

Kamloops Museum and Archives

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Vicars Family fonds

1990.037, 1997.038, 1997.050, 1998.023

Compiled by
Jaimie Fedorak, September 2021

KAMLOOPS MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

1990.037, etc.

Access: Open.

Vicars Family fonds

Graphic, Textual

1866-1968

0.03 meters

Title: Vicars Family fonds

Dates of Creation: 1866-1968

Physical Description: 2 cm of textual records and 1 cm of photographs

Biographical Sketch:

Desmond Odlum Vicars was born on March 27, 1897 in Kamloops, B.C. the son of John Richard Odlum Vicars and Julia Beatrice Billings. At the age of 15 Vicars followed in his father's footsteps and joined the local militia, the Rocky Mountain Rangers. After the outbreak of World War I, Vicars was given command of the C.M.R. recruits at Vernon, B.C., and he later went overseas with his father's battalion, rising in rank to Lieutenant. Vicars was injured at the battle of Vimy Ridge in 1917, for which he received a D.S.O., and was soon shipped back to Canada to recover. After the cessation of the war, Vicars enrolled at the University of British Columbia in an agricultural course, as well as taking coursework from the Ontario Agricultural College. He took up ranching in partnership with his brother Hugh, establishing a successful enterprise in Valleyview soon thereafter. Vicars remained active with the Rocky Mountain Rangers during the interwar period, being appointed Captain of "A" Company in 1932 and rising to full command of the militia troop from 1937-1940. During World War II Vicars was posted to the Canadian Active Army, and served in staff appointments overseas. After the war he returned to Kamloops to continue his ranching enterprise. During his time in Kamloops, Vicars was involved in the local Boy Scouts troop, sporting activities (notably baseball, hockey, and curling), the Royal Canadian Legion, the Kamloops Museum Association, and the Kamloops Rotary Club. He was married twice, first to Katherine Sabine Johnston in November 1931, and after her death in 1947 to Constance Scott Clark in 1948. He had two sons: Tom and Patrick. Desmond Odlum Vicars died on September 30, 1985 in Kamloops, B.C. at the age of 88.

Constance (Connie) Scott Vicars (nee Clark) was born on January 12, 1916 in Kamloops, B.C., the daughter of John and Constance Clark. She was raised in the Lac Le Jeune area, where her father worked for the Provincial Forest Service. After graduating from the Royal Inland Hospital training school for nurses in 1938 she joined the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps as a nursing sister in 1940. She served overseas until the cessation of World War II, and remained working in Europe for the following two years at field hospitals in England, Sicily, and Dunkirk. In 1948 she married Desmond Odlum Vicars in Kamloops, with whom she had two sons (Tom and Patrick). The couple lived on the ranch that Desmond owned with his brother Hugh. Constance (Connie) Scott Vicars died on January 19, 2000 in Kamloops, B.C. at the age of 84.

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Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of records related to the Vicars family, as collected by Desmond and Connie Vicars. Fonds consists predominantly of photograph postcards depicting Kamloops and records related to Desmond Vicars' military career, with a small amount of ephemera.

Custodial History:

Materials were formerly placed in the Vertical Files and Photograph Collections based on format, before being brought together as a distinct collection during reprocessing in 2021. All records were donated to the Kamloops Museum and Archives by Connie Vicars on the following dates: September 1990 (accession #1990.037); October 2, 1997 (accession #1997.038); 1997 (accession #1997.050); and July 14, 1998 (accession #1998.023).

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Notes:

Source of supplied title: Title based on contents of fonds.

Arrangement: Order that fonds arrived in was maintained by the archivist.

Access restrictions: No restrictions on access. The archivist reserves the right to restrict access to any fragile material for preservation purposes.

Terms governing use and reproduction: No reproduction permitted without consent of copyright holder. It is the researcher's responsibility to obtain permission for the reproduction of materials for publication or dissemination.

Finding aids: File list is available for this collection, with some item level descriptions available.

Accruals: No further accruals are expected.

Related Materials: See artifact collection for additional materials donated with accessions #1990.037, #1997.050, and #1998.023.

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Accession	Description	Dates	Box/Folder
1990.037.002	Group of Men – Item is a photograph of F. Buce, Jack Robertson, Cecil MacDonald, Gordon (Shindy) Brown, Mac Brown, Fred Carr, and Bert Smith sitting on a car. – 8.9 cm x 12.4 cm – 1 b&w photograph – Title based on contents.	ca. 1921	Photo Collection 3.4
1997.038.001	Seymour St-2 Block? – Item is a photograph postcard of a woodframe house on Seymour Street, possibly the 200 block. – 13.7 cm x 8.3 cm – 1 b&w photograph postcard – Title based on inscription.	[ca. 1900s]	Photo Collection 4.1
1997.038.002	Sheep Breeders Bldg Kaml – Item is a photograph of the Sheepbreeder’s Building on Lorne Street and 10 th Avenue, showing the signage for the Kamloops Fall Fair spanning Lorne Street. – 13.6 cm x 8.7 cm – 1 b&w photograph – Title based on inscription.	[ca. 1900s]	Photo Collection 4.1
1997.038.003	Kamloops, Arch East Lorne St – Item is a photograph of the opposite side of the Kamloops Fall Fair signage spanning Lorne Street, reading “Prevent Forest Fires.” – 13.6 cm x 8.6 cm – 1 b&w photograph – Title based in inscription.	[ca. 1900s]	Photo Collection 4.1
1997.050.002	Dedication Programme – File contains two copies of the program for the dedication of the British Columbia Provincial Police Veterans’ Association Memorial Cairn to honour John Ussher, held at the T.A. Bulman Ranch at Brigade Lake on August 25, 1967. – 0.25 cm of textual records	1967	1
1997.050.003-004	Photo Envelopes – File contains two Kodak photograph envelopes from A.C. Taylor and Co. and Dudley Studio. – 0.25 cm of textual records	[ca. 1900s]	2
1997.050.005	The Battle Bluff Knocker Vol. 1 No. II – File contains a copy of the local interest newspaper <i>The Battle Bluff Knocker</i> Vol. 1 No. II. – 0.25 cm of textual records	January 8, 1912	3
1997.050.006	1968 Remembrance Day Ceremonies Report – File contains a typed report by Desmond Vicars about the 50 th anniversary ceremonies held in	1968	4

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	Belgium and France on November 11, 1968. – 5 textual records		
1997.050.007	War-time Reminiscences – File contains Desmond Vicars’ memories about the war. – 1 textual record	[ca. 1960s?]	5
1997.050.008	Kamloops-Tete Jaune Trip Touch One Half Century Ago – File contains a typed excerpt from the dairy of Ferdinand Matthews about the trip between Kamlops and Tete Jaune. – 6 textual records	1901 [copy ca. 1960s?]	6
1997.050.009	Letter to Desmond Vicars from Frank Smith – File contains a letter to Desmond Vicars from Frank Smith about his time at Kamloops High School. – 2 textual records	1958	7
1998.023.001-011, 014-022	Postcards – File contains 20 photograph postcards, some colourized. See Appendix 1 for detailed listing. – 20 photograph postcards	[ca. 1900s]	Photo Collection 4.1
1998.023.012	Batchelor’s Old Mill at Westsyde – Item is a photograph of 5 men standing in front of the mill owned by Batchelor in Westsyde. Identified are Arthur Batchelor, Bob Thompson, and Polf Chetwyn. – 11.4 cm x 8.2 cm – 1 b&w photograph – Title based on inscription.	[ca. 1900s]	Photo Collection 4.1
1998.023.013	Stuart Wood School – Item is a photograph of Bob Brown’s 1907 class at Stuart Wood School. – 12.5 cm x 9 cm – 1 b&w photograph – Title based on inscription.	1907	Photo Collection 4.1
1998.023.023-025	Godey’s Lady’s Books – File contains three volumes of the magazine <i>Godey’s Lady’s Book</i> : June 1871, July 1866, and March 1868. – 1 cm of textual records	1866-1871	8
1998.023.043	Thermos Parchment Papers – File contains an envelope and parchment papers for thermoses. – 0.10 cm of textual records	[ca. 1900s]	9

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Appendix 1: 1998.023.001-011, 014.022: Postcards

1. Provincial Jail, Kamloops, B.C.
2. C.P.R. Depot, Kamloops, B.C.
3. C.P.R. Station, Grand Pacific Hotel to the left and 1912 Centenary arch in foreground.
4. Main Street, Kamloops, B.C. / Desniers Photo.
5. Italian Float, 1912, on Victoria Street and 2nd Avenue.
6. Duke of Connaught, 1914, opening of hospital.
7. Laying of Cornerstone at R.I. Hospital.
8. Grounds, Provincial Gaol, Kamloops, B.C. / Scales Studio.
9. Scenic Roadway, Kamloops-Rose Hill / A.C. Taylor Co.
10. B.X. Freight Wagon Williams Lake, 1908 / Jim Robertson.
11. Fishing at Hell's Gate in 1914.
14. Provincial Gaol, Kamloops, B.C., ca. 1910 / A.C. Taylor Co.
15. Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops, B.C.
16. Victoria Street looking east, Kamloops, B.C. from 2nd Avenue.
17. Court House, Kamloops, B.C.
18. St. Ann's Convent, Kamloops, B.C.
19. Old Man's Home, Kamloops, B.C. / Smith Bros Book Store
20. Victoria Street looking west, Kamloops, B.C. from 3rd Avenue.
21. Kamloops-Cattle Capitol of B.C.
22. Kamloops, B.C.