

**Chicago Academy of Sciences / Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum**  
**ARCHIVES – FINDING AID**

**Collection Title:** Ida E.S. Noyes Papers

**Creator:** Noyes, Ida Elizabeth Smith (1853-1912)

**Dates:** 1897-1899

**Language:** English

**Extent:** 1 Linear Feet (1 flat storage box)

**Level of Description:** Folder Level

**Repository:** Museum Collections and Archives, Chicago Academy of Sciences /Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, Chicago, Illinois.

**Access Conditions:** Open for research.

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**Citation:** Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [item], [folder], [box], Ida E.S. Noyes Papers, Chicago Academy of Sciences / Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum.

**Acquisition Information:** May be related to accessions 3642 or 3643, donations from LaVerne Noyes.

**Processor and Date:** Amber K. King, September 2010

**Processing Note:** Note penned by Kathryn Gloyd (employee of Academy, librarian) found with photo albums now in people files in Collections office.

**Biographical Sketch:** Ida Elizabeth Smith Noyes was born on April 16, 1853 in Croton, Delaware. The family moved from their Delaware home to Iowa in 1857. She graduated from Iowa State University at Ames in 1874 and then returned home to Charles City and began teaching at the Charles City High School. Three years later she married LaVerne Noyes whom she had met while in college. A year later the couple moved to Chicago where her husband began manufacturing a device suggested by his wife,

the wire dictionary stand. While her husband was inventing, Ida enrolled in the Art Institute to follow her ambition to become an artist. Her medium became photography. She traveled extensively with her husband and/or friends to Europe, the Pacific Coast of the United States of America, the West Indies, and other locations abroad.

She was also active within the Chicago community in many organizations with particular emphasis on those that focused on woman as well as a long-time member and officer in the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). Ida Noyes died in December 5, 1912 after falling ill the year before. In honor of his wife, LaVerne Noyes donated money to the University of Chicago for the construction of Ida Noyes Hall. As the women of the University were not allowed in the men's halls or to utilize their gymnasiums or other extracurricular spaces, the hall was given so that women collegiate had a space to relax and participate in extracurricular activities and sports. The building, though modified extensively inside, still stands on the University of Chicago campus.

**Scope and Content:** This collection consists of two photographic albums that record parts of two trips that Ida Noyes took with her husband LaVerne Noyes: one trip to various islands in the, then, West Indies and the other to Alaska and Yellowstone National Park. The albums consist of "snapshots" of the journey interspersed with more professional photographs. While she intermittently gives the names of some of the people she photographed, most often it is the natural setting that she prefers to focus on. Of special note are four to five photographs of William Jennings Bryan and his family, who were on the same train as she and her husband when they were traveling to Yellowstone National Park.

**Series Description:**

**Series 1: Photo Albums (1897-1899)**

This series includes two photo albums. The first album is the first volume of a collection of black and white photographic prints from a trip Ida Noyes made with her husband LaVerne Noyes to the West Indies aboard the steamship, "Paris." The couple visited Haiti, Puerto Rico, St. Thomas, Montserrat, Dominica, Barbados, Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago, Martinique, and Jamaica. She seemed awestruck by the damage caused by a Hurricane in September of 1898 to various places on Barbados. The second photo album is the second volume of a collection of black and white photographic prints from a trip the couple made to: Alaska: Muir Glacier, Killisnoo, Salisbury Sound, Sitka, Taku Inlet and Glacier, Juneau, Sumdum and Patterson Glacier, Grenville Channel; Washington: Port Townsend and Spokane; Idaho: Hope; Montana: Plains, Berma, Livingston; Wyoming: Gardiner; and various formations in Yellowstone National Park. Both photo albums appear to be one volume of a larger set. They are not Volume 1 and 2 of a complete set.

**Container List:**

<b>Photo Box 1 (RVWD.302 Film Room.Unit 2.F)</b>			
<b>Series 1: Photography</b>			
	<b><i>Sub-series 1: Photo Albums</i></b>		
	1	"A Cruise in The West Indies during the month of March 1899, in the S.S. Paris, Vol. 1: Hayti[sic], Porto[sic] Rico, St. Thomas, Barbados, Trinidad, Martinique, and to Jamaica" (277 photographic prints)	March 1899
	2	Vol. 2 – Aboard "The Queen" Alaska/ Yellowstone National Park (218 photographic prints)	1897