National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

FINDING AID

PACK RATS OF OLD FAITHFUL PHOTOGRAPH ALBUM
1924

Prepared by
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Yellowstone National Park Archives
P O Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190-0168

Catalog Number: YELL 189803

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Copyright and Restrictions ……ii

History ……1

Scope and Content ……...2

Container List ……..4

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HISTORY

The album was found among the items in the estate of the donors' mother, Hildar Frahm, but the donors are certain none of the images depict Frahm or her family. Hildar worked for a paper company in Des Moines, Iowa, that shredded paper. The donors surmise that the album was turned in for destruction and Frahm rescued it and took it home.

From evidence in the album it seems likely that the creator attended Iowa State University. Of the four Iowans depicted and labeled in a group photograph at the beginning of the album, the only one to attend Iowa State was Jim McGlade. McGlade graduated with a B.S. in forestry in 1928 and an M.S. in the same discipline in 1932. He died in a car accident in 1934, while working for the U.S. Forest Service in Minnesota. His mother worked many years in the Department of Residence at Iowa State and McGlade House in the Elm Hall dormitory is named for her.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

PACK RATS OF OLD FAITHFUL PHOTOGRAPH ALBUM
1924

CATALOG NUMBER YELL 189803

VOLUME 0.2 LF

DESCRIPTION Photograph album compiled by an employee of the Yellowstone Park Camp Co., 1924.

Photograph album compiled by an employee for the Yellowstone Park Camping Co. (YPCC), a predecessor of the Yellowstone Park Co. (YPC). The album is comprised of a plain black leather cover and black pages with both commercially produced photographs and amateur snapshots.

The commercial photographs appear to be Haynes images and depict such well known features as the Old Faithful Inn, Old Faithful Geyser, other geysers in the Upper Geyser Basin, and the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, including the Upper and Lower Falls.

The snapshots depict the "savages" or employees for the YPCC, in particular the "pack rats" or porters, who handled the baggage for guests. Named employees with home states include Don Hansen (Montana), Ed Huhey (Florida), Carlyle Richards (Iowa), Roger Paton (Iowa), "Mitch" Mitchell (Idaho), Bill Whitesides (South Carolina), Alton Saxton (Nebraska), Bill Cooper (Ohio), "Red" Kelly (Missouri), George Postels (California), Cliff Elliot (Pennsylvania), and "Bull" Pinky (no state given). Richards or "Rich" and Paton or "Pat" are featured in numerous photographs. There are also images of tent girls (maids), known as "pillow punchers", and one shot of the Old Faithful busboys. Activities depicted include a 4th of July gathering, fishing, hiking, and wading as well as work related tent construction, cleaning, and baggage hauling. A series of individual full portraits are included, but none are identified.

Numerous images of the Old Faithful Camp show interior and exterior views of the employee cabins and tents, including the "rats nest". Other buildings shown include the power house, linen room, dining room, barber shop, Old Faithful Lodge, and Old Faithful Ranger Station. Also pictured are wagons, boardwalks, a sign for the Old Faithful Camp, and automobiles, including a YPC touring car.

Geothermal features shown include the Upper Geyser Basin, Biscuit Basin, the Paint Pots, and the geysers Old Faithful, Grand, Giant, and the Devil's Punch Bowl. Landscapes include Summit, Mallard, and Shoshone Lakes. Wildlife includes black bears, several eating garbage, and deer.

There are also a few photographs of what appear to be Glacier, Mt. Rainier, and Grand Canyon National Parks, including Bright Angel and Iron Creek Canyons. There are also several images of Iowa State University buildings.

ORGANIZATION The album remains in its original order.

PROVENANCE Gift of Cheryl and Paul Frahm, July 2002.

RESTRICTIONS NO

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

File Unit Nbr	Title
01	Photograph album