

**Rita Stadig collection, 1900-2009**

**MCC-00218**

**Finding Aid**

**Prepared by Kathryn Donahue, September 2010**  
**Revised and updated by Anne Chamberland, September 2010**  
**Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes**  
**University of Maine at Fort Kent**  
**Fort Kent, Maine**

**Title:** Rita Stadig collection

**Creator/Collector:** Stadig, Rita B.

**Collection number:** MCC-00218

Shelf list number: UM-218

**Dates:** 1900-2009

**Extent:** 8 folders (.25 cubic feet)

**Provenance:** Material was acquired from Dr. Richard Cost, UMFK President, given to him by Rita Stadig, 2009.

**Language:** English.

**Conservation notes:** None.

**Access restrictions:** No restrictions on access.

**Physical restrictions:** None.

**Technical restrictions:** None.

**Copyright:** Copyright has not been assigned to the Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes

**Citation:** Rita Stadig collection, MCC-00218, Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent

**Separated materials:** Not applicable.

**Related materials:** Not applicable.

**Location of originals:** Not applicable.

**Location of copies:** Not applicable.

**Published in:** Not applicable.

**Biographical information:**

Rita is the daughter of Walter Stadig and Bertha Saucier, granddaughter of Olaf Stadig. She has 3 brothers, Bennett, Kennit, and Willis Stadig. She lived in Soldier Pond, Maine. As of today, Rita resides in Houlton, Maine She has written many books just to name a few: *Aroostook War*; *The St. John Valley Story*; *The Ski Marathoners*; *Our Maine Heritage*. Rita never married. Rita's father, Walter Stadig, was a game warden, a

lumberman, he was the inventor of the rotary snow plow. He also participated in the Bangor to Caribou ski marathon of 1936-1937. Walter died in 1952.

***Scope and content:***

This collection consists of a variety of papers and photographs pertaining to the Stadig family and the history of the St. John Valley. The materials cover topics such as the lumber industry, Sweden and the Swedish colony of Aroostook County, World War II and the Fish River; Fort Kent, Wallagrass, and Madawaska are also represented by items in the collection. Some photographs are photocopied. The collection also contains a number of clippings.

The collection has been foldered in the order in which it arrived (in one large envelope).

***Inventory:***

Folder 1: Photograph album. 1 item.

- Page 1: Silvio Pinette, Route #11 (sepia); Bennett Stadig (sepia); Albrien Ouellette (photocopy). 3 images.
- Page 2: The Daigles (newspaper clipping with short article); photograph of unidentified man (photocopy); photograph of unidentified man (photocopy). 3 items.
- Page 3: Photograph of unidentified man; photograph of unidentified man (photocopy); photograph of unidentified man (sepia); photograph of Gilman Saucier Arthur's son (photocopy). 4 images.
- Page 4: Photograph of unidentified man; photograph of a photograph of an unidentified man; photograph of a photograph of an unidentified man, Buckroe Beach, Va.; photograph of a photograph of an unidentified man. 4 images.
- Page 5: Photograph of Steven Beaulieu with short article (photocopy); photograph of Wendell Stadig and Gary Stadig (photocopy); photograph of a photograph of an unidentified man. 3 images.
- Page 6: Photograph of an unidentified man (photocopy); photograph of a photograph of Perce Beech; photograph of Dentist Mac Bouchard and State Police Lt. Edward Doyle of Fort Kent (photocopy); photograph of Elmer White (photocopy, sepia). 4 images.
- Page 7: Photograph of a photograph of Rep. Joseph A. Laliberte; photograph of Gilman Saucier Arthur's son (photocopy); Photograph of 3 unidentified men sitting on a couch (color photocopy). 3 images
- Page 8: Photograph of Kermit Stadig (photocopy); 2 photographs of Bennett Stadig. 3 images.

Folder 2: Papers. 11 items.

- Item 1: "Life in the Colony 1873."
- Item 2: Photocopied image of buildings, a body of water, and a crown.

- Item 3: Clipping with image and description of William Widgery Thomas.  
Item 4: Map of Sweden, "Lapland Country."  
Item 5: "Address of Welcome" by Nils Olsson.  
Folder 2: Papers (cont'd)

- Item 6: "New Sweden Decennial July 23, 1870-1880."  
Item 7: "War in Brief Form;" "James Bacon 1822;" "John Baker at Portland."  
Item 8: "Dean and Kavanaugh Travel to the Valley;" "Simon Hebert;" Rev. Charles C. Collins;" "John Baker."  
Item 9: "The Margaret Fenlason's Records."  
Item 10: Typescript, portion of a larger work, p. 53-70 (photocopy). Includes sections entitled "The Telephone Company and the Shareholders;" "Lumbering on the Fish River and Wallgrass;" "The Fort Kent Mill;" "The Eagle Lake Mill Company;" "Joseph Laliberte Purchase;" "The Wallgrass Club Association." Includes images.  
Item 11: Typescript, portion of a larger work, p. 109-119 (photocopy). Includes sections entitled "Valley Events: Captain Romain Michaud of Frenchville and Romain Michaud of Wallgrass;" "Joe Gregoire of Fort Kent: Duke of Wallgrass was Tuff on Bears;" "The Fort Kent Cindarella;" "Travel Routes to the St. John Valley;" "The Forest Waterways;" "Levi Dow of Fort Kent, the Caribou Sportment Show of 1930;" "Deer Jacking 1934 by Bill Geagan."

Folder 3: "1755 Profile on Settlers." 16 p.

Folder 4: Photograph and clippings album. 1 item.

- Cover: Photograph of Walter Stadig (photocopy).  
Cover, verso: Photograph of Louis Daigle; photograph of Dale Willis Stadig. 2 images.  
Page 1: Article: the story of John Stadig, also known as the "Alcatraz Eel."  
Page 2: Photographs of three unidentified men. 3 images.  
Page 3: Article on John Stadig, continued from page 1 of album.  
Page 4: Photograph of Dale Willis Stadig (photocopy); photograph of Louis Daigle (photocopy); photograph of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Perriault (photocopy). 3 images.  
Page 5: Photograph of Albrien Ouellette (photocopy); photograph of Gerald Perriault (photocopy); photograph of Steven Beaulieu (photocopy). 3 images.  
Page 6: Photograph of Pat Bouchard and Gordon Saucier (photocopy); article: "Tribute Paid War Dead." 2 items.  
Page 7: Article on Richard Joseph Desjardins; article on Dr. Leonide G. Toussaint; list: "Our Maine Heritage." 3 items.

- Page 8: Photograph of Bishop McCarty and Bishop Feeney (photocopy); photograph of an unidentified church (photocopy). 2 images.
- Page 9: Article on John Stadig, continued.
- Page 10: Photograph of an unidentified man (photocopy). 1 image.
- Folder 4: Photographs and clippings album (cont'd).
- Page 11: Photograph of an unidentified woman (photocopy); photograph of an unidentified woman (color). 2 images.
- Page 12: Article: "The Acadians and Vikings." 1 item.
- Page 13: Photograph "Repairing the Fire Damage, Wheelocks Mills, St. John Me." 1 image.
- Page 14: Photograph of Fr. Georges Plante (photocopy). 1 image.
- Page 15: Photograph of a house and a store. 1 image.
- Page 16: "Wallagress Pruests" (photocopy). 1 item.
- Page 17: Photograph of an unidentified 15-year-old girl (photocopy). 1 image.
- Page 18: Photograph of Iignes Sunditrom, 100 years old. 1 image.
- Page 19: Photograph of unidentified man in uniform; photograph of Olaf and Eric Millgard; photograph of a cabin with a horse and sleigh in front. 3 images.
- Page 20: Photograph of Jerry Perrault, 1969; photograph of an unidentified church in New Canada. 2 images.
- Page 21: Pages from a book: the outline, chapter 2. 1 item.
- Page 22: Photograph of an unidentified man (photocopy); photograph of a wedding party (photocopy). 2 images.
- Page 23: Photograph of Aldie Daigle; photograph of Kermit Stadig; photograph of Cleo Labby. 3 images.
- Page 24: Photograph of Dale Willis Stadig (photocopy); photograph of Kermit Stadig (photocopy). 2 images.
- Page 25: Photograph of St. Francis, 1922; photograph of Gerald Saucier. 2 images.
- Page 26: Photograph of an unidentified church (color); photograph of an unidentified girl in front of "Salada Tea"; photograph of Leo Daigle (color); photograph of a group of unidentified people in front of a cabin; photograph of Al the Fishman Vye (color). 5 images.
- Page 27: Photographs of a red cabin (color). 2 images.
- Page 28: Photograph of an unidentified group of people (photocopy). 1 image.
- Page 29: Photograph of a canoe on its side (color); photograph of the front of the red cabin (color). 2 images.
- Page 30: Photograph of the Reverend Joseph S. Marcoux (photocopy). 1 image.
- Page 31: Graduation photograph of an unidentified girl. 1 image.
- Folder 5: Letter and papers sent to Richard Cost, 2009. 4 items.
- Item 1: Rita Stadig to Mr. Cost, Jan. 27, 2009.

- Item 2: "Our Maine History" and photograph of Walter Stadig.
  - Item 3: 2 photographs: "A good biting day," "repairing fish nets."
  - Item 4: "Be it Remembered..." (manuscript); "My phone..." (manuscript); "Memoranda" (typescript).
- Folder 6: Papers and images. 8 items.
- Item 1: Rita Stadig to Dr. Cost, Oct. 24, 2009 (photocopy).
- Folder 6: Papers and images (cont'd).
- Item 2: "Our Maine Heritage."
  - Item 3: Photograph of Niger Bridge, 1915 (photocopy).
  - Item 4: Photograph of President Richard Cost, UMFK, and article.
  - Item 5: Photograph of "Our Granddaughter Aubrey;" photograph of Lars and Aubrey; photograph of Dawn.
  - Item 6: Graduation photograph of a girl (photocopy).
  - Item 7: 5 photographs of an advertisement for Dawn and bud's Murphy, NC log home.
  - Item 8: 5 photographs of the Allagash, 1900.
- Folder 7: Album. "Our Maine Heritage. Fish River 1900. My World." R. Stadig. 1 item.
- Page 1: Outline: Our Maine Heritage.
  - Page 2: Article: Lumbering on the Fish River and Wallagrass.
  - Page 3: Photograph: The Old Foot Bridge.
  - Page 4: Photograph: Dentist Mac Bouchard and State Police Lt. Edward Doyle of Fort Kent (photocopy).
  - Page 5: Photograph of an unidentified man and woman (photocopy).
  - Page 6: Map (photocopy).
  - Page 7: Photograph of an unidentified man and woman (photocopy). Same as page 5.
  - Page 8: Photograph of Joseph S. Marcous (photocopy).
  - Page 9: Photograph of river and houses (color).
  - Page 10: Photograph of the Pinkham store, horse and sleigh (photocopy, poor quality).
  - Page 11: Article: Major Dickey's records, 1818-1839.
  - Page 12: Photograph of an unidentified man wearing a hat and sunglasses (photocopy).
  - Page 13: Photograph of George Labby in his garden (photocopy).
  - Page 14: Photograph of Albert Daigle at Red River, 1914 (photocopy).
  - Page 15: Photograph of Sly Brook (photocopy).
  - Page 16: Photograph of cooks at Daigle Camps, Sly Brook (photocopy).
  - Page 17: Photograph of Daigle Mill on the west bank of Soldier Pond (photocopy).
  - Page 18: Article: Chapter 1, The Madawaska Territory 1755.
  - Page 19: Article: the blockhouse lease by the United States Government.
  - Page 20: Article: 1879, 1887, 1891, 1887.
  - Page 21: Article: 1934, 1943, 1945.

- Page 22: Article: 1879, 1887, 1891, 1887. Same as page 20.
- Page 23: Article: The Fish River Lumber Company.
- Page 24: Article: Lumbering on the Fish River and Wallagrass.
- Page 25: Article: "1696 three French wasrships with one hundred..."
- Page 26: Article: Travel routes to the St. John Valley.
- Page 27: Article: The Fort Kent Blockhouse.
- Page 28: Article: Life in the Colony 1873.
- Folder 7: Album. "Our Maine Heritage. Fish River 1900. My World." R. Stadig (cont'd).
- Page 29: Article: The Saint John Valley Indians.
- Page 30: 2 photographs of a mill and 2 horses pulling a sleigh (photocopies).
- Page 31: Article: The Wallagrass Settlers.
- Page 32: Photograph, possibly of an explosion (poor quality) (photocopy).
- Page 33: Article: Joseph Labby, 84, Dies in Connecticut.
- Page 34: 2 Photographs: "The Mill at Michaud," "The Labbe House."
- Page 35: Photograph of a horse and sleigh in front of a store (photocopy).
- Page 36: Photograph of three unidentified men at Sly Brook Camps (photocopy).
- Page 37: Photograph of a scene on Fall Bridge, 1914 (photocopy).
- Page 38: Photograph of Beaver Ranch at Stadig's Mill (photocopy).
- Folder 8: Album. "Our Maine. St. John River. My World to 2009." R. Stadig. Pages 27-43 of a book pasted into album. Last page contains a photocopy of a photograph. 1 item.

**Processing action:**

Folder 1: all photographs and copies of photographs were taken out of the album and inserted in clear plastic sleeves for preservation.

Folders 2 & 3: Archival quality staples were used instead of regular staples.

Folder 4: The album was dismantled. All images, articles, photos were unstapled and placed in plastic sleeves for preservation. The same order was kept as in the album.

Folder 5: archival quality staples were used

Folder 6: all documents and photographs were placed in clear plastic sleeves.

Folder 7 & 8: as is.

