

South East Queensland Climbing Project archive

Accession number 33816

Date 1929-2005?, bulk 1929-1974.

Abstract This collection compiles numerous items accumulated by Michael Meadows during research for his South East Queensland Climbing Project and the subsequent publication of his book 'The living rock: The invention of climbing in Eastern Australia'.

Scope and content The collection includes films; photograph albums and loose photographs; a scrapbook; Brisbane Climbing Club training notes for climbers and a photocopy of a letter about communists members that contributed to the unravelling of the club; Brisbane Rockclimbing Club climbing guides and badge; a logbook recording details of climbs up Mount Barney; field guides for climbing in the Glasshouse Mountains and at the Whittinbah wafers, a crag in the Numinbga Valley; and ephemera about climbing. The material was acquired from various climbing enthusiasts including Trevor Gynther, Raoul Mellish, Ken Rogers, Bert Salmon, Robert J. Waring and Rick White as well as Michael Meadows himself as well as the organisations the Brisbane Climbing Club and the Brisbane Rockclimbing Club.

Description 3 films, 0.5 boxes of material, 2 sets of larger material.

Additional format Digital copies available for selected items.

Access restrictions Unrestricted access.

Copyright status Multiple copyright statuses.

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Preferred citation

33816, South East Queensland Climbing Project archive, John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland

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Series 1: Home movies (1968)

Series number 1

Series title Home movies

Date 1968

Scope and content

This series contains home movies of climbing at 'Glennies Pulpit' ('The Pulpit') at Mount Alford on Queensland's Scenic Rim and Mount Beewah.

Description

Description 3 home movies

Access

Access restrictions Unrestricted access.

Items in this series:

Michael Meadows 'Glennies Pulpit' home movie (21 April 1968)

Unit ID 33816/1

Date 21 April 1968

Scope and content

This item contains a home movie filmed by Michael Meadows showing climbing on 'Glennies Pulpit' ('The Pulpit') at Mount Alford on Queensland's Scenic Rim in 1968.

Author / Creator

Meadows, Michael H.

Description

Description 1 home movie
8 mm.

Access

Copyright status In copyright

Copyright status Library Board of Queensland

Conditions of use CC-BY

Michael Meadows 'Mt. Beewah' home movie (8 June 1968)

Unit ID 33816/2

Date 8 June 1968

Scope and content

This item contains a home movie filmed by Michael Meadows showing climbing on Mount Beewah in 1968.

Author / Creator

Meadows, Michael H.

Description

Description 1 home movie
8 mm.

Access

Copyright status In copyright

Copyright status Library Board of Queensland

Conditions of use CC-BY

Greg Sheard 'Beewah' home movie (8 June 1968)

Unit ID 33816/3

Date 8 June 1968

Scope and content

This item contains a home movie filmed by Greg Sheard showing climbing on Mount Beewah in 1968.

Author / Creator

Sheard, Greg

Description

Description 1 home movie
8 mm.

Access

Copyright status In copyright

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Series 2: Photographs, scrapbook and photograph albums (1929-2008?, bulk 1929-1969)

Series number 2

Series title Photographs, scrapbook and photograph albums

Date 1929-2008?, bulk 1929-1969

Scope and content

This series contains photographs, a scrapbook and photograph album collected by Michael Meadows during his research:

- photograph albums of a variety of material such as street views, jetties, ships, beaches, rivers, bridges and mountain climbing compiled by Ken Rogers.
- photographs of Bert Salmon climbing at 'Boar's Jaw' in the Blue Mountains and other material collected by Bert Salmon.
- photographs of rock climbing at Mount Tibrogargan in the Glasshouse Mountains; Kangaroo Point, Brisbane; and Emu Creek collected by Robert J. Waring.
- scrapbook of a variety of material such as photographs, newspaper clippings and artwork compiled by Raoul Mellish.

Description

Description 2 photograph albums, 23 photographs, 1 scrapbook

Locate OMBOX Box 24067; OMOSBOX Boxes 24066; 24110 O/S

Access restrictions Unrestricted access.

Items in this series:

Ken Rogers photograph album (1929-1932)



Unit ID 33816/4

Date 1929-1932

Scope and content

This item contains a photograph album compiled by Ken Rogers with snakeskin-look covers and includes photographs of:

- street views of Bangalow, George Street in Brisbane's central business district, Byron Bay, Casino, Kyogle, Lismore, Rockhampton and Yeppoon.
- jetties at Bribie Island, Byron Bay, Redland Bay and Victoria Point.
- Cash's Crossing.
- various ships including the steamship 'Otter' off Redcliffe, the 'Mibbin', the 'Booyong', the AUSN 'Mutada' and boats at Deepwater Bend.
- shipwrecks of the 'Wollongbah' at Byron bay and the 'Dicky' at Caloundra.
- views of Wellington Point.
- beaches at Coolangatta, Coolum, Currumbin, Hervey Bay (Pialba Beach), Yamba and Yeppoon.
- lighthouses at Bribie Island and Byron Bay.
- views of rivers including the Brisbane River in flood, the Burnett River (Bundaberg), the Clarence River in flood (Maclean), the Mary River, the Richmond River (Lismore) as well as views of the Enoggera Reservoir.
- bridges including the Burnett River Bridge at Bundaberg, the bridge over the Wilsons River, Lismore and a lift span bridge over the Maroochy River.

views of Mount Crosby, Mount Maroon, Mount Morgan, Nimbin (including Nimbin Rocks), Uki and surrounds and Upper Cedar Creek Falls.

- the 'Queens of Colonies' tree, Caloundra.
- the 'Queensland and Northern Territory Aerial Services Ltd.' small propeller plane and hanger.

Some of the photographs were taken during tours by bike or foot in Northern N.S.W. and during a walk along Bribie Beach. There are also a number of photographs of rock climbing in the Glass House Mountains (eg. Mount Tibrogargan) and camping at Flinders Rock. These trips involved Ken Rogers and his friends and include views of the Glass House Mountains.

Author / Creator

Rogers, Ken

Description

Description 1 photograph album (black and white photographs)

Additional format Digital copies available for selected items

Locate OMOSBOX Box 24066 O/S

Access

Copyright status Out of copyright

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Ken Rogers photograph album (1932-1933)



Unit ID 33816/5

Date 1932-1933

Scope and content

This item contains a photograph album compiled by Ken Rogers with snakeskin-look covers. It mostly contains photographs of rock climbing at West Peak on Mount Barney, in the Glass House Mountains (eg. Mount Tibrogargan, Mount Coorowrin (Crookneck)) and at Mount Lindsay. There are also photographs of walking tours, the first from Maryvale through Spicers Gap to Mount Edwards and the second from Murwillumbah through Nimbin Rocks to Kyogle. The rock climbing trips and walking tours involved Ken Rogers and his friends. They include views of the Glass House Mountains.

Author / Creator

Rogers, Ken

Description

Description 1 photograph album (black and white photographs)

Additional format Digital copies available for selected items

Locate OMOSBOX Box 24066 O/S

Access

Copyright status Out of copyright

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[View the item](#)

Bert Salmon photographs (1927-1969?)

Unit ID 33816/6

Date 1927-1969?

Scope and content

This item contains photographs collected by Bert Salmon. The photographs are unnamed and undated, but may contain images of:

- Somerset Dam
- cruise ships on the Brisbane River.
- the Stinson plane wreck and Stockyard Creek track both in Lamington National Park.

Author / Creator

Salmon, Bert (Albert Armitage), 1899-1982

Description

Description 5 photographs (black and white photographs)

Locate OMBOX Box 24067

Access

Copyright status Multiple copyright statuses

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Other

Biographical history

Albert Armitage 'Bert' Salmon (1899-1982) was born in Queensland and started climbing while in his early 20s. He started the first climbing club in Australia around 1926, and he and Dr. Eric Dark, are the pre-eminent figures in influencing the development of climbing in Australia between World War 1 and World War 2. (Information taken from: Climbing History Oz blog, viewed 10 August 2023).

Bert Salmon 'Boar's Jaw' photographs (1930-1969?)

Unit ID 33816/7

Date 1930-1969?

Scope and content

This item contains photographs of Bert Salmon climbing at 'Boar's Jaw' in the Blue Mountains. The photographs were collected by Bert Salmon.

Author / Creator

Salmon, Bert (Albert Armitage), 1899-1982

Description

Description 5 photographs (black and white photographs)

Locate OMOSBOX Box 24110 O/S

Access

Copyright status Multiple copyright statuses

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Other

Biographical history

Bert Salmon started rock climbing in the Blue Mountains, west of Sydney, in the early 1930s. (Information taken from: Climbing History Oz blog, viewed 10 August 2023).

Bert hated climbing with a rope, the Queensland climbers were staunch free soloists so adapting to rope climbing wasn't really something he liked (Description supplied with photographs).

Robert J. Waring photographs (1949-1963?, bulk 1950-1951)

Unit ID 33816/8

Date 1949-1963?, bulk 1950-1951

Scope and content

This item contains photographs collected by Robert J. Waring of:

- rock climbing at Mount Tibrogargan in the Glasshouse Mountains, mostly on the 'Funnel' and 'Mast' of the mountain.
- rock climbing at Kangaroo Point, Brisbane, and Emu Creek.
- a photograph of a raised wooden hut at Emu creek.

It is not known who took most of the photographs, however Geoff Broadbent, Jon Stephenson, Bob W, Ron Mandsley and R.J. Waring have been attributed to some. The photographs are mostly black and white.

Author / Creator

Waring, Robert J.

Description

Description 13 photographs (black and white photographs, colour photographs)

Locate OMBOX Box 24067

Access

Copyright status Multiple copyright statuses

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Raoul Mellish scrapbook (1949-2008?, bulk 1960-1969?)

Unit ID 33816/9

Date 1949-2008?, bulk 1960-1969?

Scope and content

This item contains a variety of material compiled by Raoul Mellish:

- photographs of rock climbing at Mount Barney, Mount Beewah, Mount Coorowrin (nicknamed Crookneck), Mount Warning and Flinders Peak.
- photographs of views of Mount Barney, Mount Beewah, Mount Coorowrin, Mount Ernest, Mount Lindsay, Mount Maroon, Mount May, Mount Tibrogargan and Flinders Peak.

photograph of Raoul Mellish practicing shotput in his senior year at school, 1946?

- newspaper clippings, photographs and a cartoon (by John Garnsey) about Raoul Mellish and other members of the Toowong rowing team.
- newspaper clippings about a night time climb by Raoul Mellish and Reg. Ballard of Mount Coorowrin, Mount Beewah and Mount Tibrogargan all in the one night.
- sketches by Raoul Mellish of the Old University Hut at Mount Barney.
- photographs of the New University Hut at Mount Barney.
- extract from Dr. F.W. Whitehouse's letter of 1949 about rock types at Mount Barney and Mount Lindsay.
- sketch by Raoul Mellish of the Morning Star over Beewah.
- circular emblem used for celebrations of the Brisbane Catholic Bushwalking Club Inc.'s 50th anniversary.
- material about a commemorative plaque set on Mount Barney by the Brisbane Catholic Bushwalking Club.
- material about a training day run by the Brisbane Catholic Bushwalking Club at Ivory's Rocks, near Flinders Peak.
- newspaper articles on climbing accidents in Mount Barney and at the Glasshouse Mountains.
- photographs at Mount Buffalo, Victoria and Mount Kosiosko, New south Wales, both in winter.
- sticker bearing the emblem of the Brisbane Catholic Bushwalking Club.
- newspaper clippings about Bernard O'Reilly's discovery of the Stinson (plane) in 1934.
- photographs of Raoul Mellish's fiancée Patricia Mary Hetherington.
- watercolour titled 'River born home' of the bend of the Brisbane River at Yeronga by Raoul Mellish.
- clipping and photograph about Raoul Mellish's resignation as vice-president of the Brisbane Catholic Bushwalking Club in 1961.

Author / Creator

Mellish, Raoul

Description

Description 1 scrapbook

Locate OMOSBOX Box 24066 O/S

Access

Copyright status Multiple copyright statuses

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Other

Biographical history

Raoul Mellish (1928-) is an artist and former director of the Queensland Art Gallery (Q.A.G.).

(2 digital)

Series 3: Other material (1950-2005?, bulk 1950-1974)

Series number 3

Series title Other material

Date 1950-2005?, bulk 1950-1974

Scope and content

This series contains a range of other material associated with rock climbing collected by Michael Meadows during his research:

- Brisbane Climbing Club training notes.
- letter about communists in the 'Brisbane Climbing Club written by club member/s.
- Brisbane Rockclimbing Club climbing guides.
- Brisbane Rockclimbing Club badge.
- Mount Barney logbook.
- field guides titled 'Guide to rockclimbs in the Glasshouse Mountains' and 'Whitinbah wafers : a South-East Queensland crag'.
- climbing ephemera.

Description

Description 1 1 set of notes, 1 letter, 1 folder of climbing guides, 0 1 (badge,) 1 logbook, 2 field guides, 1 folder of climbing ephemera

Locate OMBOX Box 24067; OMOSBOX Box 24110 O/S

Access

Access restrictions Unrestricted access

Copyright status In copyright

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Items in this series:

Brisbane Climbing Club training notes (1950-1951)

Unit ID 33816/10

Date 1950-1951

Scope and content

This item contains original Gestetner waxed paper imprints of information sheets for rock climbing training courses run by the Brisbane Climbing Club, 1950-1951.

Author / Creator

Brisbane Climbing Club

Description

Description 1 set of notes

Locate OMOSBOX Box 24110 O/S

Other

Biographical history

The Brisbane Climbing Club was the first climbing club in Brisbane. It started in April 1950 by climbers in the Brisbane Bush Walkers Club and the University of Queensland Bushwalking Club. It folded barely 8 months later. (Information taken from: Climbing History Oz blog, viewed 10 August 2023)

The notes were given to Michael Meadows by John Comino to assist in Michael Meadow's research. John Comino died in 1989.

Brisbane Climbing Club 'anti-communist' letter (1950)

Unit ID 33816/11

Date 1950

Scope and content

This item contains a photocopy of a 1 page letter addressed 'Confidential. To all members of The Brisbane Climbing Club'. The letter accuses unnamed members of the club as being communists and at the same time asks for their resignation from the club. It was written on 21 September 1950. The letter is from 9 members of the The Brisbane Climbing Club, the signatures of these members are at the bottom of the letter.

Author / Creator

Brisbane Climbing Club

Description

Description 1 letter

Locate OMBOX Box 24067

Other

Biographical history

The Brisbane Climbing Club was started in April 1950 by climbers in the Brisbane Bush Walkers Club and the University of Queensland Bushwalking Club. It folded barely 8 months later when some members accused other members of being communists who could not be 'trusted' to safeguard your life, an important attribute in a climbing companion while rock climbing. (Climbing History Oz blog, viewed 10 August 2023)

This was in a time when there was great fear and suspicions around Communism and those who followed its ideals.

Brisbane Rockclimbing Club climbing guides (1966?)

Unit ID 33816/12

Date 1966?

Scope and content

This item contains climbing guides created by the Brisbane Rockclimbing Club that describe climbing:

- on The Story Bridge.
- at Kangaroo Point cliffs.
- in Bowen Terrace.
- on Mount Tibrogargan, Mount Beewah, Mount Coorowrin (nicknamed Crookneck) of the Glasshouse Mountains.
- on Mount Greville, in the Moogerah Peaks National Park.
- in Fassifern Valley, in the Scenic Rim.
- in Emu Creek.
- on Mount Barney.
- on Mount Lindsay.
- Mount Marron, 12 km west of Rathdowney.
- in Binna Burra.

Included are examples of how the grading system was converted, route notes and maps.

Author / Creator

Brisbane Rockclimbing Club

Description

Description 1 folder of guides

Locate OMBOX Box 24067

Other

Biographical history

The Brisbane Rockclimbing Club was originally founded in 1965, but was re-established in its present form in 1987.

Brisbane Rockclimbing Club badge (1969?)

Unit ID 33816/13

Date 1969?

Scope and content

This item contains a material badge with the text "BRC" and a picture of a gorilla-like figure

climbing.

Author / Creator

Brisbane Rockclimbing Club

Description

Description 1 badge

Locate OMBOX Box 24067

Other

Biographical history

The Brisbane Rockclimbing Club was originally founded in 1965, but was re-established in its present form in 1987.

Mount Barney logbook (1969-1970)

Unit ID 33816/14

Date 1969-1970

Scope and content

This item contains a logbook predominately about trips up Mount Barney including names of individuals and organisations who made the ascent and their experiences. The details have been added by a large number of people.

Description

Description 1 logbook

Locate OMBOX Box 24067

Guide to rockclimbs in the Glasshouse Mountains : SE. QLD (1970?)

Unit ID 33816/15

Date 1970?

Scope and content

This item contains a small booklet titled 'Guide to rockclimbs in the Glasshouse Mountains'. The booklet contains maps. The creator is unknown, as is the date the guide was written.

Description

Description 1 field guide (36 pages)

Locate OMBOX Box 24067

Other

Biographical history

The guide was given to Michael Meadows by Rick White to assist in Michael Meadow's research.

Whitinbah wafers : a South-East Queensland crag (1974?)

Unit ID 33816/16

Date 1974?

Scope and content

This item contains a rockclimber's guide to crack rock climbing at the Whitinbah wafers, a rock feature made of well weathered rhyolite (rock) in the Numinbga Valley. The guide contains:

- a description of the rock formation.
- directions to the site, as well as a rough map.
- a map with climbing routes numbered and described in detail in the accompanying key.

Each climbing route is named after a sweet treat, be it a cake, biscuit or lolly.

The guide was written by Rhys Davies and Trevor Gynther.

Author / Creator

Davies, Rhys;

Gynther, Trevor

Description

Description 1 field guide

Locate OMBOX Box 24067

Other

Biographical history

The guide was given to Michael Meadows by Trevor Gynther to assist in Michael Meadow's

research.

Climbing ephemera (1935-2005?)

Unit ID 33816/17

Date 1935-2005?

Scope and content

This item contains a range of ephemera associated with climbing and climbing equipment:

- small climbing catalogues and brochures showing the evolution of climbing gear.
- an article by Nora Dimes published in The Queenslander Annual, 1935.
- an old school 'opinion piece' on bolting routes v's traditional climbing where you take all your gear and place it as you climb (Description supplied with collection).

Some of the material is photocopied.

Description

Description 1 folder of ephemera

Locate OMBOX Box 24067