

Tom Burnside photographs, 1954-2007.

Archival Collection 36

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**Title:** Tom Burnside photographs, 1954-2007.

**Creator:** Burnside, Tom.

**Call Number:** Archival Collection 36

**Quantity:** 48 cubic feet (41 archival clamshell binder boxes, 12 large packing boxes, 5 flat boxes, and 82 binders)

**Abstract:** The Tom Burnside photographs, 1954-2007 contains negatives, contact sheets, race programs, news articles, and photograph prints. There are 33,482 black-and-white strip negatives and color transparencies of events such as the Bahamas Speed Weeks; 12 Hours of Sebring; Cuban Grand Prix; Venezuelan Grand Prix; Giants Despair Hill Climb; Brynfan Tyddyn Road Race, SCCA National Championship Races in Maryland, Texas, Virginia, New York, and many more. The races occurred primarily between 1954 through 1967 as well as some in the 2000s. There are also many portraits of prominent racing personalities such as Phil Hill, Carroll Shelby, Alfonso de Portago, Stirling Moss, Juan Manuel Fangio, and more. There are corresponding race programs and news articles about the events included. There are also 12,107 negatives and transparencies of classic and antique car portraits. In addition, there are signed photograph prints and framed prints.

**Language:** Materials are in English.

**Biography:** Tom Burnside, a native New Yorker, was a professional photographer who photographed tennis, basketball, horse shows, fishing, and motorsports throughout his career. He started as a Time-Life stringer for *LIFE* magazine in 1953. From 1954 to 1969, he photographed the emerging U.S. sports car racing scene, first at private courses on regular roads and at obscure airports, then at now-fabled East Coast circuits such as Watkins Glen and Bridgehampton. He also covered international racing when it came to the Americas too.

He was fascinated by the challenge of depicting speed on film, and he worked on his technique over the years, experimenting with cameras, lenses, films, shutter speeds, angles, and more. He often shot very close to the track and got fantastic close-up photographs. He was also noted for getting behind the scenes shots of racing greats such as Phil Hill, Stirling Moss, Carroll Shelby, and more. As racing grew more commercial, he shifted focus and began to photograph classic and antique car portraits.

In 1970, he stopped photographing and moved to Vermont with his wife Elinor. They reissued historic 19<sup>th</sup> century photographic treatises and published a successful catalog of daguerreotypes and other 19<sup>th</sup> century photographs, books, and cameras. In 1989, Tom Burnside and Denise McCluggage printed and exhibited some of his early motorsports photography. In 1996, Burnside and McCluggage created the book *American Racing: Road Racing the 50s and 60s*. He has had numerous one-man exhibitions of his work, and his photographs have been published in many publications, such as *Sports Illustrated*, *AutoWeek*, *Vintage Motorsport*, *BBC Top Gear Magazine*, *Car & Driver*, and *Road & Track*. He has also worked on advertising campaigns for Lederle Labs, Esso, Quaker State Oil as well as doing promotional campaigns for Volvo, Saab, and Jaguar.

**Series 1 (Tom Burnside Motorsport Film Archive, TBMA):** contains negatives and transparencies of racing events such as the Bahamas Speed Weeks; 12 Hours of Sebring; Cuban Grand Prix; Venezuelan Grand Prix; Giants Despair Hill Climb; Brynfan Tyddyn Road Race, SCCA National Championship Races in Maryland, Texas, Virginia, New York, and many more. There are many portraits of drivers as well, such as Phil Hill, Stirling Moss, Carroll Shelby, and more.

**Series 2 (Tom Burnside's Classic & Antique Car Portraits):** contains car portraits, trucks, buses, and various car shows from the 1950s through 1960s.

**Acquisition Note:** The Revs Institute for Automotive Research, Inc. acquired the Tom Burnside photographs, 1954-2007 in 2015 (accession number 2015-012).

**Access Restrictions:** The Tom Burnside photographs, 1954-2007 are open for research.

**Publication Rights:** Copyright has been assigned to the Revs Institute for Automotive Research, Inc. Although copyright was transferred by the donor, copyright in some items in the collection may still be held by their respective creator. The researcher assumes full responsibility for conforming to the laws of libel, privacy, and copyright which may be involved in the use of this collection.

**Citation:** Courtesy of to the Revs Institute for Automotive Research, Inc. Tom Burnside photographs, 1954-2007, Archival Collection 36.

**Processed:** The collection is partially processed.

**RevsCat ID:** 122719

**LC Name Authority for:** None available as of November 2016.

**Virtual International Authority File:** [https://viaf.org/viaf/306080978/#Burnside,\\_Tom](https://viaf.org/viaf/306080978/#Burnside,_Tom)

**Finding aid completion date:** November 2016.

The photograph collection is being processed, but will soon be available on the [Revs Digital Library](#).