Accession Sheet

Maine Folklife Center

Accession Number: 0780

Accession Date: T# 0655, 0656, C# 0657, 0658, P 0659, 0660, M #, CD 0166, 0167, 0168, 0169, 0170, 0171
Collection MF 003
Number:

Collection Name: Argyle Boom Project

Interviewer / Depositor: Susan Tibbetts and Ralph Cook

Narrator: Leon Bussell

Description: 0780 Leon Bussell, interviewed by Ralph Cook for FO 107, October and November 1973; by Susan Tibbetts for AY 125, October and November of 1975, UM Lambda Chi Alpha house, Orono, Maine. Bussell talks about log-sorting booms on the Penobscot River, especially Argyle Boom; hanging and taking in the booms; his own work along the shore; making rafts of the logs; kinds of rafts; dropping off; equipment and clothing; Captain Kidd’s buried treasure; steamboats and their use in river drives; rescues and drownings; work of boom scalers; Pea Cove and other booms; and boom-related buildings on White Squaw Island.

Interviews are part of a project that led to an issue of Northeast Folklore, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 158 pp. transcriptions and catalogs
Recording: mfc_na0780_cd0166_01-33, mfc_na0780_cd0167_01-22,
mfc_na0780_cd0168_01-19, mfc_na0780_cd0169_01-21, mfc_na0780_cd0170_01-05,
mfc_na0780_cd0171_01-24 290 minutes
Photos: P 0416 - P 0419, P 0425, P 0461, P 0490, P 0495, P 0508 - P 0510, P 0524, P 0566

Related Collections

& Accessions

Restrictions none
Description: 0781 Alfonse Martin and David Seymour, interviewed by Mary Beth O’Conner for FO 107, October 1 and 8 and November 7, 1973, Old Town, Maine. Martin and Seymour talk about log-sorting booms on the Penobscot River, especially Argyle Boom; river drives; Penobscot Lumber Association (PLA); logging company marks used for sorting logs at the boom; construction and operation of boom; various jobs related to sorting and rafting the logs; tool and equipment used; living conditions for workers; other booms such as Mexico, Pea Cove, and Nebraska. Also included: diagram of boom; notes on boat trip to location of Argyle Boom.

The interviews are part of a project that led to an issue of *Northeast Folklore*, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 192 pp. transcription and brief catalog
Recording: T 0662 - T 0665 / CD 0172 - CD 0175 209 minutes
Photograph: P 0425

Related Collections & Accessions

Restrictions none
Description: **0782 Victor Shorette**, interviewed by Leslie “Dusty” Carr for FO 107, October 2, 1973, Bradley, Maine. Shorette talks about log-sorting booms on the Penobscot River; logging companies; sorting long logs from pulp and spruce from hemlock and poplar, etc.; hanging and taking in booms.

The interview is part of a project that led to an issue of *Northeast Folklore*, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 195 pp. transcript with 2 pp. brief catalog
Recording: T 0666 / CD 0176 47 minutes
Photograph: P 0425

Related Collections
& Accessions
Restrictions none
**Description:** 0783 Felix Cote, interviewed by Mark LaFond for FO 107, October 6, 1973. Cote talks about log-sorting booms on the Penobscot Rive; the Pea Cove and Argyle booms; marks logging companies put on their logs; prize or unmarked logs; the sorting operation; rafting logs; working conditions; Penobscot Lumber Association (PLA); living conditions and recreation; origins of boom names. Also included: two diagrams.

The interview is part of a project that led to an issue of *Northeast Folklore*, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 20 pp. transcript, 3 pp. catalog, 2 pp. of diagrams
Recording: T 0667 / CD 0177 43 minutes
Photos: P 0425, P 0619

**Related Collections**
None

**Restrictions** none
**Description:** 0784 David S. Brown, interviewed by Kenneth Whitney for FO 107, October, 1973; by Susan Tibbetts for AY 125, November, 1975, Tenant’s Harbor, Maine. Brown talks about the Pea Cove log-sorting boom on the Penobscot River; his work on the boom in the summers of 1902-04 when he was 12 to 14 years old; the jobs of rafters, sorters, and runners; use of wedges to build rafts; meals; bosses; his marriage and work at Mt. Kineo; breaking up jams; daily pay; construction of boom and crib-work piers; buildings at Pea Cove; guiding; moose hunting; WWI enlistment and service. Also included: 1 map; 1 sketch.

The interviews are part of a project that led to an issue of *Northeast Folklore*, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 49 pp. transcript and 11 pp. brief catalog (62 pp. total)
Recording: T 0668 - T 0670 / CD 0178 - CD 0180 170 minutes

**Related Collections & Accessions**

Restrictions none
Description: **0786 Ernest Kennedy**, interviewed by Ken Whitney for FO 107, October and November, 1973; by Susan Tibbetts for AY 125, November, 1975; by Elizabeth Warner and Cindy Lamb for AY 125, October, 1975. Kennedy talks about the Argyle log-sorting boom on the Penobscot River; jobs such as checkers, runners; tools such as hookaroons, jiggers; method of tying joints to buoy; marks and prize (unmarked)logs; spring floods and jams; bosses Isaac Mann, Alonzo Mann, Wallace Drake, Walter Buzzell, Stephen Buzzell, and others; PLA; function of sorting gap, beats, joints, check line, swings, shear boom, buoys, dropping off; steamboats such as Toscah; cooks, cookees, and chambermaids; meals; description of kitchen and cooking methods; White Squaw Island boom house; pay; sleeping quarters; Indian and Irish workers; leisure activities such as gambling, music, dances, log rolling contests.

The interviews are part of a project that led to an issue of *Northeast Folklore*, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 126 pp. transcription and catalog
Recording: **T 0673 - T 0677 / CD 0181 - 0186** 328 minutes
Photos: **P 0416, P 0425, P 0537**
Description: 0787 J. Kenneth LaFlamme, interviewed by Ralph Cook for FO 107, October 10, 1973, Hancock, Maine. LaFlamme talks about the Argyle log-sorting boom on the Penobscot River; his work at age 12 and 13 on the boom rafting logs; PLA; bosses; pay; lice and wet clothes; cook house and bunk house; music. Accession also includes correspondence and handwritten notes from LaFlamme.

The interview is part of a project that led to an issue of Northeast Folklore, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 61 pp. transcription and catalog
Recording: T 0678 / CD 0217 63 minutes
Description: **0788 Emile Leavitt**, interviewed by Mark LaFond for FO 107, October 25, 1973, Old Town, Maine. Leavitt talks about the Argyle log-sorting boom on the Penobscot River; construction of boom piers; checking, rafting, dropping off and other aspects of boom operation; use of wedges in assembling rafts; use of pickeroon; swings; the back way drive; meals and living conditions; Pea Cove and Nebraska booms; his work building dams for Great Northern Paper Co.

The interviews are part of a project that led to an issue of *Northeast Folklore*, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 35 pp. transcription with 6 pp. catalog
Recording: T 0679 - T 0680 / CD 0216 74 minutes
Photo: P 0425
Description: 0789 Stephen R. “Rex” Buzzell, interviewed by Edward D. “Sandy” Ives for FO 107, October 23, 1973, Old Town, Maine. Buzzell talks about the Argyle log-sorting boom on the Penobscot River; the spring flood and resulting log jam of 1923; construction of jam piers; Sunkhaze, Nebraska and Pea Cove booms; use of shear boom; buildings on White Squaw Island; living conditions and recreation; structure and operation of boom, gap, beats, jigger, marks, swings, stray raft, dropping off; tools.

The interview is part of a project that led to an issue of Northeast Folklore, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 64 pp. transcription and catalog
Recording: T 0681 - 0682 / CD 0339 - 0340 94 minutes
Photos: P 0425, P 0489, P 0491, P 0492, P 0511, P 0515, P 0518, P 0522, P 0534

Related Collections
& Accessions
Restrictions none
Accession Date: October 26, 29, November 27, 1973; November 14, 1975, Greenbush, Maine. Twitchell talks about the Argyle log-sorting boom on the Penobscot River; tools and techniques for rafting, checking, and sorting logs; dropping off; swings; Sunkhaze Rips; Pea Cove; Nebraska boom; Cow Island; White Squaw Island; Birch Island; building piers; hanging the boom; the boom house, meals and living conditions; bosses Gene Mann, Billy Mann, and Walter Drake; pickeroons, hookeroons; rear crew’s duties; jams.

The interviews are part of a project that led to an issue of Northeast Folklore, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 97 pp. partial transcript and catalog
Recording: T 0683 - 0686 / CD 0187 - 0190 204 minutes
Photo: P 0425

Related Collections & Accessions
Restrictions none
Description: 0792 Leon Bussell, Emile Leavitt, Ernest Kennedy, Stephen “Rex” Buzzell, interviewed by class of FO 107, November 8, 1973, November 15, 1973, November 20, 1973, and November 27, 1973 (respectively) Room B South Stevens Hall, UMaine, Orono, Maine. During the interviews, there was a model of Argyle Boom on the table, tools of the trade, maps, aerial photographs, and a number of Archives photographs available for the respondents to comment on. Bussell, Leavitt, Kennedy, and Buzzell talk about the Argyle log-sorting boom on the Penobscot River; the construction and operation of piers, gaps, and headworks; tools and techniques for sorting, rafting, and dropping off logs; wedges and mallets; stray pen; prize logs; beats; joints; swings; jigger and trapeze line; endways rafts; backway drive; jail boom; jobbers marks; living conditions and meals; Pea Cove, Nebraska, and Cuba booms; Black Island; Freese Island; Foster Island; Sunkhaze; Old Town; Gene Mann and Billy Mann.

The interviews are part of a project that led to an issue of Northeast Folklore, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 229 pp. catalog and transcript
Recording: mfc_na0792_cd0191_01-23, mfc_na0792_cd0192_01-23, mfc_na0792_cd0193_01-40, na0792_cd0194_01-20, na0792_cd0195_01-29, mfc_na0792_cd0196_01-18 367 minutes
Photograph: P 0425
Description: **0793 Harry Kennedy**, interviewed by Mark LaFond for FO 107, November 12, 1973, Pea Cove, Maine. Kennedy talks about the Argyle log-sorting boom on the Penobscot River; rafting and dropping off logs; stray rafts; jillpoking; checking; Pea Cove and Nebraska booms; Gene Mann and Billy Mann; Walter Buzzell; Irish workers; Greenville; endway rafts; the trip.

The interview is part of a project that led to an issue of *Northeast Folklore*, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 5 pp. catalog and 27 pp. transcript
Recording: **T 0699** 64 minutes
Photo: **P 0425**
**Description:** 0796 Alex Rouleau, interviewed by Mary Beth O’Conner for FO 107, November 30, 1973, Old Town, Maine. Rouleau talks about the Argyle log-sorting boom on the Penobscot River; living conditions; leisure activities (gathering spruce gum, fishing, swimming, games); meals; stray logs; wages; Nebraska and Pea Cove booms; log jams; tools; rigging; beats; jobber’s marks; Rex Buzzell; Walter Buzzell; Gene Mann; Billy Mann.

The interview is part of a project that led to an issue of *Northeast Folklore*, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 9 pp. catalog and 44 pp. transcript
Recording: T 0709 - T 0710 87 minutes
Photo: P 0425
Description: 0804 Wallace “Del” Soule, interviewed by Mark LaFond for FO 198, March 8, 1974, April 17, 1974; by Lucinda Lamb for AY 125, October 25, 1975, Costigan, Maine. Soule talks about the Argyle log-sorting boom on the Penobscot River; the use of steam boats and bateaus in moving the rafts and swings that had been made up at the boom to the logging company’s designated stretch of shore or mill. Also included: maps and diagrams.

The interviews are part of a project that led to an issue of *Northeast Folklore*, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 77 pp. catalog, partial transcript, and maps/diagrams

Recording: T 0728 - T 0731 / CD 0197 - CD 0199 202 minutes

Photo: P 0580

Related Collections

& Accessions

Restrictions none
Description: 0836 John Costigan, interviewed by Mark LaFond for FO 198, April 22, 1974, Costigan, Maine. Costigan talks about the techniques of shoring logs after they had been sorted at the booms on the Penobscot River; the use of steamboats and bateaux to haul the rafts of logs to the appropriate spot on the shore; diagrams. Also included: two diagrams.

The interview is part of a project that led to an issue of *Northeast Folklore*, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 2 pp. brief catalog, 5 pp. summary essay (9 pp. total)
Recording: T 0757 / CD 0200 29 minutes
**Accession Sheet**

**Maine Folklife Center**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accession Date:</th>
<th>1975.12.00</th>
<th>T#</th>
<th>1013</th>
<th>C#</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>CD 0201</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>M</td>
<td>A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Collection</strong></td>
<td>MF 003</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Collection</strong></td>
<td>Argyle Boom Project#</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>V</td>
<td></td>
<td>D mfc_na1001_t1013_01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Name:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Interviewer/Depositor:** Elizabeth “Betsy” Warner

**Narrator:** William McLaughlin

**Description:** 1001 William McLaughlin, interviewed by Elizabeth “Betsy” Warner for AY 125, November 22, 1975, Old Town, Maine. McLaughlin talks about the Argyle log-sorting boom on the Penobscot River; dropping off and running crews; marks; sorting logs; rafting logs; Nebraska and Pea Cove booms; White Squaw Island; friends Darky Willet, Harvy Cutliff, Dave Seymore, Cody Martin, Harry Cutliff; living conditions and meals; construction of piers; use of steam boats; mills.

Interview was part of a project that led to the issue of *Northeast Folklore*, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 7 pp. brief catalog

Recording: T 1013 / CD 0201 43 minutes

Photo: P 0692

**Related Collections & Accessions**

- **Restrictions**
**Accession Date:** 1975.12.01  
**T#** 1014  
**C#**  
**P**  
**D**  
**CD** 0202  
**M**  
**A**  
**#**  
**Collection** MF 003  
**Number:**  
**P**  
**S**  
**V**  
**D**  
**D** mfc_na1002_t1014_01  
**Interviewer** Lucinda Lamb  
**Narrator:** Nick Ranco  
**/Depositor:**  

**Description:** **1002 Nick Ranco**, interviewed by Lucinda Lamb, November 21, 1975, for a class project, at Ranco’s house on Indian Island, Maine. Ranco talks about his work on the river which he worked “all his life”: the Argyle log-sorting boom on the Penobscot River; construction and operation of the booms; French, Bangor and Indian crews worked different sections; living conditions; meals; jams; rafts; salvaging rafting poles and rope to sell; leisure activities. Recording is in *English*.

The interview part of a project that led to an issue of *Northeast Folklore*, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

**Text:** 4 pp. brief catalog  
**Recording:** mfc_na1002_t1014_01 41 minutes
Description: 1014 Emile Leavitt, interviewed by Mark LaFond for FO 198, March 27, 1974, Old Town, Maine. Leavitt talks about log sorting booms on the Penobscot River. Topics covered include shoring, mill drives, scaling, and the boom in general. Argyle Boom Collection.

Part of a project that led to an issue of *Northeast Folklore*, XVII: *Argyle Boom*

Text: 3 pp. brief catalog
Recording: T 1025, CD 0203 43 minutes
Description: 1022 Wallace “Del” Soule, interviewed by Lucinda Lamb for AY 198, spring 1976, Costigan, Maine. Soule talks about the Nebraska and Argyle log-sorting booms on the Penobscot River; running; rafting; shoring; hanging and taking in booms; the work of bateaux crews and steamboats.

Interview was part of a project that led to the issue of Northeast Folklore, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 12 pp. brief catalog
Recording: T 1033 / CD 0204 - CD 0205 91 minutes
Accession Number: 1024

Accession Date: 1976.03.13

Collection: Argyle Boom Project

Description: 1024 Alphonse Martin, interviewed by Ann Pierter for AY 198, March 13, 1976, Old Town, Maine. Martin talks about the Argyle log-sorting boom on the Penobscot River; the structure and operation of the sorting gap; scaling; log marks; wintering over; bosses Gene Mann, Billy Mann, Walter Drake, Harry Bowlee; diagrams of the gap.

Interview was part of a project that led to the issue of Northeast Folklore, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 4 pp. brief catalog (7 pp. total)

Recording: T 1036, PM 0447, CD 0206 62 minutes
Description: 1025 John Costigan, interviewed by Jack Beard for AY 198, April 14, 1976, Costigan, Maine. Costigan talks about the log-sorting booms on the Penobscot River; rafting; sacking; tools, especially sacking dogs; use of horses to sack or twitch logs; marks; the last drive on Sunkhaze Stream; operations around Chamberlain and Telos Lakes; diagrams of sacking dogs.

Interview was part of a project that led to the issue of *Northeast Folklore*, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 8 pp. brief catalog (11 pp. total)
Recording: T 1037 / CD 0207 40 minutes
**Description:** 1026 Leon Bussell, interviewed by Jack Beard for AY 198, April 14, 1976, Costigan, Maine. 8 pp. Tape: 1/2 hr. w/ brief cat. Bussell talks about the log-sorting booms on the Penobscot River; building endways or hedgehog rafts; use of scull oar to propel rafts.

Interview was part of a project that led to the issue of *Northeast Folklore*, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 4 pp. brief catalog

Recording: T 1038 / CD 0208 32 minutes
**Description:** 1031 Alphonse Martin, interviewed by Elizabeth Warner and Jack Beard for AY 198, May 5, 1976, Old Town, Maine. 8 pp. Tape: 1/2 hr. w/ brief cat. Martin talks about the backway drive, which was for logs going to the International and Dan Cassidy mills in Orono, and Grey Canoe Shop mill in Stillwater; contractor Frank Davis; bosses Gene Mann, Billy Mann, and Walter Drake; sluices at Gilman Falls; use of wedges for rafting; shoring; endways or hedgehog rafting; cookhouse at Pea Cove; leisure activities.

Text: 4 pp. brief catalog
Recording: T 1044, PM 0450, CD 0209 35 minutes

**Related Collections & Accessions**
Accession Date: 1976.05.05  T# 1045  C#  P  D  CD 0210
Collection MF 003
Number:
P  S  V  D  D mfc_na1032_t1045_01
Collection Argyle Boom Project#
Name: #  #  #  #  #

Interviewer Elizabeth Warner & Jack Beard
/Depositor:

Narrator: Ernest Kennedy

Description: 1032 Ernest Kennedy, interviewed by Elizabeth Warner & Jack Beard for AY 198, May 5, 1976, Argyle, Maine. 8 pp. Tape: 1/4 hr. w/brief cat. Kennedy talks about the log-sorting booms on the Penobscot River; lumber company marks; sorting and rafting; prize logs; sheer boom at Sunkhaze; trips at Sunkhaze; crib work and building endways rafts; mentions Barker and Jordan lumber companies, Pea Cove, Argyle, White Squaw Island Hoyt Brook, Hemlock Stream.

Interview was part of a project that led to the issue of Northeast Folklore, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 3 pp. brief catalog (5 pp. total)
Recording: T 1045 / CD 0210 24 minutes
**Accession Number:** 1033

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accession Date:</th>
<th>1976.05.05</th>
<th>T#</th>
<th>1046</th>
<th>C#</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>CD</th>
<th>0211</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collection</td>
<td>MF 003</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Collection</strong></td>
<td>Argyle Boom Project#</td>
<td>#</td>
<td>#</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>mfc_na1033_t1046_01</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Name:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Interviewer/Depositor:</strong></td>
<td>Jack Beard &amp; Elizabeth “Betsy”</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Narrator:</strong></td>
<td>Stephen &quot;Rex&quot; Buzzell</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description:** 1033 **Stephen "Rex" Buzzell**, interviewed by Jack Beard & Elizabeth “Betsy” Warner for AY 198, May 5, 1976, at Buzzell’s home in Old Town, Maine. Buzzell talks about on the log-sorting booms on the Penobscot River: people he worked with at the boom; recounts humorous stories; free time; food; how different company’s logd were rafted at the boom; wintering; scaling; stray raft; running; wangan; living conditions; his father business and crews; cook John Duplessis. Also present: Buzzell’s wife. Recording is in English.

The interview is part of a project that led to an issue of *Northeast Folklore*, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 10 page detailed catalog
Recording: **mfc_na1033_t1046_01** 53 minutes

---

**Related Collections & Accessions**

**Restrictions**
Accession Date: 1976.05.10  
Collection MF 003
Name: Ernest Kennedy

Description: 1049 Ernest Kennedy, interviewed by Edward D. “Sandy” Ives and Susan Tibbetts, May 10, 1976, Argyle, Maine. Kennedy talks about the log-sorting booms on the Penobscot River. Topics covered include layout of boom related buildings on White Squaw Island; Costigan landing; the duties of the rear crew; points of origin of the drives; horse piers; fin booms; dropping off; swings; beats; and joints.

The interview is part of a project that led to an issue of Northeast Folklore, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 5 pp. brief catalog
Recording: T 1055 / CD 0212 60 minutes
**Accession Sheet**
Maine Folklife Center

**Accession Number:** 1050

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accession Date:</th>
<th>1976.04.26</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T# 1056</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C#</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>CD 0213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Collection Number:** MF 003

**Collection Name:** Argyle Boom Project

**Interviewer**/Depositor: Edward D. “Sandy” Ives and Susan Tibbetts

**Narrator:** William McLaughlin

**Description:** 1050 William McLaughlin, interviewed by Edward D. “Sandy” Ives & Susan Tibbetts, April 26, 1976, Old Town, Maine. McLaughlin talks about log-sorting booms on the Penobscot River. Topics covered include dropping off; rafting; sorting gap; Greenbush trip; Pea Cove; fin booms.

The interview is part of a project that led to an issue of *Northeast Folklore*, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 5 pp. brief catalog
Recording: T 1056, CD 0213 50 minutes

**Related Collections & Accessions**

**Restrictions**
Description: **1051 Stephen "Rex" Buzzell**, interviewed by Ann Pierter & Susan Tibbetts for AY 198, May 11, 1976, Old Town, Maine. Buzzell talks about the log-sorting booms on the Penobscot River. Topics covered include marking and scaling logs; Argyle, Pea Cove, and Sheepshank (Greenbush) booms; wintering methods, diagrams.

The interview is part of a project that led to an issue of *Northeast Folklore*, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 3 pp. brief catalog (6 pp. total)
Recording: **T 1057, CD 0214** 63 minutes
ACCESSION SHEET  
Maine Folklife Center

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accession Date:</th>
<th>1976.05.04</th>
<th>T#</th>
<th>1066</th>
<th>Accession Number: 1056</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collection</td>
<td>MF 003</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CD 0215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection Name</td>
<td>Argyle Boom Project</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interviewer</td>
<td>Ann Pierter &amp; Bessie Dam</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narrator</td>
<td>Ernest Kennedy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description:** 1056 Ernest Kennedy, interviewed by Ann Pierter & Bessie Dam for AY 198, May 4, 1976, Argyle, Maine. Kennedy talks about on the log-sorting booms on the Penobscot River. Topics covered include checking, prize logs, the stray raft, boom stick, scaling and marking logs, wintering logs, shingling logs, jail booms, the “high mark,” Pea Cove Boom, rafting logs, Mexico Boom.

The interview is part of a project that led to an issue of *Northeast Folklore*, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 10 pp. catalog, 1 pp. map
Recording: T 1066, CD 0215 73 minutes

**Related Collections & Accessions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Related Collections</th>
<th>&amp; Accessions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Restrictions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Description: 1114 Ernest Kennedy (b. 1889) interviewed by Edward D. “Sandy” Ives, summer, 1977, at Kennedy’s home in Argyle, Maine. Kennedy, 88, talks about his life working in the woods, on river drives, and on the Argyle Boom. Kennedy was the principle informant for “Argyle Boom,” *Northeast Folklore*, XVII (1976) which explained the workings of the sorting boom on the Penobscot River where the logs from the river drives were sorted for delivery to the various saw mills. In this series of interviews he expands on the information he gave for that project and explains various models he made of the boom and other structures and equipment. He also discusses photos of logging camps and river drives. Also included are newspaper clippings and a 32 page summary of the Bible by Kennedy. (See NA 0579, 0786, 0792, 1032, 1056, 1143 for other Kennedy interviews.)

The interview is part of a project that led to an issue of *Northeast Folklore*, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 331 pp. transcript, (349 pp. total)
Recording: T 1138 - T 1160  34 hours
Photos: P 1786 - P 1808

T 1138 River-driving; cutting timber; peeling hemlock; family and siblings; tannery; switching from chopping to sawing trees down; schooling; Aunt Hat (brothel madam); family background; mother cooked for woods camp; rafting logs; father ran hotel for weavers.

T 1139 EK cooked; father ran hotels and boarding houses for woodsmen; working as a teamster in woods; building camp; skidding and yarding timber; cribbing and rafting; hewing boards from logs; rafting camp; woods-work techniques.
**Description:** 

1143 Ernest Kennedy, interviewed by Lynn Franklin, fall 1977, Argyle, Maine. Kennedy, prime informant for “Argyle Boom,” talks about his life as river driver; gospel worker; semiprofessional sparring partner; camp cook. See NF XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

The interview is part of a project that led to an issue of *Northeast Folklore*, XVII: “Argyle Boom.”

Text: 34 pp. transcript, 15 pp. paper
Recording: T 1206 84 minutes