields

1962

Digital

18

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Volunteer
cutting up a felled tree by
the edge of a field

1962

Digital

19

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Volunteer
using an axe to clear young
saplings

1962

Digital

20

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Volunteer
clearing brush from beside
a field

1962

Digital

21

Engel, John P.,
photographer: House
behind a stand of trees,
laundry drying on the line
and a blanket on the grass.
One unidentified woman
stands on the porch,
another unidentified male is
sitting on a scooter

1962

Digital

22

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Volunteers
clearing thick brush from
beside a field

1962

Digital

23

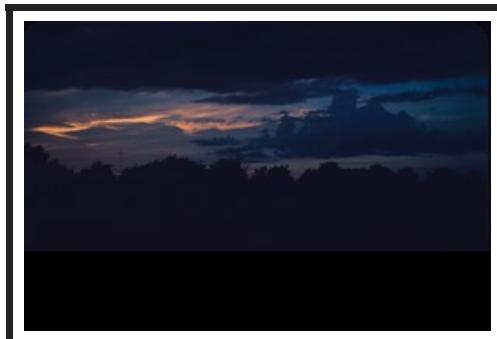
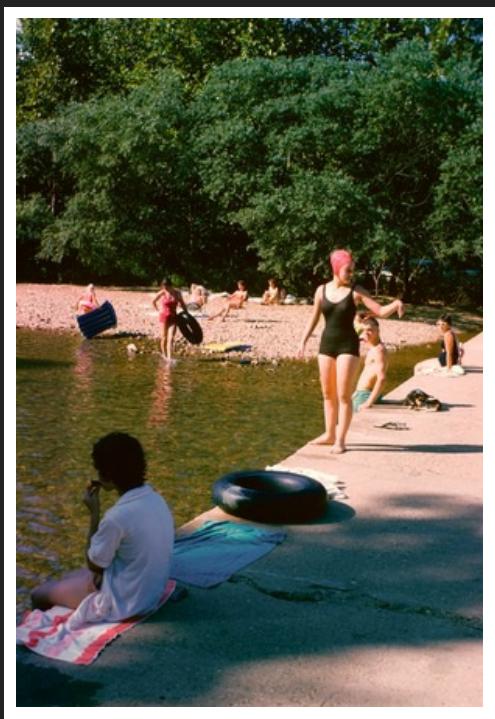
Engel, John P.,
photographer: Piles of
brush cleared from edge of
cotton field

1962

Digital

24

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Two
volunteers standing by the
edge of cotton field



1962

Digital

25

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Three
volunteers resting beside a
large tank

1962

Digital

26

Engel, John P.,
photographer: View across
cotton fields

1962

Digital

27

Engel, John P.,
photographer: View across
field of migrant labor
housing(?). Image
underexposed

1962

Digital

28

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Group of
volunteers walking in cotton
field. Tractor and power
lines and tractor is in
background. Image
underexposed

1962

Digital

29

Engel, John P.,
photographer: View down a
row of a cotton field. Power
lines in background

1962

Digital

30

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Close-up of
unidentified plant

1962

Digital

31

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Group of ten
volunteers inspecting field

1962

Digital

32

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Farmhouse
as seen across the fields
(image underexposed)

1962

Digital



33

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Group of
fifteen volunteers inspecting
plants in field

1962

Digital

34

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Row of
migrant labor shacks(?)

Image underexposed

1962

Digital

35

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Migrant
labor shacks(?) along
roadside. Unidentified boy
in background. Image
underexposed

1962

Digital

36

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Volunteers in
front of migrant labor
shack(?). Image
underexposed

1962

Digital

37

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Migrant
labor shack(?) with power
line attachment and shed in
background. Image
underexposed

1962

Digital

38

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Migrant
labor shack(?). Image
underexposed

1962

Digital

39

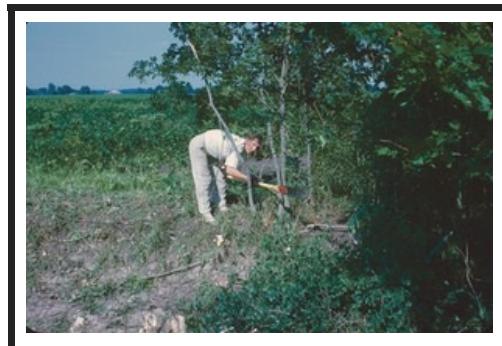
Engel, John P.,
photographer: Volunteer
inspecting brush litter in
drainage ditch, Circle City,
Mo.

1962

Digital

40

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Dense brush
litter in drainage ditch,



Circle City, Mo.

1962

Digital

41

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Burning
brush and other litter, Circle
City, Mo.

1962

Digital

42

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Burning
brush and other litter, Circle
City, Mo.

1962

Digital

43

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Burning
brush and other litter, Circle
City, Mo.

1962

Digital

44

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Burning
brush and other litter, Circle
City, Mo.

1962

Digital

45

Engel, John P.,
photographer: View down a
cleared drainage ditch after
brush burning, Circle City,
Mo.

1962

Digital

46

Engel, John P., photographer: Young man on a ladder, painting a house, Circle City, Mo.

1962

Digital

47

Engel, John P., photographer: Young woman with man on a ladder, painting a house, Circle City, Mo. Laundry in foreground.
Tent in background.

1962

Digital

48

Engel, John P., photographer: Image of house with a car in the driveway, Circle City, Mo. (image underexposed)

1962

Digital

49

Engel, John P., photographer: Group of white and Black civil rights demonstrators, gathering outside a brick building in Cairo, Ill.
Demonstration organized by SNCC.

1962

Digital

50

Engel, John P., photographer: Group of white and Black civil rights demonstrators marching past Blankenship and Co. auto parts



store and IGA supermarket in downtown Cairo, Ill. Several cars are parked in background. Woman on crutches in at the head of the march. Demonstration organized by SNCC.

1962

Digital

51

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Group of white and Black civil rights demonstrators marching past Shemwell's Barbecue, Cairo, Ill. Parking meters are in the foreground.

Demonstration organized by SNCC.

1962

Digital

52

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Civil rights marchers march past two uniformed police officers and a hotel in Cairo, Illinois. Mailbox and cars in foreground. Cairo, Ill.

Demonstration organized by SNCC.

1962

Digital

53

Engel, John P.,
photographer: Civil rights demonstration, Cairo, Ill. Signs read "Jim Crow must go" and "We demand our rights," "We shall overcome," and "Segregation is evil." Civil rights picket line, Cairo, Ill. Signs read "Jim Crow must go" and "We demand our rights," "We shall overcome," and "Segregation is evil."

Demonstration organized by SNCC.

1962

Digital

54

Engel, John P., photographer: Civil rights demonstrators, Cairo, Ill.: signs read "We demand Human Relations Council", "Join the march for freedom" and "Love is our motto". Demonstration organized by SNCC.

1962

Digital

55

Engel, John P., photographer: Three young volunteers sunning themselves on a blanket on grass.



1962

Digital

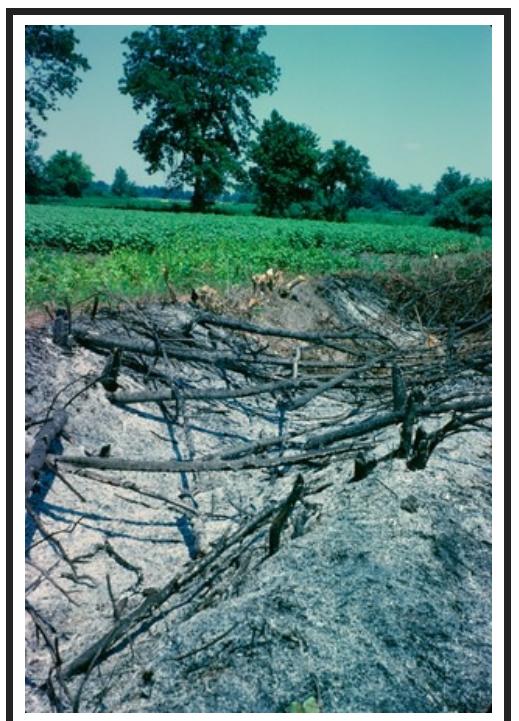
56

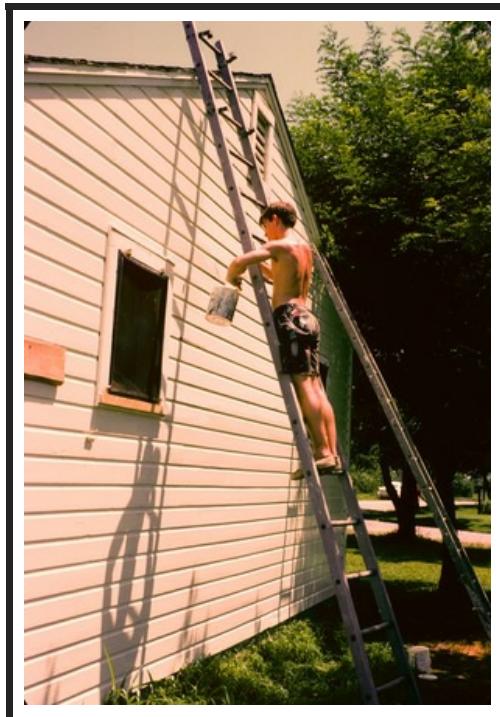
Engel, John P.,
photographer: Three young
volunteers sunning
themselves on a blanket on
grass.

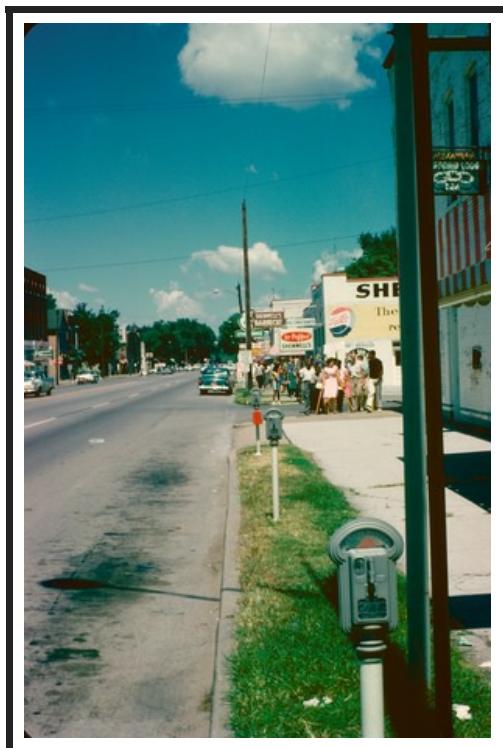
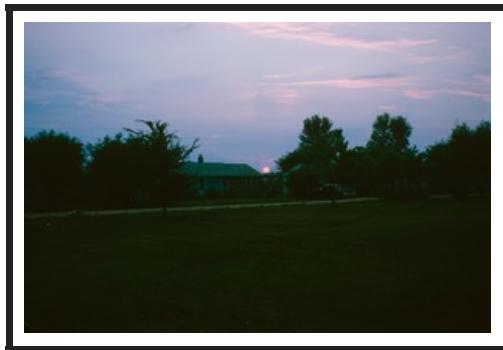
1962

Digital

57









Administrative information

Access

The collection is open for research.

Provenance

Acquired from John Engel by Tom Fels, 1999.

Processing Information

Processed by Dex Haven, August 2010.

Digitized content

Digitized versions of the images in this collection have been added to SCUA's online repository, Credo.

Related Material

See other collections in the Famous Long Ago Archives.

Language:

English

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Cite as: Stephen L. Saltonstall Photograph Collection (PH 014). Special Collections and University Archives, University of Massachusetts Amherst Libraries.

Search terms

Subjects

American Friends Service Committee.

Cairo (Ill.).

Circle City (Mo.).

Civil rights demonstrations--Illinois--Photographs.

Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (U.S.)

Contributors

Saltonstall, Stephen L. [main entry]

Engel, John P.

Genres and formats

Photographs.

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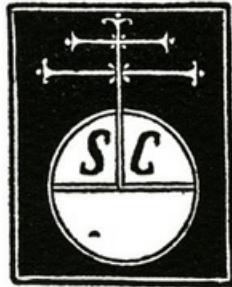
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