

MABEL E. JORDAN RESEARCH COLLECTION

An inventory prepared on the collection in the
Library of the University of British Columbia
Special Collections

Prepared by: Debbie Landi
March, 1999

Mabel E. Jordon Collection, [textual record and other material].

[ca. 1883]-1972, predominant 1954-72.

32 cm of textual records and other material.

Mabel Ellen was born in 1909 in Hartest, Suffolk, England. In 1922, she immigrated to Canada where she later married Benjamin Jordon. The couple moved to Calgary in 1930. Around 1937, they bought a summer cabin in the East Kootenay area. Mabel E. Jordon was an active member of the East Kootenay Historical Association and the British Columbia Historical Association. She was president of the British Columbia Historical Association for three years and her last term ended in May, 1970. During her tenure, the *British Columbia Historical News* was created to replace the *British Columbia Historical Quarterly*, which had ceased publication. She was also instrumental in saving the petroglyphs in Cranbrook as well as directing the restoration of Nootka. She published an article in the *British Columbia Historical Quarterly*, "Kootenay Reclamation and Colonization Scheme and William Adolph Baillie-Grohman", as well as articles in local newspapers such as *The Cranbrook Courier* and the *Nelson Daily News*. A great deal of her adult life was spent investigating, reporting, and researching topics of historical interest in the East Kootenay area and more generally, British Columbia. In connection with those interests, she travelled to England in 1959 and again in 1968. She died in Calgary in 1993, eighteen years after the death of her husband.

When Mabel E. Jordon died in 1993, her sons acquired the materials in the estate. One of her sons sold this entire collection to a dealer, Stephen C. Lunsford. Special Collections at The University of British Columbia purchased these materials in November, 1997. The collection has remained in the custody of Special Collections since that time.

The collection consists of typescripts, handwritten notes, clippings, correspondence, maps, receipts, postcards, pamphlets, and photographs created or accumulated by Mabel E. Jordon during the research and publication of the article, "Kootenay Reclamation and Colonization Scheme and William Adolph Baillie-Grohman" (ca. 1883-1972); photocopies of the typescript, "Old Days on the Pacific Coast," by W.A. Baillie-Grohman and correspondence regarding its publication (1910-1971); correspondence and photographs regarding Sir Sandford Fleming (1959); typescript of the Presidential Address to the British Columbia Historical Society and photocopies of the typescript, "British Columbia," written by Florence Baillie-Grohman (1968); typescript of the article, "What Might Have Been Our Fate," written by Vice Admiral H.T. Baillie-Grohman and correspondence regarding its publication (1967); correspondence and newspaper

clippings pertaining to the article, "First Steamboat on Kootenay Waters" (1954-1968); photographs of the Baillie-Grohman family and the East Kootenay area (ca. 1904-1968); photograph and typescripts of articles pertaining to Canal Flats (1954-196-?); correspondence and clippings pertaining to commemorative plaques in the Kootenay area (1957-1958); photocopy of the introduction, "The End of Old Man Fowler," written by W.A. Baillie-Grohman.

Title based on the accumulator/creator of the collection.

Includes 362 photographs, 2 postcards, and 2 maps.

Records and other materials were accumulated by Mabel E. Jordon between 1955 and 1972 for her article, "Kootenay Reclamation and Colonization Scheme and William Adolph Baillie-Grohman," her presidential addresses to the British Columbia Historical Society, and several other articles pertaining to the Kootenay area.

Container list available.

For associated graphic materials pertaining to British Columbia, see the Benjamin and Mabel Jordon fonds in the Glenbow Archives in Alberta, Canada.

Further accruals are not expected.

Materials relating to the article, "Kootenay Reclamation and Colonization Scheme and William Adolph Baillie-Grohman" [textual record, graphic material, cartographic material].

[ca. 1883]-1972, predominant 1954-1972.

25.5 cm of textual records (2 boxes).

45 photographs: b&w ; 21 x 25.5 cm or smaller.

35 photographs: b&w negatives ; 12.5 x 17.5 cm or smaller.

19 photographs: sepia toned ; 13 x 21.5 cm or smaller.

1 map: col. ; 59 x 76 cm.

1 map: ms ; 47.5 cm x 53.5 cm.

Series consists of typescripts, correspondence, handwritten notes, photographs, pamphlets, clippings, and maps created or accumulated by Mabel E. Jordon during the research and writing of the article, "Kootenay Reclamation and Colonization Scheme and William Adolph Baillie-Grohman," which was published in the *British Columbia Historical Quarterly* in December of 1961. Included are handwritten and typescript drafts and copies of the article; handwritten notes regarding the article; correspondence with H.T. Baillie-Grohman and Michael Baillie-Grohman regarding the subject matter of the article; general correspondence regarding the article and its publication; correspondence with the American Canal Society; correspondence regarding the original photographs; typescripts and photocopies of the articles and legal documents cited; receipts for the photocopying of those materials; newspaper clippings regarding the history of the Kootenay Canal and Baillie-Grohman family members, pamphlets and other promotional material from Sussex County, England, as well as clippings of more current developments and events in the Kootenay area. The photographs include the original photographs taken of the Kootenay Canal, Canal Flats and the surrounding area by W.A. Baillie-Grohman and Boone & May during the 1880s, plus many copies and negatives of these photographs. There is a copy of a handdrawn map of the Kootenay Canal area from 1888 and a more recent colour map of the British Columbia Kootenay Land District produced by the Geographic Division Surveys and Mapping Branch, Department of Lands, Forests, and Water Resources dated June 1, 1962.

Title based on the content of series.

Series has been rearranged and placed in chronological order by the archivist.

File and item description

Correspondence Baillie-Grohman [textual record].

11 July 1955-29 November 1972.

5 cm of textual records (1 folder).

File consists of correspondence to and from Mabel E. Jordon and H.T. Baillie-Grohman. In addition to discussing materials relevant to Mabel Jordon's article, "Kootenay Reclamation and Colonization Scheme and William Adolph Baillie-Grohman," the correspondents discuss personal issues, publishing other Baillie-Grohman family materials, the Kootenay area, commemorative plaques for the area, the steamboat *Midge*, Nelson Museum, Fort Steele Museum, Canal Flats, Grohman Mountain, and current political events.

The full name is Vice Admiral Harold T. Baillie-Grohman.

File has been rearranged and placed in chronological order by the archivist.

Letter from H.T. Baillie-Grohman to Mabel E. Jordon.
11 July 1955.

Item is a letter from Vice Admiral H.T. Baillie-Grohman thanking Mabel E. Jordon for sending the photographs of the Kootenay area and the steamboat, *Midge*. In this letter, Vice Admiral Baillie-Grohman also mentions his father's comments regarding the effectiveness and use of the canal and dykes in the Kootenay canal project.

Materials relating to the article, "Old Days on the Pacific Coast," written by W.A. Baillie-Grohman [textual record] : [ca. 1910].
[Photocopied in 1971].

1 folder.

The series includes several photocopies of the article, "Old Days on the Pacific Coast," written by W. A. Baillie-Grohman provided to Mabel E. Jordon by W.A. Baillie-Grohman's son, H.T. Baillie-Grohman. In addition, there is correspondence between Mabel E. Jordon and H.T. Baillie-Grohman regarding the possible publication of his father's article. There is also correspondence between Mabel E. Jordon and *BC Outdoors* regarding the publication of excerpts of this article.

Title is based on the contents of the series.

Date is based on the accumulation of the series.

Series has been rearranged and placed in chronological order by the archivist.

Materials relating to Sir Sandford Fleming [graphic material, textual record].

17 February 1959.

3 photographs: b&w ; 20.5 x 20 cm.

1p.

The series is comprised of three photographs and a letter from Canadian Pacific Railway enclosing the photographs. Mabel E. Jordon requested these photographs to use in a speech regarding Sir Sandford Fleming. She gave a presidential address to the British Columbia Historical Association on May 22, 1970 and the topic was Sir Sandford Fleming.

Title is based on the contents of the series.

Presidential Address [textual record].

25 May 1968.

5 cm of textual records.

The series contains a typescript of Mabel E. Jordon's presidential address given to the British Columbia Historical Society on May 25, 1968, and two typescripts and one photocopy of the memoirs of Florence Baillie-Grohman, "British Columbia." The copies of Florence Baillie-Grohman's memoirs which served as the basis for the address were provided to Mabel Jordon by H.T. Baillie-Grohman, the son of Florence Baillie-Grohman. These memoirs were written in 1932 when Florence Baillie-Grohman was 61 years old.

Date is based on the presentation of the address.

For photographs of Florence Baillie-Grohman, her home, her grave site and other related photographs, see the series entitled Photographs in this collection.

Materials pertaining to the article, "What Might Have Been Our Fate," written by Vice Admiral H.T. Baillie-Grohman [textual record, graphic material].

26 April 1967-19 July 1967.

4 cm of textual records.

2 photographs: b&w ; 13 x 13 cm.

1 photograph: b&w negative ; 12.5 x 10 cm.

The series contains correspondence between Mabel E. Jordon and H.T. Baillie-Grohman regarding his article, "What Might Have Been Our Fate." The typescript of the article forwarded by H.T. Baillie-Grohman discusses what might have happened if the Allies had lost World War II. He also encloses an undated clipping of the article which was apparently published in England. There is also correspondence to and from the editor of *The Islander* and Mabel E. Jordon regarding the possible publication of the article in Canada.

Title is based on the contents of the series.

Date is based on the accumulation of the series.

Materials relating to the article, "The First Steamboat on Kootenay Waters" [textual record, graphic material].

5 January 1954 - 10 April 1968.

1 cm of textual records.

11 photographs: b&w negatives ; 10 x 12.5 cm or smaller.

4 photographs: b&w ; 9 x 9 cm or smaller.

The series contains a copy of the article, "The First Steamboat on Kootenay Waters" written by Mabel E. Jordon and published in the *Nelson News* on January 5, 1954, correspondence of Mabel Jordon pertaining to its publication, as well as newspaper clippings regarding the first steamboat, *Midge*.

Title is based on the contents of the series.

Series has been rearranged and placed in chronological order by the archivist.

Materials pertaining to the article, "Canal Flat Past and Present" [textual record, graphic material].

[196-?].

4p.

1 photograph: b&w ; 12.5 x 18 cm mounted on paper 27.5 x 21 cm.

The series consists of a typescript written by Mabel E. Jordon entitled "Canal Flat Past and Present." It is a brief history of the town of Canal Flat, British Columbia with a single photograph of Canal Flat.

Title is based on the contents of the series.

Materials relating to Commemorative Plaques in the Kootenay area [textual record].

8 April 1957-25 June 1958.

1 folder.

The series is composed of correspondence to and from the East Kootenay Historical Society and Mrs. Weir, the editor of *The Lake Windermere Echo Valley*, and Mabel E. Jordon and the Department of Parks and Recreation and Mrs. Weir. All these letters pertain to the establishment of cairns in the Kootenay area. The series also includes drafts of possible commemorative plaques.

Title is based on the contents of the series.

Series has been rearranged and placed in chronological order by the archivist.

Material regarding the article, "Early Days of Canal Flat" [textual record].

29 July 1954.

1 folder.

The series consists of a typescript of the article "Early Days of Canal Flat" written by Mabel E. Jordon, and a copy of the resulting, published article from *The Cranbrook Courier*.

Title is based on the contents of the series.

Date is based on the publication of the article.

Introduction, "The End of Old Man Fowler," written by W.A. Baillie-Grohman [textual record] : [189-?].

[Photocopied in 196-?].

5p.

The series consists of a photocopy of the introduction, "The End of Old Man Fowler," written by W.A. Baillie-Grohman. The introduction began a work written by Warburton Pike.

Title is based on the content of the series.

Photographs [graphic material].

[ca. 1904]-1968, predominant 1950-1968.

138 photographs: b&w ; 13 x 18 cm or smaller.

102 photographs: b&w negatives ; 12.5 x 10 cm or smaller.

1 photograph: col. ; 13 x 9 cm.

2 postcards ; 12.5 x 9 cm.

The series consists largely of photographs taken by Mabel E. Jordon, with the exception of five photographs and two postcards. The creator is unknown for these seven items. Mabel Jordon took photographs of H.T. Baillie-Grohman, his wife, daughter and dog, when she visited in 1959 and 1968. In addition, she also took photographs of H.T. Baillie-Grohman's family photographs. Included in this selection are photographs of H.T. Baillie-Grohman's mother, Florence Baillie-Grohman, her grave site, and W.A. Baillie-Grohman, his father. In addition there are photographs of an oil painting by Thomas Moran. There are also two photographs taken of the Kootenay area in the 1950s.

Series has been rearranged, and one file was bifurcated by the archivist. The original series was composed of two files. The series now has three files. The subdivision was created based on the content of the images. The photographs which Mrs. Jordon took of earlier Baillie-Grohman photographs were placed in a new file. The photographs of the Baillie-Grohman family which were taken by Mrs. Jordon in 1959 and 1968 remained in the original file.

Mabel E. Jordon Collection Container List

Box 1

Series 1

Materials relating to the article, "Kootenay Reclamation and Colonization Scheme and William Adolph Baillie-Grohman" ca. 1883-1972.

Files 1-14

- 1.1.1 draft typescripts and working copies of the article
- 1.1.2 handwritten notes regarding the article
- 1.1.3 photocopies of legal and official documents used and cited in the article
- 1.1.4 typescripts of published articles of W.A. Baillie-Grohman and others cited in the article
- 1.1.5 correspondence regarding publication of the article
- 1.1.6 correspondence with Michael Baillie-Grohman
- 1.1.7 correspondence and clippings regarding Guy Constable
- 1.1.8 correspondence and clippings regarding the Ernest Brown Collection
- 1.1.9 correspondence, photographs and receipt from British Columbia Travel Bureau
- 1.1.10 clippings regarding Kootenay Canal, Canal Flats and Kootenay area
- 1.1.11 clippings regarding W.A. Baillie-Grohman and other family members
- 1.1.12 clippings regarding Columbia River development
- 1.1.13 clippings, miscellaneous
- 1.1.14 receipts for photocopies

Box 2**Series 1**

Materials relating to the article, "Kootenay Reclamation and
Colonization Scheme and William Adolph Baillie-Grohman"
ca. 1883-1972

Files 1-7

- 2.1.1 original photographs of Kootenay Canal and Canal Flats
- 2.1.2 copy photographs of Kootenay Canal and Canal Flats
- 2.1.3 correspondence Baillie-Grohman
- 2.1.4 general correspondence pertaining to article
- 2.1.5 coloured map of Kootenay Land District
- 2.1.6 manuscript map of Kootenay Canal
- 2.1.7 correspondence, clippings, and publications pertaining to
American Canal Society
- 2.1.8 Sussex County materials

Box 3**Series 2**

Materials relating to the article, "Old Days on the Pacific Coast"
written by W.A. Baillie-Grohman ca. 1910

Files 1-2

- 3.2.1 unpublished typescript, "Old Days on the Pacific Coast"
- 3.2.2 correspondence regarding possible publication

Series 3

Materials relating to Sir Sanford Fleming 1959

Files 1

- 3.3.1 photographs and correspondence from Canadian Pacific Railway

Series 4

Presidential address 1968

Files 1-2

- 3.4.1 Presidential address
- 3.4.2 unpublished typescript, "British Columbia," written by Florence

Baillie-Grohman

Series 5

Materials pertaining to the article, "What Might Have Been Our Fate" written by Vice Admiral H.T. Baillie-Grohman 1967

Files 1-3

3.5.1 correspondence pertaining to possible publication of article

3.5.2 photographs of British flags

Series 6

Materials relating to the article, "First Steamboat on Kootenay Waters" 1954-1968

Files 1-3

3.6.1 typescript copy of the article, "First Steamboat on Kootenay Waters" and other clippings regarding *Nidze*

3.6.2 photographs of *Nidze*, the first steamboat

Series 7

Materials pertaining to the article, "Canal Flat Past and Present" 196-?

Files 1-2

3.7.1 typescript of "Canal Flat Past and Present" with attached b/w copy photograph

Series 8

Materials relating to Commemorative Plaques in the Kootenay area 1957-1958

File 1

3.8.1 correspondence regarding the establishment of cairns including possible drafts of the text

Series 9

Materials regarding the article, "Early Days of Canal Flat" 1954

File 1

3.9.1 typescript and published version of article

Series 10

Introduction, "The End of Old Man Fowler," written by W.A. Baillie-Grohman 189-?

File 1

3.10.1 Photocopy of the "The End of Old Man Fowler"

Box 4**Series 11**

Photographs ca. 1904-1968

Files 1-3

4.11.1 photographs, postcards of W.A. Baillie-Grohman and other family members

4.11.2 photographs of H.T. Baillie-Grohman and other family members

4.11.3 photographs of Kootenay area