



## FINDING AID

# **AUGUST AND GERTRUDE GODINA PHOTOGRAPH ALBUM ca. 1917**

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## ***HISTORY***

August and Gertrude Godina visited Yellowstone National Park, possibly with Gertrude's uncle William England, about 1917.

Gertrude Pauline Ralph was born in 1896, in Colorado, the daughter of Sarah Elizabeth England and William Elias Ralph. By 1910, the Ralph family was living in Aldridge, Montana, a coal and coke mining town previously known as first Horr and then Electric. The town was located just a few miles from Yellowstone National Park. In 1914, Gertrude married August "Gus" Godina in Bearcreek, Carbon County, Montana--another coal mining community--where Gus worked as a deliveryman for a meat market. Godina had been born in Austria in 1893, and immigrated to America in 1902. The couple had four children: Julia Jane born in 1913, Helene Gertrude born in 1917, Robert Charles born in 1917, and Melvin Blaz born in 1927. Gertrude died in 1958, in Seattle, Washington; August passed away in 1979, also in Seattle.

William (L. or E.) England was born January 10, 1886, in either Massachusetts or Pennsylvania. In 1910, he was living next door to his sister Sarah in Aldridge and working as a coal miner. The mine soon closed in Aldridge and by 1917, William was working in the Roundup, Montana, coal mine. Family history states that William worked as an engineer in Yellowstone National Park. This information could not be confirmed, but with the proximity of Aldridge, it is possible England worked at least seasonally or casually for the military administrators, one of the concessioners, or perhaps as a laborer for the Army Corps of Engineers who were involved in infrastructure construction at the time. England served in World War I before returning to mining in Montana, first in Musselshell (near Roundup) around 1920, and then in Livingston by 1930. He died December 4, 1970, in Livingston, Montana.

William's brother, Ezekiah (Kiev or Hezekiah), was born October 18, 1885, in Wales. Ezekiah also worked as a coal miner and lived in Aldridge in 1910, and by 1930, was living with his father and brother in Livingston. Family history states he served in the military and was stationed at Fort Yellowstone, but this cannot be confirmed. Ezekiah died April 25, 1960, in Livingston, Montana.

## ***SCOPE AND CONTENT***

### AUGUST AND GERTRUDE GODINA PHOTOGRAPH ALBUM ca. 1917

<i>CATALOG NUMBER</i>	YELL 204162
<i>VOLUME</i>	0.1 LF
<i>DESCRIPTION</i>	<p>Images of a trip (or trips) to Yellowstone National Park circa 1917 by August and Gertrude Godina.</p> <p>The collection consists of 64 black and white photographic prints originally housed in a photograph album but since removed and affixed to an acid-free paper support.</p> <p>The images document Yellowstone National Park in the transitional era between the introduction of the automobile and the transfer of administration from the military to the newly formed National Park Service. Images include Fort Yellowstone, the Roosevelt Arch, Judge Meldrum's house, and the Wiley camping Company's Mammoth camp. There are also depictions of Old Faithful and White Elephant geysers, the Firehole Canyon, and the Mammoth Paint Pots or Terraces. Wildlife shown include bison and a black bear. Finally, there is one image showing automobiles in the Park and a photograph of William England in military uniform.</p>
<i>ORGANIZATION</i>	The collection remains in its original order as received from the donors. It is unclear if the photographs depicting Yellowstone were separated from a larger album.
<i>PROVENANCE</i>	Gift of Orita Kirkman, 2005.
<i>RESTRICTIONS</i>	NO

## ***CONTAINER LIST***

### **BOX 1**

<b>File Unit Nbr</b>	<b>Title</b>
01	Photographs, ca. 1917