Guide to Collection

Davis, Carol Beery

Carol Beery Davis Family Collection, ca. 1940s-1985

MS 182

8 boxes
8 linear ft. Processed By: Gladi Kulp

& Loraine Spear
March 2000
Revised: January 2002

Acquisition: The collection was donated by Carol Beery Davis in January 1989, and facilitated by her daughters, Sylvia and Connie, Acc. no. 88-65. Constance Davis donated three articles describing the wreck of the Islander in January, 2002, Acc. no. 2002-3.

Access: The collection is unrestricted.

Copyright: Request for permission to publish or reproduce material from the collection should be discussed with the librarian.

Processing: An inventory was included with the collection but the documents were in no apparent order. Materials were organized according to format or subject and placed in folders. Fragile items were housed in mylar. A finding aid is available. Trevor Davis negatives were added to the Trevor Davis Photograph Collection, PCA 97.
Biographical Note

Carol Beery Davis was a musician, poet, writer, and piano teacher. She was born in Hicksville, Ohio in 1890, and studied piano in her childhood. She came to Alaska in 1920 to work as an organist for a silent movie theater. In 1922 she married Trevor M. Davis, a photographer. The Davises had four daughters: Sylvia, Shirley, Constance, and Patricia.

Mrs. Davis wrote music including the Alaska Flag Song and many pieces based on Tlingit melodies. She also wrote poetry and established the Poetry Society of Alaska, which acclaimed her Poet Laureate 1967-69. She also wrote articles and contributed them to fourteen magazines and newspapers. Among her many awards she was voted Alaska’s Mother of the Year by American Mother’s Golden Rule Committee, 1952, and Woman of the Year by Juneau Rotary Club, 1965. She received an honorary degree from the University of Alaska Juneau in 1983. In 1984, Mrs. Davis and her husband, Trevor, were co-recipients of a state Alaskan of the Year silver anniversary honor.

Still in evidence today is her effort to restore the old Kimball theater organ and place it in the State Office Building lobby. Carol Beery Davis died in 1990 at age 99 at the Juneau Pioneers Home.

Scope and Contents Notes

This collection includes items from the life of Carol Beery Davis, Trevor Davis, and their daughters in Juneau, Alaska. The bulk of the materials cover the period from the 1940’s to the 1980’s. Correspondence of both Carol and Trevor Davis, original and copied music scores written by Mrs. Davis, music programs and concerts, three scrapbooks, logbooks from their boat Cordelia, and metal printing plates for some of her published sheet music are in the collection. A Poetry Society notebook, papers related to poetry, an article written by her about the Alaska State Museum, and various honors, awards, and certificates are included. There is also a book of music called Motion Picture Moods and a book of Organist’s Photo-Play Instructions.

Items related to Trevor Davis are business correspondence, papers from his photography store, Snap Shoppe, various awards and honors, a list of negatives, and an article written by him entitled A Trip Up the Taku River. Family business, legal documents, genealogies, newspaper clippings, photographs, tapes, papers concerning Cedric Davis, a map of Douglas, and a survey for the homestead claim of Louis Lund complete the collection.

Inventory

Carol Beery Davis

Box 1

Folder 1 Correspondence
Folder 2  Music Programs and Memorabilia  
Folder 3  Indian Music, Original Scores  
Folder 4  Indian Music, Copies of Original Scores  
Folder 5  Indian Music, Published Music  
Folder 6  Music Manuscripts and Music Paper  
Folder 7  Honors, Certificates and Awards  
Folder 8  Poetry and Poetry Society  
Folder 9  Autograph Party Pages  
Folder 10  Articles  
Folder 11  Alaska State Flag Song  

**Trevor Davis**  
Folder 12  Correspondence  
Folder 13  Business Correspondence  
Folder 14  Snap Shoppe  
Folder 15  Awards, Honors, and Certificates  

**Box 2**  
Folder 1  Trevor Davis, Sterling Composition Book, List of Negatives  
Folder 2  Trevor Davis, A Trip Up the Taku  

**Davis Family**  
Folder 3  Correspondence  
Folder 4  Family Biographical Material  
Folder 5  Beery/Davis Genealogy  
Folder 6  C.B. Davis and Trevor Davis Awards and Honors  
Folder 7  Davis Enterprises Business  

http://www.library.alaska.gov/hist/hist_docs/finding_aids/MS182.pdf
Folder 8  Legal Documents
Folder 9  Cedric Davis
Folder 10  Miscellaneous
Folder 11  Photographs
Folder 12  Newspaper Clippings
Folder 13  Newspaper Clippings
Folder 14  Tapes:
“Native Land Problems” Number I
“Capt. G. David Gitkov” Interview

Box 3  Cordelia Logs
Folder 1  Guest Book
Folder 2  Guest Book
Folder 3  Travel Log
Folder 4  Travel Log
Folder 5  Pilot House Log
Folder 6  Pilot House Log
Folder 7  Pilot House Log
Folder 8  Log Book
Folder 9  Travel Log
Folder 10  Pilot House Log
Folder 11  Pilot House Log
Folder 12  Pilot House Log Book
Folder 13  Travel Log
Folder 14  Business Cards for “Cordelia D”
Box 4 Scrapbooks
Blue scrapbook
Black scrapbook
Poetry Society Notebook

Box 5 (Located in MS Oversize)
Wooden Scrapbook

Box 6 Oversize Items and Music Books
Organist’s Photo-Play Instructions
Motions Picture Moods (Music)
Oversize Indian Music Manuscripts
Genealogy of Pearce and Horn Branches of the Wolfert Webber Family

Box 7 (Heavy)
Sheet Music Plates

Box 8
Three articles on the sinking of the Islander, 1901. Acc. no. 2002-3

“The Wreck of the Islander,” by Carol Beery Davis (11 pp. typescript)
“The Islander,” by Trevor M. Davis (3 pp. typescript)
[Personal account of the wreck], by Charles Ross. Copied from the Reedley Exponent, Reedley, CA], (2 p. typescript)

Oversize Folder: Located in MS X-Oversize Map Case in Vault

Plat of Douglas Townsite Alaska U.S. Survey No. 1180; Survey commenced Nov. 1, 1917 - Survey completed Nov. 30, 1917