



Yellowstone National Park Archives
P O Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190-0168
National Park Service
U. S. Department of the Interior

WILLIAM J. KELLEY PHOTOGRAPHS
1935-1936

CATALOG NUMBER: MSC 063

VOLUME: 0.5 LINEAR FEET

HISTORY

William J. Kelley worked as a concessions employee for the Yellowstone Park Company for the 1935-1936 season. Kelley was from Johnson, Nebraska, and was a student at Creighton University where he later obtained a law degree. He played the clarinet/saxophone at the hotels that summer in a dance band that played in the evenings at the Old Faithful Inn. Kelley married and had three daughters: Lynn C., Gail A., and Karen. He passed away on July 2, 2003.

DESCRIPTION

The collection consists of photographic prints of William J. Kelley's time as a concessions employee and musician in Yellowstone National Park during the 1935-1936 season, possibly at the Old Faithful Inn. The images depict concession employees experiencing the park, including touring the tourist sites along the Grand Loop Road, picnicking, and horseback riding. There are also images of the employees in costume, likely performing campfire shows for the evening entertainment of the guests. There are also group photographs of employees, including several in the uniforms of specific jobs such as waitresses. Unfortunately, only a few of the images have captions or names listed on them. Of particular note are images of Kelley and other members of the band with their instruments, several of which are playfully staged in front of the Mammoth Hot Springs terraces.

PROVENANCE

Gift of Karen K. Moriarty, Gail A. Kelley, and Lynn C. Kelley, daughters of William, 2008.

AVAILABILITY

This is an unprocessed collection. Material is available for access. Please contact us well advance of any planned research visit so we may prepare the material for access. Please contact the Heritage & Research Center (yell_heritage_center@nps.gov) for more information.