



HARRY RANSOM HUMANITIES RESEARCH CENTER
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

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December 14, 1990

Albert Brown
1176 Burke Road
North Balwyn
Victoria, 3104
AUSTRALIA

Dear Mr. Brown:

Thank you very much for your response to our survey. I am looking forward to the arrival of the statement which you mentioned in your last letter.

You also mentioned that you may be able to assist us with the current addresses of other Australian photographers. Do you correspond with George W. Bell? Any information you might provide would be greatly appreciated. Again I would like to thank you for your participation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michelle Burgett".

Michelle Burgett
Bio-file Coordinator
Photography Collection

68 Middle Street
McMahons Point
NSW 2060
Australia
Telephone
(02) 954 9616
Facsimile
(02) 954 9595
A.C.N. 001 895 352

14 April 1994

David Moore Photography Pty Ltd

Albert W Brown
1176 Burke Road
NORTH BALWYN 3104

Dear Albert,

Many thanks for your letter dated 2 April and for the historical information on 'Group M'.

The documents you have put together are of considerable interest for they detail the initial moves towards having documentary photography recognised in Australia.

I have made a few observations or corrections to your paper and enclose photocopies with this letter. Also enclosed are three pages from the publication 'Portrait of a Decade' by F Jack Hurley (ISBN 0-8071-1235-0) which may be of interest concerning Bourke-White for I feel she was not on the FSA team although she did have pictures reproduced in a Stryker book before the formation of the FSA.

Apart from the fine photographer Russell Lee the FSA team included a few others who might be mentioned. The following come to mind: Jack Delano, Marion Post Wolcott and Carl Mydans.

I mention Mydans for I knew him well. He was resident staff photographer in London for LIFE Magazine around 1953. My connection with LIFE allowed for a close friendship. I also saw him several times in New York.

My recollections of Photovision are hazy to say the least. I remember one occasion when I was on the selection panel but I can't add much more except to say the company was most agreeable and seemed to be dedicated to the course of fine photography.

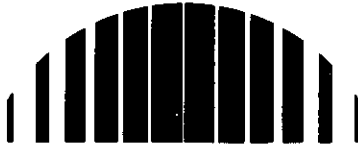
I well remember John Reed who staged my large exhibition in the Museum of Modern Art of Australia (probably 1959). This was titled 'Seven Years a Stranger'. It was composed of photographs I had made in my seven years overseas from 1951 to 1958. Reed was a champion of good things in the arts and his interest and belief in photography was most stimulating.

I hope these few words are of value and I wish you well with your endeavours.

With every good wish,

David

NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA



Mr Albert Brown
1176 Burke Road
Noth Balwyn
Victoria 3104

11 May 1994

Dear Albert

Many thanks for your letter regarding the acquisition of a collection of Atget's photographic negatives by the National Gallery of Victoria in 1969.

If only what you wrote were true!. Unfortunately either Dr Hoff had her facts a bit muddled or, more probably, negotiations fell through because we most certainly do not have any negatives by Atget in the collection.

Thank you for your suggestion regarding the acquisition of contemporary prints by nineteenth century French photographers. Unlike some collecting institutions this Gallery has had a policy for some time now of acquiring only vintage material as opposed to modern restrikes as the original is of infinitely more interest and value. It is of course a much slower (and more expensive) process to form such a collection but better in the long run I believe.

I do appreciate your continued interest in the Gallery's collection and it was good to hear from you.

All the best

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Isobel Crombie".

Isobel Crombie
Curator of Photography

P.S. For your interest I have enclosed a brochure of one of our recent exhibitions that you may not have seen.



**FOREIGN
AFFAIRS AND
TRADE**

International Cultural Relations Branch

30 August 1995

Messrs G Bell and A Brown
69 St David Street
THORNBURY VIC 3071

Dear Sirs

Thank you for your letter of 8 August addressed to Senator Evans concerning information relating to the photographic exhibition "Urban Women", which was displayed in Mexico City during the 1968 Olympic Games. I have been asked to reply to you on the Minister's behalf.

We have searched our records in Australia and Mexico as well as asking Australian Based staff who were working in Embassy in Mexico around that time of the exhibition for their recollections. Unfortunately we were not able to locate any information which would satisfy your inquiry.

Many of the staff working at the Embassy at that time have since passed away, and sadly a lot of history went with them. We were able to locate some staff who recall the exhibition, but they were unable to shed any light on what actually happened to it or any records related to it.

I regret that we cannot be of more assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

John Quinn
Assistant Secretary
International Cultural Relations Branch

68 Middle Street
McMahons Point
NSW 2060
Australia
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(02) 9954 9616
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(02) 9954 9595
ACN 001 895 352

5 October 1995

David Moore Photography Pty Ltd

Mr Albert W Brown
1176 Burke Road
North Balwyn
VICTORIA 3104

Dear Albert,

Further to your letter dated 2 August 1995 I am now sending you B/W prints of John Braine, Sali Herman and William Dobell. Also enclosed are four original transparencies of Stonehenge.

I have no way of knowing which frames were exhibited back in 1962 but all the pictures enclosed are from my coverages of the subjects at the time.

Together with this letter I am enclosing one to Dr Joel Epstein as requested.

I hope all this will be of assistance.

Every good wish,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Moore". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

State Library of Victoria

Cd/cd

328 Swanston Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000
Australia

Telephone (03)6699888

Facsimile (03)6631480

20 April 1994

Mr Albert W. Brown
1176, Burke Road
NORTH BALWYN 3104

Dear Mr Brown

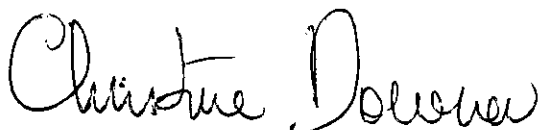
Thank you for your letter of 31 March with its information about Group M and the records which you and other members hold.

It sounds an interesting collection with its strong emphasis on documenting Australian and Victorian life in the 950s and 1960s. As I explained during our telephone conversation, the State Library has a very strong interest in, and extensive collections of documentary photography, and in fact commissioned its first photograph in 1859, a practice which we follow today.

The collection of written and printed documents listed are interesting supporting material which could be housed in the Library's Australian Manuscripts Collection, the links between the written and photographic records made through computer indexing. The Picture Collection computer index is available locally through the Melbourne City Libraries network, and throughout Australia on the Australian Academic and Research Network (AARNET). Towards the end of the year the Library's computer catalogue will be available in Victoria's regional libraries as well, so public access will increase significantly as a result.

I look forward to meeting you sometime in May, when you return from Sydney. My telephone number is 669 9034, and messages can be left. I am free each morning except Wednesday between 9.00 and 12.00, and can arrange afternoon appointments on Tuesday.

Yours sincerely,



Christine Downer
Picture Collection
La Trobe Library

encl

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(02) 954 9616
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(02) 954 9595
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6 July 1995

David Moore Photography Pty Ltd

Mr Albert W Brown
1176 Burke Road
North Balwyn
VICTORIA 3104

Dear Albert,

Many thanks for your update on Group M. You seem to have achieved a great deal.

Dacre is no doubt correct about my Stonehenge picture(s) yet I regret I have no memory of which were shown in the 'Photovision' exhibition.

I hold 2 b/w negatives in my file together with some colour transparencies.

If you can clarify the medium it may help somewhat although I would still not be certain of which were used.

I will look forward to hearing from you.

All good wishes,

David

5/5/95