

University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections

Finding Aid - Skapti Arason fonds (MSS SC 154)

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Skapti Arason fonds

Table of contents

Summary information	3
Administrative history / Biographical sketch	3
Scope and content	3
Notes	4
Series descriptions	4

Summary information

Repository: University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections

Title: Skapti Arason fonds

ID: MSS SC 154

**Accession
[alternative]:** A1996-043

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

Physical description: 0.5 cm of textual records

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

Note [generalNote]: Preferred citation: Skapti Arason fonds

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 to 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. It is believed that this memoir has been translated, as the Icelandic version of the same

memoir can be found in the Icelandic Department of the University of Manitoba. It is not known who translated the memoir.

Notes

Title notes

Conditions governing use

There are no restrictions on the use of this material.

Finding aids

A finding aid can be generated from this description.

Accruals

No further accruals to this fonds are expected.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
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Series descriptions

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
	File - Memoir	ca. 1900		A1996-043, File 0001