



### A Century of American alpinism, 2002

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/catalogue20146>

Author:	Fay, Charles Ernest Bent, Allen Herbert Palmer, Howard Thorington, James Monroe Kauffman, Andrew John Putnam, William Lowell
Responsibility:	Charles Earnest Fay, Allen Herbert Bent, Howard Palmer, James Monroe Thorington, Andrew John Kauffman, William Lowell Putnam
Publisher:	Boulder, CO : American Alpine Club,
Published Date:	2002
Physical Description:	ix, 196 pages, xxii pages of plates : illustrations, portraits
Medium:	Library - Book (including soft-cover and pamphlets)
Subjects:	American Alpine Club History Mountaineering Clubs
Abstract:	Pertains to a century of American alpinism from 1902 to 2002
Contents:	Forward Preface I Earliest American Mountaineers II Pacific Crests III Later and Farther North IV Tidewater Alaska V Early American Ascents in the Alps VI Appalachian Mountain Club Roots VII The Social Aspect of Alpinism VIII To the Top of the Continent IX Other Mountain Clubs of America X Momentous Events XI Afield and at War XII Changing Mores XIII Moving West XIV Not All Sweetness and Light XV The Study of Mountain Elevations XVI Exclusiveness or Inclusiveness XVII Changing Faces Appendices Index
Accession Number:	AC637

Call Number: G505 F39 C46  
Collection: Alpine Club of Canada Library  
URL Notes: American Alpine Club link to book

## Websites

<https://americanalpineclub.myshopify.com/products/a-century-of-american-alpinism> 

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## The Great Glacier and its house : the story of the first center of alpinism in North America, 1885-1925

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/catalogue20180>

Author: Putnam, William Lowell  
Responsibility: Willaim Lowell Putnam  
Publisher: New York : American Alpine Club  
Published Date: 1982  
Physical Description: 23 pages : illustrations, portraits, map  
Medium: Library - Book (including soft-cover and pamphlets)  
Subjects: Glacier House  
Illecillewaet Glacier  
Selkirk Mountains  
Railway routes  
Railway stations  
Railways  
Tourism  
Mountaineering  
American Alpine Club  
History

Abstract: he hotel is gone and the passenger trains, now rarely on time, go by only once daily. The Great Glacier has all but vanished. The motor traffic on the fast, modern highway sweeps past in ignorance that this deep, half-forgotten, Illecillewaet valley of the Selkirk Mountains, with its dark forests and glittering summits, was the cradle of professional North American mountaineering and, for several decades, the principal Canadian attraction for climbers from three continents. Surely the time has long since passed for someone to tell the story of the early days when geologists, scientists, alpinists, guides, tourists and more than a few of our continent's empire builders stopped in Glacier, British Columbia to explore, study, climb, earn a modest living, admire the scenery or just rest from their labors.

It is most appropriate that William L. Putnam, one of America's outstanding experts on the Selkirks, should have undertaken the task of

writing a history of the area. It is even more appropriate that this history should have been published by The American Alpine Club, whose first president, Professor Charles E. Fay, spent many sunny days over several seasons scaling the region's unclimbed summits and, as we learn from the text, many rainy weeks in the Old Glacier House where at idle moments he amused himself by analyzing the comments in the hotel's guest register.

The author has labored hard and gone to great lengths to obtain original source material and to check facts. As might be expected, his story begins with the construction of the Canadian Pacific track through Roger's Pass; without it, the central Selkirks and the outstanding Matterhorn-like crest of Mount Sir Donald would no doubt still be little known and less visited. The absence of dining cars on the early transcontinental express trains, plus the superb view of what was then the awesome Illecillewaet Glacier, led to the building of a small restaurant-hotel by the track some five miles west of the pass. In time that hotel grew to become the Canadian Pacific's western show-piece. Tourists, scientists, mountaineers and guides arrived in growing numbers. The peaks were measured and climbed, trails were built, caves explored and an electric generator was constructed to light the premises. A pet bear was even provided on the grounds for the entertainment of guests. Then, slowly, the Great Glacier retreated, the railroad was modernized and rerouted through a five-mile tunnel some distance from the hotel, tourists and climbers alike went off to war on the battlefields of France, and the Canadian Pacific shifted its emphasis to its latter-day attraction at Lake Louise in the nearby Rockies. The old hotel was closed, then torn down, and the valley and its glacier almost forgotten. Such is the skeleton of Putnam's story.


But it is far more. Putnam has labored industriously. He has unearthed, and quoted at length, the original on-the-spot observations of the early visitors in the decades between 1890 and 1920. He has recovered ancient photographs, many excellent, to illustrate the stories and anecdotes he recounts. Thanks to his labor of love, those of us who are familiar only with modern mountaineering now have the opportunity to learn what climbing was like in the good old days around the turn of the century. Despite its deceptive scrapbook style, the work is scholarly. It is also highly nostalgic.

The author is at his best with the history of the early climbing. One wishes he had personally said more and quoted less—but, then, many of the quotations are memorable. He might also have omitted, or at least modified, the chapter on distant Mount Sir Sandford, for its story, while essential in any broad account of Selkirk climbing, belongs elsewhere and shifts the focus away from the House and the Glacier at the very moment when the reader has become engrossed in both. But these, however, are minor flaws, overshadowed by good research, an entertaining style, excellent history and magnificent illustrations.

Samuel H. Goodhue (from American Alpine Club)

Contents:	<p>Introduction</p> <p>The Railroad Track</p> <p>The House</p> <p>The Tourists</p> <p>First Climbers</p> <p>Men of Science</p> <p>Alpina Americana</p> <p>Britannic Majesty</p> <p>Canadians at Last</p> <p>Some of the Best</p> <p>The Last Big Mountain</p> <p>The Rest is Silence</p> <p>Appendices</p> <p>A: The Guides</p> <p>B: Place Names in the Central Selkirks</p> <p>Bibliography</p> <p>Index</p>
Notes:	Signed by author - addressed to Hans Gmoser
ISBN:	0930410130
Accession Number:	AC637
Call Number:	01.4 P98t reference
Collection:	Archives Library
URL Notes:	Link to book review on American Alpine Club website

## Websites

<http://publications.americanalpineclub.org/articles/12198232200/The-Great-Glacier-and-Its-House> 

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## O'Hara : stories of a beloved landscape and the people who have shaped it

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/catalogue19820>

Author:	Ward, Meghan J.
Publisher:	Crowfoot Media
Published Date:	May 2019
Physical Description:	p.66-75
Medium:	Library - Periodical
Subjects:	Lake O'Hara Lake O'Hara Bungalow Camp Lake O'Hara Lodge Lake O'Hara region Lake O'Hara Trails Club Alpine Club of Canada History Elizabeth Parker Hut Abbot Pass Hut Hiking Conservation
Abstract:	Pertains to the Lake O'Hara area including the history of its "discovery", creation of trail systems, Alpine Club of Canada activities, lodges, huts and access parameters. Includes many images from the Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies Archives & Library.
Notes:	In Canadian Rockies Annual, vol.04, May 2019
Call Number:	P
Collection:	Archives Library
URL Notes:	Website for Crowfoot Media - publishers of Canadian Rockies Annual

### Websites

<https://crowfootmedia.com/canadian-rockies-annual/> [↗](#)

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## Remembering the Ice River Valley

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/catalogue20006>

Author:	Kellerhalls, Heather
Publisher:	Alpine Club of Canada
Physical Description:	p.18 - 19
Medium:	Library - Periodical
Subjects:	Ice Rivers Camps Camps, Alpine Club of Canada Alpine Club of Canada Perren, Walter Goodsir, Mount Yoho National Park Films Munday, Phyllis Gibson, Rex
Notes:	In The Gazette of the Alpine Club of Canada, vol.34, no.2, summer 2019
Call Number:	P
Collection:	Archives Library
URL Notes:	Article can be read online at this site

### Websites

<http://acc.uberflip.com/i/1143472-acc-gazette-summer-2019> 

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## Welcome to climbing camp : camaraderie, conversation and conservation are key at the Alpine Club of Canada's annual General Mountaineering Camp

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/catalogue19937>

Author:	Anthony, Leslie
Responsibility:	Leslie Anthony
Publisher:	Canadian Geographic
Published Date:	2019
Medium:	Library - Periodical
Subjects:	Alpine Club of Canada Mountaineering Clubs Camps Camps, Alpine Club of Canada British Columbia
Abstract:	Pertains to the Alpine Club of Canada's annual General Mountaineering Camp
Notes:	In Canadian Geographic, July - August 2019, p. 60 - 70
Call Number:	P
Collection:	Archives Library
URL Notes:	Link to online article

### Websites

<https://www.canadiangeographic.ca/article/welcome-climbing-camp> [↗](#)

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