

Mount Baker Club Records, 1897-2002

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Mount Baker Club
Title	Mount Baker Club Records
Dates	1897-2002 (inclusive) 1897 2002 1925-2002 (bulk) 1925 2002
Quantity	14 linear feet
Collection Number	XOE_CPNWS0006mtbaker (collection)
Summary	The collection includes minute books, newsletters, scrapbooks, periodicals and books related to mountaineering and outdoor activities in the Pacific Northwest, together with membership, financial and legal records, and photographs related to club activities from 1925 to 2002.
Repository	Western Washington University, Center for Pacific Northwest Studies Goltz-Murray Archives Building 808 25th St. Bellingham, WA 98225 Telephone: 360-650-7534 cpnws@wwu.edu
Access Restrictions	The Collection is open to the public.
Languages	English
Sponsor	Funding for preparing this finding aid was provided through a grant awarded by the Washington State Legislature to the Washington Women's History Consortium. Funding for encoding the finding aid was awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Historical Note

Founded in 1911 by community leaders and local businessmen in Bellingham, the Mount Baker "Hiking" Club originated as a means to promote economic development in the city and its surrounding area. Under the leadership of individuals such as Charles Finley Easton, early members sought to attract tourists and investors to Mt. Baker by publicizing its natural resources. Early promotional efforts included organizing the Mt. Baker Marathons (the precursors to today's Ski to Sea race) held between Mt. Baker and Bellingham between 1911 and 1913. From its inception, therefore, the Club's interests and activities have been closely related to the development, conservation and use of the Mount Baker area.

Although the Club's origins can be traced to 1911, the Mount Baker Club was not formally incorporated until August 1928. Under the leadership of presidents such as C.A. "Happy" Fisher, the newly incorporated Mount Baker "Hiking" Club continued to emphasize pursuit of outdoor activities, focusing in particular on hiking and skiing at Mount Baker and the surrounding mountains in the North Cascades. During the 1930s, skiing in particular became increasingly popular around the Heather Meadows area on the lower slopes of Mt. Baker. In 1935 - the year that Bellingham's first winter sports carnival

was held at Mt. Baker Mountain - the Mt. Baker Ski Club was formed. Although separate entities, the Hiking and Ski Clubs remained closely affiliated for many years, sharing resources and the monthly newsletter, "The Rambler."

From the Mt. Baker Club's inception through the present day, its members have engaged regularly in camping, hiking and other outdoor pursuits throughout the Cascade region. Destinations for hiking expeditions have included British Columbia, Mt. Rainier and the Pasayten Wilderness, as well as mountains and trails around Mt. Baker and the North Cascades. The Club has also been responsible for building and maintaining property in the Mt. Baker area, including cabins at Mazama Park, Glacier, and the Kulshan Cabin below Heliotrope Ridge on the Glacier Trail. Constructed originally in 1925, Kulshan Cabin was rebuilt in 1949 and maintained under joint ownership by the Club and the Associated Students of Western Washington College of Education (now Western Washington University).

The history of the Mt. Baker "Hiking" Club has been characterized by its members' consistent interest and involvement in efforts to protect and conserve natural resources for human enjoyment. Charles Finley Easton in particular was an early proponent and supporter of plans to establish a National Park in the Baker region. Although the North Cascades National Park was established in 1967, Mt. Baker itself was excluded from this region. It was not until 1984, with the passage of the Wilderness Act, that Mt. Baker itself was afforded recognition and protection through federal legislation. Besides the Club's interest in this and other legislative developments relating to the natural environment, its members have also worked to ensure the maintenance of regional trails and resources for outdoor recreation. Among the Club's major conservation efforts was their restoration of a former forest service lookout at Winchester Mountain in 1982.

Content Description

The Mount Baker Club collection contains detailed records of the Club's activities and interests from its formal inception in 1928 through 2001. With the exception of a small number of photographs dating from 1925, the bulk of materials in the collection date from 1928 onwards.

The Collection's administrative records reflect the formal history of the Mt. Baker Club, including its incorporation in August 1928, by-laws, property records and minutes from monthly meetings. The minute books comprise an especially valuable resource for researchers, documenting Club interests and activities between 1928 and 1995. They include early membership listings, detailed information regarding the maintenance of cabins in the Mt. Baker area, and also reflect the Club's later concerns with conservation and environmental issues.

The hiking, camping and social activities of Mt. Baker Club are well documented in newsletters, scrapbooks and outing records. The collection contains an almost complete set of the Club's official newsletter, "The Rambler," from its first edition in August 1928 through 2000. Copies of the Rambler reflect the outdoor, social and educational pursuits of the Club, including information about its hiking trips and camping expeditions. The scrapbooks contain newspaper clippings and written notes, and most notably, a large number of photographs pertaining to Club outings and social events. Photographs in the 1927-1931 scrapbook, for example, document the Club's first winter climb of Mt. Baker in 1925, the construction of the cabins at Mazama Park and Heliotrope Ridge, and the skiing tournament at Mount Baker Lodge in 1931. Outing records include trip schedules, written reports, trail literature and maps from hiking and camping expeditions.

Researchers should note that the collection at the CPNWS does not include the original scrapbook compiled by Charles Finley Easton, which documents the history and early ascents of Mt. Baker, and

which was used as a promotional tool in lobbying for a National Park at Mount Baker. Easton's scrapbook was donated in 1946 to the Whatcom Museum of History and Art in Bellingham, where it is now housed in the Museum's Photo Archives.

Use of the Collection

Restrictions on Use

The original copy of the Club's Summit Log 1925-1930 is restricted due to fragility - a copy is available to researchers.

Preferred Citation

Mount Baker Club Records, Center for Pacific Northwest Studies, Heritage Resources, Western Washington University, Bellingham WA 98225-9123.

Administrative Information

Arrangement

The collection is organized in accordance with the following series and subseries arrangement:

Series I. Administrative Records, 1925-2001

- Subseries 1 - Minutes, 1928-1995
- Subseries 2 - Incorporation Records, 1953-2001
- Subseries 3 - Membership Records, 1947-1993
- Subseries 4 - Legal and Financial Records, 1928-1967
- Subseries 5 - Property Records, 1925-1999

Series II. Club Activities, circa 1925-2002

- Subseries 1 - Club Outings, 1925-2002
- Subseries 2 - Winchester Lookout, 1983-2004
- Subseries 3 - Photographs, circa 1925-1980's
- Subseries 4 - Newspapers and Clippings, circa 1940-1972
- Subseries 5 - Film, 1948-1952
- Subseries 6 - Song Books, 1926, 1978-1979
- Subseries 7 - Club History Files, 1909-1980
- Subseries 8 - Printed Hiking Information, circa 1927-1980
- Subseries 9 - Maps, circa 1902-1974

Series III. Club Newsletters, 1928-2004

Series IV. Club Scrapbooks, 1925-1985

Series V. Mountaineering Periodicals, 1897-1983

Series VI. Mountaineering Publications, 1916-1986

Custodial History

In September 2001, president Márjan Eicher transferred the bulk of the Mt. Baker "Hiking" Club collection to the CPNWS on behalf of the Mount Baker Club. Additional maps, newsletters and outing materials were donated from the records of long-time Club members Chuck and Anita McCullough

in 2002. In May 2004, Barbara J. Danielson donated membership records, photographs and film generated by her aunt and uncle Hazel and Carl Priest (also long-term club members).

Processing Note

Ruth Steele processed the Mt. Baker Club Records for the Center for Pacific Northwest Studies in June 2002. Amber Raney merged additional materials into the collection in 2003. In 2004, Center staff also integrated materials donated by Barbara J. Danielson.

Separated Materials

The first Mount Baker Hiking Club scrapbook, compiled by Charles Easton, was donated to the Whatcom Museum of History and Art in 1946. The original scrapbook is now held in the Museum's Photo Archives and is also available on CD Rom.

Detailed Description of the Collection

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

Series I: Administrative Records, 1925-2001

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Sub-series 1: Minutes		1928-1995
Box/Folder		
1/1	Minute Book	1928-1938
1/2	Minute Book	1938-1946
1/3	Minute Book	1946-1952
2/1	Minute Book	1952-1958
2/2	Minute Book	1959-1969
2/3	Minute Book	1969-1982
2/4	Minute Book	1982-1995
Sub-series 2: Incorporation records		1953-2001
Box/Folder		

Container(s)	Description	Dates
3/1	Records and Certificate of Incorporation	2001 May
Constitution and By-laws		
Box/Folder		
3/2	Mount Baker Club	"pre-1953"; 1953 ; ; 1972,; 1984,; 1994
3/3	(Proposed) of Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs	undated
3/4	Bellingham Camera Club	1968
Sub-series 3: Membership records		1947-1993
Box/Folder		
3/5	Correspondence re: membership	1949
3/6	Membership Application Cards	1936-2002
3/7	Membership Application Cards	1938-1998
3/8	Membership Application Cards	1951-1980s
3/9	Membership Application Cards	1976-2002
3/10	Membership Release and Indemnity Agreements	2001-2002
3/11	Membership Release and Indemnity Agreements	2002-2003
3/12	Membership Cards	1950-1952, ; 1961-1963
3/13	Membership Lists (Club and Board Members)	undated,; 1947-1958,; 1964
3/14	Membership List (Club Members)	1983-1985, ; 1986-1988,; 1991-1993

Container(s)	Description	Dates
3/15	Cascade Wilderness Club Membership List	undated
Sub-series 4: Legal and Financial records		1928-1967
Box/Folder		
3/16	Receipt and Disbursement Book	1928-1932
3/17	Memo re: Bookkeeping Records	1948
3/18	Capitol Stock Tax	1933-1938
3/19	Contracts and Agreements re: the Kulshan Cabin and property	1928-1948,; 1966
3/20	Mount Baker Club Insurance Policies	1937,; 1948,; 1960
3/21	Health Insurance Information	circa 1966-1967
Sub-series 5: Property records		1925-1999
Box/Folder		
3/22	Field Equipment Inventories	1987,; 1992 ,; 1999
Mount Baker Cabin		
Box/Folder		
3/23	Building Specifications for Cabin on Heliotrope Ridge	1925,; undated
3/24	Agreements and records re: Mt. Baker Club and Western Washington College of Education joint ownership of Kulshan Cabin	1948-1966

Series II: Club Activities, 1925-2002

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Sub-series 1: Club Outings		1925-2002

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
3/25-3/26	Summit Log (restricted - copy available)	1925-1930
3/27	Records of Trip Attendance	1961-1962
3/28	Classification of Outings	undated
Outing Records and Reports		
Box/Folder		
3/29	Chiwack River (Boundary Trail)	1977,; 1980
3/30	Chiwaukum Mountains, Icicle Creek	1981 July
3/31	Mt. Rainier (Silver Springs Campground)	1983
3/32	Pasayten Wilderness	1976 July
3/33	Sawtooth Ridge	1977, ; 1979,; 1981
3/34-3/36	General	1963,; 1977-1982,; 1985-1986,; 1993-1994,; 2002
Box/Folder		
3/37	Trails Information	circa 1968-1982
Sub-series 2: Winchester Lookout		1983-2004
Box/Folder		
3/38	"The Winchester Lookout," by Vern Renius	1982 October 26
3/39	"The Winchester Mountain Cabin," Dave Jette	undated
3/40-3/42	Winchester Lookout Guest Book	1983-1984

Container(s)	Description	Dates
3/43	Winchester Lookout Guest Book	1988-1994
3/44	Winchester Lookout Guest Book	1989-1993
3/45	Winchester Lookout Guest Book	2002-2004
3/46	Nominations to National Register of Historic Places (Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Lookouts)	1986
	Sub-series 3: Photographs <i>"Hiking Trip Photos" comprise images collected by Club members Hazel and Carl Priest, arranged by location. The collection also contains CDs with digital copies of many of these images.</i>	circa 1925-1980s
Oversize Folder		
1	Photo of club members	1925
Box/Folder		
3/47-3/48	Hiking, Social Events, and Scenery	circa 1930s-1950s,; 1970s-1980s
3/49	Mt Baker Club 50th Reunion	1971
	Hiking Trip Photos	circa 1948-1975
Box/Folder		
3/50	Hiking Trips (general)	undated
	Hiking – Mt. Baker area	
Box/Folder		
4/1	Mt. Baker Recreation Area (general)	circa 1948-1960
4/2	Chain Lakes	circa 1948-1957
4/3	Lake Ann / Shuksan Arm	circa 1948-1966

Container(s)	Description	Dates
4/4	Ptarmigan Ridge / Coleman Pinnacle / Camp Kaiser	circa 1948-1957
4/5	Kulshan Cabin / Coleman Glacier / Hogback Ridge / Grouse Ridge	circa 1949-1971
4/6	Goat Mountain	1949
4/7	Douglas Fir Hike	1949
4/8	Anderson Creek	1947
4/9	Winchester Area / Twin Lakes / Gargett Mines	1947-1948, ; 1952,; 1970
4/10	Church Mountain	1948
4/11	Welcome Pass	1948
4/12	Hannegan Pass	1948
4/13	Baker Lake	1949, ; 1972
4/14	Sauk Mountain	1951,; 1972
4/15	Ross Lake Dam / Diablo Lake	1956
Hiking - Foothills		
Box/Folder		
4/16	Canyon Creek (Nooksack River)	1948
4/17	Devils Garden / Devils Mt.	1948, ; 1957
4/18	Sumas Mountain /Deming Lookout	1948
4/19	Entwhistle	1957
4/20	Stewart [Stuart] Mt.	1971
4/21	Bowman Ridge	1948

Container(s)	Description	Dates
4/22	Cultus Mt.	1949
4/23	Lookout Mt.	1948
4/24	Blonden Cabin	1971
5/1	Chuckanut / Larrabee	1948, ; 1958, ; 1972
5/2	California St / Lake Samish	1975
5/3	Fisherman's Cove	1948

Hiking – Coastal Areas

Box/Folder

5/4	Governor's Point	1957
5/5	Point Roberts	1971
5/6	Birch Bay	1949-1957
5/7	Fort Bellingham	1971
5/8	Bird Refuge [?]	1974
5/9	Unidentified beach hikes	circa 1953-1970

Hiking – outside Whatcom County

Box/Folder

5/10	Deception Pass / Mt. Erie	1948-1957
5/11	Camano Island	1956
5/12	Ebey's Landing	1971
5/13	Ft. Casey (Whidbey Island)	1956
5/14	San Juan Islands	1971

Container(s)	Description	Dates
5/15	Monte Cristo	1948, ; 1957
5/16	Buck Creek	1971
5/17	Mt. Rainier/Mt. Fremont	1956-1957, ; 1966-1967
5/18	Ohme Gardens / Palouse Falls	1961, ; 1972
5/19	Icicle Creek	1972
5/20	Grouse Mt., B.C.	circa 1950
5/21	Indian Arm, B.C.	1956
5/22	Stanley Park, B.C.	1956-1971
Sub-series 4: Newspapers and Clippings		circa 1940-1972
Box/Folder		
6/1-6/2	Clippings Book	1940s
6/3	Newspaper clippings	1963, ; 1972, ; 1993, ; 2003
Oversizefolder		
2	Bellingham Herald Centennial Edition	1953 April 26
Sub-series 5: Film		1948-1952
<i>Films of "Mt Baker Club Hikes" were created by club members Carl and Hazel Priest. The Priest films are on reel to reel format, with a copy available on video cassette tape.</i>		
Box/Folder		
6/4	Mt. Baker Skiing (reel to reel tape)	1948
Mt. Baker Club Hikes		
Box/Folder		

Container(s)	Description	Dates
6/5	Beach / Canyon Creek / Sumas Mountain 1948; Skyline Ridge / Tomyhoi Mountain/ Cultus Mountain	1949
6/6	Suiattle Mountain / Mt. Baker 1950; Sauk Mountain / Ross Dam / Mt. Baker Trail	1951
6/7	Bowman Ridge / Mt. Rainier / Mt. Baker / Kulshan	1952
7/1	Ruth Mountain / Lake Ann / Grouse Butte	1951-1952
7/2	Cascade Pass / Camp Kiser / Church Mt	circa 1952
7/3	VCR copy of Priest footage	undated
	Sub-series 6: Song Books	1926,; 1978-1979
Box/Folder		
7/4	Club Song Books	1926,; 1978-1979
	Sub-series 7: Club History Files	1909-2004
Box/Folder		
7/5	Announcement of 16th Annual Outing of the Mazamas	1909
7/6	Information re: Origins of Mt. Baker Club (Whatcom Museum of History and Art)	undated
7/7	Koons, Fritz. "My Life Story."	undated
7/8	"Mighty Joe Morovitz: Real Life Bunyan," <i>Sports Illustrated</i> .	1963 January 7
7/9	Mt. Baker Club 50th Anniversary Dinner,	1971 October.
7/10	Spieseke, Alice W. Accounts of "Winnie's Slide,"	1980
7/11	Website	2004 April 4
7/12	Copies of Legislation Regarding the Establishment of Mt. Baker National Park	1916-1917

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Sub-series 8: Printed Hiking Information		circa 1927-1980
Box/Folder		
8/1	American Alpine Club. "Accidents in North American Mountaineering"	1963
8/2	Hiking Safety pamphlets	circa 1970s-1980s
8/3	National Park and National Forests	1927-1937,; 1961,; 1976
8/4	"Pacific Coast Berry Finder,"	1978
8/5	"Mountain Flowers of Manning Park"	1969
8/6	"Backpacking and Hiking: An Annotated Booklist." Bellingham Public Library	1970s
Sub-series 9: Maps		circa 1902-1974
Oversize Folder		
3	Forestry and Parks	1949-1974
	Washington (11 items)	undated
	British Columbia (2 items)	undated
4	Topographical Maps, Washington (19 items)	1902-1969
Rolled Document		
1	Topographical Map, Washington	undated
Oversizefolder		
4	Washington Industry and Resources (6 items)	1965, ; 1976,; 1981

Series III : Club Newsletters , 1928-2004

The series comprises an almost complete set of the Club's official newsletter, "The Rambler," from its first edition in August 1928 through 2004.

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Club Newsletters		
Box/Folder		
8/7	"The Rambler"	1928 August-1932 September
8/8	"The Rambler"	1934-1939
8/9	"The Rambler"	1940-1949
8/10	"The Rambler"	1950-1959
8/11	"The Rambler"	1960-1969
8/12	"The Rambler"	1970 January- 1972 November
8/13	"The Rambler"	1972 December- 1975 December
8/14	"The Rambler"	1976 January - 1979 January
8/15	"The Rambler"	1980-1984
8/16	"The Rambler"	1985-1989
8/17	"The Rambler"	1990-2000
8/18	"The Rambler"	2002-2005

Series IV: Club Scrapbooks , 1925-1985

The first Mount Baker Hiking Club scrapbook, compiled by Charles Easton, was donated to the Whatcom Museum of History and Art in 1946. The original scrapbook is now held in the Museum's Photo Archives and is also available on CD Rom.

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Information re: Easton Scrapbook		
<i>Box/Folder</i>		
8/19	Key to Easton Scrapbook	undated
8/20	Permission for Bellingham Public Library to copy	1957-1961
Mt. Baker Club Scrapbooks		
<i>Box/Folder</i>		
9/1	Scrapbook [view]	1925-1931
9/2	Scrapbooks	1931-1938
9/3	Scrapbooks	1940-1950
<i>Volume</i>		
1	Scrapbook	1950-1956
2	Scrapbook	1957-1958
3	Scrapbook	1958-1960
4	Scrapbook	1961-1964
5	Scrapbook	1965-1967
6	Scrapbook	1968-1974
7	Scrapbook	1974-1977
8	Scrapbook	1977-1981
9	Scrapbook	1981-1985
10	Scrapbook	1985-1988
11	Scrapbook	1989-1993

Container(s)	Description	Dates
12	Scrapbook	1993-2000

Series V: Mountaineering Periodicals , 1897-1983

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
10/1	<i>The Argus</i> , Christmas Edition	1922
10/2	<i>B.C. Mountaineer</i>	1974,; 1979
10/3	<i>Camper and Hiker</i> ,	1928 March-April,; 1928 August
10/4	<i>Camp Life</i>	1929 January-July
10/5	<i>Camp Life</i>	1929 September-October
10/6	<i>Klipsun</i>	1979 June
10/7	<i>Lamontaña</i>	1936 March
10/8	<i>Mazama</i>	1897-1912
10/9	<i>Mazama</i>	1914-1917
10/10	<i>Mazama</i>	1918-1921
10/11	<i>Mazama</i>	1922-1925
10/12	<i>Mazama</i>	1927 December
10/13	<i>Mazama</i>	1928 December
10/14	<i>Mazama</i>	1929 December
10/15	<i>Mazama</i>	1931 December

Container(s)	Description	Dates
10/16	<i>Mazama</i>	1932 December
10/17	<i>Mazama</i>	1933 December
10/18	<i>Mazama</i>	1936 December
10/19	<i>Mazama</i>	1982 March
11/1	<i>The Mountaineer</i>	1908 November
11/2	<i>The Mountaineer</i>	1909 November
11/3	<i>The Mountaineer</i>	1907-1913
11/4	<i>The Mountaineer</i>	1918-1921
11/5	<i>The Mountaineer</i>	1922-1925
11/6	<i>The Mountaineer</i>	December 1927
11/7	<i>The Mountaineer</i>	December 1928
11/8	<i>The Mountaineer</i>	1929 December
11/9	<i>The Mountaineer</i>	1931 December
11/10	<i>The Mountaineer</i>	1932 December
11/11	<i>The Mountaineer</i>	1933 December
11/12	<i>The Mountaineer</i>	1983 July, ; 1983 September
11/13	<i>Overland Monthly</i>	1925 March
11/14	<i>Signpost for Northwest Trails</i>	1983 March
11/15	<i>The Westerner</i>	1906 September

Series VI: Mountaineering Publications , 1916-1986

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
11/16	Beaty, Jeanne Kellar. <i>Lookout Wife</i> . New York, Random House,	1953
11/17	Denham, A.H. <i>The Name of Mount Tacoma</i> . Tacoma: Rotary Club,	1924
11/18	Fordyce, <i>Trail Craft</i> . Cincinnati: Stewart Kidd Publishers,	1921
11/19	<i>Forest Outings</i> . Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture,	1940
12/1	<i>Fourth Report of the United States Geographic Board, 1890-1916</i> . Washington Government Printing Office	1916
12/2	Freeman, Lewis R. <i>On the Roof of the Rockies</i> . New York: Dodd, Mead and Company	1925
12/3	Jeffries, LeRoy. <i>Selected List of Books on Mountaineering</i> . New York Public Library	1970
12/4	Lefebvre, Rosamond Neumann. <i>Charmed Land: A Book of Northwestern Verse</i> . Chicago: Grosser-Bigelow Company	1931
12/5	<i>Mount Baker: A Chronicle of its Historic Eruptions and First Ascent</i> . Ed. Harry Majors. Seattle: Northwest Press	1978
12/6	Petzoldt, Paul. <i>The Wilderness Handbook</i> . New York: WW Norton & Co	1974
12/7	<i>Prevention of Disease and Care of the Sick</i> . US Public Health Service, Treasury Department	1918
12/8	Proudman, Robert D. and Reuben Rajala. <i>Trail Building and Maintenance</i> . Appalachian Mountain Club	1981
12/9	Spring, Ira. and Byron Fish. <i>Lookouts: Firewatchers of the Cascades and Olympics</i> . Seattle: The Mountaineers	1981
12/10	<i>The Mountain: Brief Submitted to the US Geographic Board [re: Name of Mt. Rainier]</i> . Tacoma: Justice to the Mountain Committee	1917

Container(s)	Description	Dates
12/11	Wilcox, Ken. <i>Hiking Whatcom County: Selected Walks, Hikes, Parks & Viewpoints</i> . Bellingham: Northwest Wilderness Guides	1986

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Hiking - Cascade Range

Hiking - Washington (State) - Baker, Mount, Region

Kulshan Cabin (Mount Baker National Forest)

Mountaineering - Cascade Range

Mountaineering - Washington (State) - Baker, Mount, Region

Outdoor recreation - Cascade Range

Outdoor recreation - Washington (State) - Baker, Mount, Region

Corporate Names :

Mount Baker Club

(creator)

Geographical Names :

Baker, Mount, Region (Wash.)

Finding aid prepared by Ruth Steele
2002