



Byron Harmon fonds

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions208>

Part Of:	Byron Harmon fonds
Description Level:	1 / Fonds
Fonds Number:	V 263
Sous-Fonds:	V 263
Accession Number:	235, 980, 1549, 1622, 2588, 2656, 2770, 2792, 2895, 3005, 3394, 3423, 3657, 3807, 3824, 3859, 3988, 4028, 4076, 5052, 5181, 5205, 5254, 5381, 6070, 6127, 6587, 6602
Reference Code:	V263
GMD:	Motion picture Film Photograph Negative Photograph print Postcard Transparency Textual record Published record
Other Title Info:	Also known as the Byron Harmon Photos fonds.
Date Range:	[ca.1890-ca.1975]
Physical Description:	ca.10,500 photographs (and ca.35 cm) : prints, postcards, negatives, transparencies, motion pictures, sample products

History /

Biographical:

Byron Hill Harmon, 1876-1942, was a professional photographer and businessman at Banff, Alberta, Canada. He was born near Tacoma, Washington, USA and operated a portrait studio there for a time. In 1903, while travelling around the United States and Canada as an itinerant photographer, he decided to settle in Banff and by 1907 had produced enough mountain views to begin selling a line of postcards. Between 1906 and 1913, Harmon was official photographer for the Alpine Club of Canada and made trips in numerous mountain areas, such as the Bugaboos (1910) and Mount Robson (1911, 1913). Harmon personally financed trips into other areas, such as Tonquin Valley (1918) and Lake of the Hanging Glaciers (1920, 1922), producing both still photographs and motion pictures for commercial sale. After his last major expedition in 1924 across Saskatchewan Glacier, through to Maligne Lake and back to Banff by packtrain, Harmon devoted most of his time to photographing scenes along the railway, skiing in the Assiniboine and Skoki regions, and the annual rides and hikes of the Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies and the Sky Line Trail Hikers of the Canadian Rockies. At the same time he managed several businesses, including a drug store, fountain lunch, theatre and book store. In his later years, Harmon spent much time travelling and photographing in other parts of the world. The business, Byron Harmon Photos, was managed successively by his son, Don Harmon, then his grand-daughter, Carole Harmon.

Scope & Content:

Fonds consists of the photographic records and sample materials of Byron Harmon Photos, the photographic business of Byron Harmon and his successors; as well as the personal photographs of Byron Harmon.

I. Scenic / commercial, 1907-1975, ca.7600 items. Primary component of series is film and glass negatives, 1907-1942, ca.6500 items. Also includes: postcard negatives and positives and production negatives to ca.1955; original prints; a wide range of sample products, such as postcards, enlargements and framing prints, calendars and viewbooks, mainly by Harmon business, some by other photographers; and lantern slides, ca.1913-192-, pertaining to Columbia Icefield Expedition, mountaineering, mountain landscapes, Indians, wildlife, Canadian Pacific Railway and Asian travel. Scenic / commercial series pertains to annual camps and expeditions of the Alpine Club of Canada in the Canadian Rockies and Selkirks, 1907-1913; private movie-making expeditions in the Canadian Rockies and Selkirks; mountain scenic views, primarily for postcard purposes; Banff events and development; skiing; birds and animals. Includes some material by Don Harmon and Lloyd Harmon, sons of Byron Harmon.

II. Personal, 189- to 194-, ca.370 items. Includes: family photographs and views received from others; motion picture out-takes pertaining to world travels, 1930s; and 35 mm. transparencies, ca.1940, pertaining mainly to world travels, also mountain and prairie scenics.

Notes:	For more information on the Byron Harmon photographs, see "Great Days in the Rockies: The Photographs of Byron Harmon, 1906-1934" (Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1978) or "Byron Harmon, Mountain Photographer" by Carole Harmon and Bart Robinson (Banff: Altitude Publishing, 1992)
Name Access:	Harmon, Byron
Subject Access:	Arts Environment Exploration, discovery and travel Family and personal life Sports, recreation and leisure
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: series description selected modern reference prints digital images in Images database and in Alberta InSight database
Related Material:	Byron Harmon postcards can also be found in the Postcard general file (V466)
Creator:	Harmon, Byron
Category:	Arts Environment Exploration, discovery and travel Family and personal life Sports, recreation and leisure
Title Source:	Title based on accession records and contents of fonds
Processing Status:	Processed

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1. Mountain

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions29147>

Part Of:	Byron Harmon fonds
Description Level:	6 / Item
Fonds Number:	V263
Series:	I. Scenic / commercial series
Sub-Series:	A.1.a. Negatives, Main series : 13 x 18 cm and smaller
Reference Code:	V263 / NA - 2822
GMD:	Photograph Negative
Date Range:	[between 1903 and 1942]
Physical Description:	1 photograph : negative, 13 x 18 cm or smaller
Scope & Content:	Alberta or British Columbia
Subject Access:	Environment and Nature
Geographic Access:	Canada
Creator:	Byron Harmon (Banff, Alberta)

Images



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2 buffalo

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions29266>

Part Of: Byron Harmon fonds
Description Level: 6 / Item
Fonds Number: V263
Series: I. Scenic / commercial series
Sub-Series: A.1.a. Negatives, Main series : 13 x 18 cm and smaller
Reference Code: V263 / NA - 2975
GMD: Photograph
Negative
Date Range: [between 1903 and 1942]
Physical Description: 1 photograph : negative, 13 x 18 cm or smaller
Scope & Content:
Alberta or British Columbia
Subject Access: Environment and Nature
Geographic Access: Canada
Creator: Byron Harmon (Banff, Alberta)

Images



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2 climbers, Banff Springs Hotel

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions29828>

Part Of:	Byron Harmon fonds
Description Level:	6 / Item
Fonds Number:	V263
Series:	I. Scenic / commercial series
Sub-Series:	A.1.a. Negatives, Main series : 13 x 18 cm and smaller
Reference Code:	V263 / NA - 3710
GMD:	Photograph
	Negative
Date Range:	[ca.1915]
Physical Description:	1 photograph : negative, 13 x 18 cm or smaller
Scope & Content:	
	Swiss alpine guides, Rudolph Aemmer (left) and Edward Feuz Jr (right)
Subject Access:	Buildings and memorials
	Sports and Recreation
Geographic Access:	Alberta
Creator:	Byron Harmon (Banff, Alberta)

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2. Mountain

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions29146>

Part Of: Byron Harmon fonds
Description Level: 6 / Item
Fonds Number: V263
Series: I. Scenic / commercial series
Sub-Series: A.1.a. Negatives, Main series : 13 x 18 cm and smaller
Reference Code: V263 / NA - 2821
GMD: Photograph
Negative
Date Range: [between 1903 and 1942]
Physical Description: 1 photograph : negative, 13 x 18 cm or smaller
Scope & Content:
Alberta or British Columbia
Subject Access: Environment and Nature
Geographic Access: Canada
Creator: Byron Harmon (Banff, Alberta)

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3 bears, from book

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions29175>

Part Of: Byron Harmon fonds
Description Level: 6 / Item
Fonds Number: V263
Series: I. Scenic / commercial series
Sub-Series: A.1.a. Negatives, Main series : 13 x 18 cm and smaller
Reference Code: V263 / NA - 2850
GMD: Photograph
Negative
Date Range: [between 1903 and 1942]
Physical Description: 1 photograph : negative, copy, 13 x 18 cm or smaller
Scope & Content:
Alberta or British Columbia
Subject Access: Environment and Nature
Geographic Access: Canada
Creator: Byron Harmon (Banff, Alberta)

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3 ladies, ACC camp

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions32175>

Part Of: Byron Harmon fonds

Description Level: 6 / Item

Fonds Number: V263

Series: I. Scenic / commercial series

Sub-Series: A.1.d. Negatives, Main series : glass

Reference Code: V263 / NG-73

GMD: Photograph
Negative

Date Range: [1907]

Physical Description: 1 photograph : negative, glass, 13 x 18 cm or smaller

Scope & Content:

Alpine Club of Canada

Paradise Valley camp, Alpine Club of Canada

Subject Access: Organizations
Sports and Recreation

Geographic Access: Alberta

Creator: Byron Harmon (Banff, Alberta)

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3 Sisters

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions37334>

Part Of: Byron Harmon fonds
 Description Level: 6 / Item
 Fonds Number: V263
 Series: I. Scenic / commercial series
 Sub-Series: A.1.a. Negatives, Main series : 13 x 18 cm and smaller
 Reference Code: V263 / NA - 4307
 GMD: Photograph
 Negative
 Date Range: [1925]
 Physical Description: 1 photograph : negative, 13 x 18 cm or smaller
 Scope & Content:
 Three Sisters Mountain
 Subject Access: Environment and Nature
 Geographic Access: Alberta
 Creator: Byron Harmon (Banff, Alberta)

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3 unidentified children on horse

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions29510>

Part Of: Byron Harmon fonds
 Description Level: 6 / Item
 Fonds Number: V263
 Series: I. Scenic / commercial series
 Sous-Fonds: V263
 Sub-Series: A.1.a. Negatives, Main series : 13 x 18 cm and smaller

Accession Number: n/a
Reference Code: V263 / NA - 3297
GMD: Photograph
Negative
Parallel Title: Indian children, three on horse
Other Title Info: Parallel title is original title
Date Range: [ca.1915-1925]
Physical Description: 1 photograph : negative, 13 x 18 cm or smaller
Scope & Content:
[Stoney First Nation]
Name Access: Harmon, Byron
Subject Access: Banff Indian Days
First Nations
Indigenous Peoples
Stoney Nakoda
Recognizing Relations Collection
Stoney
Geographic Access: Alberta
Language: English
Creator: Harmon, Byron (Banff, Alberta)
Title Source: This image was part of the Recognizing Relations project, an archives initiative undertaken from 2014-2023 to name Indigenous people in photographs held by the Whyte Museum Archives. Identifications were not possible.
Processing Status: Processed

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7 Veil Falls, O'Hara : [Seven Veils Falls]

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions32161>

Part Of: Byron Harmon fonds
Description Level: 6 / Item
Fonds Number: V263
Series: I. Scenic / commercial series
Sub-Series: A.1.d. Negatives, Main series : glass
Reference Code: V263 / NG-59
GMD: Photograph
Negative
Date Range: [1909?]
Physical Description: 1 photograph : negative, glass, 13 x 18 cm or smaller
Scope & Content:
Lake O'Hara area, Yoho National Park
Subject Access: Environment and Nature
Geographic Access: British Columbia
Creator: Byron Harmon (Banff, Alberta)

Images



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