



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

**ELMER AUGUST RICHTER PHOTOGRAPHS**  
1927-1931

***CATALOG NUMBER:*** MSC 170

***VOLUME:*** 0.2 LINEAR FEET

***HISTORY***

Elmer August Richter worked as a concessioner employee in Yellowstone National Park from 1927 to 1931.

***DESCRIPTION***

Photographs of Yellowstone National Park and the surrounding region were taken by Elmer August Richter. The images include views of the Canyon Hotel and the surrounding area as well as numerous geysers. There are also several staff group photographs including views of baggage porters or "pack racks" and possibly waiters or "heavers" in addition to a group shot of many employees. A key feature of the collection is a series of portraits of Native Americans in ceremonial attire. The images appear professional, and many are printed as real photo postcards, but no photographer is named. The images are not identified, except for one of a young woman labelled as Agnes Clark. One image shows a group in front of train car presenting a bouquet to a white woman, who is likewise unidentified. Possibly the images were taken in Pryor, Montana, at Chief Plentycoup's homestead, which may be in the background of one image. If so, many of those pictured may be Apsaalooke (Crow Nation). Possibly, the images are related to the filming of the silent film the Thundering Herd, which was filmed in Yellowstone and included Apsaalooke actors. Alternatively, the images may be related to a Presidential visit to the region, although the woman is neither Grace Coolidge nor Florence Harding.

***PROVENANCE***

Gift of niece Elaine Rezek, 2016.

***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](mailto:yell_heritage_center@nps.gov)) for more information.