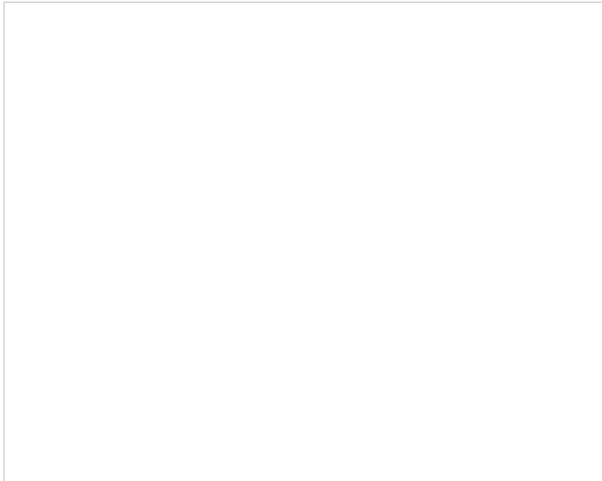


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Walker Evans. American Photographs. With an essay by Lincoln Kirstein. The Museum of Modern Art. Seventy-fifth-anniversary edition. Beginning on the facing page, through the end of Lincoln Kirstein's essay on page 200, this edition of American Photographs follows the original, 1938 edition as closely as possible, page for page. The interest in and influence of Walker Evans's American Photographs has grown, essentially unabated, since The Museum of Modern Art first published it in 1938. This elegant and modestly scaled catalogue accompanied an exhibition of the same name, held at the Museum from September 28 to November 18, 1938.

WALKER EVANS. More than any other artist, Walker Evans invented the images of essential America that we have long since accepted as fact, and his work has influenced not only modern photography but also literature, film and visual arts in other mediums. The original edition of American Photographs was a carefully prepared letterpress production, published by The Museum of Modern Art in 1938 to accompany an exhibition of photographs by Evans that captured scenes of America in the early 1930s. As noted on the jacket of the first edition, Evans, "photographing in New England or Louisiana, watching Walker Evans was an American photographer who is best known for his work for the Farm Security Administration (FSA) documenting the effects of the Great Depression. He said that his goal as a photographer was to make pictures that are "literate, authoritative, transcendent." Born in St. Louis, Missouri on November 3, 1903, Evans came from an affluent family and he spent his youth in Toledo, Chicago, and New York City. He graduated from Phillips Academy, in Andover, Massachusetts in 1922. While there, he took up photography in 1928. Three of his photographs were published in a poetry book in 1930 and the following year, he was commissioned to take a photo series of Victorian homes in Boston. Another commission sent him to Cuba in 1933.