



Peter G. Hamm, 1920s
Film negative, 17.3 x 12.3 cm
Mennonite Heritage Archives, 526-42-2.0



Peter H. Klippenstein, 1910s
Glass negative, 9 x 9 cm
Mennonite Heritage Archives, 698.042



Peter H. Klippenstein
Altbergthal village road, 1930s
Print, 8 x 6 cm
Mennonite Heritage Archives, 2018-021

Mennonite Village Photography: Views from Manitoba, 1890-1940

Mennonite Historic Arts Committee

June 24 - Sept. 10

Opening June 24, 7:30pm (donation suggested, masks required)

This exhibit features a beautiful collection of never-before-seen photographs left behind by four Manitoba Mennonite photographers who lived and worked in the early twentieth century. The images are from glass and film negatives stored in institutional archives and family collections. After being scanned and given a new life in print, the photos provide a clear view into Mennonite life and early settlement in Manitoba.

- Mennonite Historic Arts Committee

The 20th century marked a new era in art history: portraits of loved ones were suddenly accessible to working-class families and these cherished images were shared widely as albums and post cards; elucidating stories of families near and far. The indexical nature of the photograph freezes time, creating a fingerprint of a moment and locking an uncanny likeness in sensitized silver, affording viewers a unique view of the past.

The Mennonite Historic Arts Committee has transposed these individual memories and placed them upon the gallery walls; simultaneously shifting individual, personal narratives to an act of public remembering. As viewers, we glimpse the context of this time and place: photographers working within cultural contexts in rural Manitoba; image-makers moving from the formality of the Victorian portrait studio to explore vernacular, "snapshot" moments.

Indeed, these photographs from Mennonite villages at the turn of the century echo the development of the photographic medium itself, at once a statement of technological novelty, aesthetic expression, documentary tool, and mnemonic device. I hope you will visit the gallery in-person, to search out clues of the historical context hidden within the images and to witness as these image-makers tip toe, carefully, towards an era of modernity.

-Sarah Hodges-Kolisnyk, curator, MHC Gallery

Save the Date!

On October 14, 2022 please join us for our annual Fundraiser Event. We are planning an exciting evening of entertainment and art, and we can't wait to share plans for moving the Gallery into a new and exciting season. The pandemic years have been difficult for us all and we need your help to continue moving forward. Stay tuned for more details!

Get involved

Enjoy a "behind-the-scenes" look at the workings of an art gallery, meet new people and support artistic expression! **We're seeking volunteers to support the work of the Gallery.** Join the MHC Gallery Advisory Committee today and play a vital role in a community that helps artists of all skill levels, ages and backgrounds thrive. We are seeking at least 3 additional volunteers to join our Committee as we transition into a period of growth and renewal. This is an exciting time to get involved!

MHC Gallery and Mennonite Heritage Archives are also **hiring an Administrative Assistant & Receptionist**. This is a full-time, term position set to begin on July 18, 2022 and will continue for 12 to 18 months, as required. The role supports both the Gallery (20%) and the Archives (80%).

Learn more about these opportunities at cmu.ca/gallery.

In Remembrance

A message from Ray Dirks, MHC Gallery Founder:

"On May 18, 2022 Marvin Mirochnick, aged 83, passed away. Marvin and Viola were among the most, maybe the most, faithful attendees at gallery events for the better part of two decades – openings, fundraisers, special events, everything and anything. They were always kind, interested, encouraging and affirming. I wish to offer my condolences and sincere appreciation to Viola. Thank you and Marvin for your support and I wish you peace and fond memories as you mourn."

Encouraging sustainability

This newsletter is moving in the direction of going online. Please send us your current email address so we can add it to our email list! Let us know your contact preferences at mhcgallery@cmu.ca or call Selenna Wolfe at 204 487-3300, ext 344.

Next: Sept. 16 - Nov. 12: "In the World But Not Of It" by Tim Smith: contemporary photographs documenting the breadth and complexity of Hutterite Communities in Manitoba.

Exhibitions

The gallery generally hosts six exhibitions per year — either one exhibition using both levels or, most often, different exhibitions on each level. Contact mhcgallery@cmu.ca for exhibition information.

E-news

To receive information on all upcoming events join our email list by contacting mhcgallery@cmu.ca or 204 487-3300, ext 344.

Thank you

To all who make donations, large and small, we thank you for helping this unique gallery continue to thrive and make a difference.

DONATIONS

The **MHCGallery** is a program of Canadian Mennonite University. It is 100% funded, from hammers and nails to salaries, by donations. Your support is what keeps the gallery alive.

donation options:

- by cheques payable to Canadian Mennonite University, **MHCGallery** on the memo line, mailed to 500 Shaftesbury Blvd., Winnipeg, MB R3P 2N2
- online at cmu.ca/donate (by credit or debit card) See drop down tab to designate the gallery.
- make a monthly commitment using the online portal or by contacting mhcgallery@cmu.ca or 204 487-3300, ext. 344
- bring a donation when you visit the gallery in person