

SAFA 57

**A Guide to the Records of the
Beechy Co-operative Farm Association Limited fonds
(F 21)**

**Saskatchewan Archives Board
2007**

**PRIVATE RECORDS
AUTHORITY DESCRIPTION**

**Saskatchewan Archives Board
Authority Record**

Corporate (PA 197)

Beechy Co-operative Farm Association Limited, 1949-1991

About this records creator:

Authorized Heading Beechy Co-operative Farm Association Limited, 1949-1991

**Biographical Sketch /
Administrative History** The Beechy Co-operative Farm Association Limited was a co-operative association established in Saskatchewan on June 22, 1949 under the provisions of *The Co-operative Associations Act*. Members of the association managed and operated a co-operative farm located twelve miles southwest of the Village of Beechy.

The farm was originally established by twelve Saskatchewan World War II veterans who received 500 acres of land each through assistance from the *Veterans' Land Act*. The Government of Saskatchewan granted a thirty-one year lease on the land to each individual rather than to the Association, on the condition that the individual remained a part of the co-operative farm. The twelve leased parcels of land originally belonged to the Matador Ranching Company but in a move to allow for the development of community pastures, smaller ranches and hay meadows, the ranch had given up its lease on 216 quarters. It was from these hay meadows that the Beechy Co-op Farm grew.

Crop failures and other financial difficulties at the outset forced many of the members to seek employment away from the farm. In 1952, five members withdrew to farm on their own. However, as more and more land was put under crop, the fortunes of the co-operative grew. By forming an efficient work pool, farming operations were accelerated and streamlined resulting in purchases of new machinery and tractors and the erection of permanent grain storage facilities. More land was added in the mid-1950s to allow the co-operative to raise cattle.

Residences for members and their families were constructed on a common farm site. Members of the co-op were paid a monthly wage. Decisions on farm management were made at regular bi-weekly meetings and had to be unanimous before they could be put into effect. Members shared or rotated administrative and operational responsibilities and each individual developed areas of expertise. In the 1960's the farm had become a viable enterprise with a livestock operation and over 6,000 acres under cultivation. By the early 1970's, however, several of the farmers were reaching retirement age and others were looking outside of the co-operative for employment opportunities. Members decided to sell the entire farm as a unit. Although this occurred in 1973 and the co-operative members moved away, the Association itself was not

dissolved until April 15, 1991.

Variant Name

Beechy Co-op Farm

Sources

Introduction to old guide GR 542

Beechy Co-op Farm 1949-1974 by Karen and Richard Briggs
(1982)

AMICUS Authorities – no entry found

Archival records linked to this records creator:

F 21 Beechy Co-operative Farm Association Limited fonds

FONDS DESCRIPTION

Saskatchewan Archives Board Records Description

F 21

Beechy Co-operative Farm Association Limited fonds

About these records:

Title of Records: Fonds	Beechy Co-operative Farm Association Limited fonds
Dates of Creation	1948-1991
Physical Description	80 cm of textual records 2 maps 1 technical drawing
Link to Authority	<p>The Beechy Co-operative Farm Association Limited was a co-operative association established in Saskatchewan on June 22, 1949 under the provisions of <i>The Co-operative Associations Act</i>. Members of the association managed and operated a co-operative farm located twelve miles southwest of the Village of Beechy. The farm was sold in 1973 and the association was dissolved in 1991.</p> <p>See: <u>Beechy Co-operative Farm Association Limited, 1949-1991</u></p>
Direct Acquisition from Records Creator	John A. Trew, former secretary of the Beechy Co-operative Farm Association Limited, donated these records to the Regina office, Saskatchewan Archives in one accession in 1992: R92-241 (September 15, 1992).
Scope and Content	<p>This fonds consists of records created, accumulated, and used from 1948 to 1991 by executive members of the Beechy Co-operative Farm Association Limited.</p> <p>The types of records included are correspondence, memoranda, financial statements, bylaws, agreements, minutes, maps, a technical drawing and publications, including a history of the Association.</p> <p>No series assignment has been applied to the records in this fonds.</p>
Access Restrictions	Records are open for research use.
Terms Governing Use	Use, publication, and/or reproduction of records are subject to terms and conditions of the <i>Copyright Act</i> .
Reference Tools	SAFA 57 (old guide GR 542) consists of a fonds description and file listings of textual records.

Related Records (records held by SAB)	R-E 1230 and S-F335.1: <i>Beechy Co-op Farm, 1949-1974</i> by Karen and Richard Briggs (1982). Photographs: R-A11192 (1)-(2), R-B11069, and S-B5554 to S-B5557.
Physical Condition note	Records are in good physical condition.
Conservation note	Conservation practices in place at the time of arrangement were applied to the records in old guide GR 542.
Accruals	No further accruals are expected.
Source of Description	Content of the fonds.
Notes	Location for retrieval: Regina-Hillsdale. Two maps and one technical drawing have been retained in the textual records to preserve context. (R-1448, file I.A.6).
Former Codes	Textual records: old guide GR 542 (R-1448).
Consulting the Records	To consult the records, visit or contact the Regina office.
Arrangement Note(s)	Alphabetical order of textual records imposed by archivist.

OLD GUIDE

GR 542

A CHECKLIST
OF THE RECORDS OF
BEECHY CO-OPERATIVE FARM ASSOCIATION LTD.

Saskatchewan Archives Board, Regina
1994

BEECHY CO-OPERATIVE FARM ASSOCIATION LIMITED RECORDS

R-1448

1948-1991

80 cm

The desire of twelve Saskatchewan WWII veterans to operate and manage a collective farming enterprise led to the establishment of the Beechy Co-operative Farm Association Limited in 1949. Through the assistance of a Veterans' Land Act Grant the twelve men received 500 acres of land each on which to establish their farm, located twelve miles southwest of Beechy. In the early 1950's, faced with crop failure and financial difficulties, the farmers were forced to seek employment away from the farm and in 1952 five members withdrew. By the 1960's, however, the farm was a viable enterprise with a livestock operation and over 6,000 acres of land under cultivation. The farmland was sold however, in 1973 and the Association eventually dissolved in 1991.

The collection contains records of the Beechy Co-operative Farm Association Limited from 1948-1991. The files consist mainly of memoranda, correspondence, financial statements, minutes, and publications.

As the original arrangement of the records could not be determined, the material was arranged alphabetically according to the file titles provide.

The material was transferred by former members of the Beechy Co-operative Farm Association Limited to the Saskatchewan Archives Board on September 15, 1992 and assigned accession number R92-241.

ACCESS: No restrictions

Beechy Co-operative Farm Association Ltd.

I. Beechy Co-operative Farm Association Limited, 1948-1991.	37.0 cm
A. General, 1948-1991.	30.3 cm
1. Agreements, 1949-1971.	4 mm
2. Agriculture Lands Branch, 1965-1968.	3 mm
3. Appraisal of Beech Co-operative Farm, 1980.	5 mm
4. Auditors, 1965-1974.	5 mm
5. Auditors - Ferguson, Harris & Fingarson, 1953-1965.	4 mm
6. "Beechy Co-op Farm 1949-1974", 1982.	4 mm
7. Bylaws, 1957-1973.	3 mm
8. The Canadian Wheat board, 1957-1967.	3 mm
9. Cash Rental Leases, 1962-1965.	3 mm
10. Certificate of Dissolution, 1991.	1 mm
11. Correspondence between Secretary of Beechy Farm and Manager of Sask. Reconstruction Corp., 1950- 1951.	3 mm
12. Correspondence - President, 1984-1991.	2.0 cm
13. Correspondence - Secretary, 1949-1974.	3 mm
14. Department of Agriculture, 1959-1965.	1.0 cm
15. Department of Agriculture Land Purchase, 1965-1973.	4 mm
16. Department of Co-operation, 1952-1963.	3 mm
17. Department of Veterans' Affairs, 1959.	1 mm
18. 1971-1972 Directory of Saskatchewan Cooperative Officials, ca. 1971-1972.	2 mm
19. Employment Insurance, 1949-1971.	3 mm
20. Family Farm Improvement Branch - Regina, 1960-1965.	1.0 cm
21. Farm Listings, 1970-1973.	2 mm

I. A. 22.	Financial, 1974-1984.	5 mm
23.	Grain Permits, 1965-1971.	3 mm
24.	Housing and Other Contracts, 1957-1962.	5 mm
25.	Income Tax, 1949-1973.	4.0 cm
26.	Incorporation, 1949.	1 mm
27.	Investment Transactions, 1980-1991.	2.5 cm
28.	Land Value, 1971.	2 mm
29.	Legal (Francis, Gauley, Dierker & Dahlem), 1965-1967.	3 mm
30.	Letters and Replys to and from Government Officials, 1988-1989.	4 mm
31.	Machinery Co-operatives, 1966; 1970.	4 mm
32.	Machinery Prices and Information, 1967-1969.	2 mm
33.	Membership, 1951-1957.	3 mm
34.	Minutes of Annual Meetings, 1962-1967.	2 mm
35.	Mortgage, 1961-1965.	2 mm
36.	Pasqua Hills Co-operative Farm Association, 1948.	2 mm
37.	Policy, 1952.	2 mm
38.	The Prairie Farm Assistance Act, 1949; 1952.	2 mm
39.	Production Cooperative Training Program, 1973.	2.0 cm
40.	Proof of Loss Agreement - 1973 Yield Loss Claim, 1973-1974.	2 mm
41.	"Reorganization of the Beechy Co-operative Farm Association Ltd.", n.d.	2 mm
42.	Sale of Farm, 1973-1974.	3 mm
43.	Sask. Co-operative Credit Society Limited, 1956- 1964.	1.0 cm
44.	The Saskatchewan Federation of Production Co-operatives, 1950-1973.	5.0 cm

I. A.	45.	Sask. Power Corporation, 1954-1965.	2 mm
	46.	Share Certificates, 1950-1970.	2 mm
	47.	"Soil and Land Use Survey of South East Corner of Matador Provincial Ranch", 1948-1949.	2 mm
	48.	Time Sheets, 1967-1971.	4 mm
	49.	Wind Up, 1989-1991.	3 mm
B.		Financial Statements, 1949-1991.	6.7 cm
	1.	Financial Report - December 31, 1949, 1949.	2 mm
	2.	Auditor's Report - November 30, 1950, 1950.	2 mm
	3.	Auditor's Report and Financial Statements, November 30, 1963, 1964.	2 mm
	4.	Auditor's Report and Financial Statements, November 30, 1965, 1966.	3 mm
	5.	Accountants' Comments and Financial Statements - November 30, 1966, 1967.	2 mm
	6.	Accountants' Comments and Financial Statements - November 30, 1967, 1968.	2 mm
	7.	Accountants' Comments and Financial Statements - November 30, 1968, 1969.	2 mm
	8.	Accountants' Comments and Financial Statements - November 30, 1971, 1972.	2 mm
	9.	Accountants' Comments and Financial Statements - November 30, 1972, 1973.	2 mm
	10.	Accountants' Comments and Financial Statements - November 30, 1974, 1975.	2 mm
	11.	Accountants' Comments and Financial Statements - November 30, 1975, 1975-1976.	4 mm
	12.	Accountants' Comments and Financial Statements - November 30, 1976, 1976-1977.	5 mm
	13.	Accountants' Comments and Financial Statements - November 30, 1977, 1978.	2 mm

I. B. 14.	Accountants' Comments and Financial Statements - February 28, 1978, 1979.	2 mm
15.	Accountants' Comments and Financial Statements - November 30, 1978, 1979-1980.	3 mm
16.	Accountants' Comments and Financial Statements - November 30, 1979, 1979-1980.	3 mm
17.	Accountants' Comments and Financial Statements - November 30, 1980, 1981.	2 mm
18.	Accountants' Comments and Financial Statements - November 30, 1981, 1981-1982.	3 mm
19.	Accountants' Comments and Financial Statements - November 30, 1982, 1983.	2 mm
20.	Accountants' Comments and Financial Statements - November 30, 1983, 1983-1984.	3 mm
21.	Accountants' Comments and Financial Statements - November 30, 1984, 1984.	2 mm
22.	Accountants' Comments and Financial Statements - November 30, 1985, 1985.	2 mm
23.	Accountants' Comments and Financial Statements - November 30, 1986, 1986.	4 mm
24.	Review Engagement Report and Financial Statements - November 30, 1987, 1987.	3 mm
25.	Review Engagement Report and Financial Statements - November 30, 1988, 1988-1989.	4 mm
26.	Review Engagement Report and Financial Statements - November 30, 1989, 1989-1990.	4 mm
27.	Review Engagement Report and Financial Statements - November 30, 1990, 1990-1991.	1.0 cm

LOCATIONS: F 21

Beechy Co-operative Farm Association Limited
fonds
(SAFA 57)

(amalgamated) R-1448, Boxes 1-4 H-939.8.3