

STEVEN
KASHER
GALLERY

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Small-Town Americana and Far-Flung Adventure

By William Meyers
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Bruce Berman is a Hollywood motion-picture executive, so it isn't surprising that the photos he collects tend to look like location shots. There are more than 100 prints up at Kasher, but only a few of them are of people and most of those are shown together in the north gallery.

Thirty-one photographers are represented, including such names as Margaret Bourke-White, Harry Callahan, Robert Frank, Evelyn Hofer, Helen Levitt, Stephen Shore and John Szarkowski. Among the almost two-dozen prints by Walker Evans are some of his most celebrated images: "Birmingham Steel Mill and Workers' Houses" (1936); "Joe's Auto Graveyard, near Bethlehem, Pennsylvania" (1936); and "Sidewalk and Shop Front, New Orleans" (1935), the French Opera Barber Shop with its zebra striped facade and a sign proclaiming it the "Home of Perfecto Hair Restorer." The 11 Dorothea Lange prints are mostly lesser-known pictures, except for "Black Maria, Oakland, California" (1957).



Sheron Rupp's 'Untitled (Man Hugging Young Children in Front of House), Utica, Ohio' (1983) Sheron Rupp/Steven Kasher Gallery, New York

Many of the scenes depicted are rural or small town, such as William Christenberry's simple "Havana Methodist Church, Havana, Alabama" (1976) or Joel Sternfeld's "Highway 101, Petaluma, California" (1993). The urban pictures have an Edward Hopper, "Early Sunday Morning" feel, as in Mitch Epstein's deserted "Newton Street Row Houses, (Brownstone Building), Holyoke, Massachusetts" (2000) and Aaron Siskind's similarly deserted "Facade (Unoccupied building), Harlem" (1937). Among the pictures with people are Sheron Rupp's marvelously informal "Untitled (Man Hugging Young Children in Front of House), Utica, Ohio" (1983) and "Wartrace (Couple in Jeans and Hats in Garden), Tennessee" (1990).

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Everyday America: Photographs From the Berman Collection
Steven Kasher Gallery
521 W. 23rd St., (212) 966-3978
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