

Collection Name:

Ingeborg O. Bergeim diaries, 1850-1987

Collection Number:

P1378

Extent:

1.6 cubic feet (4 archive boxes)

Scope and Content:

A collection of 52 notebooks (3,500 pages), which constitute the daily records of a woman from Surnadal who emigrated to the United States in 1880, married Peter Bergeim, and settled with him in Watertown, Dakota Territory. The first diaries are written in Norwegian, but beginning in 1903, are in English. They are quite introspective, covering her thoughts and her personal and family life. There are accounts of the Atlantic crossing and of an attempt at homesteading. The diaries were discovered by her son Joseph Bergeim (b. 1894), who translated the story of her early married life into a manuscript called "Ingeborg's Story," 1944. This work also includes a genealogy, a chronology of important events, Peter Bergeim's own autobiography, some family pictures, and a summary of the diaries.

Access Rights:

This collection is open to research.

Bibliographic Citation:

[Indicate the cited item here]. Ingeborg O. Bergeim Diaries. Norwegian American Historical Association, Northfield, Minnesota.

Box	Folder	Description
1	1	Diaries, letter of acknowledgment, 1887
1	2	Diaries, letters 1871-1880 Includes a photograph negative of Telstad.
1	3-11	Diaries, 1874-1898
1	12	Diaries, 1886 Introduction by Dordi Glaerum Skuggevik from "Utvandringshistorie fra Nordmøre: Stangvik og Surnadal Prestegjeld."
2	1-11	Diaries, 1903-1922
2A	1-22	Diaries (photocopies), 1880-1922

Topics include: Leaving Wisconsin (Folder 2), Homestead (Folder 3), "Headquarters" (Folder 4), and Watertown (Folder 5).

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| 3 | 1 | My Book is My Friend Today: The Private Writings of Ingeborg Bergeim (Paper by David Rolof, student at St. Olaf College, typescript 20 pages) |
| 3 | 2 | Ingeborg's Story Part II: Diaries of Her Early Married Life (1883-1888), 1944
By Joseph Bergeim, 1944 (typescript, 180 pages. Appendix includes photographs). |
| 3 | 3 | Four volumes, 1850-1907
Norwegian Bible (1907), Norwegian Songbook (1864), Norwegian New Testament (1899), Goldsmith's "Vicar of Wakefield" with Norwegian vocabulary (1850). |