

Guess the Photo



Untitled, LC-USW3- 054505-C. FSA–OWI Collection, Library of Congress

As a change of pace in its Guess series, the *Quarterly Newsletter* is featuring an “untitled” photograph from the Farm Security Administration–Office of War Information collection at the Library of Congress (<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/fsa/>). Guess the Station will return in the next issue.

We have some clues to get you started. The only identified photo in the gallery view of 20 photos which includes the guess photo is of freight cars at Chattanooga, Tennessee, in 1942, so it is possible our untitled photo was made nearby in 1942. Let us know where and why you think the photo was taken. We will list everyone with a correct answer in the issue. Peyton Gupton is writing about the construction project.

The photographs in the FSA–OWI Collection form an extensive pictorial record of American life between 1935 and 1944. This U.S. government photography project was headed for most of its existence by Roy E. Stryker, who guided the effort in a succession of government agencies: the Resettlement Administration (1935–

1937), the Farm Security Administration (1937–1942), and the Office of War Information (1942–1944).

The black-and-white portion of the collection consists of about 175,000 negatives, encompassing both negatives that were printed for FSA–OWI use and those that were not printed at the time. “Untitled” shows in 70,426 results, sometimes with a “possibly related” description. The guess photo here contains only the word “untitled.” It is among the negatives that were not printed when the FSA–OWI was active. To view the unprinted negatives, go to the description for any FSA–OWI image and select the “Browse neighboring items by call number” link.

The collection also includes photographs acquired from other governmental and non-governmental sources, including the News Bureau at the Offices of Emergency Management (OEM), various branches of the military, and industrial corporations.

Kodachrome transparencies made by the FSA–OWI are available in a separate section of the catalog: FSA/OWI Color Photographs [view description].