

Beaton Institute Archive

Finding Aid - Dr. Thomas Carter fonds (MG 21.39)

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Dr. Thomas Carter fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	Beaton Institute Archive
Title:	Dr. Thomas Carter fonds
Reference code:	MG 21.39
Date:	1970-1979 (creation)
Physical description:	90 Minutes and 69 seconds of sound recordings 16 photographs : col. and b&w ; cm or smaller 21 photographs: col.slides

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Thomas Carter was born in 1949 in Salt Lake City, Utah. Carter studied History at Brown University in Rhode Island, and continued his education at the University of North Carolina- Chapel Hill and Indiana University where he completed graduate work in Folklore. Dr. Carter's interest in folk music and ethnomusicology resulted in undertaking fieldwork in Nova Scotia. In 1970, Carter and his friend Hal Cannon, traveled to Inverness County, Cape Breton and connected with the Beaton family through Isabelle Kennedy, a nurse from the area. Dr. Carter later shifted his area of study and teaching to vernacular architecture, focusing on building traditions of Utah's Mormon population, and filled the role of Building Historian for the State of Utah. Professor Carter retired in 2010 from full-time teaching, but continues to research and publish.

Custodial history

The donation made to the Beaton Institute was received on September 2022, the collection made by Tom Carter during a trip to Board cove and surrounding areas in Inverness county in 1971.

Scope and content

The fonds consists of images and sound recordings of the Beaton and Kennedy family in the Board Cove. The recordings feature John Beaton playing the fiddle, while family is heard speaking with Tom Carter about various topics pertaining to Cape Breton. There is a change in language between English and Canadian Gaelic from individuals on the recordings. The fiddle playing is Scottish-Canadian in style, while some are Scottish fiddle music. The recordings include small conversations between reels and songs, descriptions and origins of the music's is also discussed. The photographs are of the Beaton family house and farm, highlighting rural life in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia. The photos also show the boarder Board cove community and Inverness county.

Notes

Note [Sources]

McEntee Peg, The stories buildings tell, <https://continuum.utah.edu/features/the-stories-buildings-tell/>, 2015

Memorial University, Thomas Carter, <https://www.mun.ca/folklore/programs/graduate/graduate-field-school/2012-past-graduate-field-school/thomas-carter/> 2012

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
-

Access points

- Carter, Thomas Dr. (subject)
 - Graphic material (documentary form)
 - Sound recording (documentary form)
 - Fiddle Music (subject)
 - Cape Breton fiddlers (subject)
 - Gaelic Songs (subject)
 - Gaelic - Audio (subject)
 - Broad Cove (NS) (place)
 - Inverness (NS) (place)
 - Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Collection holdings

Series: MG 21.39-A - - Photographs

Title: - Photographs

Reference code: MG 21.39-A

Date: 1970 - 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The photographs contain images of the Beaton family, Broad Cove and the broader inverness county.

Physical description: 16 photographs : col. and b&w ; 16cmx11cm or smaller

Publication status:

Published

Item: MG 21.39-A-1 - Putting up hay like a good folklorist

Title: Putting up hay like a good folklorist

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-A-1

Date: August 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consist of Tom Carter helping John Allen gather hay to put in the barn.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col; 12cmx9cm

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-A-2 - John Allen Beaton, Toms Fiddle

Title: John Allen Beaton, Toms Fiddle

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-A-2

Date: 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consist of John Allen is playing Tom Carters fiddle in the Beaton family home.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col; 12cmx9cm

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-A-3 - Alec Beaton, Toms' fiddle

Title: Alec Beaton, Toms' fiddle

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-A-3

Date: August 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consist of Alec Beaton playing Tom Carters fiddle in the Beaton family home in 1979.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col; 12x9cm

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-A-4 - Tom and Ann Carter with Beaton children

Title: Tom and Ann Carter with Beaton children

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-A-4

Date: August 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consist of Tom and Ann Carter with the Beaton children walking down a dirt road in Broad Cove, with neighboring homes in the background.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col; 12cmx9cm

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-A-5 - Beaton Family TC back row, Front Gaber; Lucy Stein (my friend) Ann Carter

Title: Beaton Family TC back row, Front Gaber; Lucy Stein (my friend) Ann Carter

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-A-5

Date: August 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consists of Tom Carter in the Beaton family home with Gaber, Lucy Stein and Ann Carter.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col; 12cmx9cm

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-A-6 - Tom Carter outside on the Beaton farm

Title: Tom Carter outside on the Beaton farm

Title [statRep]: the title is written by archivist

Reference code: MG 21.39-A-6

Date: 1971 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consist of a black and white photograph of Tom Carter outside the Beaton family home.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col; 12cmx9cm

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-A-7 - The Beaton Family in front of their home

Title: The Beaton Family in front of their home

Title [statRep]: the title is written by archivist

Reference code: MG 21.39-A-7

Date: 1971 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item that consist of the Beaton Family in front of their home in Broad Cove, Nova Scotia.

Physical description: 1 photograph: b&w; 16cmx11cm

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-A-8 - Broad Cove Marsh

Title: Broad Cove Marsh

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-A-8

Date: 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consist of a cliff in Broad Cove Marsh as the sun is setting, there is a beach at the base of the cliff with waves coming into the shore.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col; 12cmx9cm

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-A-9 - Tom with brown university professor, Robert Jay

Title: Tom with brown university professor, Robert Jay

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-A-9

Date: 1971 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consists of Tom and a professor, Robert Jay from Brown University in Broad Cove during in the spring of 1971.

Physical description: 1 photograph B&W; 12cmx9cm

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-A-10 - Alec Beaton

Title: Alec Beaton

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-A-10

Date: 1970 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consist of Alec Beaton playing the fiddle in the Beaton's kitchen in front of a window.

Physical description: 1 photographs B&W; 9cmx12cm

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-A-11 - Tommy and Isabelle Kennedy, eating Halloween Fuarag

Title: Tommy and Isabelle Kennedy, eating Halloween Fuarag

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-A-11

Date: 1970 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consists of Tom Carter and Isabelle Kennedy, eating Halloween Fuarag, a traditional Gael dessert typically eaten around Halloween and is used to tell the future by different objects put into the dessert.

Physical description: 1 photograph B&W; 12cmx9cm

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-A-12 - Pal: The Kennedys

Title: Pal: The Kennedys

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-A-12

Date: 1970 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consists of a photograph of a Border Collie owned by Isabelle and John Kennedy sitting in the carriage of horse drawn wagon.

Physical description: 1 photograph : col; 12cmx9cm

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-A-13 - Alec and John Allen Beaton

Title: Alec and John Allen Beaton

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-A-13

Date: 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consists of Alec and John Beaton playing the fiddle together.

Physical description: 1 photograph B&W; 12cmx9cm

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-A-14 - One of the Beaton Children Broad Cove Marsh

Title: One of the Beaton Children Broad Cove Marsh

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-A-14

Date: 1970 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consist of a young boy and son of the Beaton family, the black and white image shows the boy wearing rubber boots, a wool hat, ripped pants and a flannel shirt with a button up sweater tied at the waist with a leather belt.

Physical description: 1 photograph B&W; 12cmx9cm

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-A-16 - John Kennedy, Broad Cove Marsh

Title: John Kennedy, Broad Cove Marsh

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-A-16

Date: 1970 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consists of John Kennedy standing by his horse drawn wagon with his dog in the carriage during the fall, he is surrounded by trees and to his left there is a body of water.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col; 12cmx9cm

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-A-17 - One of the Beaton children

Title: One of the Beaton children

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photograph

Reference code: MG 21.39-A-17

Date: 1970 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consists of a unnamed son of the Beaton's standing between a doorway holding a rag, the door is open behind him and the kitchen is visible.

Physical description: 1 photograph B&W. 12cmx9cm

Publication status:

Published

Item: John Allen Beaton Moving Hay

Title: John Allen Beaton Moving Hay

Title [statRep]: The title is written by archivist

Date: 1971 (date of creation)

Publication status:

Published

Series: MG 21.39-B - -Photo Slides

Title: -Photo Slides

Title [statRep]: Title written on back of the photos

Reference code: MG 21.39-B

Date: 1970 - 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The photos contain images of the Beaton family, neighbors and property, as well as the broader Inverness county.

Physical description: 21 photographs : col.sides

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Graphic material (documentary form)
-

Item: MG 21.39-B-1 - Ann Carter standing ashore Broad Cove

Title: Ann Carter standing ashore Broad Cove

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-B-1

Date: August 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item is one photograph of Ann Carter outside in standing by the beach in Broad Cove

Physical description: 1 photograph : col.slide

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Graphic material (documentary form)
 - Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-B-2 - Beaton young son

Title: Beaton young son

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-B-2

Date: August 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consists of a photograph of one of the Beaton's sons leaning on a fence with sheep's wool behind him.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col.slide

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-B-3 - Isabelle Kennedy, Mabou CBTitle: Isabelle Kennedy, Mabou CBTitle [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.Reference code: MG 21.39-B-3Date: 1970 (date of creation)Scope and content: The item consists of a photograph of Isabelle Kennedy wearing a pink hat and blue coat outside while she is folding a quilt.Physical description: 1 photograph: col.slidePublication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-B-4 - Isabelle KennedyTitle: Isabelle KennedyTitle [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.Reference code: MG 21.39-B-4Date: 1979 (date of creation)Scope and content: The item consists of a photograph of Isabelle Kennedy wearing a pink hat and blue coat outside while she is folding a quilt outside.Physical description: 1 photograph: col.slidePublication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-B-5 - Beaton SheepTitle: Beaton SheepTitle [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-B-5

Date: 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consist of a photograph of the sheep fenced in at the Beaton Farm, The sheep are being rounded up for sheering done by the John Allen Beaton and his brother.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col.slide

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-B-6 - Alec: John Allen Beaton

Title: Alec: John Allen Beaton

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-B-6

Date: 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consist of a photograph of John Allen working on sheering and processing sheep's wool with his brother (unnamed).

Physical description: 1 photograph: col.slide

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-B-7 - Inverness house, Cape Breton

Title: Inverness house, Cape Breton

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-B-7

Date: 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: : The item consists of a photograph of a rural abandoned home in Inverness county, Cape Breton. The windows and doorway are boarded up and shingles are falling from the roof. There is fencing visible from the back of the house on the left just before the mountains.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col.slide

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-B-8 - Farm and view ont toward Broad Cove

Title: Farm and view ont toward Broad Cove

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-B-8

Date: 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consist of a photograph of a farm near the shore in Board cove, Nova Scotia. The farmhouse is a dark faded red with a small storage barn next to it done in the same colour. There is land and small islands in the water across from the farm.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col.slide

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-B-9 - Farm near the shore in Board Cove

Title: Farm near the shore in Board Cove

Reference code: MG 21.39-B-9

Date: 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: Item consists of a photograph of a farm in Broad Cove, showing a house with a blue truck parked in the front, two barns on the property and a person walking down the driveway. The property is on the water with trees lining a portion of it while the rest is open field.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col.slide

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-B-10 - Near Creginish, Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia

Title: Near Creginish, Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia

Reference code: MG 21.39-B-10

Date: 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consists of a photograph of a abandoned home near Creginish, with over grown grass surrounding it.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col.slide

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-B-11 - Inverness co, Nova Scotia

Title: Inverness co, Nova Scotia

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-B-11

Date: 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consists of a photograph of a home and barn that overlooks the ocean in Inverness county, Cape Breton.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col.slide

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-B-12 - Beaton's House

Title: Beaton's House

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-B-12

Date: 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consists of a photograph of the exterior Beaton House, white with green trim, cape cod style home built circa1905.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col.slide

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-B-13 - Beaton's Barn

Title: Beaton's Barn

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-B-13

Date: 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consists of a photograph of the exterior of the Beaton barn, faded cedar with red trim built circa 1905.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col.slide

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-B-14 - John Allen Beaton, hay wagon

Title: John Allen Beaton, hay wagon

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-B-14

Date: 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consists of a photograph of John Beaton standing on his hay wagon outside carrying hay in 1979.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col.slide

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-B-15 - Beaton's Barn, timbering

Title: Beaton's Barn, timbering

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-B-15

Date: 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consists of a photograph of Timber in the Beaton's farm showing how parts of the barn were built.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col.slide

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-B-16 - Horse decoration, Beaton's

Title: Horse decoration, Beaton's

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-B-16

Date: 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consists of a photograph of one of the Beaton's horses, with tack on, about to go out and pull hay.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col.slide

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-B-17 - Putting up lose hay in the Beaton's barn

Title: Putting up lose hay in the Beaton's barn

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-B-17

Date: 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consists of a photograph of John Allen and Alec putting up loose hay in the Barn.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col.slide

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-B-18 - Haying, Beaton brothers

Title: Haying, Beaton brothers

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-B-18

Date: 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consists of a photograph of John Allen and Alec putting up hay in the loft to the Beaton's barn

Physical description: 1 photograph: col.slide

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-B-19 - Timber farming, Beaton barn

Title: Timber farming, Beaton barn

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-B-19

Date: 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consists of a photograph of timber that was cut for use in the barn and on the Beaton's property.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col.slide

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-B-20 - Farm, cape Breton

Title: Farm, cape Breton

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-B-20

Date: 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consists of a photograph of timber that was cut for use in the barn and on the Beaton's property.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col.slide

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

Item: MG 21.39-B-21 - Farm, cape Breton

Title: Farm, cape Breton

Title [statRep]: The title is written on back of the photo.

Reference code: MG 21.39-B-21

Date: 1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content: The item consists of a photograph of a nearby farm located in Inverness county, Cape Breton.

Physical description: 1 photograph: col.slide

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Broad Cove (NS) (place)
-

-Sound Recordings

Title: -Sound Recordings

Publication status:

Published

Item: oml_carter_107_010101_pres.20130425 2

Title: oml_carter_107_010101_pres.20130425 2

Scope and content: The item consists of 31 minutes of audio recordings of Tom Carter with the Beaton and Kennedy family, while fiddle music is being played, Tom starts an interview with Isabelle Kennedy. Tom asks about what strings are used on the Beaton's fiddle and the prices around the area. John Beaton tunes his fiddle and a unknown female starts to tell Tom a story about a police officer. Then a story of John Beaton's father being a famous fiddle player in the inverness area is brought up, and how both John and his father are both left handed. : Isabelle asking someone to sit down, talking about America losing their tune, a woman saying their all talented, Older woman asking if there was talent in Toms family, older woman asking tom what is his language (other than English) Tom replies he only speaks English and the older woman says she speaks Gaelic and English and some French. Tom is asked if he enjoys the music being played and if he would like to hear a Scottish poem.

Publication status:

Published

Item: oml_carter_106_020101_pres.20130425

Title: oml_carter_106_020101_pres.20130425

Scope and content: The item consists of 28 minutes of audio recordings, most of the dialog is not auditable and is broken up by fiddle playing by John Beaton.

Publication status:

Published

Item: oml_carter_107_020101_pres.20130425

Title: oml_carter_107_020101_pres.20130425

Publication status:

Published
