



## Brett family fonds

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions14>

Part Of: Brett family fonds

Description Level: 1 / Fonds

Fonds Number: M1  
V83

Sous-Fonds: M1  
V83

Accession Number: 5, 20, 58, 78, 102, 354, 1164, 1532, 5042, 2022.35

Reference Code: M1 / V83

GMD: Photograph  
Album  
Negative  
Photograph print  
Textual record  
Diary  
Private record  
Published record  
Scrapbook

Date Range: [ca.1860]-1965

Physical Description: 73 cm of textual records. -- 11 photograph albums (ca.850 prints). -- ca.350 photographs (ca.320 prints, 28 negatives)

### History /

#### Biographical:

Robert George Brett, 1851-1929, was a prominent physician, hotel-hospital owner, businessman and politician Banff, Alberta from 1883 until 1929. Brett was born in Strathroy, Ontario, son of James Brett and Catherine Mallon. He was educated as a physician at the University of Toronto (M.D., 1874), and practiced medicine at Arkona, Ontario. He moved to Winnipeg in 1880, where he helped found the Manitoba Medical College.

R. G. Brett moved to Banff in 1886, founding the Banff Sanitarium. In 1909 he established the Brett Hospital. Brett also had numerous other businesses and real estate in Banff (including the National Park Drug Store, the Sanitarium Bottling Co., the Bretton Hall Hotel, Lithia Bottling Co.) and elsewhere.

In 1878, Brett married Louise Theodora Hungerford, 1855-1935, of Waterford, Ontario. Of their five children, only two survived infancy, Reginald H. "Harry", 1879-1925, and Robert Earle, 1887-1912. Earle Brett was survived by Maidie (Stacpole) Brett, whom he married in 1910, and by an infant daughter. Dr. Harry Brett was married to Helen Brett, 1877-1964, who outlived the rest of her family by many years. Associated closely with the Brett family was Dr. Brett's nurse, Annie McLauchlin.

From 1881 to 1901, R. G. Brett was Conservative Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) for the North-West Territories, and from 1889 to 1891 he was president of the executive council. He was Lieutenant-Governor of Alberta from 1915 to 1925. He died in Calgary.

## Scope & Content:

Fonds contains six series:

I. Robert G. Brett series, 1873-1926, 36 cm of textual records, consisting of: A. Personal papers, 1873-1926 (1. Correspondence, 2. Financial papers, 3. Other papers); B. Business papers, 1897-1925, (1. Banff businesses, 2. Businesses outside Banff); C. Professional papers, 1889-1925 (1. Political correspondence, 2. Official correspondence, 3. Other material);

II. Louise H. Brett series, [between 1855 and 1935], 10 cm of textual records, consisting of: A. Writing, betw. 1885 and 1935; B. Scrapbooks, ca. 1900, ca. 1910; C. Diaries and letters, 1912-1925; D. Other, ca. 1870-1924.

III. Reginald H. "Harry" Brett series, ca. 1910-1921, 10.5 cm of textual records, print material and photographs. Consists of: A. Personal papers, ca. 1910 (1. Scrapbooks, 2. Ephemera); B. Business papers, 1912-1921.

IV. Helen Brett series, 1925-1965, 4.5 cm of textual records, consisting of: A. Correspondence, 1927-1950; B. R. G. Brett estate papers, 1925-1949; C. Financial and business records, 1936-1962; D. Other, 1935-1965.

V. Brett family series, [ca. 1860-ca. 1935], consisting of: A. Photographs albums, ca. 1860-ca. 1910; B. Photographs, ca. 1875-ca. 1935.

VI. Other material series, [before 1928], 2 cm of textual records, consisting of: A. Annie McLauchlin papers, 1914-1928; B. Other, before 1925.

Name Access:	Brett, Helen Brett, Louise Brett, Reginald H. (Harry) Brett, Robert G. McLauchin, Annie
Subject Access:	Family and personal life Health services Politics
Access Restrictions:	Some restrictions on access to originals Copyright, privacy, commercial use and other restrictions may apply
Language:	Language is English
Finding Aid:	Finding aids and reference tools: arrangement outline series and file description electronic finding aid microfilm copies of albums
Creator:	Brett, Robert George and Louise Brett, Reginald H. (Harry) and Helen
Category:	Family and personal life Health services Politics
Biographical Source Notes:	Earlier version of fonds description.
Title Source:	Title based on contents of fonds
Processing Status:	Processed

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## 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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