

DONALD FRASER FAMILY HISTORY COLLECTION
FINDING AID

YELLOWSTONE GATEWAY MUSEUM OF PARK COUNTY
LIVINGSTON, MONTANA
2022

DONALD FRASER FAMILY HISTORY COLLECTION

PROVENANCE:

Donald "Don" Fraser created the scrapbooks and donated them in 2001.

ACCESS:

The collection is open for research. This finding aid can be found at:

<http://yellowstonegatewaymuseum.org/research-your-history/>.

OWNERSHIP:

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PREFERRED CITATION:

[Identification of item], Donald Fraser Family History Collection, 2001.015.0018
, 2001.015.0022, Yellowstone Gateway Museum of Park County.

SIZE:

1 box

1 oversize folder

PROCESSED BY:

Ellen Zazzarino

DONALD FRASER FAMILY HISTORY COLLECTION

HISTORICAL NOTE

John Fraser Sr. arrived in the Montana Territory with his wife's cousin, Hugh McMillan in 1874. Hugh contacted his brother Donald McMillan who brought them to Bozeman where they were hired as carpenters by Major Pease. In the spring of 1875 all three were employed to move the Crow Agency from Fort Parker to a location on the Stillwater River near the present town of Absarokee. In 1876 they were working for a lumber mill on Mill Creek that had been built by John Tomlinson and sold to Major Pease. In the spring of 1877 they floated a raft of saved lumber, which they sold to a post trader in Milestown. They bought a building on main street and opened the first blacksmith and wagon repair shop.

John Fraser purchased land on the east side of Miles City. He returned to Canada to bring his family, his wife and six children to Miles City. Most of the children relocated to Livingston except for his daughter who married the Northern Pacific road master Daniel McPhearson.

John Fraser, Jr initially worked as a bartender at the Albemarle Hotel and then at the I Roth Saloon. In 1898 he joined the Livingston Police Force. In 1915 he left the force when he was elected the Park County Assessor. In 1935 he was also elected as Justice of the Peace. He held both positions until his death in 1942.

Hugh Fraser was employed as the head bartender at the Bucket of Blood Saloon. Later he married and moved to a farm in the Miles City area. Archibald Fraser worked as a switchman for the Northern Pacific in Livingston. He was promoted to yard master and continued working for the railroad until he retired in 1925.

John Angus Fraser worked as a cook for the Harvat Sheep Company and then fought in the Spanish American War. Afterwards he relocated to Denver, Colorado where he spent the rest of his life. Danial Fraser moved to Livingston and began a partnership with Frank Aulspaul to open the Progress Mens Store. He later went into another men's clothing business with Charles Landis until his death.

John Fraser, Sr. remained in the family home in Miles City with his wife until 1901 when the relocated to Livingston to be near their children. He purchased 10 acres which he eventually developed into an orchard. His wife died in 1904, John Sr. turned the farm over to John Jr. and lived with his family until his death in 1917.

James Fraser remained in Miles City with his sister. He worked as a blacksmith at Fort Keogh for several years and later for the Milwaukee Railroad. In 1915 he joined the Miles City police department. He worked for the police department until he was killed in action in 1935.

Donald Fraser was born on May 6, 1916 in Three Forks, Montana. The same year his family moved to Livingston, MT. They later moved to Mammoth Springs in Yellowstone National Park. They returned to Livingston in 1927. Don Fraser attended the University of Montana. While enrolled he worked at night for the Union Pacific Hospital in Missoula. In 1938 Don began working full-time for the Northern Pacific Railway. He worked for the railroad company until 1940 when he purchased the Town Pump Texaco Service Station in Livingston. In 1942 he entered the U.S. Army and also married Olga J. Garvey. After his discharge from the Army he continued on in the Air Force Reserve for 30 years.

Don took a job with the Livingston Police Department, where he worked for 22 years. He retired in 1968. After his retirement he worked for the Yellowstone National Park for eight years as a law enforcement officer. Don was extremely active in many fraternal and civic organizations including serving as a Boy Scout leader, and as a member of Livingston Masonic Lodge, Livingston Scottish Rite Bodies, Livingston Elks Lodge, Algeria Shrine Temple in Helena, American Legion, VFW, Yellowstone Gateway Museum, Park County Pioneer Society and Senior Citizens of Park County in which he served two terms as president.

Don and Olga Fraser had one daughter, Dianne. Donald Fraser died in 2005.

DONALD FRASER FAMILY HISTORY COLLECTION

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The material in the collection dates from 1871-1999. The collection comprises of pages from two scrapbooks Don Fraser created on the family that document his family history. A portion of another scrapbook documents his donations to various museums, primarily in Montana. The scrapbooks were disassembled to preserve the historical material but the original order was maintained. The container list includes the original scrapbook page number. The scrapbooks contain family histories written by Don Fraser, original documents such as letters, clippings, certificates, deeds, memorials, articles, family genealogy and biographies. The collection also contains small objects such as badges and ties along with family photographs. The objects and photographs remain in the collection to preserve the original organization of the scrapbooks. Three oversized items, including two certificates were relocated to a map case for proper preservation.

Related material includes two large scrapbooks created by Don Fraser, 2001.015.0020 (1916-1980); and 2001.015.0021 (1980-2001) of his life, family, work. Pdf of pages available in PastPerfect at the museum.

DONALD FRASER FAMILY HISTORY COLLECTION

CONTAINER LIST

SERIES 1 FAMILY HISTORY SCRAPBOOKS

Box 1/WS4F Scrapbook #1	Dates
FF1 Pg. 1-2, Coat of Arms Historiography with typed notes	not dated
FF2 Pg. 3-4, Grand Reunion in Scotland: letter, itinerary, brochure	Nov. 7, 1999
FF3 Pg. 5-6, 3 neckties representing Fraser clan tartan	not dated
FF4 Pg. 7-8, brief history of ancient Fraser clan, Castle Beaufort (home of Fraser clan) description and image	ca. 1995
FF5 Pg. 9-10, Frasers of Canada: photos, genealogical charts, testimonial letters	ca. 1880-1900, 1969-1971
FF6 Pg. 11-12, John Fraser Sr.: biography, genealogy of Fraser family of Glengarry County, Ontario	ca. 1970-1992
FF7 Pg. 13-14, Great-grandfather John Fraser, Sr. family list, bio of John Fraser Sr., "John Fraser Sr. and Annie (McMillan) Fraser Miles City Pioneers" typescript	ca. 1992
FF8 Pg. 15-16, genealogical chart of McMillan family of Canada, letter, booklet	1967
FF9 Pg. 17-18, John and James photo taken in Miles City, John Fraser Jr. bio	1880, not dated
FF10 Pg. 19-20, Avant Courier, Bozeman, Montana Territory, (1 pg. copy)	1871-1872
FF11 Pg. 21-22, Mission Cemetery: clippings on moving the graves	Sept. 30, 1957
FF12 Pg. 23-24, "Life at the Second Crow Agency, Montana Territory, December 1874 to May 1876" article (copy)	not dated
FF13 Pg. 25-26, photo of John Fraser Sr. and wife Ann (McMillan) Fraser, clipping, John Fraser Sr. death certificate, memorial card	ca.1875, 1917, 1956
FF14 Pg. 27-28, John Fraser Jr., Ellen Leah Holleran Fraser studio portraits, Grandfather John J. Fraser bio	not dated
FF15 Pg. 29-30, John Fraser III family genealogy, Grandfather John J. Fraser bio, John J. Fraser Jr. and Helen Leah Fraser bio	not dated
FF16 Pg. 31-32, John Fraser to Ellen Holleran record of marriage, list of officers and committees in Livingston; Miles home photo, clipping	1887 (copy), 1904, 1982, 1992

Box 1/ WS4F Scrapbook #1	Dates
FF17 Pg. 33-34, "Miles City, Montana Celebrates 50 Year" typescript	not dated
FF18 Pg. 35-36, John J. Fraser secret service certificate, John Fraser and Ellen Holleran marriage certificate	1886-1887
FF19 Pg. 37-38, John Fraser Masonic Lodge membership certificate, letter	1891, 1942
FF20 Pg. 39-40, Livingston Scottish Rite Class of 1919 group portrait, John Fraser Scottish Rite membership certificate (moved to OVFF1)	1919
FF21 Pg. 41-42, Montana Masonic Foundation donation certificate, family photos, clipping	1905-1976
FF22 Pg. 43-44, List of Masonic members of the Fraser family, membership records	1929, 1951, 1984
FF23 Pg. 45-46, Woodmen of the World badge and ribbon, clippings on family	1937, not dated
FF24 Pg. 47-48, Masonic Mutual Accident Co. membership application for John J. Fraser, obituary, clippings	1903, 1942, not dated
FF25 Pg. 49-50, John Fraser election notices as Park County Assessor and Park County Constable	1904-1932
FF26 Pg. 51-52, John Fraser election certificate as Police Magistrate, warranty deed, agreement	1900, 1915, 1935
FF27 Pg. 53-54, John Fraser warranty deeds, letter, clipping	1902-1915, 1931
FF28 Pg. 55-56, John J. Fraser and Ellen Holmes Fraser death certificates, funeral record, clippings	1942, 1945
FF29 Pg. 57-58, Family Cemetery records, letter, receipt, regulations	1964, 1989
FF30 Pg. 59-60, "Stories that Great Grandfather Told by Grandfather Fraser" typescript	not dated
FF31 Pg. 61-62, John Fraser Jr. Livingston Polk Directory pages (copies)	1908-1909
FF32 Pg. 63-64, Ellen Fraser obit, photo, postcard	1885, 1940, 1945
FF33 Pg. 65-66, Great Grandfather Danial O'Holleran family genealogy, Holleran family genealogy	not dated
FF34 Pg. 67-68, History of the Holleran or O'Holleran family typescript	not dated
FF35 Pg. 69-71, John J. Tierney, Mary Jane (Holleran) Tierney death certificates (copies)	1920, 1961 (copies)

Box 1/ WS4F Scrapbook #1**Dates**

- FF36 Pg. 71-72, Julie and Margaret Holleran death certificates (copies) clippings 1938, 1954
- FF37 Pg. 73-75, Mary Holleran clippings, bio ca. 1950
- FF38 Pg. 75-76, Fraser, Christianson, Turney, Townsend family photos 1956-1957, not dated
- Scrapbook #1 empty with typed notes, hand-drawn map inside cover

Box 1/ WS4F Scrapbook #3**Dates**

- FF39 Pg. 1-2, Flora Mary (Fraser) Weber: photos, wedding announcement; John James Weber: Oregon shipbuilders service card, clipping 1910, 1924
ca. 1940-1946
- FF40 Pg. 3-4, Flora (Fraser) Weber: photos, membership cards, death certificate 1915, 1949, 1967,
- FF41 Pg. 5-6, Flora (Fraser) Weber and John "Jack" Weber: marriage certificate, bio, John's death certificate, letters, memorial certificate 1924, 1958, 1989
- FF42 Pg. 7-8, Flora (Fraser) Weber and John "Jack" Weber: studio portraits not dated
- FF43 Pg. 9-10, Flora (Fraser) Weber: baptism certificate, wedding Announcement, warranty deed (marriage license relocated to OVFF1) 1903, 1923-1924,
1955
- FF44 Pg. 11-12, Flora (Fraser) Weber: photos 1920, 1942, 1969
- FF45 Pg. 13-14, John "Jack" Weber: photos, promotion certificate, honorable discharge certificate, memorial certificate 1918-1919,
1958
- FF46 Pg. 15-16, Flora (Fraser) Weber: will funeral card; Weber family Anna, Will and George photos 1958, 1989, not dated
- FF47 Pg. 17-18, John "Jack" Weber: baptism certificate, high school graduation program, American Legion membership card, cartoons drawn by "Jack" 1889, 1901, 1936,
1954
- FF48 Pg. 19-20, Weber family photos, G. M. Weber obit 1961, not dated
- FF49 Pg. 21-22, Flora (Fraser) and "Jack" Weber: death certificate, power of attorney, cemetery lot receipt 1954, 1987, 1989
- FF50 Pg. 23-24, Arthur Wesley Fraser and Imogene Gardner Fraser: photos, clippings not dated

Box 1/ WS4F Scrapbook #3	Dates
FF51 Pg. 25-26, Arthur Wesley Fraser: bio, obit, Charles E. Gardner family photo, letter	1925, 1991 not dated
FF52 Pg. 27-28, Arthur Wesley and Imogene Fraser: obituaries, letter, photo (copies)	1925 (copy) 1991, 1996
FF53 Pg. 29-30, Danial Holleran Fraser: military photos, badge, stripes,	not dated
FF54 Pg. 31-32, Danial Holleran Fraser: military induction papers, insurance papers, identification card, note of introduction	1942-1945
FF55 Pg. 33-34, Danial Holleran Fraser: birth certificate, honorable discharge document, immunization register	1909, 1942-1945
FF56 Pg. 35-36, Danial Holleran Fraser: short bio, WWII photos	1944, ca. 1962
FF57 Pg. 37-38, Danial Holleran Fraser: military photos, clipping	ca. 1943-1945
FF58 Pg. 39-40, Danial Holleran Fraser: military clippings, U.S. memory certificate	1945, not dated
FF59 Pg. 41-42, Honor Guard for Adelaid Stephens landing in Billings, MT photo	not dated
FF60 Pg. 43-44, V.F.W. Honor Guard – Memorial Day, Billings, MT photo	1965
FF61 Pg. 45-46, Danial Fraser: birth, death certificates obit; Flora, Ella, Danial photos	1909, 1942, 1962
FF62 Pg. 47-48, James J. Fraser, 1836-1935: bio, photo	not dated
FF63 Pg. 49-50, James J. Fraser, Police Officer - killed in the line of duty in 1935: letter, photo (copy)	2001, not dated
FF64 Pg. 51-52, James J. Fraser: family genealogy, pedigree chart, photo	1970, not dated
FF65 Pg. 53-54, James J. Fraser, Police Officer - killed in the line of duty: clippings	Aug. 8, 1935
FF66 Pg. 55-56, James J. Fraser: marriage, death certificates (copies)	1899, 1935
FF67 Pg. 57-58, James J. Fraser: marriage certificate (copy), invitation to witness execution (copies)	1928, 1935
FF68 Pg. 59-60, Hugh John Fraser, 1861-1917: brief family history, photos	not dated
FF69 Pg. 61-62, Hugh John Fraser: biography, death certificate; Jane Fraser (wife): death certificate	1917, 1936
FF70 Pg. 63-64, Flora Ann Fraser McPherson: bio, death certificate	1899, 1908

Box 1/ WS4F Scrapbook #3		Dates
FF71	Pg. 65-66, Flora Fraser McPherson and family: family photos, letter regarding burial	1936, 1962, 1964
FF72	Pg. 67-68, Flora Fraser McPherson and family: genealogy	1958, ca. 1990s
FF73	Pg. 69-70, Flora Fraser McPherson and family: clippings, photos, Hutchings and Arnholt death certificates	1899, 1946, 1978, 1980
FF74	Pg. 71-72, Walter Arnholt: Yellowstone Park work ID, rescue by three men in Yellowstone to rescue Jack Worth	1929, 1932, 1974
FF75	Pg. 73-74, Archibald J. Fraser, 1869-1946: bio	ca. 1984
FF76	Pg. 75-76, Archibald J. Fraser family: genealogy, Laurence Fraser obit	1985, not dated
FF77	Pg. 77-78, Archie J. Fraser: marriage license, death certificate, obit	1896, 1946
FF78	Pg. 79-80, John Angus Fraser: bio, letters regarding death	1968-1969, 1984
FF79	Pg. 81-82, Danial J. Fraser, 1872-1922: photo (copy), George D, Ross death certificate	1936, not dated
FF80	Pg. 83-84, Danial John Fraser family: genealogy, bio	ca. 1980s
FF81	Pg. 85-86, Danial Fraser: marriage certificate (copy), list of deed transactions	1895
FF82	Pg. 87-88, Danial and Myrtle Fraser: death certificates	1922, 1961
FF83	Pg. 89-90, Helen Fraser Ross family: wedding announcement, family photos, clippings, commencement invitation	1926, 1948, 1962
FF84	Pg. 91-92, Myrtle Jane Ross, Christine Gay Regedahl, Rebecca Jane Fasching: birth certificates	1927, 1944, 1966
FF85	Pg. 93-94, Fraser family listing in Polk Directory, Sumaker family family identification	1904-1946

Box 1/ WS4F Donations to Museums Historical Institutions		Dates
FF86	Donations to Park County Museum/Yellowstone Gateway Museum: Clipping, letter, John Fraser, Jr bio	1999-2001
FF87	Contributions/donations to Montana Historical Society: letters, clippings, photos (copies), family histories, articles on train bombings, "Early Day Women Visitors to Yellowstone National Park"	1972-1999

Box 1/ WS4F Donations to Museums Historical Institutions		Dates
FF88	Dedication of McFarland Center in Virginia City, MT: invitation, Brochures, clippings	Sept. 1999
FF89	Donation to numerous organizations: letters, donation descriptions, Brochures, articles, clippings, "FBI Espionage Case 1941" by Don Fraser, Livingston Fire Department timeline	1941-1942, 1984-
FF90	Donation to numerous organizations: letters, donation descriptions, Articles, photos, "Trusty and Grace" by Tim Cahill, Jails of American Frontier" by J.M. Moyahan, "The Battleship Yellowstone, a Christmas Story" by Don Fraser	1983-2001
FF91	Contributions to newspapers about local history: letters, clippings, death certificate (copy)	1944-2002

2001.015.0022/Oversize file folder 1 Map Case 3 drawer 9

John Fraser Scottish Rite membership certificate (moved from FF20)	1919
John J. Weber and Flora Fraser marriage certificate (moved from FF43)	1924
Pioneer Fraser family in Montana and Livingston by John Fraser	not dated