Beaton Institute Archives

Finding Aid - Hugh Francis MacKenzie fonds (MG 6.23)

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Repository:	Beaton Institute Archives
Title:	Hugh Francis MacKenzie fonds
ID:	MG 6.23
Date:	1905-1986 (date of creation)
Language:	Scottish Gaelic
Physical description:	12 cm of textual records

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

"Hughie" MacKenzie was born in 1895 in Rear Christmas Island, Cape Breton. The "seanachaidh" of the Gaelic Society of Cape Breton, he taught classes in the Gaelic language and had a weekly Gaelic radio program at the time of his death in Sydney in 1971. In addition to his fluency in Gaelic, he played the bagpipes and violin, as well as composing many Gaelic songs. He was the son of the bard Archie Sheumais MacKenzie and brother to Archie Alex MacKenzie.

Scope and content

Fonds consists of papers that include:

b. Two copies of the history of the first settlers in Iona including MacKenzie's version of the story of their first encounter with the Mi'Kmaq ; a story in English and set in Christmas Island. Many cultural practices are discussed ; a speech addressed to The Nova Scotia and Canadian Associations of Social workers ; two songs in English.

Notes

Title notes

Finding aids

File list is available: MG 6.23 [http://beaton.cbu.ca/atom/MGs/6/MG6.23.pdf]

Other notes

- **Publication status**: Published
- **Status description**: Final
- **Institution identifier**: BI

Access points

- MacKenzie, Hugh Francis (subject)
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Celtic Music (subject)
- Celtic Music Collections (subject)
- Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
- Literature Bardachd/Poetry (subject)
- Songs Bardachd (subject)
- Songs Gaelic (subject)
- Scottish Catholic Society of Canada (subject)
- Literature Stories (subject)
- Iona (N.S.) (place)
- Grand Narrows (N.S.) (place)
- Christmas Island (N.S.) (place)

Collection holdings

File: MG 6.23 1 - Correspondence 1965-1966 ; Gaelic Words and Phrases

Title: Correspondence 1965-1966 ; Gaelic Words and Phrases

<u>ID</u>: MG 6.23 1

Date: 1965-1966 (collection) (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains correspondence between MacKenzie and Sr. Margaret Beaton regarding song collection and song composition. Also included is a number of words and phrases Hugh does not believe to be in use in Scotland.

Physical description: 5 mm. of textual records

Language of the material:

English

Scottish Gaelic

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- MacKenzie, Hugh Francis
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
- Songs Gaelic (subject)
- Songs Bardachd (subject)
- Bards (subject)
- Beaton Institute (subject)
- Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
- Sydney (N.S.) (place)

File: 6.23 2a - Gaelic Songs and Folklore

Creator: MacInnis, Joseph J.MacKenzie, Hugh Francis

Title: Gaelic Songs and Folklore

<u>ID</u>: 6.23 2a

Date: 1943 (date of creation)

Date: 1940-1971 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Materials include:

Duan na Callaig (a New Year's Rhyme recited to gain admittance to a house)

Another New Year's Rhyme, "Dh'Fhalbh Iain Mór Spàgach"

A speech in Gaelic to be delivered upon the 100th birthday of Catherine MacLean (née Gillis) a native of Boularderie, at the time living in Boisdale.

A speech for the Nova Scotia and Canadian Board of Social Services honoring Sr. Jane MacKenzie of Christmas Island (Hugh Francis' aunt) and the Sisters of St. Martha, Antigonish.

Hugh Francis' original compositions:

"Gearrain a'Mhairt" (The Cow's Complaint)

"Oran a'Bhata" (Cane Song).

"An Té a Chaill a Ghàidhlig" (The Woman Who Lost Her Gaelic) by The Bard MacDermaid.

"Oran Pheadair Chaimbeul" (Peter Campbell's Son)

"Uan Beag Màiri" (Mary's Little Lamb). Multiple copies.

"Eilean mo Ghaol" (Island of my Love).

"Oran a'Chùil" (Song of the Rear). Also known as "Bu Deònach Leam Tilleadh".

"Oran Togail a'Bhuntata" (Song of the Potato Picking).

"Màiri Lurach" (Lovely Mary).

"Oran an Graf Zepplin" with photocopy.

"Oran na Mohawks". Attributed to John "Iagain Iain Òig". Typed by Joseph J. MacInnis from a version that appeared in the "Steel-Worker".

"Oran Bal Chatriona" by Archie Sheumais MacKenzie. About a hay cutting frolic held at the author's brother Hector's farm. "Oran Teagasg nan Sgoil" by Archie Sheumais MacKenzie. About teaching school on Eskasoni mountain. Copies of other Gaelic Songs: "Sine Chaluim Bhain" "Caidil gu Lo" "Annie Laurie" translated into Gaelic. "Eilean Fraoich" "Crooning Melody" also known as "Dean Cadalan Samhach" by John MacRae, an immigrant to North Carolina. Musical notation is included.

Physical description: 3 cm of textual records

Language of the material:

Scottish Gaelic

Note [generalNote]:

More information on Hugh Francis MacKenzie's songs can be found in "Mar a b'Àbhaist Bhith 's a'Ghleann: As it was in the Glen" Compiled by Kim Ells. Ed. Catriona Parsons. Siol, Antigonish,2012.

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
- Songs Bardachd (subject)
- Songs Gaelic (subject)
- Bards (subject)
- Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
- Grand Narrows (N.S.) (place)
- Sydney (N.S.) (place)

Item: MG 6.23 2b - A True Story but an Unusual One

Title: A True Story but an Unusual One

ID: MG 6.23 2b

Scope and content:

Item is an account of a religious experience that happened repeatedly within the MacKenzie house. The story also mention many other members of the Christmas Island/Benacadie area.

Physical description: 2 p. of textual records

Language of the material:

English

Note [generalNote]:

Recording of Hugh Francis telling the story can be found at: T-35_a

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
- Folklore Stories/Naidheachdan (subject)
- Folklore The Supernatural (subject)
- Religion Catholic (subject)
- Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)

File: MG 6.23 3 - May Ann MacKenzie's Diaries

Creator: MacKenzie, May (Mary) Ann

Title: May Ann MacKenzie's Diaries

Title [statRep]: May Ann MacKenzie

<u>ID</u>: MG 6.23 3

Date: 1950-1955 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains 3 diaries including information regarding births, deaths and marriages in Christmas Island and Iona Parishes as well as a record of the many visits made and received.

Physical description: 3 cm. of textual records

Language of the material:

English

Note [generalNote]:

May Ann MacKenzie was the wife of Hugh Francis MacKenzie.

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
- Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
- Christmas Island (N.S.) (place)
- Grand Narrows (N.S.) (place)
- Iona (N.S.) (place)
- Grand Narrows (N.S.) (place)

File: MG 6.23 4 - "Oran na h-Aoise" ; Letter from Archie Alex MacKenzie

Creator: MacKenzie, Archie Alex

Title: "Oran na h-Aoise" ; Letter from Archie Alex MacKenzie

<u>ID</u>: MG 6.23 4

Date: c1970 (collection) (date of creation)

Date: c1970 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a printed copy of Archibald J. MacKenzie's "Oran na h-Aoise" and a letter from Archie Alex MacKenzie congratulating Hugh Francis on his speech delivered in Gaelic in the Provincial House of Assembly.

Physical description: 2 p. of textual records

Language of the material:

Scottish Gaelic

Publication status:

Published

- MacKenzie, Hugh Francis
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
- Songs Bardachd (subject)
- Songs Gaelic (subject)
- Bards (subject)
- Language Revival (subject)
- Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
- Sydney (N.S.) (place)
- Sydney (place)

Item: MG 6.23 5 - Draft of a Letter from John James Bryden to Bishop Cameron

Creator: Bryden, Fr. John James

Title: Draft of a Letter from John James Bryden to Bishop Cameron

Title [statRep]: John James Bryden

<u>ID</u>: MG 6.23 5

Date: c1907 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a draft of a letter from Bryden to the bishop requesting prayers after hearing he had been called to continue his studies in Montreal.

Physical description: 1 p. of textual records

Language of the material:

Scottish Gaelic

Note [generalNote]:

Author, John James Bryden was born in Benacadie Glen in 1881. His grandfather was Thomas Bryden, an English soldier and aristocrat who converted to Catholicism while serving in Spain. Disinherited for converting, Thomas emigrated to Cape Breton where he settled and established a mill. Fr. John James himself operated the mill before commencing his studies.

Fr. Bryden didn't go to Montreal. Instead, he became the first seminarian from the Diocese of Antigonish to complete his studies in Halifax. He was parish priest in many places but spent the most time posted in Grand Mira and finally, Mabou where he died in 1948.

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
- Religion Catholic (subject)
- Literature Religious (subject)
- Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
- Halifax (N.S.) (place)

File: MG 6.23 6 - Minutes [Board of Trade, Boisdale and Iona] ; Presentation in Support of Iona being the site of the Highland Village

<u>Title</u>: Minutes [Board of Trade, Boisdale and Iona] ; Presentation in Support of Iona being the site of the Highland Village

<u>ID</u>: MG 6.23 6

Date: 1956 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File consists of minutes to meetings of the Iona and Boisdale branch of the Board of Trade. Issues which feature prominently are the presence of Major C. I. N. MacLeod and raising fund for the creation of the Highland Village in Iona.

The presentation in support of Iona being the location for the Highland Village was authored by A.D. MacKinnon, Presbyterian minister at Little Narrows.

Physical description: 12 p. of textual records

Language of the material:

English

Note [generalNote]:

A history of the Highland Village was presented to the Village Society by Dr. Robert Morgan in 1988 and can be found in MG 18.82 A 46.

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
- Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
- Highland Village/Baile nan Gàidheal (subject)
- Iona (N.S.) (place)

Item: MG 6.237 - Last Will and Testament of Eric F. MacKenzie

Title: Last Will and Testament of Eric F. MacKenzie

<u>ID</u>: MG 6.23 7

Date: 1962 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is the last will and testament of Bishop Eric Francis MacKenzie, an auxiliary bishop to the Archdiocese of Boston.

Physical description: 6 p. of textual records

Language of the material:

English

Note [generalNote]:

Bishop MacKenzie was a cousin to Hugh Francis MacKenzie.

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
- Religion Catholic (subject)
- Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
- Boston (Mass.) (place)

Item: MG 6.23 8 - Bodaich Rolaisteach Gleann na Suidheag

<u>Title</u>: Bodaich Rolaisteach Gleann na Suidheag

Title [parallel]: The Ludicrous Old Men of Berry Glen

Title [statRep]: Archibald J (Archie Sheumais) MacKenzie

<u>ID</u>: MG 6.23 8

Date: n.d. (reproduction) (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a reproduction of a story written by Hugh Francis MacKinnon's father, Archibald J. (Archie Sheumais) MacKenzie of Rear Christmas Island.

Physical description: 6 p. of textual records

Language of the material:

Scottish Gaelic

Note [generalNote]:

The story was later made into a play and performed by the St. Kentigern Branch of the Scottish Society of Canada in Sydney.

Publication status:

Published

- MacKenzie, Archibald J. (subject)
- Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)

- Literature Stories (subject)
- Literature Plays (subject)
- Scottish Catholic Society of Canada (subject)

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• Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)

File: MG 6.239 - Early Nova Scotia Highland Village Material; Castle Bay Dramatic Association Program; "Telephone Lines" Bulletins

<u>Title</u>: Early Nova Scotia Highland Village Material ; Castle Bay Dramatic Association Program ; "Telephone Lines" Bulletins

<u>ID</u>: MG 6.23 9

Scope and content:

File consists of:

The nova Scotia Highland Village first stationary with letterhead.

A pamphlet detailing the origin and mission statements of the Highland Village and calling for donations.

A program for the play "An Gaol a Bheir Buaidh" (The Love That Wins), presented by the Castle Bay Drama Association.

"Telephone Lines", a bulletin published by Maritime Telegraph and Telephone Company 1951-1959.

Physical description: 1 cm of textual records

Language of the material:

English

Scots

Note [generalNote]:

The play is based on a play by the same name written by Hector MacDougall of Glasgow, Scotland an published in 1912. It was popular in Cape Breton.

Publication status:

Published

- MacKenzie, Hugh Francis
- MacKenzie, Hugh Francis
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
- Highland Village/Baile nan Gàidheal (subject)
- Literature Drama (subject)
- Literature Plays (subject)
- Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
- Highland Societies (subject)

- Maritime Telegraph and Telephone Company (subject)
- Castle Bay (place)
- Sydney (place)
- c1912-1959 (place)
- Sydney (place)

Item: MG 6.23 10 - The Christmas Island Bell

Title: The Christmas Island Bell

ID: MG 6.23 10

Date: c1890 (publication) (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a newspaper published by Malcolm MacDougall, Merchant, Christmas Island.

Physical description: 4 p of textual records

Language of the material:

English

Note [generalNote]:

Malcomm MacDougall (1813-1898) was the principal merchant in Christmas Island parish for more than sixty years. His success came from trading with Little Bras d'Or rather than Arichat, which was a much more laborious, time saving venture. He also benefited from trade with Newfoundland firms, shipping farm animals and equipment from Cape Breton and mainland Nova Scotia.

Physical condition:

Fragile

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- MacDougall, Malcom
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Literature Periodicals (subject)
- Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
- Christmas Island (N.S.) (place)

File: MG 6.23 11 - Newspaper Clippings

Creator: MacKenzie, Hugh Francis

<u>Title</u>: Newspaper Clippings

<u>ID</u>: MG 6.23 11

Date: 1955-1971 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Material includes:

A typed manuscript of the anecdotes of pioneer Neil "Goillician" MacNeil by Hugh Francis MacKenzie.

The above, as appearing in an article in the Weekly Cape Bretoner, January 25, 1958.

An article concerning the history of Christmas Island by Hugh F. MacKenzie.

An article by MacKenzie about the history of Christmas Island Catholic church.

Two obituaries for Hugh Francis MacKenzie.

Physical description: 5 mm. of textual records

Language of the material:

English

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- MacKenzie, Hugh Francis (subject)
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
- Literature Periodicals (subject)
- Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
- Christmas Island (N.S.) (place)
- Grand Narrows (N.S.), Sydney (N.S.) (place)

Item: MG 6.23 12 - Tribute to Hugh Francis MacKenzie

<u>Title</u>: Tribute to Hugh Francis MacKenzie

<u>ID</u>: MG 6.23 12

Date: 1971 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item

Physical description: 2 p. of textual records

Language of the material:

English

Scottish Gaelic

Note [generalNote]:

This tribute was read during "Oidhche Leis na Bàird", the annual concert of the Gaelic Society of Sydney.

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- MacKenzie, Archie Alex (subject)
- MacKenzie, Hugh Francis (subject)
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
- Bards (subject)
- Literature Bardachd/Poetry (subject)
- Songs Bardachd (subject)
- Songs Gaelic (subject)
- Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
- Gaelic Radio (subject)
- Sydney (N.S.) (place)
- Sydney (place)

Item: MG 6.23 13a - Domhnull Clibisteach

Title: Domhnull Clibisteach

Title [parallel]: Awkward Donald

Title [statRep]: Archibald J (Archie Sheumais) MacKenzie

<u>ID</u>: MG 6.23 13a

Date: 1928 (publication) (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a humorous story by Hugh Francis MacKenzi's father, Archibald (Archie Sheumais) MacKenzie.

Physical description: 1 p. of textual records

Language of the material:

Scottish Gaelic

Related material:

The story also appears in Cape Breton's Magazine, translated by Joe Neil MacNeil:

https://goo.gl/UzWqqV and in Teachdaire nan Gaidheal Vol. 4, No. 6: https://goo.gl/1bxQYq

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
- Folklore Stories/Naidheachdan (subject)
- Literature Stories (subject)
- Bards (subject)
- Literature Periodicals (subject)
- Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
- Antigonish (N.S.) (place)

Item: MG 6.23 13b - Letter from Edinburgh Regarding Thatched Houses in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland

Title: Letter from Edinburgh Regarding Thatched Houses in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland

<u>ID</u>: MG 6.23 13b

Scope and content:

Item is a photocopy of a typed letter from Ian Cranford of the School of Scottish Studies providing historical and architectural information requested by Hugh Francis in order to build a replica of a thatched house at the Highland Village.

Physical description: 4 p. of textual records.

Language of the material:

English

Note [generalNote]:

The letter is dated 1962.

Note [generalNote]:

A note by Archie Alex states that he was acquainted with Pref. John MacInnes. The letter states that MacInnes is requesting Gaelic folklore from Cape Breton.

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
- Highland Village/Baile nan Gàidheal (subject)
- Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
- Thatched Houses (subject)
- Iona (N.S.) (place)

Item: MG 6.23 14 - Notebook of Original or Photocopied Songs

Creator: MacKenzie, Hugh Francis

Title: Notebook of Original or Photocopied Songs

Title [statRep]: Hugh Francis MacKenzie

<u>ID</u>: MG 6.23 14

Date: c1960 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a is a notebook containing the Hugh Francis MacKenzie's own songs.

Physical description: 1 cm. of textual records

Language of the material:

Scottish Gaelic

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
- Songs Bardachd (subject)
- Songs Gaelic (subject)
- Bards (subject)
- Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)

File: MG 6.23 15 - Typed Songs an Photocopies

<u>Title</u>: Typed Songs an Photocopies

Title [statRep]: Hugh Francis MacKenzie

<u>ID</u>: MG 6.23 15

Date: c1960 (collection) (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains many songs some of which are local compositions and some Scottish compositions which had been introduced in the early 20th century.

Physical description: 1 cm. of textual records

Language of the material:

Scottish Gaelic

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- MacKenzie, Hugh Francis
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
- Songs Gaelic (subject)
- Songs Bardachd (subject)
- Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
- Sydney (N.S.) (place)

File: MG 6.23 16 - Miscellaneous Writings in English

Creator: MacKenzie, Hugh Francis

Title: Miscellaneous Writings in English

Title [statRep]: Hugh Francis MacKenzie

<u>ID</u>: MG 6.23 16

Date: n.d. (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Materials include:

MacKenzie's English song compositions.

A speech for the meeting of the Nova Scotia and Canadian Associations of Social Workers in which his aunt Jane (Sr. Alexandra) was honored.

The story of the courtship of shy bachelor Donald MacNeil. It is set in late 19th century Christmas Island and references many cultural practices.

Early history of the first settlers to the Barra Strait region including a version of the story of first contact with the Mi'kmaq. Incomplete. Two copies.

Physical description: 2 cm. of textual records

Language of the material:

English

Note [generalNote]:

See MG 6.23 2A for the Gaelic version of the speech to the Associations of Social workers.

Publication status:

Published

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Gàidhlig/Gaelic (subject)
- Folklore Customs (subject)
- Stòras Gàidhlig Cheap Breatuinn (subject)
- Sisters of St. Martha (subject)
- Christmas Island (N.S.) (place)
- Iona (N.S.) (place)