

# Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador Folklore and Language Archive (MUNFLA)

## Marjorie Stoker Fonds Description

*Fonds description written by Anita Best under the co-sponsorship of the Canadian Council of Archives and the Association of Newfoundland & Labrador Archives. Reformatted by Renee Lawrence.*

### **TITLE:**

Marjorie Stoker Fonds

### **COLLECTION NUMBER:**

Special Collection Number I.14  
Accession Number 89-067

### **PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:**

3 cm of textual records  
53 audio recordings  
144 photographs

### **DATES:**

1963; 1966-68

### **ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY/BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH:**

Marjorie Stoker (1914-1989) was born in West Bromwich, England, the eldest child of Harry and Annie Cutler. She married John Teasdale Stoker (1911-1975) in 1937, and moved with him to St.

John's, Newfoundland in 1957, where he became head of the Department of Modern Languages at Memorial University. They had two children, Richard (1946-) and Sue [Payne] (1949-). Stoker received a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Manchester University in 1936, a teacher's certificate from Aberdeen University in 1954, a "Teachers' Parchment" from the Scottish Education Department in 1956 and a Bachelor of Education degree from Memorial University in 1966. She was a classroom teacher and substitute teacher in Newfoundland for twelve years and was the oral French specialist at the school board level for several years. She worked extensively with the academic upgrading program at the Waterford Hospital on Waterford Bridge Road and volunteer taught at the Children's Home on Water Street from 1971, until shortly before her death. She participated in several committees pertaining to her professional life as a classroom teacher and French specialist and was a founding member and Secretary of the St. John's Folk Arts Council. She was active in various women's and human rights groups: Status of Women committee, National Action Committee on the Status of Women, National Council of Women, Exon House Auxiliary, and Defenders of Signal Hill Committee. During the 1960s she undertook research among the Mi'Kmaq in Southern and Western Newfoundland.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT:**

Fonds consists of folklore and oral history materials deposited by Marjorie Stoker and is arranged into two series. Series 1 (67-024) consists of 3 audio reels documenting a kitchen party at Calvert on 5 May, 1967; Series 2 (74-230 and 89-067) consist of 50 audio reels containing interviews conducted by Stoker with residents of Conne River, Conne Village, Harry's Brook, St. Alban's, St. John's, mainly pertaining to Mi'kmaq culture and folklore. Included in this fonds are 144 photonegatives (b&w) of the pages of a prayer book in the Mi'Kmaq language, borrowed by Stoker and photographed by her son Richard. There is an extensive Marjorie Stoker fonds in the CNS archives at Memorial University.

## **RESTRICTIONS ON ACCESS:**

Access with permission of archivist

## **FINDING AID AVAILABLE:**

Indexes of audio recordings available

## **TERMS GOVERNING USE AND REPRODUCTION:**

Material in MUNFLA is available primarily for research and has copyright protection. It may not be published in any form without first obtaining permission from the archivist and the copyright holders

## **CONDITION:**

Photonegatives showing signs of fungal deterioration when deposited

## **LANGUAGE:**

English  
Mi'Kmaq

## **RELATED FONDS:**

English 340 fonds (66-017A-E)

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Title based on creator of fonds