

Research Collections



Bert Riggall fonds

https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions587

Part Of: Bert Riggall fonds

Description Level: 1 / Fonds Fonds Number: M 376

V 26

Sous-Fonds: M 376

V 26

Accession Number: 5777, 7200, 7201, 7772 (unproc)

Reference Code: M376 / V26 GMD: Photograph

> Album Negative

Photograph print Transparency Textual record

Diary Map

Private record

Published record

Date Range: [ca.1865]-1959, predominant [ca.1890]-1959

Physical Description: ca.13,100 photographs: ca.7080 prints, ca.5310 negatives, ca.700

transparencies. -- 9 photograph albums. -- ca.2 m textual records, print

material and graphic records. -- 33 cartographic records

History / Biographical:

Frederick Herbert (Bert) Riggall, 1884-1959, was a mountain guide, outfitter, hunter, trapper, rancher, naturalist, photographer, writer and gunsmith/loader in southern Alberta. Born in 1884 at Gayton-le-Wold Grange, Lincolnshire, his family moved to Grimsby where his father was an auctioneer and, in 1905, served as Mayor. In England, Riggall was an athlete, avid sportsman and naturalist. He was exposed to alpine country on school holidays in Switzerland and, determined to visit Canada, left for North America in 1904.

Upon arriving in western Canada, Riggall worked for a year at Craighurst Farm near Calgary. There he met Dorothea (Dora) Williams, 1877-1951, an Irish Quaker ranch cook who had emigrated with her sister Anna in 1902. In 1905, Bert worked on the Correction Land Survey in southwestern Alberta and explored Waterton Lakes. Bert and Dora married in 1906 and until 1946 they homesteaded and ranched adjacent to Waterton Lakes National Park.

Initially, Bert and partner Jack Hazzard built boats and guided fishing parties on Waterton Lakes. In 1909, with partner Cyril Watmough, the Riggalls began guiding and outfitting summer and fall hunting and fishing trips for numerous repeat clients, especially, after 1913, four Minneapolis, Minnesota families: Bovey, Crosby, Bennett and McKnight. Hunts involved Big Horn Sheep, goats, black and grizzly bears. Bert served as chief guide and Dora as camp cook. Prior to 1911, the Riggalls worked at Gloyne's oil camp and Oil City to supplement their income. In 1911, Bert and partner Cyril Watmough made a 1000 mile (1600 km) exploratory trip from Fort Steele, B.C. to the Yellowhead Pass and beyond. Following that trip, Riggall concentrated guiding activities on the continental divide as far north as the Highwood region, but primarily in the upper Oldman River Valley and Gap in the Livingstone Range. Their outfit grew to include numerous saddle and pack horses.

Of five children, only two daughters survived infancy. Kay Riggall (Russell), 1909-1984, and Doris (Babe) Riggall (Burton), 1910-1999, were both able riders, markswomen and packtrain workers. They accompanied their parents on summer back country trips starting in 1918. Bert Riggall was renowned for his knowledge of botany, geology, zoology, wilderness life and lore as well as literature and current affairs. He was especially endeared to his clients for his skill as a raconteur and campfire storyteller. He wrote articles for magazines such as: Arms and the Man, American Rifleman, Field and Stream and the Boone and Crockett Club's book: North American Big Game. Riggall was an accomplished semi-professional photographer who specialized in wildlife studies, panoramic landscapes, Dufaycolor and later Kodachrome transparencies. His photographs appear in Department of Interior Reports and other publications.

Bert's heart problems forced the Riggalls to move to Pincher Creek in 1947. Daughter Kay and son-in-law Andy Russell continued the packtrain and guiding business until 1960. After Dora's death, Bert experienced medical problems and lived with or close to Doris.

Scope & Content:

Fonds includes seven series: I. Personal and professional, 1884-1959; II. Business and financial, ca.1910-1959; III. Professional photography, 1900-1955; IV. Writing, 1906-1957; V. Natural history, 1904-1954; VI. Other interests, 1913-1956; VII. Riggall family, ca.1865-1959.

Personal and professional series consists of diaries and notes, correspondence and personal papers.

Business and financial series consists of guiding and ranching records, gunsmithing, shooting and loading records; and legal and financial records.

Professional photography series consists of standard photographs, panoramas, transparencies and textual records

Writing series contains manuscripts, published magazines, book outlines, newspaper articles and letters to the editor

Natural history series contains bird and plant records, and other natural history papers

Other interests series consist of clippings, annotated books and collected material

Riggall family series contains Bert and Dora Riggall family papers and photographs, Williams family photographs, Frederick W. and Fanny Riggall papers and photographs, and Allan Riggall papers and photographs. Negatives and transparencies pertain to Andy Russell as a young man with Bert Riggall.

Notes: Some transparencies in V110 Dick Russell are marked Andy Russell,

some marked 64 dup; V110 - original transparencies have full set of duplicates (2 sets were made, 1 for Dick Russell and the other is part of

this accession)

Name Access: Riggall, Bert

Subject Access: Arts

Environment

Exploration, discovery and travel

Family and personal life

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: basic description for processed material

Related Material: Related to the Andy Russell fonds (M153/S43/V555) and the Kay Russell

family fonds (M63/V63)

Creator: Riggall, Bert

Category: Arts

Environment

Exploration, discovery and travel

Family and personal life

Sports, recreation and leisure

Title Source: Title based on accession record and contents of fonds

Processing Status: Processed / Unprocessed



[Bert and Dora Riggall on horseback]

https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions53919

Part Of: Bert Riggall fonds

Description Level: 6 / Item
Fonds Number: V26

Series: IX. Riggall Negatives Scanned and Described

Sub-Series: Negatives

Reference Code: V26 / IX / F / NA - F3 - 2

GMD: Photograph
Date Range: ca.1906

Physical Description: 1 photograph: negative, b&w

Scope & Content:

Image depicts Bert and Dora on horseback soon after they homesteaded.

Subject Access: Environment and Nature

Images



OrderRemove



[A canvas pyramid tent]

https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions53900

Part Of: Bert Riggall fonds

Description Level: 6 / Item
Fonds Number: V26

Series: IX. Riggall Negatives Scanned and Described

Sub-Series: Negatives

Reference Code: V26 / IX / D / NA - D1 - 14

GMD: Photograph

Date Range: ca.1910 to ca.1945

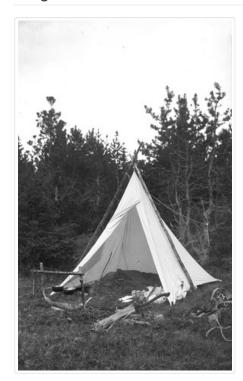
Physical Description: 1 photograph: negative, b&w

Scope & Content:

Image depicts a canvas pyramid tent in camp.

Subject Access: Environment and Nature

Images



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Activities and Employment

https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions23739

Part Of: Bert Riggall fonds

Description Level: 5 / File

Series: VII. Familial and Personal Series: Activities and Employment

Reference Code: V26 / VII / A4 / NA - 1 to 28

Date Range: [ca.1904 to ca.1959] Physical Description: Negatives: 28 b&w

Scope & Content:

File consists of 28 b&w negatives. The negatives pertain to activities of the Riggall family, and

Bert and Dora's employment.

Subject Access: Employment

Title Source: Title based on contents of file

Content Details: The negatives in this file are not individually numbered.

Storage Location: V26 / III / B19 / NA - 40 to V26 / VIII / E / NA - 2

Processing Status: Processed

This material is presented as originally created; it may contain outdated cultural descriptions and potentially offensive content. Read more.



Alberta Licenced Outfitters Association records

https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions16577

Part Of: Bert Riggall fonds

Description Level: 5 / File

Series: II. Business and financial series

Reference Code: M376 / 95, 96 Date Range: 1944-1946

Physical Description: 1 cm of textual records

History / Biographical:

Bert Riggall was the Secretary-Treasurer of the association

Scope & Content:

Records consist of correspondence, minutes, membership lists and applications

Title Source: Title based on contents of file.



Alberta Trip 1919

https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions23756

Part Of: Bert Riggall fonds

Description Level: 5 / File

Series: Ill. Professional Photography: Guiding and Hunting Trips

Reference Code: V26 / III / A10 / PD - 1

Date Range: 1919

Physical Description: Photograph Album: 1 photograph album (131 b&w prints)

Scope & Content:

Album contains 131 b&w prints, tipped in, some captioned. "Alberta Trip 1919" embossed in gold on front of album. Prints pertain to a pack trip taken by Jack Winton, C.B. Velie, Les Buck, and Ned Schultz. The prints document camps, camp life, shaving in camp, rafting on Wall Lake, pack trains and horses, and various landscape views.

Subject Access: Camping, Pack trains, Hunting
Title Source: Title based on contents of file

Processing Status: Processed

This material is presented as originally created; it may contain outdated cultural descriptions and potentially offensive content. Read more.



Allan Riggall

https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions23669

Part Of: Bert Riggall fonds

Description Level: 5 / File

Series: VII. Familial and Personal Series: Allan Riggall

Reference Code: V26 / VII / D / PA - 1 to 25

Date Range: 1904 to 1938

Physical Description: Photographs: 25 prints, b&w

Scope & Content:

File consists of 25 b&w, some captioned, some mounted. This subseries pertains to photographs of Allan Riggall (brother of Bert Riggall) and his family. This file contains photographs of Allan Riggall as a young man, in uniform, in the military, army training, his children, and family vacations.

Subject Access: Portraits, Family

Title Source: Title based on contents of file

Processing Status: Processed



Allan Riggall papers and photographs

https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions16595

Part Of: Bert Riggall fonds

Description Level: 5 / File

Series: VII. Riggall family series

Reference Code: M376 / 179

V26 / VII / D

Date Range: 1900-1940

Physical Description: .5 cm of textual records. -- 29 photographs : prints, transparencies

Scope & Content:

File consists of letters and postcards to Allan Riggall, brother of Bert Riggall, and photographs

of him and his family. Also includes five letters from Allan Riggall to his mother

Access Restrictions: Access by appointment only
Title Source: Title based on contents of file



[An oil derrick]

https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions53884

Part Of: Bert Riggall fonds

Description Level: 6 / Item
Fonds Number: V26

Series: IX. Riggall Negatives Scanned and Described

Sub-Series: Negatives

Reference Code: V26 / IX / A / NA - A36

GMD: Photograph

Date Range: ca.1910 to ca.1945

Physical Description: 1 photograph: negative, b&w

Scope & Content:

Image depicts an oil derrick on Frank Allred's ranch next to Dungarvin Creek.

Subject Access: Environment and Nature

Images



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[Andy and Kay Russell wedding]

https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions53950

Part Of: Bert Riggall fonds

Description Level: 6 / Item
Fonds Number: V26

Series: IX. Riggall Negatives Scanned and Described

Sub-Series: Negatives

Reference Code: V26 / IX / J / NA - J1 - 11

GMD: Photograph

Date Range: 1938

Physical Description: 1 photograph: negative, b&w

Scope & Content:

Image depicts a group at the Andy Russell and Kay Russell wedding.

Subject Access: Environment and Nature

Images



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