

SAFA 323

**A Guide to the Records of the
Robert S. Niven fonds
(F 479)**

**Saskatchewan Archives Board
2007**

**PRIVATE RECORDS
AUTHORITY DESCRIPTION**

**Saskatchewan Archives Board
Authority Record**

**Individual (PA 374)
Niven, Robert S., [190-?]-**

About this records creator:

Authorized Heading Niven, Robert S., [190-?]-

**Biographical Sketch /
Administrative History** Robert S. Niven worked for the Engineering Department of the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) Company at surveying and construction jobs in the Nipawin, Webb, Melfort, Eagle Hill Creek, Hatton, Asquith and Meadow Lake areas of Saskatchewan between 1925 and 1929.

Niven continued to work with the CPR in Arrowwood, Alberta in 1929. He was living in Victoria, British Columbia in 1989.

Variant Name R.S. Niven

Sources *AMICUS Authorities* – No entry found.

Letter dated 13 February, 1989 which accompanied photographs donated to the Saskatchewan Archives

CAIN No. 218461

Archival records linked to this records creator:

F 479 Robert S. Niven fonds

FONDS DESCRIPTION

Saskatchewan Archives Board Records Description

F 479

Robert S. Niven fonds

About these records:

Title of Records: Fonds	Robert S. Niven fonds
Dates of Creation	1925-1929
Dates of Accumulation	1925-1929
Physical Description	29 photographs
Link to Authority	<p>Robert S. Niven worked for the Engineering Department of the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) Company at surveying and construction jobs in various parts of Saskatchewan between 1925 and 1929. Niven was living in Victoria, British Columbia in 1989.</p> <p>See: Niven, Robert S., [190-?]-</p>
Direct Acquisition from Records Creator	Robert Niven donated these records to the Regina office, Saskatchewan Archives in one accession in 1989: R89-047 (February 21, 1989).
Scope and Content	<p>This fonds consists of photographs taken by Robert Niven between 1925 and 1929 while working on various surveying and construction jobs in the Nipawin, Webb, Melfort, Eagle Hill Creek, Hatton, Asquith and Meadow Lake areas Saskatchewan. The images depict Canadian Pacific Railway surveying parties, survey and construction equipment, trestle bridge construction and winter working conditions.</p> <p>No series have been identified in the fonds.</p>
Access Restrictions	Records open for research use.
Terms Governing Use	Use, publication and/or reproduction of records are subject to terms and conditions of the <i>Copyright Act</i> .
Reference Tools	SAFA 323 consists of a fonds description and item descriptions of photographs. Item level descriptions of photographs are also available in electronic format. Please consult reference archivist for assistance.
Associated Material	The Provincial Archives of Alberta holds additional parts of this fonds. See CAIN No. 218461.

Physical Condition note	Records are in good physical condition.
Accruals	No further accruals are expected.
Source of Description	Content of the fonds. Letter in accessions file dated 13 February 1989.
Notes	Location for retrieval: Regina-Hillsdale.
Former Codes	R-A33741 to R-A33749
Consulting the Records	To consult the records, visit or contact the Regina office.
Arrangement Note(s)	No arrangement has been applied to the records.

Photos

<i>Call Number</i>	<i>Description of Image</i>	<i>Geographic Location</i>	<i>Date of Image</i>
R-A33741(1)-(2)	"CPR Survey Party. Orin Party. Lunchtime on first day out." (1) Men gathered around firepits eating lunch. (2) A group of Canadian Pacific Railway surveyors in front of a horse drawn wagon.	Nipawin, SK ?	1925
R-A33742	A man stands near surveying equipment. "Believe this to be Herb Gardiner, one time hockey player with the Montreal Canadians, working as an instrument man on a CPR survey around Webb, SK." - Robert Niven.	Webb, SK district	1926
R-A33743(1)-(2)	Construction of a trestle bridge over a tributary of the Carrot River.	Melfort, SK	1927
R-A33744(1)-(5)	(1)-(2) Construction of the CPR line requiring a trestle bridge over Eagle Hill Creek of approx. 120 feet. (3)-(5) Two people sit on a completed trestle bridge over Eagle Hill Creek.	unknown	1927
R-A33745	A group of men with surveying equipment ride in a horse-drawn wooden sleigh. One man wearing snowshoes stands behind the sleigh.	Hatton, SK district	1927
R-A33746	A man stands beside surveying equipment in a snowy field.	Saskatchewan	ca. 1927
R-A33747(1)-(7)	(1)-(3) A caterpillar tractor used to draw the elevating grader on the work of stripping top-soil for the purposes of building a crossing over shallow Bitter Lake. (4) CPR construction equipment. (5) Blasting rock, camp for workers in background. (6) A crossing in the process of being built at Bitter Lake. (7) W. Van Buskirk's outfit at Bitter Lake.	Hatton, SK district	1928
R-A33748(1)-(8)	(1) Construction workers on CPR equipment as they construct the CPR line during winter. (2) Men in horse drawn buggies, possibly transporting dirt. (3)-(8) Horses pull buggies and grading equipment during construction of the CPR line.	Asquith, SK	1927
R-A33749(1)-(2)	Surveyors camp out in tents, set up in the bush, at Meadow Lake during the winter. "The thermometer registered minus 52 degrees Fahrenheit."	Meadow Lake, SK	1929