



FINDING AID

HORACE M. ALBRIGHT PAPERS

1911-1986 (bulk dates: 1940-1945)

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HISTORY

Horace Marden Albright was born in Bishop, California, on January 6, 1890. After graduating from the University of California, Berkeley in 1912, Albright moved to Washington D.C. and began serving as clerk for then Secretary of the Interior, Franklin K. Lane. Starting in 1913, he enrolled in evening courses at Georgetown University Law School, earning his law degree in 1914.

In 1915, Stephen Mather was appointed assistant to the Secretary of the Interior and was assigned oversight of the national parks and the development of a dedicated bureau to manage them. Mather took on Albright as his assistant, and together the two worked to advance, promote, and secure congressional support for a national parks bureau. Their efforts culminated in the establishment of the National Park Service (NPS) in 1916, with Mather named its first director. When Mather's mental health declined between 1917 and 1919, Albright served as the acting director and managed operations during Mather's recovery.

From 1919 through 1929, Albright served as the Superintendent of Yellowstone National Park, living with his family at Mammoth Hot Springs. During his tenure, Albright initiated some of the first NPS historic preservation and conservation policies, established visitor services, and supported the development of additional parks. Due to his experience and expertise, he was frequently consulted by NPS staff and government officials. Albright also forged a friendship with John D. Rockefeller, Jr., who owned substantial property in Jackson Hole, Wyoming and within what is now Grand Teton National Park. In 1929, Albright was named the second director of the National Park Service. He resigned in 1933 to work for the United States Potash Company and U.S. Borax and Chemical Corporation, moving back to California. Although no longer employed by the federal government, he was still routinely contacted for advice on national park matters, particularly regarding the creation and expansion of park units. He was also involved with the creation of the Jackson Hole National Monument in 1943 and proposed boundary changes for Grand Teton National Park.

The proposed expansion of Grand Teton National Park and the creation of Jackson Hole National Monument were contentious. Local landowners and ranchers opposed Rockefeller's land acquisitions and the proposed park enlargement, arguing that these actions would diminish ranch holdings, restrict cattle grazing, and threaten their livelihoods. Politicians, local newspapers, and ranching communities in Jackson Hole criticized Albright's stance on the issues, his association with Rockefeller, and what they viewed as his lack of connection to the region. Despite this opposition, Albright maintained his position and received support from numerous public officials, including President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who vetoed several attempts to rescind the monument's designation. In 1950, Jackson Hole National Monument was dissolved, but its lands, along with additional acreage, were incorporated into an expanded Grand Teton National Park.

Horace Albright continued to collect newspaper clippings, journal and magazine articles, and other forms of press regarding Jackson Hole and Grand Teton National Park after the 1950s and

remained in contact with many of his political and NPS contacts until his death on March 27, 1987, in California.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

HORACE M. ALBRIGHT PAPERS 1911-1986 (bulk dates: 1940-1945)

CATALOG NUMBER YELL 203562

VOLUME 4 LF

DESCRIPTION This collection includes correspondence, newspaper clippings, and photographs collected by Horace Albright during his time as park superintendent and after his retirement from the National Park Service.

The Horace M. Albright papers consist of personal papers collected by him, including correspondence, newspaper clippings, journal and magazine articles, and photographs. The papers span the years of his work in the National Park Service as well as the many years following his retirement and reflect the interest he maintained in the NPS, its employees, and its mission throughout his life.

The photographs are a variety of portraits, events, and other images collected by Albright. Although many images are NPS photographs, it is assumed that the images in this collection were personal copies. The photographs depict the Albright family, Albright in his professional role, and a variety of dignitaries including Presidents Warren G. Harding and Calvin Coolidge as well as Senator Gerald Nye, writer George P. Putman and his "Rough Writers," and Edmund Seymour, president of the American Bison Society. Events include several seasonal openings of the park, most at the Roosevelt Arch; the dedication of the Buffalo Bill Museum in Cody, Wyoming; a Native American ceremony at the West Gate; and several reenactments of what is now known as the "Campfire Myth."

The correspondence documents Albright's wide and lengthy involvement in National Park Service politics and issues, especially as they pertain to new parks and to boundary issues. In this collection, the primary area of discussion is the creation and expansion of Jackson Hole National Monument and Grand Teton National Park. There is also some correspondence with individual park employees requesting advice and maintaining personal relationships.

There are also research materials, including news clippings and articles, pertaining to ongoing boundary and land use issues within Grand Teton National Park and the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

This collection will be of use not only to biographers of Horace M. Albright, but to those who are interested in the creation of national parks and monuments, the history of the National Park Service, the development of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem concept, and NPS relationships with in-holders, gateway communities, and the general public.

ORGANIZATION

The collection is organized by type of record and there-under chronologically.

PROVENANCE

Gift of Marilyn Albright Schenck, 2004. Additional small gifts from Horace M. Albright and others were also incorporated.

RESTRICTIONS

No.

*ASSOCIATED
MATERIALS*

- Official portraits of Horace M. Albright and his participation in Yellowstone events, Yellowstone National Park Museum Collections
- Records of the Park's administration can be found in the official records, Yellowstone National Park Combined Archives
- Horace Marden Albright Papers, Charles E. Young Research Library, University of California Los Angeles

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

File	Title
01.01	Photos- Dignitaries, 1911, 1919 1921, 1924-1926
01.02	Photos- Albright Family, 1919, 1925
01.03	Photos- Horace Albright, 1910s-1970s
01.04	Photos- Edmund Seymour, 1922
01.05	Photos- Campfire Myth Reenactments, 1922 (1 of 2)
01.06	Photos- Campfire Myth Reenactments, 1922 (2 of 2)
01.07	Photo- Joe Joffe and Dog Sled Team, circa 1922
01.08	Photos- President Warren G. Harding, 1923
01.09	Photos- George Putman's Rough Writers, 1924 (1 of 2), 1924
01.10	Photos- George Putman's Rough Writers, 1924 (2 of 2)
01.11	Photos- Gardiner Arch Ceremony, 1924
01.12	Photos- Buffalo Bill Museum Dedication, Cody Wyoming, 1925

Box 2

File	Title
02.01	Photos- Unknown Fishing Party, Circa 1925
02.02	Photos- Senator Gerald Nye, Ted Joslin Fishing Party, 1926?
02.03	Photos- Road Opening Ceremony, 1926
02.04	Photos- West Gate Native American Ceremony, 1927
02.05	Photos- East Entrance Opening Ceremony, 1927
02.06	Photos- Calvin Coolidge, 1927
02.07	Photo- Will Hayes and Buffalo Stampede, 1928
02.08	Photos- Individuals, 1920s-1930s
02.09	Photos- Yellowstone, 1920s-1930s
02.10	Photos- Dignitaries, 1920s
02.11	Photos- Unknown Touring Group, 1920s
02.12	Photos- Jackson Hole and Grand Tetons, Circa 1930s
02.13	Photos- Valley Ranch Girls Visit, 1930s

Box 3

File	Title
03.01	Grand Tetons- Master Plans, 1941
03.02	Correspondence- Jackson Hole and Grand Tetons, 1917-1922
03.03	Correspondence- Jackson Hole and Grand Tetons, 1923-1936
03.04	Correspondence- Jackson Hole and Grand Tetons 1937-1938
03.05	Correspondence- Jackson Hole and Grand Tetons, 1938-1939
03.06	Correspondence- Jackson Hole and Grand Tetons, 1940
03.07	Correspondence- Jackson Hole and Grand Tetons, 1941
03.08	Correspondence- Jackson Hole and Grand Tetons, 1942
03.09	Correspondence- Jackson Hole and Grand Tetons, 1943 (1 of 2)

CONTAINER LIST (cont'd)**Box 4**

File	Title
04.01	Correspondence- Jackson Hole and Grand Tetons, 1943 (2 of 2)
04.02	Correspondence-Jackson Hole and Grand Tetons, 1949-1950
04.03	Correspondence-Jackson Hole and Grand Tetons, 1951-1953
04.04	Correspondence-Jackson Hole, 1947 (1 of 2)
04.05	Correspondence-Jackson Hole, 1947 (2 of 2)
04.06	Correspondence-Jackson Hole Preserve, A.E. Kendrew, 1942
04.07	Correspondence-Jackson Hole Preserve, 1944-1946
04.08	Correspondence-Jackson Hole Congressional, 1947
04.09	Correspondence-Jackson Hole Inc., 1944-1946
04.10	Correspondence-Jackson Hole Project, Harold P. Fabian, 1945

Box 5

File	Title
05.01	Correspondence-Jackson Hole Monument, 1941-1944
05.02	Correspondence-Jackson Hole Preserve, June 1943
05.03	Correspondence-Jackson Hole Preserve, July 1943
05.04	Correspondence-Jackson Hole Preserve, August 1943
05.05	Correspondence-Jackson Hole Preserve, September 1943
05.06	Correspondence-Jackson Hole Preserve, October-November 1943
05.07	Correspondence-Jackson Hole Preserve, December 1943
05.08	Jackson Hole Monument Statements, 1943
05.09	Jackson Hole Monument Legislation, 1920-1945

Box 6

File	Title
06.01	Correspondence-Jackson Hole Preserve, 1945-1946 (1 of 2)
06.02	Correspondence-Jackson Hole Preserve, 1945-1946 (2 of 2)
06.03	Jackson Hole Monument-Barrett Bill, 1944-1949
06.04	Jackson Hole Monument- Wyoming Politicians, 1944-1945
06.05	Horace Albright Day-Cody, Wyoming, 1987
06.06	Publications- Jackson Hole and Barrett Bill Press, 1944-1950 (1 of 2)
06.07	Publications- Jackson Hole and Barrett Bill Press, 1944-1950 (2 of 2)
06.08	Publications- Jackson Hole and Grand Tetons, 1940s-1960s (1 of 2)

Box 7

File	Title
07.01	Publications- Jackson Hole and Grand Tetons, 1940s-1960s (2 of 2)
07.02	Publications- Newspaper Clippings, 1934-1940
07.03	Publications- Newspaper Clippings, 1940-1945 (1 of 3)
07.04	Publications- Newspaper Clippings, 1940-1945 (2 of 3)
07.05	Publications- Newspaper Clippings, 1940-1945 (3 of 3)
07.06	Publications- Magazines and Brochures, 1930s-1980s

CONTAINER LIST (cont'd)**Box 8**

File	Title
08.01	Maps- Boundaries for National Parks and Monuments, unknown (1 of 2)
08.02	Maps- Boundaries for National Parks and Monuments, unknown (2 of 2)
08.03	Maps- Yellowstone National Park, 1940s
08.04	Maps- Jackson Hole Ranches, 1986
08.05	Research- Jackson Hole, 1917-1933 (1 of 3)
08.06	Research- Jackson Hole, 1917-1933 (2 of 3)
08.07	Research- Jackson Hole, 1917-1933 (3 of 3)
08.08	Research- Jackson Hole Economic Survey, 1932