

University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections

Finding Aid - Skapti Arason fonds (Mss Sc 154 (A.96-43))

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Language of description: English

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Skapti Arason fonds

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Summary information

Repository: University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections

Title: Skapti Arason fonds

ID: Mss Sc 154 (A.96-43)

Date: [ca. 1900] (date of creation)

Physical description: 0.01 m of textual records.

Language: English

**Dates of creation,
revision and deletion:**

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Skapti Arason, born in Iceland in 1850, immigrated to Quebec in 1874 with 360 other Icelanders on a ship operated by the Allen Ship Lines. He proceeded to Toronto with the majority of the other Icelanders. In 1875, the Canadian government sent Arason to scout out settlement prospects in the new province of Manitoba. It is believed that Arason was one of the first Icelanders to visit Manitoba. Upon arrival in Winnipeg, Arason and three other Icelanders traveled up the Red River to the western shore of Lake Winnipeg before choosing to begin a settlement near present day Gimli. In 1881, due to repeated crop failure, Arason left the settlement in the Interlake and resettled on a homestead near what would become the town of Glenboro. Arason farmed in the Glenboro area until his death in 1903.

Custodial history

The fonds was donated by Herman Arason, Skapti Arason's grandson, in 1996.

Scope and content

The fonds consists of a copy of a memoir by Skapti Arason, one of the first Icelandic settlers in Manitoba. The seven-page memoir tells of Skapti's immigration to Canada, his subsequent travels to Manitoba, the settling of the Icelandic community on the western shore of Lake Winnipeg and the founding of the town of Glenboro. The Icelandic Department of the University of Manitoba has an Icelandic version of the same memoir. It is not known who translated the memoir.

Notes

Title notes

Restrictions on access

There are no restrictions on this material.

Finding aids

An on-line finding aid is linked to this description.

We greatly acknowledge the financial support of the Manitoba Department of Culture, Heritage and Tourism and the Heritage Grants Advisory Council in the creation of this finding aid.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** published

Access points

- (documentary form)

Series descriptions

Series Mss Sc 154 (A.96-43)-MSS SC 154 (A.96-43): Skapti Arason fonds,

Date: ca. 1900 (date of creation)

Physical description: (1 folder)

Physical location: Archives Vault

Physical location: University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
	Otherlevel - Memoir, ca. 1900			1 1