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Guide to the Davies/Scroggie Collection of White Pass and Yukon Documents and Ephemera

WA MSS S-2627



by H. Dean

2009

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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CALL NUMBER: WA MSS S-2627

CREATOR: Davies, Grant, 1947- , collector

TITLE: Davies/Scroggie Collection of White Pass and Yukon Documents and Ephemera

DATES: 1899-1947

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 6 linear feet (6 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The Davies/Scroggie Collection of White Pass and Yukon Documents and Ephemera provides evidence of commerce and transportation in the Yukon Territory and Alaska dating between 1899 and 1947. The Collection largely consists of time rolls and distribution of labor books documenting the firm White Pass and Yukon Route. Other material in the collection includes certificates, customs documents, bills, correspondence, and legal documents, which represent commerce, transportation, and the Klondike gold rush (which began in 1897). The Collection is useful for understanding labor history, daily life during the gold rush, and the complexities of railway construction in the Yukon Territory and Alaska.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.daviesscroggie>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.daviesscroggie>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Grant Davies and Carole-Ann Scroggie Davies, 1993-1994.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Davies/Scroggie Collection of White Pass and Yukon Documents and Ephemera is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

Davies/Scroggie Collection of White Pass and Yukon Documents and Ephemera. Yale Collection of Western Americana, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

The collection's description and arrangement are based on a list provided by the donor.

Scope and Contents

The Davies/Scroggie Collection of White Pass and Yukon Documents and Ephemera provides evidence of commerce and transportation in the Yukon Territory and Alaska dating between 1899 and 1947. The Collection largely consists of time rolls and distribution of labor books documenting the firm White Pass and Yukon Route. Other material in the collection includes certificates, customs documents, bills, correspondence, and legal documents, which represent commerce, transportation, and the Klondike gold rush (which began in 1897). The Collection is useful for understanding labor history, daily life during the gold rush, and the complexities of railway construction in the Yukon Territory and Alaska.

Arrangement

The Davies/Scroggie Collection of White Pass and Yukon Documents and Ephemera is organized into two series: Commercial Documents and Ephemera and Transportation Documents and Ephemera.

Collection Contents

Series I: Commercial Documents and Ephemera, 1899-1946

1 linear foot (1 box)

The series contains various documents and ephemera, dating from 1899 to 1946, pertaining to commerce in Alaska and the Yukon Territory. The series is comprised of certificates, customs documents, bills, and receipts, which provide insight into daily life in the gold rush period (particularly in Skagway). The export and royalty certificates, in particular, chronicle the gold trade and its participants.

b.1	Office of the Comptroller (Yukon Territory). Royalty certificates certifying payment of gold royalties, issued primarily at Dawson City but with some issued at Forty Mile and Whitehorse	1901-1905
b.1	Office of the Comptroller (Yukon Territory). Free certificates for the export of gold, all issued at Dawson City to banks, a variety of companies, and private citizens <i>3 Folders</i>	1905
b.1	Billheads, receipts, and commercial correspondence Largely from Skagway but also from Atlin, Dawson, Juneau, Ketchikan, Log Cabin, Valdez, and Whitehorse	1899-1946
b.1	Canada Customs documents Includes bills of sight	1899 and 1906
b.1	Pacific Contract Company documents and manuscripts	1899-1901
b.1	Water notice	1899

Series II: Transportation Documents and Ephemera, 1899-1947*5 linear feet (5 boxes)*

The series contains documents and ephemera, dating between 1899 and 1947, which record the development and operation of various companies in Alaska and the Yukon Territory. The materials explain how life and business could flourish despite travel and communications difficulties caused by the rugged terrain, the scattered settlements, and the severe weather. A substantial amount of material pertains to the various rail and river enterprises owned by the firm White Pass and Yukon Route and reveals how the company perceived its role in the territories and how it viewed its employees. The time rolls and distribution of labor books trace details such as the number of hours worked by employees, rate of hourly wages, and occupations, and thus constitute an important resource for labor history.

The series is organized into two subseries: Various Companies and White Pass and Yukon Route (Firm).

Various Companies

b. 1	American Yukon Navigation Company. Documents Includes receipts and accounts of fuel consumption	1905-1924
b. 1	The British Yukon Navigation Company, Limited. Documents including correspondence, internal financial documents (such as mortgage substitution account and reports on fuel consumption), vouchers, and trip passes <i>3 Folders</i>	1901-1947
b. 1	British Yukon Railway Company. Legal documents including bill of sale, certificate of title, and resolution	1905-1908

White Pass and Yukon Route (Firm)

b. 1	Correspondence <i>13 Folders</i> Includes correspondence from President, Vice-President, cashier, general manager, fuel agent, land and tax agent, purchasing agent, solicitor and general agent, superintendent (river division and rail division), traffic manager, and accounting department.	1899-1947
b. 1	Auditor's bills	1901-1926
b. 1	Baggage tags	undated
b. 1	Tariffs and timetables	1901-1947
b. 1	Tickets and passes <i>3 Folders</i>	1911 and 1946- 1951
b. 1	Wage cheques	1901
b. 2	Time rolls and distribution of labor books <i>15 Folders</i>	1899 February - 1900 January
b. 3	Time rolls and distribution of labor books <i>15 Folders</i>	1900 January - December and 1907-1909
b. 4	Time books <i>14 Folders</i>	1900 March - July

White Pass and Yukon Route (Firm) (continued)

b. 5	Time books <i>15 Folders</i>	1900 August - October
b. 6	Time books <i>10 Folders</i>	1900 November - December

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Frontier and pioneer life -- Alaska
Frontier and pioneer life -- Northwest,
Canadian
Gold mines and mining -- Yukon -- Klondike
River Valley
Narrow gauge railroads -- Alaska
Narrow gauge railroads -- British Columbia
Narrow gauge railroads -- Yukon
Railroads -- Alaska -- Design and construction
Railroads -- Alaska -- Employees
Railroads -- Yukon -- Design and construction
Railroads -- Yukon -- Employees

Geographic Names

Klondike River Valley (Yukon) -- Gold
discoveries
Yukon Territory -- Gold discoveries

Genres / Formats

Payrolls

Corporate Bodies

British Yukon Navigation Co
White Pass & Yukon Route (Firm)
White Pass & Yukon Route (Firm) -- Accounting

Contributors

Davies, Grant, 1947- , collector
Davies, Carole-Ann Scroggie, 1949- , collector
White Pass & Yukon Route (Firm)