



FINDING AID

TRIP TO YELLOWSTONE COLLECTION

circa 1890-Present (bulk dates: 1920s-1960s)

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HISTORY

This collection was created by the Yellowstone National Park Archives to house materials which document the park but have either unknown provenance or a size too small to warrant individual collections. Many of the items herein were found abandoned in houses, purchased from antiques dealers, or inherited by a family member who did not know the original creator. More information about the provenance of individual items is available upon request.

This collection may be added to as future donations warrant.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

TRIP TO YELLOWSTONE COLLECTION circa 1890-Present (bulk dates: 1920s-1960s)

CATALOG # YELL 210271

VOLUME 1.5 LF

DESCRIPTION A collection of small manuscripts, photographs, and other ephemera which document the classic trip to Yellowstone National Park over time.

This collection was created by the Archives to house small groups of materials with related content: trips to Yellowstone National Park. The collection includes letters, narratives, photographs, photograph albums, scrapbooks, and collectibles such as vehicle licenses, stickers, brochures, and other small publications.

While the origin and format of the materials may vary, the subject matter is remarkably similar. Each folder depicts images taken by a visitor to the park. In general, these images depict landscapes, including mountains and rivers; thermal features; including geysers and hot pools; and wildlife. Specific landscapes include the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, both the Upper Falls and Lower Falls, and related locations such as Inspiration Point and Artist's Point. There are also images of Tower Fall, Undine Falls, Kepler Cascades, Virginia Cascades, and the Yellowstone, Gibbon, Gardner, Firehole, and Lamar Rivers. Yellowstone Lake, including West Thumb, is depicted. Other features include Devil's Slide, Roaring Mountain, Mount Washburn, Gibbon Meadows, Natural Bridge, and the Tetons. Geothermal features shown include the Mammoth Terraces and the Upper, Lower, and Norris Geyser Basins. Geysers include Atomizer, Beehive, Castle, Clepsydra, Comet, Daisy, Excelsior, Giant, Grotto, Jewel, Lonestar, New Crater, Old Faithful, Riverside, Sponge, and Spout. Dragon's Mouth, Liberty Cap, Mud Volcano, and Paint Pots are also shown. Wildlife includes birds, bears, big horn sheep, bison, deer, elk, marmots, moose, trout, and trumpeter swans. Events include wildfires and summer snow.

Manmade features include roads, bridges, hotels, campgrounds, and a variety of vehicles including automobiles, bicycles, boats, buses, motorcycles, railroads, stagecoaches and wagons. Buildings include those of Fort Yellowstone, entrance stations, the Roosevelt Arch, Hamilton's Store, Mt. Washburn Lookout, and the Canyon, Fountain, Lake, and National Hotels as well as the Old Faithful Inn. Other features include the Eaton and Uncle Tom's Trails, the Mammoth Camp, Thumb lunch station, Canyon Lodge, and Fishing Bridge. Activities shown are camping, fishing, hiking, swimming, and playing tennis. Occasional images may depict the visitors themselves or other tourists, often posing before a significant feature, but rarely with full identifications.

In addition to personal snapshots, some albums include purchased images and postcards by commercial photographers such as Haynes and Lucier. There are also occasional decals, stickers, ticket stubs, brochures, and a poem written by Scotty the stagecoach driver.

Visits to Yellowstone often occur as part of a larger tour or trip, so the albums often show images from outside the park. These include the towns of Cody and Jackson Hole, Jackson Lake, Pahaska Teepee, the Cody Bridge, and Shoshone (now Buffalo Bill) dam. Longer tours include visits to the Black Hills of South Dakota; Denver, Colorado; Salt Lake City, Utah; Saint Paul, Minnesota; and sites such as the Royal Gorge, Manitou Springs, and Garden of the Gods in Colorado.

This collection provides broad documentation through time of a visit to the world's first national park. Themes related to tourism, families, nature, and transportation are well represented. Studies of change over time including changes to thermal features, vegetation, interpretation, wildlife, wildlife conservation, buildings, and infrastructure are also possible.

<i>ORGANIZATION</i>	The collection is arranged chronologically. Items with the same provenance remain together. Folders labels include the individual accession numbers.
<i>PROVENANCE</i>	Artificial collection created by the Archives to house small donations containing largely similar content.
<i>RESTRICTIONS</i>	NO
<i>ASSOCIATED MATERIALS</i>	Similar materials may be found as individual manuscript collections, Yellowstone National Park Combined Archives

CONTAINER LIST

Box Number	Title
01	1880s-1890s
02	1900s
03	1910s
04	1920s
05	1930s
06	1940s
07	1950s
08	1960s
09	1970s-present
10	Multiple eras or generations, and oversized materials
11	Multiple eras or generations, and oversized materials