



### Peter and Catharine Whyte fonds

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions36>

Part Of: Peter and Catharine Whyte fonds

Description Level: 1 / Fonds

Fonds Number: M36 / V683 / S37

Sous-Fonds: TBD

Accession Number: 3069 and various

Reference Code: M36 / S37 / V683

GMD: Drawing

Motion picture

Film

Photograph

Album

Ambrotype

Cased photograph

Daguerreotype

Negative

Photograph print

Postcard

Tintype

Transparency

Sound recording

Cassette

Reel to reel

Textual record

Plan

Poster

Private record

Published record

Other Title Info: Also known as the Whyte family fonds

Date Range: 1856-1980

Physical Description: 25 m of textual records. -- ca.46,000 photographs : prints, albums, postcards, cased photographs, transparencies, negatives. -- 178 sound recordings : audio tape reels, audio tape cassettes. -- 6 motion pictures (and film strips)

## History /

### Biographical:

Peter and Catharine Whyte were artists, photographers, outdoor enthusiasts, travelers, philanthropists and cultural workers at Banff, Alberta, Canada. Peter Whyte, 1905-1966, was born at Banff in 1905 to pioneer merchant Dave White and Annie (Curren) White. He was an accomplished skier and ski jumper and one of the region's first native-born painters with an intimate knowledge of the mountains and was an active photographer from ca.1920 until the 1950s. Peter Whyte studied art at the Otis Art Institute, Los Angeles, 1923-1924, and at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Boston, 1925, where he met Catharine Robb. Catharine Robb Whyte, 1906-1979, was born in 1906 at Concord, Massachusetts and grew up amongst the wealth and creativity of the Robb and Morse families. She studied at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Boston, 1925-1929.

Following their marriage in 1930, the Whytes pursued a life of painting, photography, hiking, skiing and travelling. Their log home and studio in Banff became a focal point for their artist friends, Stoney Indians and local pioneers. Catharine shared Pete's involvement in skiing and hiking organizations and together they managed Skoki Lodge from 1932-1934. In following years, the Whytes travelled extensively. During the Second World War, Peter served in the reserve army, with the Royal Canadian Air Force as a photographer and, briefly, as an official war artist. Catharine continued to paint and maintain their home and, when possible, accompanied Pete to his military postings. In civilian life, Pete resumed his art career, explored new photographic techniques and sculpted.

Throughout the 1950s and 1960s, the Whytes formulated plans for a foundation to preserve the art and history of the Canadian Rockies. Plans for a building to house an archives, public library and gallery were in preparation when Pete died in 1966. The Peter Whyte Foundation was named in his honour. Catharine immersed herself in the development of what is now the Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies, in the cultural community, painting, outdoor activity, travel and work with the Stoney First Nations. She became a more active photographer, recording her travels and outdoor pursuits. She served in an official capacity with numerous cultural and charitable organizations, was a patron to individuals studying art and music, and supported numerous causes relating to the Stoney First Nations. Catharine also supported causes related to multiculturalism, regional culture and recreation, and cancer research. Despite her modesty and often anonymous patronage of causes, Catharine was recognized with numerous awards and honours, including the Order of Canada in 1978. She died in Banff in 1979.

### Scope & Content:

Fonds consists of papers, photographs and sound recordings of Peter and Catharine Whyte and the papers and photographs of their respective families. Consists of three sous-fonds: V683, S37 and M36. M36 and S37 consists of three series. Series I: Peter and Catharine Whyte, Series II: Robb and Morse families, Series III: White and Curren families. Within Series I, there are four Sub-series: Series: A. Catharine Robb Whyte papers; B. Peter Whyte papers; C. Peter and Catharine Whyte papers accessioned after 2017; D. Peter and Catharine Whyte sound recordings.

Name Access:	Whyte, Peter Whyte, Catharine
Subject Access:	Arts Communications Environment Exploration, discovery and travel Family and personal life First nations Sports, recreation and leisure

Access Restrictions:	Some restriction/s on access Copyright, privacy, commercial use and other restrictions may apply
Language:	Language is English
Finding Aid:	Finding aids and reference tools: arrangement outline sous-fonds, series and file description for textual sub-series and group description for photographs item description, subject/proper name index, and summaries for sound recordings reference copies for sound recordings
Creator:	Whyte, Peter Whyte, Catharine
Category:	Arts Communications Environment Exploration, discovery and travel Family and personal life First nations Sports, recreation and leisure
Title Source:	Title based on contents of fonds
Processing Status:	Processed

## Electronic Resources



m36\_s37\_finding\_aid.pdf

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## Broadcasts

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions836>

Part Of: Peter and Catharine Whyte fonds  
Description Level: 4 / Sub-series  
Fonds Number: M36 / V683 / S37  
Series: I.D. Peter and Catharine Whyte sound recordings series  
Sous-Fonds: S37  
Accession Number: 3069  
Reference Code: S37 / 99 - 175  
Date Range: 1959 - 1969  
Physical Description: 77 sound recordings : audio tape reels

### Scope & Content:

Sub-series consists of broadcasts pertaining to the Canadian Rockies, 18 items; and miscellaneous broadcasts, 59 items. Interviewees, sources and subjects for Canadian Rockies broadcasts include: Jack Brewster, John Fisher, Campbells, Rundle Memorial United Church, Rev. Tom Lonsdale, church unity, Joe Weiss, parachute rescue work at Jasper, Don White, Lyle Brown, Jimmy Simpson, Ed Feuz, Jim Boyce, Andy Russell, Bruno Engler, Sen. Cameron, George McLean, Charlie Beil, Catharine Whyte, Banff library, Archives of the Canadian Rockies, Jon Whyte, Peter Whyte, Catharine Whyte, Banff Indian Days, Pearl Moore, Village Lake Louise, Palliser Expedition, Cameron Stockand, Mary Schaffer Warren. Miscellaneous broadcasts pertain to politics, sports, royalty, Canadian painting, military speeches, Hawaiian music, and other topics.

Finding Aid: Printed inventory is available. Reference copies and printed summaries are available for some recordings.

Related Material: Constitutes Sub-series 6 of I.D., Peter and Catharine Whyte sound recordings.

Title Source: Title based on recordings.

Processing Status: Processed

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## Conversations with Stoney Nakoda First Nations and Banff Indian Days recordings

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions834>

Part Of: Peter and Catharine Whyte fonds  
Description Level: 4 / Sub-series  
Fonds Number: M36 / V683 / S37  
Series: I.D. Peter and Catharine Whyte sound recordings series  
Sous-Fonds: S37  
Accession Number: 3069  
Reference Code: S37 / 57 - 83  
Date Range: 1950 - 1973  
Physical Description: 27 sound recordings.

### Scope & Content:

Interviewees, sources and subjects in this sub-series include: Banff Indian Days, Paul Amos, Bill Peyto, David Bearspaw, Johnny Bearspaw, Paul Francis, Noah Goat, Frank Kaquitts, Tom McCullough, Tom Kaquitts, Jon Whyte, Billy MacKenzie, George McLean (Chief Walking Buffalo), Peter Whyte, Indigenous camp at Nordegg, Dorothy Whyte, Moral Rearmament, Flora McLean, Jacob Two Youngman, Hanson Bearspaw, Joe Kaquitts, Tom Simeon, Bill McLean and Percy Wildward. Includes numerous native songs and stories, many recorded at Banff Indian Days camps.

Access Restrictions: Reproduction of certain native recordings must be approved by the Head Archivist.

Finding Aid: Inventory available in computer database form; select M36INV. More detailed inventory is available in printed form. Reference copies and printed summaries are available for some recordings.

Related Material: Constitutes Sub-series 4 of I.D., Peter and Catharine Whyte sound recordings.

Title Source: Title based on recordings.

Processing Status: Processed

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## Correspondence

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions819>

Part Of:	Peter and Catharine Whyte fonds
Description Level:	4 / Sub-series
Fonds Number:	M36 / V683 / S37
Series:	I.B. Peter Whyte papers and photographs series
Reference Code:	M36 / I / B / 2 / 1875 - 1908
Date Range:	1909-1962
Physical Description:	40 cm of textual records.
Scope & Content:	<p>Sub-series consists of correspondence with Catharine Robb Whyte, 1927-1962; chronological correspondence files, 1909-1962; and other papers, [ca.1920- ca.1930], in the form of business cards, addresses, greeting cards, and other.</p>
Finding Aid:	File description available in printed form and through this database.
Related Material:	Constitutes Sub-series 2 of I.B. Peter Whyte papers and photographs.
Title Source:	Title based on contents of sub-series
Processing Status:	Processed.

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## Financial, legal and business records

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions820>

Part Of:	Peter and Catharine Whyte fonds
Description Level:	4 / Sub-series
Fonds Number:	M36 / V683 / S37
Series:	I.B. Peter Whyte papers and photographs series
Reference Code:	M36 / I / B / 3 / 1909 - 1912
Date Range:	1914-1964
Physical Description:	3 cm of textual records.
Scope & Content:	<p>Sub-series consists of personal records, 1914-1962, employment records, 1923-1930, and banking records, 1927-1964.</p>
Finding Aid:	File description available in printed form and through this database.
Related Material:	Constitutes Sub-series 3 of I.B., Peter Whyte papers and photographs.
Title Source:	Title based on contents of sub-series
Processing Status:	Processed.

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## Interviews, conversations, proceedings

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions831>

Part Of: Peter and Catharine Whyte fonds  
Description Level: 4 / Sub-series  
Fonds Number: M36 / V683 / S37  
Series: I.D. Peter and Catharine Whyte sound recordings series  
Sous-Fonds: S37  
Accession Number: 3069  
Reference Code: S37 / 1 - 40  
Date Range: 1950 - 1975  
Physical Description: 40 sound recordings.

### Scope & Content:

Interviewees, sources and subjects of this sub-series include: James White Saga, John B.H. Dunphy, Murray and Frances (James) Adaskin, Gray Campbell family, Vern Castella, Dorothy Whyte, Jimmy Simpson, Belmore Browne, music, Carl Rungius, George Encil, Edward Feuz, Rudolf Aemmer, Walter Feuz, Basil Gardom, Ethel Fulcher, Ethel James Knyvett Estcourt Howard, Tim Hutch, George Paris, Bill Potts, Howard Sibbald, Jack Warren, Gilbert M. Atkin, Ike Brooks, Banff Springs Hotel, John "Dad" Barnett, Robert George Brett, Canadian Pacific Railway employees, Cave and Basin, curling rinks, Davmmond Galletly, Ralph Connor Memorial United Church, ski jumping, snowshoeing, tobogganning, Waverly Hotel. Mrs. Davderson, Arlene Voorbies, poetry, Catharine Whyte, Peter Whyte, Tom Javanaugh, Mr. Neilson, Eau Claire Lumber Company, Ben Holbrow, Bill Legarde, bears, fishing, Indigenous history, Highwood Valley, hunting, Lake O'Hara region, Monkman family, George Pocattera, George K.K. Link, Doris Burditt, Ruth Gorman, Robb family, Lawren Harris, J. E. H. MacDonald, Shale Splitters Club, Nick Morant, Christian Hasler, Billy Mackenzie, Mount Ogden, Sherbrooke Lake, Jon Whyte, Castle family, Mount Cline, J. Norman Collie, Mount Columbia, Crag and Canyon, Hector Crawler, Douglas Lakes, Mount Forbes, glaciers, hunting, Lake Louise, moose, mountaineering, Martin Nordegg, Nordegg region, James Outram, Ross Peacock, Bill Peyto, Silver City, Joe Smith, Skoki Lodge, Earl Spencer, Spray Lakes, trail-making, Nigel Vavsour, Waterfowl Lake, Edward Whympier, Tom Wilson, Peter Whyte, Billy Wolfe, Fred Stiles, buses, fish hatchery, Estelle Painter, Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies, Grizzly bears, Fern Brewster, Jack Brewster, John Murray Gibbon, Pearl Moore, Philip A. Moore, music, Jean Stewart, Stoney First Nations, William Twin, Tom Wilson, Yoho Valley, Mary Vaux, glaciers, George Vaux, Vaux family, C. M. Walker, Indigenous burial grounds, Kananaskis region, Ribbon Creek, trails, Wilkinson Pass, Sam Ward, Cis Ward, Indigenous pits on Tunnel Mountain, dwellings, Dr. Leechman, Hiram Smith, Tunnel Mountain Drive, Silver City, Erling Strom, Billie Simpson, Mary Simpson, Norman Tabuteau, Flossie Currie, Tilly Moffatt, Moffatt Dairy, Edmee Reid, Dell Brewster, Norman Curard, Charlie Phillips, Joe Louis, Ezra Charles, Hoot Gibson, films and film making, Sydney and Doris Vallance, Walter Perren, Gilbert and Frances Roddy.

Finding Aid: Inventory available in computer database form; select M36INV. More detailed inventory is available in printed form. Reference copies and printed summaries are available for some recordings.

Related Material: Constitutes Sub-series 1 of I.D., Peter and Catharine Whyte sound recordings.

Title Source: Title based on recordings.

Processing Status: Processed

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## Professional activities and interests papers

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions821>

Part Of:	Peter and Catharine Whyte fonds
Description Level:	4 / Sub-series
Fonds Number:	M36 / V683 / S37
Series:	I.B. Peter Whyte papers and photographs series
Reference Code:	M36 / I / B / 4 / 1913 - 1932
Date Range:	1920-1961
Physical Description:	22 cm of textual records.
Scope & Content:	<p>Sub-series consists of skiing papers, 1920-1928; photography papers, 1932-1958; art papers, 1925-1961; army papers, 1940-1943; airforce papers, 1941-1956; and other papers, 1923-1930.</p>
Finding Aid:	File description available in printed form and through this database.
Related Material:	Constitutes Sub-series 4 of I.B., Peter Whyte papers and photographs.
Title Source:	Title based on contents of sub-series
Processing Status:	Processed.

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## Robb / Morse Family Pictures

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions24008>

Part Of:	Peter and Catharine Whyte fonds
Description Level:	4 / Sub-series
Fonds Number:	M36 / V683 / S37
Series:	V683 / IV / A: Robb/Morse Family Personal Subseries
Sous-Fonds:	V683
Accession Number:	.
Reference Code:	V683 / IV / A / PA - 616 to 633 O.S.
GMD:	Photograph Photograph print
Date Range:	ca.1880 - 1925
Physical Description:	17 Photographs: prints; b&w
Scope & Content:	<p>Sub-series consists of 17 oversize b&amp;w prints. The prints relate to the Robb and Morse families. The prints pertain to Catharine's school photos, studio family portraits of Edward Sylvester Morse, Edith Morse Robb, Catharine Robb, and Russell Robb, exterior and interior of a house.</p>
Subject Access:	Family



Language:	English
Title Source:	Title based on contents of sub-series
Content Details:	V683 / N / A / PA - 616 O.S V683 / N / A / PA - 617 O.S V683 / N / A / PA - 618 O.S V683 / N / A / PA - 619 O.S V683 / N / A / PA - 620 O.S V683 / N / A / PA - 621 O.S V683 / N / A / PA - 622 O.S V683 / N / A / PA - 623 O.S V683 / N / A / PA - 624 O.S V683 / N / A / PA - 625 O.S V683 / N / A / PA - 626 O.S V683 / N / A / PA - 627 O.S V683 / N / A / PA - 628 O.S V683 / N / A / PA - 629 O.S V683 / N / A / PA - 630 O.S V683 / N / A / PA - 631 O.S V683 / N / A / PA - 632 O.S V683 / N / A / PA - 633 O.S
Processing Status:	Processed

## Images



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