

# WILLIAM WALLACE KENNEDY PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION

## OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

- Repository:** Crandall Public Library.  
Center for Folklife, History, and Cultural Programs,  
Glens Falls, NY.
- Creator:** William Wallace Kennedy, 1855-1929.
- Title:** William Wallace Kennedy Photograph Collection.
- Dates:** ca. 1880-1899.
- Abstract:** William Wallace Kennedy was a sign painter and photographer, active in Glens Falls from 1880 to 1899. The William Wallace Kennedy photographs, taken from about 1880 until 1899, show mainly downtown Glens Falls, especially buildings and street scenes, along with some views of the Hudson River, the bridge crossing it to South Glens Falls, Cooper's Cave, winter scenes, farm animals, and general countryside views.
- Quantity:** 0.2 cubic feet (1 box, 47 photographs)
- Identification Number:** Photographs.

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

William Wallace Kennedy was a sign painter and photographer, active in Glens Falls from 1880-1899. He is first listed in the Glens Falls City Directory in 1879-1880 as a painter, living at Bay Street House. In 1881-1882 he is listed as a sign writer, living at 24 Bay Street. In the 1883 City Directory he is listed as a sign painter, living at 17 Bay Street. The last City Directory in which he is listed is 1901-1902, in which he is listed as a sign painter, with his home at 7 Washington Street. According to his granddaughter, Kathryn E. O'Brien (1904-1979), Kennedy stopped photographing about 1899 and departed from Glens Falls shortly afterwards.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT OF THE RECORDS**

The William Wallace Kennedy photographs show Glens Falls and the surrounding countryside. The photographs were taken from about 1880 until 1899, according to Kathryn E. O'Brien, Kennedy's granddaughter. The photographs show mainly downtown Glens Falls, along with some views of the Hudson River, the bridge crossing it to South Glens Falls, and Cooper's Cave. Also shown are street scenes, buildings and homes, along with winter scenes, farm animals, and general countryside views. Included are photographs of workers laying pipe, an ice truck, Union School Number 1, Lake George, the boat Ticonderoga, and hunting and fishing scenes. The photographs are black and white contact prints made from glass plate negatives by Jan Graham, owner of Pet Portrait Studios in Hudson Falls.

## **PROVENANCE**

The glass plate negatives from which these prints were made were owned by Kathryn E. O'Brien, William Wallace Kennedy's granddaughter.

## **INDEX TERMS**

- Topics:** Bridges—New York (State)—Glens Falls Region—  
Photographs.  
Buildings—New York (State)—Glens Falls Region—  
Photographs.  
Landscape—New York (State)—Warren County—  
Photographs.
- Places:** Glens Falls (N.Y.)—Buildings, structures, etc.—  
Photographs.  
Glens Falls (N.Y.)—History—Photographs.  
Hudson River (N.Y. and N.J.)—History—Photographs.  
George, Lake (N.Y.:Lake)—History—Photographs.
- Important People:** Graham, Jan.  
Kennedy, William Wallace, 1855-1929.  
O'Brien, Kathryn E., 1904-1979.
- Form/Genre:** Photographs.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

**Preferred Citation:** William Wallace Kennedy Photograph Collection,  
Center for Folklife, History, and Cultural Programs,  
Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls, NY.

**Accession Information:** Accession Number 1986-005.  
Gift of Jan Graham, 1986.

**Processing Information:** Arranged and described by Albert W. Fowler and Laura Van  
Guilder, 2005.