



Yellowstone National Park Archives
P O Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190-0168
National Park Service
U. S. Department of the Interior

CLARICE GORES ALBUMS & DIARY

CATALOG NUMBER: MSC 105

VOLUME: 0.2 LINEAR FEET

HISTORY

Clarice Alvera Whitaker was born on October 27, 1901, in Sexton, Iowa, to Lula Idelma Schultz and Romaine Adiran Whitaker. In 1903, the family moved to Chester, South Dakota. Clarice attended high school in Flandreau, South Dakota, before moving to Madison, South Dakota, where she graduated in 1919. The same year, the family moved to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, where she attended Nettleton Commercial College. From 1921 to 1927, she worked as a bookkeeper at Loonan Lumber Company in Sioux Falls. Clarice married John Edward "Jack" Gores in Sioux Falls on May 7, 1929. John was an employee of the Mullen and Rourke Company and had two sons, Charles V. and John E., Jr. from a previous marriage. John started J. E. Gores Coal Company on July 22, 1937. Clarice and Jack Gores divorced on January 29, 1947. Clarice worked in Yellowstone National Park for the summers of 1949 and 1950. During the summers of 1951 and 1952, she worked in Yosemite National Park. After moving to Los Angeles, California, with her mother in 1952, Clarice worked for the Barker Brothers Furniture Company until her retirement in 1960. After retirement, she was active in the Palm Springs United Methodist Church and was employed part-time as a tour guide for the Gad-A-Bout company, traveling primarily in the Mountain and Pacific states. Jack Gores died on August 4, 1951. Romaine Whitaker passed away on April 24, 1950 in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Lula Whitaker died in Los Angeles on October 16, 1958. Clarice passed away on September 19, 1992. She is buried at Rose Hill Cemetery, Wentworth, South Dakota.

DESCRIPTION

The collection consists of diary entries and memorabilia of the Clarice Whitaker Gores time as a concessions employee for the Yellowstone Park Company in Yellowstone National Park, 1949-1950. The diaries are photocopies from a larger volume that document Gores time in the park. The diaries are five-year plan style diaries, so the same day for a five year span is visible on one page. For the 1949 diary segment, the Yellowstone entries are the last year of the diary and appear along the bottom of the page. For 1950, the Yellowstone component is recorded at the top of the page. The diary documents daily activities such as travel around the park and is especially detailed in listing the names of people she meets. In addition to the diary, there are two autographed albums with signatures and messages from fellow employees. These are small volumes with rough-out leather covers specifically designed for autographs. Finally, there is copy print of a portrait of Clarice, circa 1950, as well as a biographical outline, written by a descendent around the time of donation. The collection does a good job of documenting the concessioner employee and is notable for providing information about workers beyond the college students who formed the bulk of the seasonal workforce.

PROVENANCE

Gift of Whitaker and Scribner families, 2013.

AVAILABILITY

This is an unprocessed collection. Material is available for access. Please contact us well advance of any planned research visit so we may prepare the material for access. Please contact the Heritage & Research Center (yell_heritage_center@nps.gov) for more information.