

Document-7.2.7-Effets de l'urbanisation

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 “A” photographs represents an artificial collection of photographs selected for their potential interest to researchers of the Provincial Archives of Alberta's photographic collection. The “A” photographs are an amalgamation of nearly 1000 distinct fonds that covers the province's entire geographic area. The original photographs remain in the vaults with their original donation, but reference prints provide easy access to these images in the Reading Room, with a selection of the photographs from the collection searchable in the HeRMIS database, <https://hermis.alberta.ca/paa/Search.aspx>.

The photographs in this collection range in date from the late 1880s to 1981 and are of industry, agriculture, cities, towns, landscapes, transportation, prominent Albertans, First Nations people, and buildings.

The “B” photographs are part of the **Ernest Brown fonds (PR0043)**.

Ernest Brown was born in England on September 8, 1877. While in England, he began to study photography. In 1904, Brown moved to Edmonton, North-West Territories (later Alberta)

with his wife Mary Carr. Brown worked as an assistant to C.W. Mathers, Edmonton's first photographer. Three months later on July 1, 1904, Brown bought the rights to Mathers' portrait studio. In 1905, Brown expanded the studio to form the Ernest Brown Company Ltd. In 1912, Brown built the Ernest Brown Block, a structure to house his studio, workshops and offices at 9760 Jasper Avenue. After WWI, the demand for photographic services declined and Brown's business was seized in 1920. In 1926, he moved to Vegreville where he ran a small photographic studio. During his lifetime, Brown bought other photographers' collections including Calgary photographers Boorne and May. Brown also had a close personal and business relationship with photographer Gladys Reeves, some of whose photographs appear in the Ernest Brown fonds. Ernest Brown died on January 5, 1951.

Ernest Brown's photographs range in date from the late 1880s to the late 1940s and include images of First Nations people, homesteaders, agriculture, cityscapes, buildings, special events, and portraits.

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

<https://hermis.alberta.ca/paa/Details.aspx?ObjectID=PR0043&dv=True&deptID=1>.