Delaware postcard collection
circa 1881-2014

Abstract: The Delaware postcard collection houses examples of many of the different types of postcards produced from the late nineteenth century to the modern era, including real photo postcards, linen postcards, and photochrome or chrome postcards. It also serves as a visual record of the historic and geographic changes in Delaware over this time period.
## Descriptive Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identification:</th>
<th>PPI 100</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title:</td>
<td>Delaware postcard collection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inclusive Dates:</td>
<td>circa 1881-2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent:</td>
<td>1.75 linear feet and 1 album (7 boxes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language:</td>
<td>Materials entirely in English.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Administrative Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Citation:</th>
<th>PPI 100, Delaware postcard collection, Special Collections, University of Delaware Library, Newark, Delaware.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shelving Summary:</td>
<td>Boxes 1-7: Shelved in SPEC PPI shoeboxes; Box 7: Shelved in SPEC PPI volumes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>Special Collections, University of Delaware Library Newark, Delaware 19717-5267 Phone: 302-831-2229 Fax: 302-831-6003 URL: <a href="http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec/">http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source:</td>
<td>Transfer, gift, and purchase. See &quot;Scope and Content Note&quot; for further acknowledgments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials Available in Alternative Format:</td>
<td>Digital copies of many of the postcards are available through the University of Delaware Library's Digital Collections website at ARTstor Commons. Not all postcards are available digitally, as they are still under copyright to their creator.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access Restrictions:</td>
<td>The collection is open for research.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terms Governing Use and Reproduction:</td>
<td>Use of materials from this collection beyond the exceptions provided for in the Fair Use and Educational Use clauses of the U.S. Copyright Law may violate federal law. Permission to publish or reproduce is required from the copyright holder. Please contact Special Collections, University of Delaware Library, <a href="http://www.lib.udel.edu/cgi-bin/askspec.cgi">http://www.lib.udel.edu/cgi-bin/askspec.cgi</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Historical Note

The Delaware postcard collection houses examples of many of the different types of postcards produced from the late nineteenth century to the modern era, including real photo postcards, linen postcards, and photochrome or chrome postcards. It also serves as a visual record of the historic and geographic changes in Delaware over this time period.

Sources:

Information derived from the collection.
Scope and Content Note

The Delaware postcard collection comprises over two thousand postcards of Delaware and nearby areas, representing well-known Delaware buildings, monuments, views, and small town life, including street scenes and domestic buildings.

The postcards in the collection date primarily from the very end of the nineteenth century to the mid-twentieth, although there are also postcards published into the twenty-first century. Most of the cards in the collection were commercially produced and represent well-known Delaware buildings, monuments, and views, such as the State Capitol in Dover, Wilmington's downtown buildings and historic structures, Rehoboth and other beaches and boardwalks, and the University of Delaware/Delaware College. A number of the cards, though, document small town life in Delaware, including street scenes and domestic buildings. In addition to documenting the built landscape of Delaware as it existed during the last hundred years, some of these images may not exist in any other format.

Along with buildings, the collection also represents aspects of social life in Delaware during the past century. Some of the cards were produced privately and are in fact photographs that have been printed onto postcard paper. These were created by individuals for the consumption of their own small circle of family and friends and were not mass-produced or sold in retail stores. These postcards document many aspects of society including firemen at work, literary societies, and sports teams.

Although most of the cards depict sights in Delaware, the collection also contains images of places outside the State, most notably Longwood Gardens in nearby Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. Other cards are simply related to Delaware. These include Delaware buildings built for fairs and expositions, ships that were based in Delaware, and the battleship, the U.S.S. Delaware. Other postcards represent Delaware soldiers during the Mexican Campaign of 1916.

Postcards are not only visual records. Many of the postcards were in fact mailed and so contain written messages, stamps, and postmarks. The backs of the cards were also printed with information about the publisher, captions describing the image, and ornament. The printed text, along with the stamp and postmark, can help to date and place the manufacture and use of the cards. Alternatively, the captions and written messages contain a wealth of information that can be used to learn about the postcard's image or to illuminate the attitudes and interests of the past.

The University of Delaware Library wishes to acknowledge the many donors who have made it possible to build this collection. It is possible to search the University of Delaware Library's Digital Collections website at ARTstor Commons to see which cards were provided by each individual donor.

Donors include:

Mrs. Charles Wood Audet
Susan Beliberg
Robert Chiesa
Thomas Duszak
Robert D. Fleck
Selected Search Terms

**Topical Terms**

Postcards--Delaware.

Postcards--Middle Atlantic States.

Architecture--Delaware--History--19th century.

Architecture--Delaware--History--20th century.

**Geographic Names**

Delaware.

Middle Atlantic States.

**Form/Genre Terms**

Postcards.

Picture postcards.

Photographic postcards.
Arrangement

I. Delaware
   A. Kent County
   B. New Castle County
   C. Sussex County

II. Maryland

III. Middle Atlantic

IV. New Jersey
   A. Burlington County
   B. Salem County

V. New York (State)

VI. Pennsylvania
   A. Bucks County
   B. Chester County
   C. Delaware County

VII. Virginia
   A. James City County

VIII. Oversize postcards
Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I.
Delaware [Box 1]

View images

Subseries I.A.
Kent County [Box 1]

View images
Bowers [Box 1]
View images
Camden [Box 1]
View images
Clayton [Box 1]
View images
Dover [Box 1]
View images
Felton [Box 1]
View images
Harrington [Box 1]
View images
Smyrna [Box 1]
View images
Woodland Beach [Box 1]
View images
Wyoming [Box 1]
View images

Subseries I.B.
New Castle County [Box 1-6]

View images
Arden [Box 1]
View images
Augustine Beach [Box 1]
View images
Blackbird [Box 1]
View images
Centerville [Box 1]
View images
Christiana [Box 1]
View images
Claymont [Box 1]

Delaware City [Box 1]

Farnhurst [Box 1]

Granogue [Box 1]

Greenbank [Box 1]

Greenville [Box 1]

Hockessin [Box 1]

Kiamensi [Box 1]

Lorewood Grove [Box 1]

Marshallton [Box 1]

Middletown [Box 2]

Millcreek [Box 2]

New Castle [Box 2]

Newark [Box 2]

Odessa [Box 2]

Pea Patch Island [Box 2]

Rising Sun [Box 2]

Saint Georges [Box 2]

Talleyville [Box 2]

Townsend [Box 2]
Wilmington [Box 3-6]

Winterthur [Box 5]

Wooddale [Box 6]

Yorklyn [Box 6]

Subseries I.C.

Sussex County [Box 6-7]

Angola [Box 6]

Bethany Beach [Box 6]

Bridgeville [Box 6]

Cape Henlopen [Box 6]

Dagsboro [Box 6]

Delmar [Box 6]

Dewey Beach [Box 6]

Ellendale [Box 6]

Fenwick Island [Box 6]

Georgetown [Box 6]

Greenwood [Box 6]

Indian River Bay [Box 6]

Laurel [Box 6]

Lewes [Box 6]
Series I. Subseries I.C.

Milford [Box 6]  
View images
Millsboro [Box 6]  
View images
Millville [Box 6]  
View images
Milton [Box 6]  
View images
Oak Orchard [Box 6]  
View images
Ocean View [Box 6]  
View images
Rehoboth Beach [Box 7]  
View images
Seaford [Box 7]  
View images
Selbyville [Box 7 Box 7]  
View images

Series II.  
Maryland [Box 7]  
View images

Series III.  
Middle Atlantic [Box 7]  
View images

Series IV.  
New Jersey [Box 7]  
View images

Subseries IV.A.  
Burlington County [Box 7]  
View images

Subseries IV.B.  
Salem County [Box 7]  
View images

Pennsville [Box 7]
Series IV. Subseries IV.B.

Series V.
New York (State) [Box 7]

Series VI.
Pennsylvania [Box 7]

Subseries VI.A.
Bucks County [Box 7]

Subseries VI.B.
Chester County [Box 5]

Subseries VI.C.
Delaware County [Box 7]

Series VII.
Virginia [Box 7]

Subseries VII.A.
James City County [Box 7]

Series VIII.
Oversize postcards [Album 8]