

Truman H. Bartlett (1835-1923)
Lincoln Images Collection
FB-125

Introduction

This collection contains over 30 images of Abraham Lincoln, 16th President of the United States, collected by author, educator and sculptor Truman H. Bartlett (1835-1923), a native of Dorset, Vermont, and a resident of Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts. Mr. Bartlett gave the collection to the Vermont Historical Society in 1921. At one time it had the collection number M199. The collection is currently housed in one archival flip-top box and consumes .25 linear feet of shelf space.

Biography

Thomas Howe Bartlett was an author, educator and sculptor who made a life-long study of facial forms and was considered one of the early American authorities on this subject. According to his obituary, he was born, the son of Buckley Howe and Henriette (Richardson) Bartlett, on 25 October 1835 in Dorset, Vermont. His study of art took him to New York City, Rome, and Paris and he later became an instructor in MIT's architecture department. One of his better known works was the Horace Wells Monument in Hartford, Connecticut. He died in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, on 17 February 1922.

Bartlett was especially fascinated by Lincoln's face. In 1907, he published an article entitled "The Physiognomy of Lincoln" (*McClure's Magazine*, August 1907, vol. 29, no. 4).

Scope and Content

This collection was assembled by Truman H. Bartlett, a sculptor and student of early facial forms, possibly as part of his research for one of his articles, "The Physiognomy of Lincoln" (1907) or "Essay on the Portraits of Lincoln," that appeared in Carl Schurz's book *Abraham Lincoln: A Biographical Essay* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin & Co., 1927).

The collection is divided into four categories and arranged by number. It is not clear if the numbers were assigned by Mr. Bartlett or by Vermont Historical Society staff members. The collection contains a mixture of cabinet card photographs, copy photographs and magazine or book reproductions. The backs of many of the images contain notes in Mr. Bartlett's hand. They often contain rubber stamp impressions with Mr. Bartlett's name or that of Frederick Hill Meserve, the great collector of Lincoln portraits. Some of the images are reference by "Meserve numbers." The 30 images in the first four folders of the collection are inventoried at the item level.

In addition to the 30 numbered images the collection includes four folders of unnumbered images. These folders contain a photographic copy of a painting of Lincoln, several images of sculptures of Lincoln, two images of life masks of Lincoln, and various

clippings of Lincoln images. The collection also includes Mr. Bartlett's article on physiognomy and a few letters from Mr. Bartlett to VHS Librarian Herbert W. Denio.

Inventory

FB-125:01	Images 1.1 to 1.5
02	Images 2.1 to 2.5
03	Images 3.1 to 3.2
04	Images 4.1 to 4.8
05	Lincoln Portrait
06	Lincoln Sculptures
07	Lincoln Life Masks
08	Reproductions
09	Articles by Truman H. Bartlett
10	Letters from Truman H. Bartlett

Detailed Inventory

Item No.	Physical Description	Year	Description
1.1	Waist up pose 5 1/4 x 4	1848/9	A poor print from a daguerreotype, original owned by Rob't Lincoln.
1.2	Head shot 2 1/4 x 1 3/4	1860	Campaign photo. Used as the model for the first known painting of Lincoln as an orator. Back of photo stamped "Collection of Americana" Frederick Hill Meserve, NY.
1.3	Waist up pose, holding Press and Tribune news-paper 4 3/8 x 2 7/8	Oct, 1854	Chicago, IL. The Schneider photo. Stamped "Truman H. Bartlett, Jamaica Plain, MA." See reprinted enlargement in 1.7
1.4	Waist up, looking right. 5 5/8 x 4 1/16		Picture in Coffins book. From daguerreotype owned by W. H. Lambert.
1.5	Bust pose, looking left. Oval picture in rectangle frame of cardboard. 7 3/16 x 5 1/16		Stamp by F. Gutenkunst of Philadelphia, PA. From ambrotype owned by W. H. Lambert.
	Waist up, looking left 7 x 5 1/2	1860	Probably clipped from a book, "from the photograph made by Hessler, immediately after Lincoln's nomination". M199 1.6
	Waist up pose, holding Press and Tribune news-paper 7 3/4 x 5 1/2	1854 & 1863	From a photograph taken in 1854 in Chicago, IL. Owned by Mr. George Schneider. This is a larger reprint of 1.3. Reverse is a photo taken by Brady in 1863. M199 1.7

	Bust, looking right 5 13/16 x 3 9/16	1858	POSTCARD "These cards are sold in the interest of the Cunningham Children's Home, Urbana, Illinois." Taken in Urbana, IL, summer of 1858. M199 1.8
	Bust, looking right, on oval 5 7/8 x 4 3/16	1860	WITH ATTACHED LETTER FROM SON OF PHOTOGRAPHER, Phila, 5 Jan 1893. Photo by F. Gutenkunst, ltr to Mr. F. H. Bartlett. M199 1.9
	Waist, looking left 4 x 3		"Clipped with #4 Lambert" See also 1.11 M199 1.10
	Waist, looking left 3 15/16 x 2 7/8		"Clipped with #4 Lambert" See also 1.10 M199 1.11
	Waist, looking slightly left 8 3/16 x 6	June 1860	"One of four photos made by Hessler, Springfield, IL." Handwritten "VERY RARE COPY". Bartlett M199 1.12
	Bust, looking left (almost full profile) 6 1/2 x 4 1/4	Feb 1857/8	Taken while Lincoln was on vacation. First photo of Lincoln by Hessler. From Bartlett, with story of Lincolns' mussed hair. M199 1.13
	Waist, nearly straight on, arms folded. 5 3/8 x 4	Aug 1860	"From an _____ taken in Springfield, Ill. In Aug, '60". M199 1.14
	Bust,, almost straight on. Oval 2 7/16 x 1 7/8 Back 3 1/4 x 2 1/4		Frederick Hill Meserve, NY, NY M199 1.15
	Waist, straight on. arms folded 3 1/4 x 2 1/4		One of a series called "The Emancipation photos". In envelope from W. B. Clarke Co, Boston. Frederick Hill Meserve, NY, NY See also 2.2. M199 2.1
	Waist, straight on. arms folded 3 1/4 x 2 1/4		One of a series called "The Emancipation photos". In envelope from W. B. Clarke Co, Boston. Frederick Hill Meserve, NY, NY See also 2.1. M199 2.2
	Standing, looking right (oblique) 3 1/4 x 2 1/8		#76 (?) Frederick Hill Meserve, NY, NY M199 2.3
	Bust, looking left, oval 2 x 1 1/2 (Looks very ill) 3 1/4 x 2 1/8		#93 (?) Frederick Hill Meserve, NY, NY M199 2.4
	Seated, full body, looking left oblique. 10 3/8 x 7 1/4	16 Nov 1863	#58 One of two, the Gettysburg Photos, reduced from the larger folio original in Meserve Collection. This is the only photo of Lincoln showing him seated with his body

			well shown. Taken three days before the Gettysburg Address. *See variation 4.6 *M199 2.5
	Standing, full frontal 4 5/8 x 4 1/16	Bef Nov 1863	Antietam. One of two taken, looks like Allan Pinkerton and Gen. John McClernand. M199 3.1
	Standing, full body, left profile. 7 1/16 x 4 3/4	Bef Nov 1863	One of four photos taken at Antietam when Lincoln went to see McClellan. After the battle but before the Emancipation Proclamation. VHS 2979. M199 3.2
	Seated, full body, body @ left oblique, face nearly full on. With table and book. 4 1/2 x 2 15/16		One of "The Emancipation" series. M199 4.1
	Waist, nearly full right profile. 3 1/4 x 2 1/8 Backing: 5 1/8 x 2 7/8		"I think this is the greatest photo of Lincoln ever made or known as such". M199 4.2
	Bust, right profile 10 3/8 x 7 3/8		From Brady's negative, furnished by Anthony of N.Y. M199 4.3
	Bust, right, 1/2 oblique. 8 1/2 x 7 1/2		Not identified. Lincoln with arms crossed. M199 4.4
	Standing, body straight on, slight right profile. 4 1/16 x 2 1/2		First photo of Lincoln as President; standing. By Bussell, Quincy. In envelope from W. B. Clarke Co, Boston. M199 4.5
	Seated, full body, oval 8 3/4 x 6 1/2 10 1/8 x 7 5/8	16 Nov 1863	Variation of M199 2.5 Second of two taken at Gettysburg, three days before the Gettysburg Address.M199 4.6
	Seated, full body looking at camera with slight right profile. 8 1/2 x 6 1/4		From a photograph taken after the announcement of the Emancipation Proclamation. (Appears to be from a book). M199 4.7
	Bust, slight right oblique. 10 x 8		Photo of photo of Lincoln. Original photo inscribed to Mrs. Lucy Speed on 5 Oct 1861. Presented to donor by grand-daughter of Mrs. Speed. M199 4.8