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# Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books

## Finding Aid - Wil Hudson negatives collection (MsC-276)

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<http://atom.archives.sfu.ca/msc-276>

# Wil Hudson negatives collection

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## Summary information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Simon Fraser University Special Collections and Rare Books
<b>Title:</b>	Wil Hudson negatives collection
<b>Reference code:</b>	MsC-276
<b>Date:</b>	1970-1982 (date of creation)
<b>Physical description:</b>	880 photographs: b&w negatives
<b>Dates of creation, revision and deletion:</b>	October 2023: arrangement and description completed (Alexandra Wieland)

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## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

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### Note

Harold Henry (Hal) Johnston was born in Ardreagh, Northern Ireland, apprenticed as plasterer, and emigrated to Canada in 1951. Settling in Edmonton in 1952, he married Frances Henriette Coulombe (29 July 1932-14 Mar 2018) in June 1955. He worked in Edmonton as a plasterer until late 1957, when they moved to Burnaby, British Columbia. They purchased, renovated and occupied 4447 Venables St. Johnston continued to work as a plasterer, serving in 1969 as business agent for the Plasterers' and Stonemasons' Union, and then self-employed as A&H Plastering and Stucco from 1970 until his death from cancer.

Harold Johnston was a serious photographer and camera collector, recording some 600 rolls of black and white and slide film in 35mm and other formats on a variety of cameras from the early 1950s until 1984, mainly of locations in the Lower Mainland and Pacific Northwest.

From 1960 he processed and printed the negatives himself in a home darkroom. From 1970 Johnston recorded several artists, illustrators and sculptors working in Vancouver's Downtown East Side, notably Wil Hudson (fine printer and typographer), Keith Shields (sculptor), Frits Jacobsen (illustrator), Charles Butler (wood sculptor) and Bill Shoebottom (artist). He maintained contact with, and often photographed, them until his death. For Wil, he recorded the sequence of operations involved in book production; photographically reproduced line drawings for a book project for the Alcuin Society; recorded candid views of Wil's shops, and social occasions; and, processed and printed Wil's film exposed during his time working at Cape Dorset, Baffin Island.

### Custodial history

All of Johnston's original negatives were collected and preserved by Sean Johnston, Harold's son prior to their acquisition by Special Collections and Rare Books in 2023.

## Scope and content

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The negatives depict Hudson in his shops in Vancouver (Cambie Street and later Marine Drive), as manager of the Kingait print cooperative at Kinngait (previously Cape Dorest), and socializing in Vancouver, Burnaby and Powell River.

The individuals depicted in the photos, sometimes identified by first name in the file titles, include:

Wil Hudson

Keith, Betty and Brendan Shields

Fritz Jacobsen

Bill Shoebottom

Harold Johnston

Frances Johnston

Sean Johnston

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## Notes

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### Title notes

### Arrangement

The archivist retained the original order and organization of the negatives.

### Conditions governing use

Works in this collection are under copyright. Researchers are required to secure permission from the copyright holders for usage of this material, except for those covered by fair dealing.

### Accruals

No future accruals are expected.

### Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
  - **Level of detail:** Full
  - **Status description:** Published
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## Access points

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- Hudson, Wil (subject)
  - Photographic materials (documentary form)
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- Arts and culture (subject)

## Series descriptions

Reference code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-1	File - Keith Shields - studio and work	[197-]		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-2	File - Wil printed pages in Latin	1970		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-3	File - Wil engravings and cats	1970		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-4	File - K[ewith] Shields work	May 1970		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-5	File - Keith Shields	May 1970		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-6	File - Charles Butler	Jun 1970		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-7	File - K. Shields and family	Jun 1970		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-8	File - Keith Shields	Jun 1970		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-9	File - Shields leaving for Toronto	July 30 1970		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-10	File - Wil Hudson at C.N. [?] and picture of dog	Jul 1970		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-11	File - Wil Hudson printing	Aug-70		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-12	File - Printing the cards	Aug-70		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-13	File - Keith Shield's party	Aug-70		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-14	File - Wil Hudson printing	Sep-70		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-15	File - At the woodcarvers	October 16 1970		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-16	File - Bill Shoebbotham art book plates	October 25 1970		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-17	File - Wil Hudson cats	early 1970		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-18	File - Jeff, Wil moving	Apr 1971		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-19	File - Wil Hudson, Bill Shoebbotham, Fritz Jacobsen	Apr 1971		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-20	File - Wil Hudson	June 13 1971		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-21	File - Wil's new cats	Nov-71		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-22	File - Hudson	July 29 1972		MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-23	File - Baffin Island Wil Hudson	Nov 1972		MsC-276 Box 1

MsC-276-0-0-0-0-24	File - Hudson pics	Dec 1974	MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-25	File - Hudson's own pictures	Aug-76	MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-26	File - Hudson Fritz Bill Shoe[botham]	Aug 1976	MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-27	File - Hudson printer Baffin Island	Mar 1977	MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-28	File - Wil Fritz at Franks	Jun 1978	MsC-276 Box 1
MsC-276-0-0-0-0-29	File - Powell River	Sept 1982	MsC-276 Box 1