

---

## Guide to the Laumann Yosemite Collection

Special Collections Department

Robert E. Kennedy Library  
1 Grand Avenue  
California Polytechnic State University  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407—0600

### Contact Information

Special Collections Department  
Robert E. Kennedy Library  
1 Grand Avenue  
California Polytechnic State University  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407—0600  
Phone: 805/756-2305  
Fax: 805/756-5770  
Email: [archives@lib.calpoly.edu](mailto:archives@lib.calpoly.edu)  
URL: [http://www.lib.calpoly.edu/departments/special\\_collections/index.html](http://www.lib.calpoly.edu/departments/special_collections/index.html)

Processed by:

Ken Kenyon

Date Completed:

2008

Encoded by:

Byte Managers and Marisa Ramirez 2008

© 2008 Trustees of the California State University. All rights reserved.

---

### Descriptive Summary

**Title:** Laumann Yosemite Collection,

**Date (bulk):** circa 1908,

**Date (bulk):** 1923

**Date (bulk):** (bulk circa 1908)

**Collection number:** MS 153

**Creator:** Laumann, Frank E., 1888-1957Laumann, Una C., 1921 -

**Extent:** 3 boxes

**Languages:**

English

**Repository:** Special Collections, Robert E. Kennedy Library

California Polytechnic State UniversitySan Luis Obispo, California 93407

**Abstract:** The Laumann Yosemite Collection consists of photographic prints and glass plate negatives of two of the Laumann family's visits to Yosemite National Park and the Sierra, the first in circa 1908 and the second in 1923. Photographs taken by Frank E. Laumann include familiar landmarks such as El Capitan, Mirror Lake, Vernal Falls, Half Dome and Hetch Hetchy as well as Laumann family and friends. The Laumann family donated the collection in 2006.

**Selected digitized images from this collection:**

**Provenance**

Donated by Una Laumann in 2006.

**Restrictions on Access**

Collection is open to qualified researchers by appointment only. For more information on access policies and to obtain a copy of the Researcher Registration form, please visit the Special Collections Access page.

Collection stored remotely. Advance notice for use required.

---

### **Restrictions on Use and Reproduction**

In order to reproduce, publish, broadcast, exhibit, and/or quote from this material, researchers must submit a written request and obtain formal permission from Special Collections, Cal Poly, as the owner of the physical collection. Researchers should also consult with an appropriate staff member regarding literary or other intellectual property rights pertaining to this collection.

Photocopying of material is permitted at staff discretion and provided on a fee basis. Photocopies are not to be used for any purpose other than for private study, scholarship, or research. Special Collections staff reserves the right to limit photocopying and deny access or reproduction in cases when, in the opinion of staff, the original materials would be harmed.

### **Preferred Citation**

[identification of item], Laumann Yosemite Collection, Special Collections, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

### **Biography**

Pioneers of Sonoma County, California, the Laumann family originally immigrated to the United States from Darmstadt, Hesse, Germany, settling in Peotone, Illinois. In the latter part of the nineteenth century, Lawrence and Margareta Laumann came to California by wagon with son John Laumann. John and his wife Hannah had six children, including Frank Emil Laumann, who was born May 8, 1888, in Sonoma County, California and Amelia, known as Millie, who was born in 1895.

Frank Laumann married Dorothy Meyer on February 25, 1914, in Sonoma County, and they made their home in Fulton, California. Frank owned a woodshop, built small houses, ran a store, and weighed plum-filled trucks. Their son George C., who taught mathematics at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo for 27 years, was born April 7, 1915. As a boy, he helped his father and learned woodworking skills from him. He attended local schools before going to the University of California at the age of 16.

George Laumann served stateside during World War II, making the rank of staff sergeant. He married Una Bergmann in 1950, returned to college and earned his bachelor's degree in 1952, his master's degree in 1953 at Chico State, and also did additional graduate work at the University of Oregon and UCLA. He began teaching mathematics at Cal Poly in 1957. His love of nature was shared with his family until his death at Wawona campground at Yosemite National Park on June 4, 1984. His wife, Una, established the Cal Poly George C. Laumann Scholarship in Mathematics in his memory.

### Sources

Una C. Laumann

Robert Pavlik

California Death Index, Ancestry.com

Ancestry World Tree, Ancestry.com

### **Scope and Content Note**

The Laumann Yosemite Collection contains 39 photographic prints and 32 glass plate negatives of locations in Yosemite National Park and the Sierra.

The collection documents two trips to Yosemite and the Sierra by the Laumanns, the first about 1908 and the second in 1923. The Laumanns traveled to Yosemite, probably circa 1908, in a Mark West Stage, a horse-drawn surrey. The journey from their home in Fulton, California, took more than five days, with a horse dying on the way. Upon arrival, they made camp at the base of Yosemite Falls. While at Yosemite, Frank Laumann took photographs of familiar landmarks, such as Mirror Lake, El Capitan, Vernal Falls and Hetch Hetchy, and of family and friends, including his sister Millie.

The original organization of the Laumann Yosemite Collection has been preserved and is divided into 2 series:

1. Photographs and Glass Plate Negatives
2. Family History and Ephemera

Two boxes contain prints and glass plate negatives, and one box contains a brief family history and ephemera.

### **Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

### **Subjects**

Yosemite National Park (Calif.) -- Pictorial works

Yosemite National Park (Calif.) -- History

Yosemite National Park (Calif.) -- Description and travel

### **Genre and Forms of Materials**

Photographic prints

Glass plate negatives

Genealogical chart

---

Ephemera

**1. Photographs and Glass Plate Negatives, circa 1908 and 1923**

**Scope and Content Note**

Contains two subseries: A. Photographic Prints and B. Glass Plate Negatives.

---

**A. Photographic Prints**

**Scope and Content Note**

Contains black-and-white photographs from two trips to the Sierra, circa 1908 and 1923. Prints in folders 1 through 23 have corresponding plate glass negatives in Series B; the remaining do not. Arranged in original order. 1 box.

Box 1, Folder 1	<b>Frank Laumann &amp; sister Millie, Yosemite, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 2	<b>Mt. Clark, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 3	<b>Mirror Lake, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 4	<b>Mirror Lake, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 5	<b>Mt. Clark, Merced River Canyon, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 6	<b>Yosemite Valley, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 7	<b>Camp, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 8	<b>Camp, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 9	<b>El Capitan, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 10	<b>Mt. Hoffman, North Dome, Basket Dome; view from Cloud's Rest, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 11	<b>Forest, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 12	<b>Yosemite Valley, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 13	<b>Yosemite Valley, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 14	<b>Mirror Lake, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 15	<b>Half Dome from Glacier Point, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 16	<b>Unidentified, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 17	<b>Forest, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 18	<b>North Dome with Merced River foreground, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 19	<b>Unidentified, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 20	<b>Tenaya Canyon, taken from Cloud's Rest, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 21	<b>Half Dome, back side, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 22	<b>Yosemite Falls, camp, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 23	<b>Vernal Falls, circa 1908</b>
Box 1, Folder 24	<b>Vernal Falls, circa 1923</b>
Box 1, Folder 25	<b>Bridal Veil Falls, circa 1923</b>
Box 1, Folder 26	<b>Mariposa Grove, Frank and George Laumann (8 years old), 1923</b>
Box 1, Folder 27	<b>Nevada Falls, 1923</b>
Box 1, Folder 28	<b>Yosemite Falls, 1923</b>
Box 1, Folder 29	<b>Mariposa Grove, 1923</b>
Box 1, Folder 30	<b>El Capitan, 1923</b>
Box 1, Folder 31	<b>Mt. Watkins, Mirror Lake foreground, 1923</b>
Box 1, Folder 32	<b>Mariposa Grove, 1923</b>
Box 1, Folder 33	<b>Mariposa Grove, redwoods, 1923</b>
Box 1, Folder 34	<b>Mariposa Grove, undated</b>
Box 1, Folder 35	<b>Mariposa Grove, giant sequoia, undated</b>
Box 1, Folder 36	<b>Yosemite Falls, 1923</b>
Box 1, Folder 37	<b>Incline railroad cable cars, western boundary logging, 1923</b>
Box 1, Folder 38	<b>Hetch Hetchy, 1923</b>
Box 1, Folder 39	<b>Hetch Hetchy, 1923</b>

---

1. Photographs and Glass Plate Negatives, circa 1908 and 1923

B. Glass Plate Negatives

---

**B. Glass Plate Negatives**

**Scope and Content Note**

Contains glass plate negatives from two trips to the Sierra, circa 1908 and 1923. Plate negatives in Folders 1 through 23 have corresponding print copies in Series A; the remaining do not. Arranged in original order. 1 box.

Box 2, Folder 1	<b>Frank Laumann &amp; sister Millie, Yosemite, circa 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 2	<b>Mt. Clark, circa 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 3	<b>Mirror Lake, circa 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 4	<b>Mirror Lake, circa 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 5	<b>Mt. Clark, Merced River Canyon, circa 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 6	<b>Yosemite Valley, circa 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 7	<b>Camp, 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 8	<b>Camp, 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 9	<b>El Capitan, circa 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 10	<b>Mt. Hoffman, North Dome, Basket Dome; view from Cloud's Rest, circa 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 11	<b>Forest, circa 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 12	<b>Yosemite Valley, circa 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 13	<b>Yosemite Valley, circa 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 14	<b>Mirror Lake, circa 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 15	<b>Half Dome from Glacier Point, circa 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 16	<b>Unidentified, circa 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 17	<b>Forest, circa 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 18	<b>North Dome with Merced River foreground, circa 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 19	<b>Unidentified, circa 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 20	<b>Tenaya Canyon, taken from Cloud's Rest, circa 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 21	<b>Half Dome, back side, circa 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 22	<b>Camp, foot of Yosemite Falls, circa 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 23	<b>Vernal Falls, circa 1908</b>
Box 2, Folder 24	<b>Unidentified, undated</b>
Box 2, Folder 25	<b>Unidentified, undated</b>
Box 2, Folder 26	<b>Unidentified, undated</b>
Box 2, Folder 27	<b>Mountains, undated</b>
Box 2, Folder 28	<b>Trees and hills, undated</b>
Box 2, Folder 29	<b>Mariposa River tree door, undated</b>
Box 2, Folder 30	<b>Man-wagon wheel, undated</b>
Box 2, Folder 31	<b>Rock and falls, undated</b>
Box 2, Folder 32	<b>Unidentified, undated</b>

## 2. Laumann Family History and Ephemera

---

### 2. Laumann Family History and Ephemera

#### Scope and Content Note

Contains one subseries: A. Laumann family history and ephemera

---

### A. Laumann family history and ephemera

#### Scope and Content Note

Contains a short biography of the Laumann family, Laumann family records, Yosemite National Park postcard and Standard Oil Company ephemera. Arranged in original order. 1 box.

Box 3, Folder 1

Box 3, Folder 2

**Laumann family history and family group sheet  
Yosemite postcard, Standard Oil Company ephemera, and  
photograph of Theodore Roosevelt and John Muir at Yosemite**