

MS 335 Moses Alexander Alexander/Simons/Weil Family Movies

copied by permission from Lucile (Simons) Zimet (1/8/03)
edited and indexed by Dylan and Karen McDonald

The seven VHS tapes described below are copies of 16-mm "home movies" shot by Frank L. Weil, husband of Henrietta (Simons) Weil, from 1926 thru 1949. The majority of the images are in black and white, while the film shot after 1937 is in color. There is no sound accompanying the images. A rough index to the films follows this introductory note.

The original films are now in the possession of Thomas A. Weil of Wellesly, Massachusetts, a great grandson of Moses Alexander. In 1989, finding the splices failing but the films in otherwise excellent condition, Thomas re-spliced the films and then transferred them to 3/4" professional quality master videotapes. Four copies on 1/2" VHS videotapes were made from the master and given to Lucile (Simons) Zimet, John, Thomas and Peter Weil, who shared the cost. The tapes in ISHS possession are copies and therefore fourth generation.

The six videotapes are mostly of the Frank and Henrietta Weil family. The majority of the scenes take place in their home in New York City or during family trips, mostly on the east coast, but also include visits to Henrietta's parents, Will and Emma Simons, in Boise, Idaho. Therefore, ISHS staff created a seventh video containing all the images of Moses Alexander and images shot in Idaho.

Frank L. Weil indexed all his home movies and those indexes are included in MS 335 Box 8 Folder 24. Below is an index of the seventh tape, of scenes of Moses Alexander or of Idaho. The video has been recorded in Slow Play (SP). Each scene lists the running time, the title of the scene from the video, the date in parenthesis if known, a few details about the scene, and identifies individuals in *italics* in order of appearance. Please note the individuals names are their popular names (see the list at the end of the index for proper names), also names in parenthesis are maiden names. A semicolon represents a change in the scene, usually subject matter or camera angle. The scenes are grouped together according to each of the six tapes.

INDEX TO TAPE SEVEN

SCENES COMPILED FROM TAPE 1

- 1) 0:00:18 - 0:02:06 **Grandfather in New York** (October 1926)
Street scene in New York City with *Moses Alexander, Bud Simons, Frank and Henrietta Weil.*

- 2) 0:02:07 - 0:02:51 **Dad at Minidoka, Idaho** (October 1926)
Will Simons at the train depot (the scene might be Shoshone Train Depot, not Minidoka).
- 3) 0:02:52 - 0:03:41 **Boise** (October 1926)
Helena Alexander getting into car; *Emma Simons* holding a cat and coming out of Capitol Grocery (621 N 8th); train arriving at Boise Depot, with *Will Simons* disembarking and kissing his wife, *Emma Simons*.
- 4) 0:03:42 - 0:08:29 **Taking the Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary Pictures**
(October/November 1926?)
Helena Alexander showing wedding ring, knitting; *Moses Alexander* reading; *Helena* and *Bud Simons*; *Helena* and *Moses* on porch step of their home in Boise (304 W State); *Ruth Marie* and her mother, *Rena Ullman*, outside their Boise home (216 W Jefferson), with *Bud Simons*; *Becky Neuman* outside her Boise home (203 N Walnut), with *Bud Simons*; *Mike Spiro* reading newspaper, *Helena*, *Leha Spiro*, and *Moses* preparing to take anniversary photos; *Leha* and *Mike Spiro* playing with Sammy the Cat; *Mike Spiro* and two unknown females at Boise Train Depot.
- 5) 0:08:30 - 0:15:13 **Carrie and Frank Arrive!** (October/November 1926?)
At Boise Depot, *Frank Weil* and his sister, *Carrie Oppenheimer*, disembarking; *Frank* and *Henrietta Weil*, *Emma Simons*, and *Carrie Oppenheimer* with car in front of Simons home in Boise (1019 N 9th); *Leha* and *Mike Spiro* playing catch with apple, *Emma Simons*, and *Ruth Marie Ullman* in front of Ullman home; *Moses Alexander*, *Will Simons*, *Helena Alexander* in Alexander's in downtown Boise (830 Main).
- 6) 0:15:14 - 0:18:36 **The Valiant Hunters and One Bird!** (October/November 1926?)
Frank Weil, *Bud Simons* with shotgun and pheasant, and *Leha Spiro* in front of Simons home.
- 7) 0:18:39 - 0:25:16 **Boise** (November 1926)
The scene takes place in the back yard of the Leo J. Falk home in Boise (1320 Warm Springs Ave), *Mike* and *Leha Spiro*, *David* and *Becky Neuman*, *Jake* and *Rena Ullman*, *Carrie Oppenheimer* and *Will Simons* are among the guests engaging in horseplay before eating; dinner scene in the Falk home; three unknown females; among the seven women in the Falk backyard are *Leha Spiro*, *Carrie Oppenheimer*, and *Emma Simons*; *Helen Ann Neuman* and cat with *Bud Simons* in front of Simons home.
- 8) 0:25:17 - 0:26:22 **Buddy and His New Car** (November 1926?)
Bud Simons with new car in front of Simons home.
- 9) 0:26:23 - 0:32:39 New York City scene from Tape 1 accidentally added, please ignore.

END OF SCENES COMPILED FROM TAPE 1

SCENES COMPILED FROM TAPE 2

- 10) 0:32:44 - 0:35:45 **John and Great Grandfather Alexander** (May 15, 1928)
John Weil, Moses Alexander, and Henrietta Weil, probably in New York City.
- 11) 0:35:46 - 0:36:27 **Uncle Nathan** (May 15, 1928)
John Weil and Nathan Alexander, probably in New York City.
- 12) 0:36:29 - 0:36:37 The First Sunday in the Country scene from Tape 2 accidentally added, please ignore.

END OF SCENES COMPILED FROM TAPE 2

SCENES COMPILED FROM TAPE 3

- 13) 0:36:39 - 0:41:06 **Great Grandmother Alexander** (October 30, 1928)
Helena Alexander taking John Weil out for a stroll in a baby carriage along the street in New York City.
- 14) 0:41:07 - 0:45:34 **On Riverside Drive** (November 6, 1928)
Helena Alexander taking John Weil out for a stroll in a baby carriage along Riverside Drive in New York City (great street scene with pedestrian and auto traffic in the background as well as the Hudson River).
- 15) 0:45:35 - 0:49:05 **Great Grandparents and John** (November 7, 1928)
Moses and Helena Alexander with John Weil, probably in New York City.
- 16) 0:49:06 - 0:53:31 **A Family Gathering on West End Avenue** (November 17, 1928)
Moses Alexander, John Weil, Helena Alexander, Carrie Oppenheimer, Henrietta and Frank Weil in front of Weil home (277 West End Avenue) in New York City.
- 17) 0:53:32 - 0:54:44 In the Observation Car scene from Tape 3 accidentally added, please ignore.
- 18) 0:54:45 - 0:55:24 **Sixteen Months Old Boise** (June 3, 1929)
John and Frank Weil at Simons home.
- 19) 0:55:25 - 0:59:56 **Firecrackers go Boom!** (July 4, 1929)
John Weil, Bud Simons, and Will Simons lighting fireworks at the Simons home.
- 20) 0:59:57 - 1:04:23 **July 10, 1929**
John Weil playing in Simons yard with ball, neighbor children, and cat.

- 21) 1:04:24 - 1:08:49 **July 20, 1929**
John Weil playing in Simons yard, *Henrietta Weil* and *Emma Simons* briefly seen.
- 22) 1:08:50 - 1:12:04 **Adventures with a hat** (July 28, 1929)
John Weil playing in Simons yard with *Bud* and *Will Simons* and numerous cats.
- 23) 1:12:05 - 1:13:24 **The Puss-Puss** (July/August 1929?)
John Weil playing in Simons yard with cat, also *Will* and *Emma Simons*, unknown female, and *Bud Simons*.
- 24) 1:13:29 – 1:17:59 **Nineteen Months Old** (September 3, 1929)
John Weil playing in Simons yard with hat and dog, *Henrietta Weil*.
- 25) 1:18:00 – 1:22:22 **At Grandmothers** (September 8, 1929)
Moses and *Helena Alexander* with *John Weil* on the steps of the Alexander home, *Emma Simons*.
- 26) 1:22:24 – 1:24:36 **Homeward Bound: Idaho** (September 12, 1929)
John Weil on train heading home.
- 27) 1:24:39 – 1:28:33 **Experimenting with a New Lens** (November 13, 1929)
Moses Alexander holding *John Weil* at the Weil home.

END OF SCENES COMPILED FROM TAPE 3

SCENES COMPILED FROM TAPE 4

- 28) 1:28:37 – 1:33:03 **Great Grandfather John and Tommy** (May 30, 1930)
Moses Alexander holding *Tommy Weil*, with *John Weil* at the Weil home.
- 29) 1:33:04 – 1:37:35 **November 9, 1930**
Moses Alexander, *Bud Simons*, *Tommy* and *John Weil* at the Weil home; later all outside with *Henrietta Weil*.
- 30) 1:37:36 – 1:40:41 **In Boise** (December 1930)
John Weil and *Will Simons* at Boise Depot (great scene of train arriving in the station); *Mike* and *Leha Spiro* greeting family at the depot; *John Weil* riding a tricycle in front of Simons home.

END OF SCENES COMPILED FROM TAPE 4

NO SCENES COMPILED FROM TAPE 5

SCENES COMPILED FROM TAPE 6

- 31) 1:40:42 – 1:42:49 **The Family San Francisco** (May 14, 1938)
Helena Alexander, Mike and Leha Spiro, and Frank and Henrietta Weil in park setting.
- 32) 1:42:50 – 1:45:05 **Arrowrock Dam** (May 21, 1938)
Great shots of the dam from various angles.
- 33) 1:45:06 – 1:48:12 **In Nampa** (May 26, 1938)
Bud and his son, *Bill Simons*, on swing; with *Bud's* wife, *Marion (Friedman) Simons*, and *Frank and Henrietta Weil*, in the backyard of *Bud Simons* home (northside Nampa, near Lakeview School) with *Peggy* the dog (owned by neighbor's, the *McNeils*).
- 34) 1:48:13 – 1:48:46 **Yellowstone Park** (summer 1941)
Scene of bears and seagulls gathering.
- 35) 1:48:47 – 1:50:32 **Hailey, Idaho** (summer 1941)
Lucile Simons and her grandmother *Emma Simons*; *Bill Simons, Peter Weil* and *Henrietta Weil* in Hailey (either 2nd or Silver Street).
- 36) 1:50:33 – 1:51:45 **Boise, Idaho** (August 19, 1929)
John and *Henrietta Weil* playing in *Simons* yard.
- 37) 1:51:46 – 1:52:46 **A Sunny Day in Boise** (August 21, 1929)
John and *Henrietta Weil* playing in *Simons* yard.
- 38) 1:52:47 – 1:54:17 **Daddy and John** (August 27, 1929)
John and *Frank Weil* sitting in *Simons* yard.
- 39) 1:54:18 – 1:56:37 **Great Grandparents and John** (September 8, 1929)
Moses Alexander, John and *Henrietta Weil*, and *Helena Alexander* in garden.

END OF SCENES COMPILED FROM TAPE 6

Name guide

Bud or Buddy Simons is Alexander Simons
Will Simons is William H. Simons
Becky Neuman is Rebecca Neuman
Mike Spiro is Michael Spiro
Jake Ullman is Jacob Ullman
Tommy Weil is Thomas A. Weil
Bill Simons is William F. Simons