

**The New York Public Library
Stephen A. Schwarzman Building
Manuscripts and Archives Division**

Guide to the

Katharine Tomkins Villard photograph albums and scrapbooks

circa 1899-1933

MssCol NYGB 18133

Compiled by Valerie Wingfield, March 2009

Summary

Creator: Villard, Katharine Tomkins

Title: Katharine Tomkins Villard photograph albums and scrapbooks, circa 1899-1933

Size: 2.25 linear feet (9 boxes)

Source: Gift of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, 2008

Abstract: Katharine Tomkins Villard (1904-2000) was a member of the socially prominent Tomkins and Villard families of New York City. The collection consists chiefly of family photograph albums, documenting her life from childhood through the early years of her marriage to Vincent S. Villard in 1928. Also included in the collection are a childhood scrapbook, and a scrapbook of solicitations from bridal businesses sent to her sister-in-law Mariquita after her engagement was announced in the newspapers in 1928.

Access: Apply in the Special Collections Office for admission to the Manuscripts and Archives Division.

Preferred citation: Katharine Tomkins Villard Photograph Albums and Scrapbooks, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library.

Creator history

Katharine Tomkins Villard (1904-2000) was the daughter of Calvin Tomkins and Kittie Neilley Tomkins. Born into a family of wealth and privilege, she attended the Spence School of Manhattan and the Ethel Walker School of Connecticut. She graduated from Bryn Mawr College in 1926 and became engaged to Vincent S. Villard in 1928. Her husband, was the great grandson of William Lloyd Garrison, the grandson of Henry Villard, and the nephew of actor Vincent Serrano.

Scope and content note

The collection consists chiefly of family photograph albums documenting her life from childhood through the early years of her marriage to Vincent S. Villard in 1928. Also included in the collection are a childhood scrapbook, and a scrapbook of solicitations from bridal businesses sent to her sister-in-law Mariquita after her engagement was announced in the newspapers in 1928. The albums include images of the Tomkins family enjoying recreational activities, pictures of Villard as a child aboard ocean liners, European travel photographs, school and camp friends and outings, and pictures of Katharine as a young wife with friends and family in Llewellyn Park, New Jersey, Tomkins Cove, New York, and other

locations.

Arrangement

The Katharine Tomkins Villard photograph albums and scrapbooks are organized into the following series:

Series I. Photograph albums, circa 1889-1933

Series II. Scrapbooks, 1928, undated

Key terms

Subjects

Upper class -- New York (State) -- New York
Wedding supplies and services industry -- United States

Places

New York (N.Y.) -- Social life and customs -- 20th century

Names

Tompkins family
Villard, Katharine Tomkins
Villard, Mariquita
Villard, Vincent Serrano
Villard family

Special formats

Ephemera
Photograph albums
Scrapbooks

Container list

Series I. Photograph albums, circa 1889-1933

- b.1 Childhood, circa 1899-1907
On a cruise, relatives, summertime, social activities
- b.2 Tomkins family
- b.3 1907-1909
Katharine Tomkins on cruise to/from Europe, London, Amsterdam and other cities
- b.4 Tomkins as a young girl through teenage years
- b.5-6 European travel (2 albums)
- b.7-8 1928-1933 (1 album in two boxes)
Katharine and Vincent Villard, Mariquita, family activities, relatives, Llewellyn Park, Tomkins Cove

Series II. Scrapbooks, 1928, undated

- b.9 Childhood scrapbook, undated
- b.9 Scrapbook of wedding industry solicitations, 1928
- b.9 Loose photographs, undated