Session 2
Photograph as Archive: Chansonetta Stanley Emmons

David Odo, Director of Student Programs and Research Curator for University Collections Initiatives, Harvard Art Museums

Looking at the large body of work by Maine photographer Chansonetta Stanley Emmons (1858-1937), this session will examine the archival function of photography.

Discussion Questions:

What are the research methods students might employ in the museum to research such photographs?

How are meanings framed by the shape of the collection and how does the fact that there is a seemingly complete body of photographs impact our understanding of history?

What was the context of creation/collection/acquisition of the photographs that today constitutes an archive?

Why are material traces in an archive, such as these photographs, so powerful?
### Exhibition checklist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Dimensions</th>
<th>Gift of</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1964.176</td>
<td><em>Chansonetta Stanley Emmons Photograph of Herself, By Herself</em></td>
<td>Chansonetta Stanley Emmons</td>
<td>Gelatin silver print on paper&lt;br&gt;3 15/16 in. x 4 9/16 in. (10 cm x 11.59 cm)</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Irl G. Whitchurch</td>
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<tr>
<td>1964.159</td>
<td><em>Sharpening the Scythe</em></td>
<td>Chansonetta Stanley Emmons</td>
<td>Gelatin silver print on paper&lt;br&gt;4 11/16 in. x 6 5/8 in. (11.91 cm x 16.83 cm)</td>
<td>circa 1915</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Irl G. Whitchurch</td>
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<tr>
<td>1964.162</td>
<td><em>Noonday Meal</em></td>
<td>Chansonetta Stanley Emmons</td>
<td>Gelatin silver print on paper&lt;br&gt;4 5/8 in. x 6 5/8 in. (11.75 cm x 16.83 cm)</td>
<td>circa 1900</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Irl G. Whitchurch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1964.163</td>
<td><em>Great Grandmother Reading the Bible</em></td>
<td>Chansonetta Stanley Emmons</td>
<td>Gelatin silver print on paper&lt;br&gt;4 5/8 in. x 6 5/8 in. (11.75 cm x 16.83 cm)</td>
<td>1918</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Irl G. Whitchurch</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
1964.177
Chansonetta Stanley Emmons
Morning Call, Vermont
1918
Gelatin silver print on paper
4 9/16 in. x 6 9/16 in. (11.59 cm x 16.67 cm)
Gift of Dr. Irl G. Whitchurch

1964.180
Chansonetta Stanley Emmons
Churning
circa 1905
Gelatin silver print on paper
4 5/8 in. x 6 3/16 in. (11.75 cm x 15.72 cm)
Gift of Dr. Irl G. Whitchurch

1964.185
Chansonetta Stanley Emmons
Woman Spinning
circa 1900
Gelatin silver print on paper
4 7/16 in. x 6 3/8 in. (11.27 cm x 16.19 cm)
Colby College Museum of Art; Gift of Dr. Irl G. Whitchurch