

Guide to the Laumann Yosemite Collection, c. 1908, 1923



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Laumann Yosemite Collection, c. 1908, 1923 (bulk c. 1908)

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Descriptive Summary

Title:

Laumann Yosemite Collection, c. 1908, 1923

Collection Number:

MS 153

Creator:

Laumann, Frank E., 1888-1957

Laumann, Una C., 1921 -

Abstract:

The Laumann Yosemite Collection consists of photographic prints and glass plate negatives of two of the Laumann family's visits to Yosemite National Park and the Sierra, the first in c. 1908 and the second in 1923. Photographs taken by Frank E. Laumann include familiar landmarks such as El Capitan, Mirror Lake, Vernal Falls, Half Dome and Hetch Hetchy as well as Laumann family and friends. The Laumann family donated the collection in 2006.

Extent:

3 boxes

Language:

English

Repository:

Special Collections, Robert E. Kennedy Library
California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo, California 93407

Administrative Information

Provenance:

Donated by Una Laumann in 2006.

Access:

Collection is open to qualified researchers by appointment only. For more information on access policies and to obtain a copy of the Researcher Registration form, please visit the Special Collections Access page. Collection stored remotely. Advance notice for use required.

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Preferred Citation:

[identification of item], Laumann Yosemite Collection, Special Collections, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

Abbreviations Used:

c.: circa

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Subjects:

Yosemite National Park (Calif.) -- Pictorial works
Yosemite National Park (Calif.) -- History
Yosemite National Park (Calif.) -- Description and travel

Genres and Forms of Material:

Photographic prints
Glass plate negatives
Genealogical chart
Ephemera

Biographical Note

Pioneers of Sonoma County, California, the Laumann family originally immigrated to the United States from Darmstadt, Hesse, Germany, settling in Peotone, Illinois. In the latter part of the nineteenth century, Lawrence and Margareta Laumann came to California by wagon with son John Laumann. John and his wife Hannah had six children, including Frank Emil Laumann, who was born May 8, 1888, in Sonoma County, California and Amelia, known as Millie, who was born in 1895.

Frank Laumann married Dorothy Meyer on February 25, 1914, in Sonoma County, and they made their home in Fulton, California. Frank owned a woodshop, built small houses, ran a store, and weighed plum-filled trucks. Their son George C., who taught mathematics at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo for 27 years, was born April 7, 1915. As a boy, he helped his father and learned woodworking skills from him. He attended local schools before going to the University of California at the age of 16.

George Laumann served stateside during World War II, making the rank of staff sergeant. He married Una Bergmann in 1950, returned to college and earned his bachelor's degree in 1952, his master's degree in 1953 at Chico State, and also did additional graduate work at the University of Oregon and UCLA. He began teaching mathematics at Cal Poly in 1957. His love of nature was shared with his family until his death at Wawona campground at Yosemite National Park on June 4, 1984. His wife, Una, established the Cal Poly George C. Laumann Scholarship in Mathematics in his memory.

Sources

Una C. Laumann

Robert Pavlik
California Death Index, Ancestry.com
Ancestry World Tree, Ancestry.com

Scope and Content Note

The Laumann Yosemite Collection contains 39 photographic prints and 32 glass plate negatives of locations in Yosemite National Park and the Sierra.

The collection documents two trips to Yosemite and the Sierra by the Laumanns, the first about 1908 and the second in 1923. The Laumanns traveled to Yosemite, probably c. 1908, in a Mark West Stage, a horse-drawn surrey. The journey from their home in Fulton, California, took more than five days, with a horse dying on the way. Upon arrival, they made camp at the base of Yosemite Falls. While at Yosemite, Frank Laumann took photographs of familiar landmarks, such as Mirror Lake, El Capitan, Vernal Falls and Hetch Hetchy, and of family and friends, including his sister Millie.

The original organization of the Laumann Yosemite Collection has been preserved and is divided into 2 series:

1. Photographs and Glass Plate Negatives
2. Family History and Ephemera

Two boxes contain prints and glass plate negatives, and one box contains a brief family history and ephemera.

Series Description/Folder List

Series 1. Photographs and Glass Plate Negatives, c.1908 and 1923

Contains two subseries: A. Photographic Prints and B. Glass Plate Negatives.

A. Photographic Prints

Contains black-and-white photographs from two trips to the Sierra, c. 1908 and 1923. Prints in folders 1 through 23 have corresponding plate glass negatives in Series B; the remaining do not. Arranged in original order. 1 box.

Box 1 Folder 1
Frank Laumann & sister Millie, Yosemite, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 2
Mt. Clark, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 3
Mirror Lake, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 4
Mirror Lake, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 5
Mt. Clark, Merced River Canyon, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 6

Yosemite Valley, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 7
Camp, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 8
Camp, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 9
El Capitan, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 10
Mt. Hoffman, North Dome, Basket Dome; view from Cloud's Rest, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 11
Forest, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 12
Yosemite Valley, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 13
Yosemite Valley, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 14
Mirror Lake, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 15
Half Dome from Glacier Point, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 16
Unidentified, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 17
Forest, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 18
North Dome with Merced River foreground, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 19
Unidentified, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 20
Tenaya Canyon, taken from Cloud's Rest, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 21
Half Dome, back side, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 22
Yosemite Falls, camp, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 23
Vernal Falls, c. 1908

Box 1 Folder 24
Vernal Falls, c. 1923

Box 1 Folder 25
Bridal Veil Falls, c. 1923

Box 1 Folder 26
Mariposa Grove, Frank and George Laumann (8 years old), 1923

Box 1 Folder 27
Nevada Falls, 1923

Box 1 Folder 28
Yosemite Falls, 1923

Box 1 Folder 29
Mariposa Grove, 1923

Box 1 Folder 30
El Capitan, 1923

Box 1 Folder 31
Mt. Watkins, Mirror Lake foreground, 1923

Box 1 Folder 32
Mariposa Grove, 1923

Box 1 Folder 33
Mariposa Grove, redwoods, 1923

Box 1 Folder 34
Mariposa Grove, undated

Box 1 Folder 35
Mariposa Grove, giant sequoia, undated

Box 1 Folder 36
Yosemite Falls, 1923

Box 1 Folder 37
Incline railroad cable cars, western boundary logging, 1923

Box 1 Folder 38
Hetch Hetchy, 1923

Box 1 Folder 39
Hetch Hetchy, 1923

B. Glass Plate Negatives

Contains glass plate negatives from two trips to the Sierra, c. 1908 and 1923. Plate negatives in Folders 1 through 23 have corresponding print copies in Series A; the remaining do not. Arranged in original order. 1 box.

Box 2 Folder 1
Frank Laumann & sister Millie, Yosemite, c. 1908

Box 2 Folder 2
Mt. Clark, c. 1908

Box 2 Folder 3
Mirror Lake, c. 1908

Box 2 Folder 4
Mirror Lake, c. 1908

Box 2 Folder 5
Mt. Clark, Merced River Canyon, c. 1908

Box 2 Folder 6
Yosemite Valley, c. 1908

Box 2 Folder 7
Camp, 1908

Box 2 Folder 8
Camp, 1908

Box 2 Folder 9
El Capitan, c. 1908

Box 2 Folder 10
Mt. Hoffman, North Dome, Basket Dome; view from Cloud's Rest, c. 1908

Box 2 Folder 11
Forest, c. 1908

Box 2 Folder 12
Yosemite Valley, c. 1908

Box 2 Folder 13
Yosemite Valley, c. 1908

Box 2 Folder 14
Mirror Lake, c. 1908

Box 2 Folder 15
Half Dome from Glacier Point, c. 1908

Box 2 Folder 16
Unidentified, c. 1908

Box 2 Folder 17
Forest, c. 1908

Box 2 Folder 18

North Dome with Merced River foreground, c. 1908

Box 2 Folder 19
Unidentified, c. 1908

Box 2 Folder 20
Tenaya Canyon, taken from Cloud's Rest, c. 1908

Box 2 Folder 21
Half Dome, back side, c. 1908

Box 2 Folder 22
Camp, foot of Yosemite Falls, c. 1908

Box 2 Folder 23
Vernal Falls, c. 1908

Box 2 Folder 24
Unidentified, undated

Box 2 Folder 25
Unidentified, undated

Box 2 Folder 26
Unidentified, undated

Box 2 Folder 27
Mountains, undated

Box 2 Folder 28
Trees and hills, undated

Box 2 Folder 29
Mariposa River tree door, undated

Box 2 Folder 30
Man-wagon wheel, undated

Box 2 folder 31
Rock and falls, undated

Box 2 Folder 32
Unidentified, undated

Series 2. Laumann Family History and Ephemera

Contains one subseries: A. Laumann family history and ephemera

A. Laumann family history and ephemera.

Contains a short biography of the Laumann family, Laumann family records, Yosemite National Park postcard and Standard Oil Company ephemera. Arranged in original order.

Box 3 Folder 1

Laumann family history and family group sheet

Box 3 Folder 2

Yosemite postcard, Standard Oil Company ephemera, and photograph of Theodore Roosevelt and John Muir at Yosemite

