



FINDING AID

H. E. STORK PHOTOGRAPH ALBUM 1927

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Yellowstone National Park Archives
P O Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190-0168

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HISTORY

Harvey Elmer Stork was born March 28, 1890, in Zoar, Indiana, to Mr. & Mrs. William H. Stork. After service in World War I as an aerial photographer, Stork returned to his studies at Cornell University. He also worked as an assistant botany instructor during the school's summer program and received his doctorate in botany about 1920.

He joined the faculty of Carleton College as a professor of botany in 1920 and remained there for the course of his career, retiring in 1955. While at the college he was instrumental in the creation of the Cowling Arboretum as well as continuing his photography by documenting campus life. He spent his summers on plant collecting expeditions, primarily to South America, and contributed plant specimens to a number of herbaria. His early published works focus largely on botany, later works also focus on teaching and teacher training.

In 1927, Stork came to Yellowstone National Park to serve as a seasonal ranger naturalist. His reason for taking a hiatus from international expeditions is unknown, although the recent birth of his first child may be a factor. During the course of his time in Yellowstone, Stork gathered numerous plant specimens for the park's herbarium as well as photographically documenting the plant, animal, and human life. He also contributed chapters to editions of the park's Ranger Naturalist Manual.

Stork remained stateside again in 1931 (possibly because his daughter was born), as the science coordinator of the Third Scout Naturalist Expedition. A joint program of the National Park Service and the Boy Scouts of America, scouts traveled to several western parks to assist with scientific, interpretive, and maintenance projects. In Yellowstone, the group surveyed the biology of Stevenson Island. By 1932, Stork had resumed his South American research, where he continued to collect specimens at least until 1939.

Stork married his wife, Gertrude C., about 1922. The couple's son, Derold H., was born about 1927, and a daughter, Yolanda G., was born around 1930. Harvey Elmer Stork died in 1959.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

H. E. STORK PHOTOGRAPH ALBUM 1927

CATALOG NUMBER YELL 185386

VOLUME 0.25 LF

DESCRIPTION Photograph album of wildflowers, landscapes, and wildlife in Yellowstone National Park, taken by Harvey Elmer Stork, 1927.

The collection consists of black and white photographic prints pasted onto olive colored construction paper and bound with a black, cloth cover. Most photographs are labeled, some with typed script on white paper labels and others by hand in ink. Notations on the typed labels, which initially list the photographer as unknown and are then corrected to credit Stark, suggest that the album may have been compiled--or at least added to--by the librarians of the time. Library donation records clearly indicate the Stork donated "Yellowstone Nature Photographs" in 1934. Whether this refers only to the prints or to the album as a whole is unclear. Possibly Stark contributed the images with handwritten labels and the librarians took advantage of blank pages in the back and an easily untied binding to insert additional images, taken by Stark, which had been in the collection since 1927. Alternatively, Stark may have donated images and the librarians, perhaps over time, compiled the album.

The album is roughly organized into sections depicting plants, landscapes, animals, and finally, a few images with people. The plants depicted focus mainly on close-up images of wildflowers and are labeled with both the Latin and common names. A few images toward the end of this section focus on tree species, particularly conifers. Landscape images include views of the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, Mt. Everts, the Gardner River, Jupiter Terrace, Indian Creek, and the Boiling River. Animal views include moose, marmot, beaver dams, and black bears, including a number of images of bears being fed, drinking from a water hose or fountain, and climbing on a Model T style car. Finally, there are a few images of Mammoth/Fort Yellowstone as well as images of Ranger Kelly guiding a group of tourists at Yellowstone Lake.

In general, this album is a rare view of the life of a ranger naturalist in the early park service years of Yellowstone. Portions of the album, when matched with the herbarium specimens, may provide additional field data pertaining to the collecting process.

ORGANIZATION

The album remains in its original order.

PROVENANCE

Gift of H. E. Stork, 1934.

*ASSOCIATED
MATERIALS*

- Botanical specimens, Yellowstone National Park Herbarium
- Stork Photo Collection, Carleton College Archives (Northfield, Minn.)
- Botanical specimens and field notes, University of California Berkeley, University and Jepson Herbaria
- Botanical specimens, Harvard University, Gray Herbarium
- Botanical specimens, Missouri Botanical Garden
- Botanical specimens, Smithsonian Institution

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

File Unit Nbr	Title
01	Photograph album, 1927