

Provenance-Documents-7.2.6-Accroître la diversité et le pluralisme

The “OB” photographs are part of the Missionary Oblates, Grandin Collection.

The Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate are a Roman Catholic Congregation founded in France in 1816. As a missionary community of priests and lay brothers, they worked primarily to evangelize the poor and marginalized. In 1841, the first Oblate missionaries arrived in Canada and began moving westward. By 1848, they had established their first mission in Alberta at Fort Chipewyan. By the late 1800s, almost all the priests working in Alberta and the Northwest Territories were members of this congregation.

The Missionary Oblates worked extensively with the Aboriginal communities and helped to establish a variety of services in missions among this group in Western and Northern Canada. In addition, the Oblates were involved with the Francophone community and helped establish French language radio and newspapers in Alberta, as well as establishing the College Saint-Jean, which is now a campus of the University of Alberta.

In 1973, the Missionary Oblates, entered into an agreement with the Provincial Archives of Alberta (PAA) to allow their archival material to be housed and made accessible at the PAA, while ownership remained with the Oblate Congregation. The Missionary Oblates, Grandin Province fonds includes records related to the Oblate administration and their works throughout Alberta, the Northwest Territories and a portion of Saskatchewan and includes records dating from 1842 until approximately 1990. The fonds includes records written primarily in French, with some records in English as well as most of the Aboriginal languages found in Western Canada.

The “P” photographs are part of the Harry Pollard fonds (PR0125).

Harry Pollard was born in Ontario in 1880. He moved to Calgary, North-West Territories (later Alberta) in May of 1899 and set up a photographic studio. In 1924, the Associated Screen News, a subsidiary of the Canadian Pacific Railway, hired Pollard to photograph their global ocean cruises for promotional purposes. This job took him around the world fourteen times. Also during this time, Pollard honed his skills as a cinematographer and much of his footage was used in newsreels issued by Associated Screen News. In 1954, after thirty years with Associated Screen News, Pollard retired. Harry Pollard died July 9, 1968.

Harry Pollard's photographs range in date from the late 1800s to the mid-1950s and include images of industry, First Nations people, agriculture, ranching, portraits and Calgary.

A selection of the photographs from the fonds are searchable in the HeRMIS database. For additional photographs and other material relating to Harry Pollard, please refer to the Harry Pollard fonds,

<https://hermis.alberta.ca/paa/Details.aspx?ObjectID=PR0125&dv=True&deptID=1>.