Laumann Yosemite Collection

Title: Laumann Yosemite Collection,
Date (bulk): circa 1908,
Date (bulk): 1923
Date (bulk): (bulk circa 1908)
Collection number: MS 153
Creator: Laumann, Frank E., 1888-1957Laumann, Una C., 1921 -
Extent: 3 boxes
Languages: English
Repository: Special Collections, Robert E. Kennedy Library
California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo, California 93407
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 circa 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.
Provenance
Donated by Una Laumann in 2006.
Restrictions on 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
Laumann Yosemite Collection, Special Collections, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

Biography
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 circa 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.

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

Genre and Forms of Materials
1. Photographs and Glass Plate Negatives, circa 1908 and 1923
Scope and Content Note
Contains two subseries: A. Photographic Prints and B. Glass Plate Negatives.

A. Photographic Prints
Scope and Content Note
Contains black-and-white photographs from two trips to the Sierra, circa 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, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 2  Mt. Clark, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 3  Mirror Lake, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 4  Mirror Lake, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 5  Mt. Clark, Merced River Canyon, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 6  Yosemite Valley, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 7  Camp, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 8  Camp, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 9  El Capitan, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 10  Mt. Hoffman, North Dome, Basket Dome; view from Cloud’s Rest, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 11  Forest, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 12  Yosemite Valley, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 13  Yosemite Valley, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 14  Mirror Lake, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 15  Half Dome from Glacier Point, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 16  Unidentified, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 17  Forest, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 18  North Dome with Merced River foreground, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 19  Unidentified, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 20  Tenaya Canyon, taken from Cloud’s Rest, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 21  Half Dome, back side, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 22  Yosemite Falls, camp, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 23  Vernal Falls, circa 1908
Box 1, Folder 24  Vernal Falls, circa 1923
Box 1, Folder 25  Bridal Veil Falls, circa 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
1. Photographs and Glass Plate Negatives, circa 1908 and 1923

A. Photographic Prints

| Box 1, Folder 39 | Hetch Hetchy, 1923 |

B. Glass Plate Negatives

Scope and Content Note
Contains glass plate negatives from two trips to the Sierra, circa 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, circa 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 2   | Mt. Clark, circa 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 3   | Mirror Lake, circa 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 4   | Mirror Lake, circa 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 5   | Mt. Clark, Merced River Canyon, circa 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 6   | Yosemite Valley, circa 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 7   | Camp, 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 8   | Camp, 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 9   | El Capitan, circa 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 10  | Mt. Hoffman, North Dome, Basket Dome; view from Cloud's Rest, circa 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 11  | Forest, circa 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 12  | Yosemite Valley, circa 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 13  | Yosemite Valley, circa 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 14  | Mirror Lake, circa 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 15  | Half Dome from Glacier Point, circa 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 16  | Unidentified, circa 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 17  | Forest, circa 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 18  | North Dome with Merced River foreground, circa 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 19  | Unidentified, circa 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 20  | Tenaya Canyon, taken from Cloud's Rest, circa 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 21  | Half Dome, back side, circa 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 22  | Camp, foot of Yosemite Falls, circa 1908 |
| Box 2, Folder 23  | Vernal Falls, circa 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 |

2. Laumann Family History and Ephemera

Scope and Content Note
Contains one subseries: A. Laumann family history and ephemera

| 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 |