

Carl John Sacarisen Diary
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2023

Contact information: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm95083293>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms008018>

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2008
Revised 2023 July

Collection Summary

Title: Carl John Sacarisen Diary

Inclusive Dates: 1898-1899

ID No.: MSS83293

Creator: Sacarisen, Carl John

Extent: 2 items

Extent: 1 container

Extent: .2 linear feet

Language: Collection material in Norwegian

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm95083293>

Summary: Cook for the Lapland-Yukon Relief Expedition. Diary kept by Sacarisen during an expedition to relocate reindeer from Norway to Alaska.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Sacarisen, Carl John, 1875-1968.

Sakariassen, Carl Johan, 1875-1968. Carl Johan Sakariassen papers. 1898-1899.

Organizations

Lapland-Yukon Relief Expedition.

Manitoba Expedition.

Subjects

Eskimos.

Miners--Yukon.

Reindeer farming--Alaska.

Reindeer herders--Alaska.

Reindeer herders--Norway.

Reindeer herding--Alaska.

Reindeer--Alaska.

Reindeer--Norway.

Places

Alaska--Description and travel.

Norway--Description and travel.

Titles

Carl John Sacarisen papers

Acquisition Information

The diary of Carl John Sacarisen, cook for the Lapland-Yukon Relief Expedition, was given to the Library of Congress by Dana L. Baldwin and Virginia R. Rausch in 1995.

Processing History

The diary of Carl John Sacarisen was described in 1997 by Harry G. Heiss. The finding aid was revised in 2008. The finding aid was updated in 2023 by Maria Farmer as part of a division-wide remediation project by the Inclusive Description Working Group.

Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of John Carl Sacarisen in these papers and in other collections in the custody of the Library of Congress is reserved. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division for further information.

Access and Restrictions

The diary of Carl John Sacarisen is open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Carl John Sacarisen Diary, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The diary of Carl John Sacarisen spans the years 1898-1899 and describes his experiences as a cook on the Lapland-Yukon Relief Expedition. Sacarisen, a member of the Kven people, a Norwegian ethnic minority, was recruited to serve as one of the cooks on an expedition organized by the Presbyterian missionary Sheldon Jackson and financed by the United States government. Jackson's original intent was to introduce reindeer husbandry to Native people of Alaska by importing over five hundred reindeer from Norway along with over seventy Norwegian herders. The project, alternately known as the Manitoba Expedition, was also intended to relieve a perceived famine among the Yukon goldminers and Native people of Alaska. The expedition was a disaster. Sacarisen discusses the incompetence of the leadership which resulted in the loss of most of the herd. The original diary, written in Norwegian, is accompanied by a photocopy made by the Library of Congress in 1995. The diary was published in 2002 as *The Yukon Relief Expedition and the journal of Carl Johan Sakariassen*, edited by Virginia R. Rausch and Dana L. Baldwin. It was translated into English by James P. Nelson.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Diary, 1898-1899
BOX 1	Original
BOX 1	Photocopy