

**RACKHAM, WILLIAM CRAWFORD**

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1965-57

EXTENT: 222 photographs

FORM: Originals, black and white

PROVENANCE: Carl S. Simonson, Winnipeg

RESTRICTIONS: None

PHOTOGRAPHER: [William C. Rackham]

DATES: [1912]-1928

CONTENT: Scenes in Hudson's Bay Company Districts of Athabaska & Keewatin (i.e. Northern Alberta & Manitoba) including modes of transportation and campsites on Athabaska River, Peace River, Berens River, Burntwood River, Island Lake River, God's Lake, Harry Lake, and Lake Winnipeg. Includes views of Fort Chippewyan, Norway House, Little Grand Rapids, Oxford House, Deer Lake post, Winnipeg, Fort Dunvegan and Fort Vermillion

ORGANIZATION: 3 albums in original order, 1 folder of 8 photographs

FINDING AID: Item list and card catalogue

FURTHER REFERENCE:

OTHER ARCHIVAL MEDIA:

COMPLEMENTARY COLLECTIONS: HBCA Rackham photographs

LOCATION: C56, copies active reference

PREPARED: EAB  
91-06-10

CONSERVATION:

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William Crawford Rackham was born in Stratford on Avon, England on 18 August 1869. It is unknown when he came to Canada, but he entered service with the Hudson's Bay Company in 1902 as general help at the Lesser Slave Lake post.

In 1903, Rackham was transferred to Fort Vermillion, where he worked as a clerk for nine years. He then became an Inspecting Clerk for the Athabasca District until 1915 at which time he rose to the position of Inspecting Officer of the Keewatin District. In 1918 he became a District Manager stationed in the James Bay District where he remained until his resignation on 31 May 1921.

The collection was presented to the Archives by Carl S. Simonson of Winnipeg in 1965 (1965-57). It consists of three albums and one folder which, together, contain a total of 222 photographs. The photographs include scenes from both the Athabasca and Keewatin Districts (i.e. northern Alberta and Manitoba). They were presumably taken when Rackham was Inspecting Clerk in Athabasca (1912-15) and Inspecting Officer in Keewatin (1915-18).

Although the photos in the albums are in their original order, it is likely that Book 3 (#146-#214) contains the earliest photos as they show almost exclusively Athabaskan territory. Books 1 and 2 appear to follow in roughly chronological order.

The photos are numbered and many have previously been identified, presumably by Rackham. There are about 45 duplicates within the collections as indicated in the item list.

Blair Galston  
May 1991

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### ALBUM 1

1. [1912-15]. Hudson's Bay Company launch
2. [1912-15]. Hudson's Bay Company steam boat "Grahame" with launch and York boats on the Athabasca River. Same as 211 (N25680)
3. [1912-15]. Hudson's Bay Company steam boat "Grahame" tied to shore of the Athabasca River (N25681)
4. [1912-15]. York boat [on Athabasca River]
5. [1912-15]. York boats on the Athabasca River above Fort McMurray. Same as 88
6. [1912-15]. Hudson's Bay Company launch
7. [1912-15]. Hudson's Bay Company launch and York boats [on the Athabasca River.] Same as 210
8. [1912-15]. Hudson's Bay Company launch
9. [1915-18]. Ey-che-ma-mis en route to Oxford House. Same as 47 and 71
10. [1915-18]. Sunset over unidentified body of water
11. [1915-18]. Girl feeding young moose
12. [1915-18]. York boats
13. [1915-18]. Girl feeding young moose
14. [1915-18]. Girl feeding young moose
15. [1915-18]. Hudson's Bay Company office (N12896)
16. [1915-18]. Two women leaning on sun dial at Fort Chippewyan (N12897) (Also found in Indians - Treaty No. 8 #4)
17. [1915-18]. Canoe on the Berens River. Same as 73 (N12898)
18. [1915-18]. Hudson's Bay Company post at Norway House. Same as 56 and 63
19. [1915-18]. Beaver Dam Falls, Burntwood River. Same as 79
20. [1915-18]. Creek between Island Lake and Norway House. Same as 97
21. [1915-18]. Canoe in a field
22. [1915-18]. Whitewood Falls, Burntwood River. Same as 76

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23. [1915-18]. Camp at Shoal Falls. Same as 89
24. [1915-18]. Person eating lunch on the banks of the Burntwood River. Same as 102
25. [1915-18]. Unloading cargo from a York boat (N13137)
26. [1915-18]. Burntwood River. Same as 82
27. [1915-18]. Pine Rapid, Burntwood River. Same as 34 and 75
28. [1915-18]. Canoe on Island Lake River, between God's Lake and Island Lake. Same as 30 and 87 (N12899)
29. [1915-18]. Hudson's Bay Company sailboat "Vivian". Same as 105 (N12870)
30. [1915-18]. Canoe on Island Lake River, between God's Lake and Island Lake. Same as 28 and 87 (N12899)
31. [1915-18]. Teepee at God's Lake. Same as 52 and 93. (N12900)
32. [1915-18]. Indian camp at God's Lake. Same as 95 (N12901)
33. [1915-18]. Canoe on Island Lake River. Same as 101
34. [1915-18]. Pine Rapid, Burntwood River. Same as 27 and 75
35. [1915-18]. Boat going over rapids
36. [1915-18]. Hudson's Bay Company sail boat "Vivian". Same as 103 (N12902)
37. [1915-18]. Camp at God's Lake. Same as 94
38. [1915-18]. Camp near God's Lake. Same as 90
39. [1915-18]. Canoe on Little Playgreen Lake. Same as 72
40. [1915-18]. Portaging goods en route to Island Lake. Same as 70 (N12903)
41. [1915-18]. Whitewood Falls, Burntwood River. Same as 81
42. [1915-18]. Burntwood River. Same as 83
43. [1915-18]. Man-a-san Falls, Burntwood River. Same as 80
44. [1915-18]. Canoe on Island Lake River. Same as 100 (N12868)
45. [1915-18]. Whitewood Falls, Burntwood River. Same as 78

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- 46. [1915-18]. Burntwood River. Same as 84
- 47. [1915-18]. Ey-che-ma-mis on the road to Oxford House. Same as 9 and 71
- 48. [1915-18]. Trout Falls, between Oxford House and God's Lake. Same as 86
- 49. [1915-18]. Canoe on Burntwood River. Same as 85
- 50. [1915-18]. Hudson's Bay Company post at Norway House. Same as 62
- 51. [1915-18]. Hudson's Bay Company sail boat "Vivian". Same as 104 (N12869)
- 52. [1915-18]. Teepee at God's Lake. Same as 31 and 93. (N12900)
- 53. [1915-18]. En route to Oxford House. Same as 69
- 54. [1915-18]. Burntwood River. Same as 77
- 55. [1915-18]. Portaging. Same as 96
- 56. [1915-18]. Hudson's Bay Company post at Norway House. Same as 18 and 63
- 57. [1915-18]. Canoes on Hairy Lake. Same as 108
- 58. [1915-18]. Horses at Norway House. Same as 67
- 59. [1915-18]. En route to Oxford House. Shows dog team sleeping in snow. Same as 114
- 60. [1915-18]. Dog team en route to Oxford House. Same as 113

### **ALBUM 2**

- 61. [1915-18]. Flag showing the Hudson's Bay Company's ensign. (N12863)
- 62. [1915-18]. Hudson's Bay Company post at Norway House. Same as 50
- 63. [1915-18]. Hudson's Bay Company post at Norway House. Same as 18 and 56
- 64. [1915-18]. Hudson's Bay Company post at Little Grand Rapids. (N12864)
- 65. [1915-18]. Hudson's Bay Company post at Oxford House
- 66. [1915-18]. Hudson's Bay Company post at Deer Lake
- 67. [1915-18]. Horses at Norway House. Same as 58
- 68. [1915-18]. Horses at Norway House

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69. [1915-18]. En route to Oxford House. Same as 53
70. [1915-18]. Portaging goods en route to Island Lake. Same as 40 (N12903)
71. [1915-18]. Ey-che-ma-mis en route to Oxford House. Same as 9 and 47
72. [1915-18]. Canoe on Little Playgreen Lake. Same as 39
73. [1915-18]. Canoe on the Berens River. Same as 17. (N12898)
74. [1915-18]. Canoe on the Berens River
75. [1915-18]. Pine Rapid, Burntwood River. Same as 27 and 34
76. [195-18]. Whitewood Falls, Burntwood River. Same as 22
77. [195-18]. Burntwood River. Same as 54
78. [1915-18]. Whitewood Falls, Burntwood River. Same as 45
79. [1915-18]. Beaver Dam Falls, Burntwood River. Same as 19
80. [1915-18]. Man-a-san Rapids, Burntwood River. Same as 43
81. [1915-18]. Whitewood Falls, Burntwood River. Same as 41
82. [1915-18]. Burntwood River. Same as 26
83. [1915-18]. Burntwood River. Same as 42
84. [1915-18]. Burntwood River. Same as 46
85. [1915-18]. Canoe on Burntwood River. Same as 49
86. [1915-18]. Trout Falls, between Oxford House and God's Lake. Same as 48
87. [1915-18]. Canoe on Island Lake River, between God's Lake & Island Lake. Same as 30
88. [1912-15]. York boats on the Athabasca River above Fort McMurray. Same as 5
89. [1915-18]. Camp at Shoal Falls. Same as 23
90. [1915-18]. Camp near God's Lake. Same as 38
91. [1912-15]. Beaver Indians on the Peace River. (N12866)
92. [1912-15]. Cree Indian camp near the Peace River, drying moose meat. Same as 150 (N12881)

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93. [1915-18]. Teepee at God's Lake. Same as 31 and 52. (N12900)
94. [1915-18]. Camp at God's Lake. Same as 37
95. [1915-18]. Indian camp at God's Lake. Same as 32. (N11831)
96. [1915-18]. Portaging. Same as 55
97. [1915-18]. Creek between Island Lake and Norway House. Same as 20
98. [1915-18]. Creek en route to Deer Lake (N12867)
99. [1915-18]. En route to Deer Lake
100. [1915-18]. Canoe on Island Lake River. Same as 44. (N12868)
101. [1915-18]. Canoe on Island Lake River. Same as 33
102. [1915-18]. Person eating lunch on the banks of the Burntwood River. Same as 24
103. [1915-18]. Hudson's Bay Company sail boat "Vivian". Same as 36. (N12902)
104. [1915-18]. Hudson's Bay Company sail boat "Vivian". Same as 51 (N12869)
105. [1915-18]. Hudson's Bay Company sail boat "Vivian". Same as 29 (N12870)
106. [1915-18]. Hudson's Bay Company sail boat "Vivian"
107. [1915-18]. York boats on God's Lake. (N12871)
108. [1915-18]. Canoes on Hairy Lake. Same as 57
109. [1915-18]. CNR locomotive near Victoria Beach
110. [1915-18]. CNR locomotive near Victoria Beach. (N12872)
111. [1915-18]. Wood cutters camp near Fort Alexander (N23203)
112. [1915-18]. Dog team between God's Lake and Oxford House
113. [1915-18]. Dog team en route to Oxford House. Same as 60
114. [1915-18]. En route to Oxford House. Shows dog team sleeping in snow. Same as 59
115. [1915-18]. Selecting a camp site

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116. [1915-18]. Setting up camp
117. [1915-18]. Dog team between Norway House and Oxford House. (N12873)
118. [1915-18]. Dog team en route to Oxford House. (N12874)
119. [1915-18]. Oxford Lake, 70 degrees below zero
120. [1915-18]. Dog team on Oxford Lake
121. [1915-18]. Dog team leaving camp en route to Cross Lake
122. [1915-18]. Dog team on Cross Lake. (N12875)
123. [1915-18]. Hudson's Bay Company employees and several dog teams carrying government mail on Lake Winnipeg (N21206)
124. [1915-18]. Hudson's Bay Company dog team on Lake Winnipeg
125. [1915-18]. Hudson's Bay Company dog team on Lake Winnipeg. (N12876)
126. [1915-18]. Dog Teams stopped outside an Indian house en route to Cross Lake (N12877)
127. [1915-18]. Camp at "John Bulls"
128. [1915-18]. R.A. Talbot
129. [1915-18]. Dog team resting
130. [1915-18]. Group of five people having a cup of tea along a river bank during winter
131. [1915-18]. Group eating a meal around a fire in 60°F below zero weather.
132. [1915-18]. Hudson's Bay Company dog teams. (N12878)
133. [1915-18]. Buildings of Norway House
134. [1915-18]. A.C. Clark on Little Playgreen Lake
135. [1915-18]. A game of football on Christmas day at Norway House (N12879)
136. [1915-18]. Near Norway House
137. [1915-18]. Dog team near Fort Alexander
138. [1915-18]. Mrs. Murray at Fort Alexander



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- 139. [1912-15]. Dog teams at Peace River Crossing
- 140. [1915-18]. Indian house on the Nelson River. (N11832)
- 141. [1915-18]. Indian house on the Nelson River
- 142. [1915-18]. Ferry on the Red River
- 143. [1915-18]. Swan near pond at Deer Lodge Park
- 144. [1915-18]. Broadway Avenue and the Fort Garry Hotel, Winnipeg
- 145. [1915-18]. Old Fort Garry Gate, Winnipeg

### **Album 3**

- 146. [1912-15]. Baby seated on a cushion
- 147. [1912-15]. Horse teams on the trail between Fort Vermillion and Little Red River
- 148. [1912-15]. Two men eating a meal on the trail between Fort Vermillion and Little Red River
- 149. [1912-15]. Hudson's Bay Company steam boat "Peace River". (N12880)
- 150. [1912-15]. Cree Indian camp near the Peace River, drying moose meat. Same as 92. (N12881)
- 151. [1912-15]. Peace River - Wolverine Point. (N12882)
- 152. [1912-15]. Trail to Keg River Prairie near the Peace River
- 153. [1912-15]. Jean Baptiste Showan displaying black bear head.
- 154. [1912-15]. Men making hurried repairs for Hudson's Bay Company steam boat "Peace River"
- 155. [1912-15]. A Beaver Indian camp (N12883)
- 156. [1912-15]. A Beaver Indian camp (N12884)
- 157. [1912-15]. Man displaying a 28 pound lake trout
- 158. [1912-15]. Little girl standing in a doorway
- 159. [1912-15]. Deserted Roman Catholic mission at Fort Dunvegan near the Peace River (N12885)
- 160. [1912-15]. Indian children and cattle in front of tee pee at Wolverine Point near the Peace River (N12886)

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161. [1912-15]. Cattle in front of a native settlement, Wolverine Point
162. [1912-15]. Buildings of Fort Vermillion
163. [1912-15]. Hudson's Bay Company logging camp on the Peace River
164. [1912-15]. Hudson's Bay Company logging camp on the Peace River
165. [1912-15]. Hudson's Bay Company launch "Messenger"
166. [1912-15]. Royal North W Mounted Police dog team at Fort Vermillion (N12887)
167. [1912-15]. Beaver Indian Camp
168. [1912-15]. [Family] at Peace River Crossing
169. [1912-15]. Miss Agnes Dean Cameron and Miss Brown
170. [1912-15]. Slavery Indians at Fort Vermillion post (N12888)
171. [c1900]. On board ship "Lake Erie" on the North Atlantic Ocean
172. [c1900]. On board ship "Lake Erie" on the North Atlantic Ocean
173. [c1900]. On board ship "Lake Erie" on the North Atlantic Ocean
174. [c1900]. On board ship "Lake Erie" on the North Atlantic Ocean
175. [c1900]. First Quebec Bridge after collapse
176. [c1900]. Iceberg in the North Atlantic Ocean
177. [1912-15]. Cord wood -- fuel for steamer "Peace River"
178. [1912-15]. Peace River crossing post
179. [1912-15]. Miss Agnes Dean Cameron and Miss Brown after having shot a moose (N12889)
180. [1912-15]. Group gathered at the site of Sir Alexander Mackenzie's winter quarters on the Peace River
181. [1912-15]. Group gathered at the site of Sir Alexander Mackenzie's winter quarters on the Peace River
182. [1912-15]. Miss Agnes Dean Cameron and Miss Brown
183. [1912-15]. Group of four sitting on rocks

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184. [1912-15]. Four women in a garden
185. [1912-15]. The steam boat "Peace River"
186. [1912-15]. The Peace River
187. [1912-15]. Rosalis Island, Peace River
188. [1912-15]. Peace River Crossing (N12890)
189. [1912-15]. Dog teams
190. [1912-15]. Inside a trading post (N1289l)
191. [1912-15]. Men carrying logs
192. [1912-15]. Man and boy playing with bear cub
193. [1912-15]. Boy and bear cub playing
194. [1912-15]. Two girls
195. [1912-15]. Photographers in a garden
196. [1912-15]. Photographers in a garden
197. [1912-15]. Man and native children with cattle
198. [1912-15]. Man with bulldog
199. [1912-15]. Log buildings
200. [1912-15]. Horses pulling hay wagons
201. [1912-15]. Elderly man
202. [1912-15]. Hudson's Bay Company mill, Fort Vermillion (N12893)
203. [1912-15]. Wooden fencing
204. [1912-15]. Hudson's Bay Company post, Fort Dunvegan (N12894)
205. [1912-15]. Hudson's Bay Company post, Fort Dunvegan (N12895)
206. [1912-15]. Shoreline of unidentified body of water
207. [1912-15]. Group of Indians (N12892) [Fort Dunvegan?]
208. [1912-15]. Group of men with dog team
209. [1912-15]. Group of men with dog team

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- 210. [1912-15]. Hudson's Bay Company launch and York boats [on the Athabasca River]. Same as 7
- 211. [1912-15]. Hudson's Bay Company Steam boat "Grahame" with launch and York boats on the Athabasca River. Same as 2
- 212. [1912-15]. Tee pees, Peace River
- 213. [1912-15]. Ford at Point Pine
- 214. [1912-15]. Settlement on shoreline of unidentified body of water
- 215. n.d. Steam boat tied to shore of unidentified body of water
- 216. n.d. Two children playing in water beside wooden boat.
- 217. n.d. Group of people picnicking
- 218. 1 Jul 1928. [Family] in front of house
- 219. n.d. Man with twin girls
- 220. n.d. [Tuberculosis Sanatorium]
- 221. n.d. Sister Bella, J.L. Gaudet, Mrs. Gaudet with cat, Andrew Watson on porch
- 222. n.d. Rackham home at Fort Alexander (N12925)