



# THE URBANA FREE LIBRARY

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Kip Pope  
Photograph Collection, 1938-2019

Collection 379

## Champaign County Historical Archives

**Compiled by:** Shalini Smith, July 2024  
**Creator/Corporate Name:** Kip Pope  
**Inclusive Dates:** 1938-2019, bulk 1950-1999  
**Physical Description:** 2 boxes, (1 linear ft.)  
**Language:** English

### Provenance:

The Kip Pope photograph collection was donated to the Champaign County Historical Archives in March 2020 by Kip Pope.

### Access:

These records are accessible to the public within applicable copyright restrictions and limited to use at the Champaign County Historical Archives of The Urbana Free Library.

### Historical Note:

A long-term business in the area, C and U Poster Advertising Co. was founded in 1912. Robert Pope, who worked for the company in the late 1930s, took over as president in the mid-1960s. He and his wife Barbara were the co-owners of the business until it was sold to relatives in 1984. From 1989 through 2001, the company was managed by their son Kip Pope. Afterwards, it was sold to Adams Outdoor Advertising Co.

During World War II, the company posted numerous advertisements to promote war bonds. In addition to commercial advertisements, C and U Poster donated billboard space for dozens of public service advertisements annually. The business was also the recipient of the American Chiropractic Association's National Community Service Award in both 1980 and 1981. This annual award was presented to outdoor advertising companies that contributed to public health education.

### Scope and Content Note:

The collection mainly consists of photographs of local buildings, billboards, streets, and automotive artwork. Also included are images that are paired with correspondence and sets of photographs with a narrative.

Location information for some of the photographs has been added by the archivist. This information can be found in brackets on the reverse side of the photograph.

The automotive art subseries is currently unprocessed due to preservation concerns.710

### Arrangement:

The collection is arranged into 3 series: Correspondence and Records, Photographs, and Slides.



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**Series 1: Correspondence and Records** contains records, correspondence regarding images, and paper ephemera such as letterhead and newspaper articles.

**Series 2: Photographs** is further split into 5 subseries.

**Subseries 1: Automotive Art** consists of photographs of art and signage on automobiles.

**Subseries 2: Billboards** contain images of specific billboard advertisements or billboard infrastructure.

**Subseries 3: Businesses and Buildings** feature photographs where the main subject is either a specific business or a building.

**Subseries 4: General Photographs** consist of photographs that show an area of Champaign or Urbana. A few landscape photos are also included in this subseries.

**Subseries 5: Streets and Addresses** has photographs of specific streets, intersections, or addresses.

**Series 3: Slides** contains a variety of photographic slides. Most belong to a set, but there are also unidentified slides.

## Subject Terms:

Billboards

Champaign (Ill.)

Champaign (Ill.) -- Buildings, structures, etc.

Champaign (Ill.) -- Businesses

Railroads

Savings bonds

Urbana (Ill.)

Urbana (Ill.) -- Buildings, structures, etc.

Urbana (Ill.) -- Businesses

Bradley Ave (Champaign), West

Cunningham Ave (Urbana), North

First St (Champaign), South

Green St (Champaign), East

Interstate Highway I-72

Interstate Highway I-74

Kirby Ave (Champaign)

Mattis Ave (Champaign), North

Neil St (Champaign), North

Neil St (Champaign), South

Prospect Ave (Champaign), North

Randolph Ave (Champaign), North

Randolph Ave (Champaign), South

Springfield Ave (Champaign), East

Springfield Ave (Champaign), West

State St (Champaign)



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University Ave (Champaign), East  
University Ave (Urbana), East  
University Ave (Urbana), West  
Vine St (Urbana), North  
Walnut St (Champaign), North  
Walnut St (Champaign), South

## **Name Terms:**

A. E. Wuesteman Jewelers  
Art Theater  
Blakeman, T. J.  
Bland Upholstery (Champaign, Ill.)  
C and U Poster Advertising Co. (Champaign, Ill.)  
Campustown  
Champaign County Fair  
Champaign County Historical Archives  
Champaign National Bank (Champaign, Ill.)  
Curry's Cafe (Urbana, Ill.)  
Elite Diner (Urbana, Ill.)  
First National Bank in Champaign (Champaign, Ill.)  
Five Points (Urbana, Ill.)  
Flat Iron Building (Champaign, Ill.)  
Hosier, Dan  
Hosier, Mike  
Joseph Kuhn and Co. (Champaign, Ill.)  
Long Lumber Co.  
M. J. Reed Jewelers (Champaign, Ill.)  
Noel, Middleton, and Craver Law Firm (Urbana, Ill.)  
Park Theater (Champaign, Ill.)  
Piggly-Wiggly  
Pope, Kip Randolph  
Pope, Robert P.  
Rialto Theater (Champaign, Ill.)  
Vriner's Cafe (Urbana, Ill.)

## **Container List**

### **Box 1**

#### **Series 1: Correspondence and Records**

Folder 1: Art Theater, 2018, 2019, undated



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Folder 2: Contracts, C and U Poster Advertising Company, 1946, 1948, 1957, 1965

Folder 3: Correspondence, Joseph Kuhn, 1997, undated

Folder 4: Correspondence and Photographs, Champaign County Historical Archives, 1996-1997, 2003, 2009, undated

Folder 5: Correspondence and Photographs, First National Bank, 2019, undated

Folder 6: Correspondence and Photographs, Kip Pope, Mike and Dan Hosier, 1965, 2011, undated

Folder 7: Correspondence and Photographs, M.J. Reed Jewelers, A. E. Wuesteman Jewelers, 2018-2019, undated

Folder 8: Letterhead, Law Offices of Noel, Middleton, and Craver, undated

Folder 9: Newspaper Clipping, T. J. Blakeman, 2015

## **Series 2: Photographs**

### **Subseries 1: Automotive Art**

Unprocessed

### **Subseries 2: Billboards**

Folder 10: Billboards, Bob Pope for City Council, 1967, undated

Folder 11: Billboards, General, 1995, undated

Folder 12: Billboards, War Bonds, undated

### **Subseries 3: Businesses and Buildings**

Folder 13: Bland Upholstery, undated

Folder 14: Buildings and Businesses, Champaign, circa 1950-1992, undated

Folder 15: Buildings and Businesses, unknown locations, undated

Folder 16: Buildings and Businesses, Urbana, 1983, undated

Folder 17: Champaign National Bank, undated

Folder 18: Curry's Cafe, Vriner's Cafe, circa 1950, undated

Folder 19: Drive-in Theatre, North of Rantoul, undated

Folder 20: Elite Diner, undated

Folder 21: Flat Iron Building, circa 1920-1940

Folder 22: Long Lumber Co., 1965, circa 1980, undated

Folder 23: Park Theater, Rialto Theater, 1938, undated

Folder 24: Piggly Wiggly, undated

### **Subseries 4: General Photographs**

Folder 25: Campustown, 1963-1996, undated

Folder 26: Downtown Champaign, 1961, undated

Folder 27: Downtown Champaign, image set, circa 1985-1986

Folder 28: Downtown Champaign in Winter, image set, 1990

Folder 29: Five Points Urbana, image set, 1954-1959

Folder 30: Landscapes, 1993, 1997, undated

### **Subseries 5: Streets and Addresses**

Folder 31: Bradley Ave (Champaign), West and Prospect Ave (Champaign), North, undated

Folder 32: Cunningham Ave (Urbana), North, undated

Folder 33: First St (Champaign), South, circa 1980



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Folder 34: First St (Champaign), South and Green St (Champaign), East, undated

## Box 2

### Subseries 5: Streets and Addresses, cont.

Folder 1: First St (Champaign), South and Springfield Ave (Champaign), East, circa 1980

Folder 2: Green St (Champaign), East, undated

Folder 3: Interstate Highway I-72, undated

Folder 4: Interstate Highway I-74, undated

Folder 5: Mattis Ave (Champaign), North, undated

Folder 6: Neil St (Champaign) and Green St (Champaign), image set, 1957-1961

Folder 7: Neil St (Champaign), North, circa 1980-1990, undated

Folder 8: Neil St (Champaign), South, 1995

Folder 9: Neil St (Champaign), South, image set, 1999

Folder 10: Prospect Ave (Champaign), North, 1980, 1999, undated

Folder 11: Randolph Ave (Champaign), North, undated

Folder 12: Randolph Ave (Champaign), South, undated

Folder 13: Springfield Ave (Champaign), West, 1984, undated

Folder 14: State St (Champaign) and Kirby Ave (Champaign), undated

Folder 15: Street Views, Champaign, 1957, 1970-1992, undated

Folder 16: Street Views, Mahomet, undated

Folder 17: Street Views, Urbana, 1965-1980, undated

Folder 18: University Ave (Champaign), East, 1999, 2010, undated

Folder 19: University Ave (Champaign), East, 600 Block, 1955

Folder 20: University Ave (Urbana), East, undated

Folder 21: University Ave (Urbana), West, undated

Folder 22: Vine St (Urbana), North, undated

Folder 23: Walnut St (Champaign), North, image set, circa 1984-1990

Folder 24: Walnut St (Champaign), South, undated

### Series 3: Slides

Folder 25: Slides, Champaign, 1990, undated

Folder 26: Slides, Champaign County Fair, 1978

Folder 27: Slides, Champaign Buildings, July 1993

Folder 28: Slides, General, undated

Folder 29: Slides, Railroad Overpasses of Champaign, 1977, 1980

Folder 30: Slides, Urbana, 1969