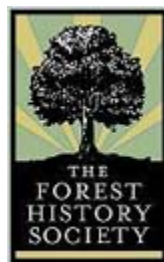


**Inventory of the
Biltmore Forest School Images, circa 1890s - 1988**



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Descriptive Summary

Title:	Biltmore Forest School Images,
Dates:	circa 1890s - 1988
Creator:	Biltmore Forest School
Abstract:	<p>Dr. Carl Alwin Schenck founded the Biltmore Forest School on George Vanderbilt's Biltmore Estate in Asheville, North Carolina, in 1898 and served as its sole director until the school closed in 1913.</p> <p>The collection includes twenty-two black-and-white and color images dating from the late 1890s to the late 1980s, with several undated images. The images show scenes of students in the field; events associated with a three-day forest fair Schenck organized in 1908 on the Biltmore Estate for the purpose of demonstrating the accomplishments and possibilities of practical forestry; former students gathered for an alumni event in 1966; buildings on the Biltmore Estate that were associated with the school; and structures comprising the Cradle of Forestry in America historic site near Asheville, North Carolina.</p>
Extent:	1 folder
Repository:	Forest History Society Library and Archives
Call Number:	7202
Language of Material:	Material in English

Historical Note

Dr. Carl Alwin Schenck founded the Biltmore Forest School on George Vanderbilt's Biltmore Estate in Asheville, North Carolina, in 1898 and served as its sole director until the school closed in 1913.

The school's curriculum focused on providing practical forest management field training supplemented with traditional classroom lectures in silvicultural theory. To provide the practical training, Schenck took his students on extended field trips to various regions of the United States and Europe so that they could observe firsthand different types of silvicultural operations and methods of forest management. Students usually attended the school for a one-year term, and upon completion of their studies most students sought employment with private lumber companies. The Biltmore Forest School closed in 1913 due to declining interest in the program.

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In the 1910s, the Vanderbilts sold portions of land comprising their Biltmore Estate in Asheville, and parts of the forested tracts were later incorporated into the Pisgah National Forest. The U.S. Forest Service dedicated in 1966 a tract of the forest's Pisgah Ranger District to commemorate the birthplace of forestry in the United States and the establishment of the Biltmore Forest School on the Vanderbilts' North Carolina estate. In 1968, an act passed by the U.S. Congress established the Cradle of Forestry in America national historic site on this dedicated tract of national forest land. At the site, rehabilitated and reconstructed buildings form part of a living history exhibit. Forest trails meander among managed forestry plots illustrating nursery techniques, tree planting practices, and selective harvesting methods from the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. The site also has a number of interpretive museum exhibits that trace the history of forest management and forestry education on the Biltmore Estate in Asheville and more generally in the southern Appalachian Mountain region of the United States.

Collection Overview

The collection includes twenty-two black-and-white and color images dating from the late 1890s to the late 1980s, with several undated images. The images show scenes of students in the field; events associated with a three-day forest fair Schenck organized in 1908 on the Biltmore Estate for the purpose of demonstrating the accomplishments and possibilities of practical forestry; former students gathered for an alumni event in 1966; buildings on the Biltmore Estate that were associated with the school; and structures comprising the Cradle of Forestry in America historic site near Asheville, North Carolina.

Collection Arrangement

1. Photographs, circa 1890s-1988

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

No restrictions.

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Subject Headings

Biltmore Estate (Asheville, N.C.)

Biltmore Forest School -- History.

Foresters -- United States -- Biography.

Forestry schools and education -- North Carolina.

Forests and Forestry -- United States -- History.

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Historic sites -- North Carolina -- Cradle of Forestry in America.

Schenck, Carl Alwin, 1868-1955.

Vanderbilt, George Washington, 1862-1914.

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

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Processing Information

Processed by Michele Justice, June 2002

Encoded by Amanda Ross, January 2009

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Detailed Description of the Collection

1. Photographs, circa 1890s-1988.