

Research Collections



Nicholas Morant fonds

https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions597

Part Of: Nicholas Morant fonds

Description Level: 1 / Fonds

Fonds Number: M300 / S20 / V500 Sous-Fonds: M300 / S20 / V500

Accession Number: 122, 182, 1273, 1460, 1612, 1685, 2175, 2265, 2631, 2703, 5117,

7438, 7784, 7672, 7914, 2023.01

Reference Code: M300 / S20 / V500

GMD: Album

Drawing Film

Government record

Map
Blueprint
Negative
Photograph
Photograph print

Postcard Poster

Recording disc Scrapbook Sound recording Textual record Transparency

Private record

Responsibility: Nicholas Morant, Canadian Pacific, various

Date Range: 1892-1995, predominant 1920-1981

Physical Description: ca.50,775 photographs: ca.23,795 negatives, ca.18,456 transparencies,

ca.8524 prints. -- 11 photograph albums. -- 125 sound recordings

History / Biographical:

Nicholas Everard Morant, 1910-1999, was a professional photographer based at Banff, Alberta, Canada. He was a Canadian commercial photographer of international repute and Canada's premier railway photographer of the 20th century.

Morant was born at Kamloops, British Columbia, the son of Francis and Mollie Morant. After attending the University School at Victoria, Morant served as Special Photographer to the CPR from 1929 to 1935 and again from 1944 to 1981. From 1935 to 1939, he was a cameraman for the Winnipeg Free Press, and from 1940 to 1944 worked with the Wartime Information Branch of the federal government (later to be known as the National Film Board Stills Division).

Morant had a prolific career as a freelance commercial, portrait, magazine, landscape and documentary photographer. His work appeared in numerous books and magazines, including Time, Life, Liberty, Saturday Evening Post, (Toronto) Star Weekly, Northern Sportsman, Reader's Digest, Country Guide, The Standard, National Home Monthly, Canadian Photography, Outdoor Canada, National Geographic, the Globe & Mail, Winnipeg Tribune, New York Daily News, and the two Canadian Pacific Railway magazines, The Spanner and Rail News.

Two wartime images were featured on postage stamps, while three landscape views appeared on Canadian \$10, \$50 and \$100 bills. His images were also used for corporate annual reports, postcards, brochures, calendars and advertisements. From the 1950s to 1980s Morant gave public slide shows of his work, two of the most popular being "A Talk Without Words" and "The World At Your Feet".

Morant married by May "Willie" Young in 1936 when he was a photographer with the Winnipeg Free Press. Beginning in 1929, and until the end of her life, Morant's travelling and working companion was his wife, "Willie," 1910-1986.

Scope & Content:

The Nicholas Morant fonds consists of Morant's freelance work from his early days with the Winnipeg Free Press to his retirement from the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1981. It is national in scope and also includes some international material. The fonds is comprised of three series: I. Photography; II. Professional records; III. Personal and family records.

I. Photography series consists of: A. Negatives and transparencies, B. Transparencies, C. Prints, D. Other photographs. II. Professional records series consists of: A. Working records, B. Career records, C. Topical files. III. Personal and family records series consists of: A. Nick and Willie Morant, B. Nick Morant funeral and memorial, C. Francis and Mollie Morant, D. Collected material

Notes: Full summary of sub-sub-series levels:

I / A : 1) Darkroom Files [a) Negative Albums b) Black/White Series I and

II c) Colour Series I and II

d) Leica Negs]

2) GD Files

I/B:1) Presentations [a) Topical Files b) Thematic Files]

2) General Files

3) Other

I/C:1) Print Files

I/D:1) Exhibition and Display Prints

2) Photographs used by John Garden

3) Other Photographs

II/A:1) Log Books

2) Notebooks

II / B : 1) Career Binders [a) Postcards b) Brochures and Advertising c) clippings and articles

d) Calendar Photographs]

2) Scrapbooks [a) Content 1933 - 1946 b) Content 1940 - 1980]

II / C : 1) Numbered / Titled Files [a) Group A b) Group B c) Group C d)

Group D e) Group H

f) Group Pg) Group R]

2) Other Topical Files [a) Railway; i) Timetables ii) Publications iii) Other

b) Photography; i) Textual Records ii) Print Material

c) Travel d) Exhibitions and Galleries e)Personal f) Other]

3) Postcards, Greeting Cards and Ephemera Collection

4) Published Images and Text

5) Professional Photography

6) Promotional Items, Awards and Correspondence

7) Presentation and Interview Materials

III / A: 1) Correspondence

2) Personal Papers [a) Personal Records b) Notes and Notebooks c)

Lists and Card Files

d) Awards and Retirement]

3) Personal Photographs

4) House Records [a) Construction b) Household Records]

5) Business, Financial and Legal Papers

6) Interviews, Reminiscences Personal Recordings

7) Other Records (Signs, Cartoons, Drawings, etc.)

8) Personal Correspondence and Notes

9) Travel Documents and Maps

III / B: 1) Nick Morant Funeral, Memorial and Estate

III / C: 1) Mollie Morant Papers

2) Other Family Papers

III / D: 1) Sound Recordings

2) Biographical Material

3) Other Papers and Photographs [a) Burton Wheatley Family b) Other]

4) Personal and Family Photography

5) Personal Interest and Gifts

Name Access: Morant, Nicholas

Subject Access: Environment

Exploration, discovery and travel

Transportation

Geographic Access: Alberta

Banff

British Columbia

Peru

Canadian Rocky Mountains

Canada Manitoba

New Brunswick

Newfoundland and Labrador

Nova Scotia Ontario

Quebec

Saskatchewan

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

series and file description

electronic and online finding aids

Creator: Morant, Nicholas
Category: Environment

Exploration, discovery and travel

Transportation

Biographical Source

Brock Silversides; We Live in a Postcard: Banff Family Histories (Banff:

Notes:

Banff History Book Committee, 2005)

Title Source: Title based on contents of fonds
Processing Status: Processed / Unprocessed

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