

Kamloops Museum and Archives

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**James Leighton fonds**

**1977.011, 0.2705, 0.2932**

Compiled by  
Jaimie Fedorak, November 2017  
Revised by  
Jaimie Fedorak, March 2019

## KAMLOOPS MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

1977.011, etc.  
Access: Open.

James Leighton Fonds  
Textual, Graphic, Object

1862-1942  
0.13 meters

**Title:** James Leighton fonds

**Dates of Creation:** 1862-1942

**Physical Description:** 12 cm of textual records, ca. 60 photographs, and 2 objects

### Biographical Sketch:

**James Buie Leighton** was born on November 8, 1851 in Scotland, the son of James Leighton and Isabella B. Buie. The family moved to California when Leighton was 3 years old so that his father could run the Nevada mine. After the death of James Leighton (senior) in 1863 the family moved to Victoria, B.C. to live with Isabella B. Leighton's brother, Thomas Buie. In 1865 Leighton had moved to Barkerville with his uncle to run a store, before moving to Lytton in 1871 to work as a clerk. In 1881 Leighton won the contract to carry the weekly mail between Cache Creek and Okanagan Landing, via Kamloops, and he chose to settle at the mid-point of these two destinations near Savona. By 1882 he had established a stage and telegraph office at Savona, and was beginning to put down roots. Leighton married Jane Elizabeth Uren on January 19, 1882 in Clinton, B.C., with whom he had 4 sons (Leslie L., Charles Ewen James, Raymond Findlay, and John Bickford Kirkwood) and 2 daughters (Leslie and Enid Evelyn Kathleen). Leighton established a cattle ranch in Savona, and became involved in local society, becoming Cattlemen's Overseer, Fishery Overseer, and Superintendent of the B.C. Express in 1897 and writing many articles for the local newspaper on history. Leighton also spent time working as a telegraph operator, ferryman, and Indian Agent. In 1921 Leighton sold his Savona ranch to Harry Vassey and retired from the ranching industry. James Buie Leighton died on December 2, 1945 in Kamloops, B.C. at the age of 94.

### Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of account books, correspondence, personal documents and objects, and family photographs.

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### **Custodial History:**

Fonds originally consisted of only accession 1977.011. Accessions 0.2705 and 0.2932 were originally placed in the Vertical Files Collection, but were accrued to this fonds during reprocessing in 2019. Accessions 1977.011 and 0.2932 were donated to the Kamloops Museum and Archives in 1977 by George Bowers (1977.011 per Jean Gordon), and accession 0.2705 was donated at an unknown date by Mrs. J. Manuel.

### **Notes:**

**Source of supplied title:** Title based on contents of fonds.

**Arrangement:** Order that fonds arrived in was maintained by the archivist.

**Access restrictions:** No restrictions on access. The archivist reserves the right to restrict access to any fragile material for preservation purposes.

**Terms governing use and reproduction:** No reproduction permitted without consent of copyright holder. It is the researcher's responsibility to obtain permission for the reproduction of materials for publication or dissemination.

**Finding aids:** File list is available for this collection.

**Accruals:** No further accruals expected.

**Related materials:** See Artifact Collection for additional materials donated with accession 1977.011.

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Accession	Description	Dates	Location
1977.011.002	Pioneer's Honor Roll Certificate from Vancouver Daily Province – File contains a Pioneer's Honor Roll Certificate issued by the Vancouver Daily Province to James B. Leighton. Certificate is rolled in a mailing tube. – 1 textual record and 1 object	1929	1
1977.011.004	The Bank of Hamilton Account Book – File contains an account book from the Bank of Hamilton, correspondence, and cheques. – 0.75 cm of textual records	1920-1923	1
1977.011.005	Snapshots – File contains a bound photograph album. Photos are generally unlabeled but contain images of family members, First Nations, houses, farm buildings, landscapes, cattle, Tunkwa Lake, and Leslie Lake. – 36 b&w photographs	[ca. 1800s-1900s]	1
1977.011.006	Poem re: Calgary to Mr. Leighton – File contains a handwritten and illustrated poem. – 1 textual record	July 27, 1897	1
1977.011.007	Journal Ledger – File contains a bound ledger of accounts. – 4 cm of textual records	1862-1923	1/1
1977.011.008	San Francisco photo album – File contains an album of souvenir views of San Francisco. – 8 b&w photographs	1896	1/2
1977.011.009	J.B. Leighton – File contains a transcript of letters and accounts, clippings, a scrapbook of clippings, and research about J.B. Leighton. – 1 cm of textual records	1863-1928	1/3
1977.011.010	J.B. Leighton's Correspondence – File contains correspondence, tax records, insurance certificates, invoices, a poem, clippings, and a certificate of membership in the National Geographic Society. – 1 cm of textual records	1883-1924	1/4
1977.011.011	Photos – File includes a Christmas card, a May Queen calendar 1903, and photographs of 2 portraits of women, and a landscape. – 2 b&w photographs, 1 colour photograph, and 4 textual records	[ca. 1800s-1900s]	1/5

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1977.011.012	Photos – File contains photographs of a woman, First Nations family, wrestling matches in Savona, and a house, and a hair clipping. – 5 b&w photographs and 1 object	[ca. 1800s-1900s]	1/6
1977.011.013	Photos – File contains photographs of a carriage and group, children, a woman, and a family. – 5 b&w photographs	[ca. 1800s]-1927	1/7
1977.011.014	Letters to Jennie Uren (Mrs. J.B. Leighton) – File contains correspondence to Jennie Uren. – 1 cm of textual records	1878-1891	1/8
1977.011.015	Clippings – File contains clippings. – 1 cm of textual records	1917-1942	1/9
0.2705	Harper Brand Still in Use – File contains a typescript copy of an article about the cattle industry written by J.B. Leighton. – 4 textual records	[ca. 1900s]	1/10
0.2932	Copies of J.B. Leighton papers – File contains typescript and photocopied copies of correspondence and an account book for Express Line. – 0.5 cm of textual records	1878-1883 [copied 1977]	1/11