

Peter Beemer Music Manuscript, circa 1864

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Beemer, Peter
Title	Peter Beemer Music Manuscript
Dates	circa 1864 (inclusive) 1864 1864
Quantity	0.25 linear feet, (1 item)
Collection Number	MSS 268
Summary	Manuscript book containing the scores of dance tunes from Warren's Diggins, Idaho in the 1860's. Peter Beemer, a musician with a small dance orchestra, wrote down and arranged the songs which were whistled, hummed or sung to him by various residents of the area.
Repository	Boise State University Library, Special Collections and Archives Special Collections and Archives 1910 University Drive Boise ID 83725 Telephone: 208-426-3958 archives@boisestate.edu
Access Restrictions	Collection is available for research.
Languages	English

Content Description

Manuscript book containing the scores of dance tunes from Warren's Diggins, Idaho in the 1860's. Peter Beemer, a musician with a small dance orchestra, wrote down and arranged the songs which were whistled, hummed or sung to him by various residents of the area.

Forms part of the McCain Collection for Western Life.

Historical Note

The first written history of the Beemer manuscript is found in a manuscript by Taylor Smith donated by Smith to the Idaho State Historical Society in 1961. Smith's history is published as an appendix in *The Peter Beemer manuscript : dance music collected in the gold mining camp of Warren's Diggins, Idaho in the 1860's*, edited by Vivian Williams (Seattle, Wash.: Voyager Recordings and Publications, 2008), which also contains transcripts of the music. Other histories are found in: *The Warren collection : music manuscript book from the Warren, Idaho mining camp, 1864*, by John Cochrane (M.A. thesis, Boise State University, 1994) and *A Survey of musical activity in the mining camps of Idaho through June of 1865*, by Rob McIntyre (M. Music thesis, University of Idaho, 1993).

Use of the Collection

Alternative Forms Available

Both the Idaho State Historical Society Public Archives and Research Library (Boise) and the University of Idaho Library Special Collections Department (Moscow) have photocopies of the manuscript.

Preferred Citation

[item description], Peter Beemer Music Manuscript, Boise State University Special Collections and Archives.

Administrative Information

Preservation Note

96 p. of music; 21 x 34 cm.; Sheets of handwritten music are sewn into a canvas binding with "AB 1864" stamped on the cover; Pages in front are numbered 2-40; followed by [18] unnumbered pages including [6] blank pages; numbering resumes with 41-69; remaining pages unnumbered; Last set of unnumbered pages have different "landscape", or vertical orientation with top of the music against the right-hand side of the right page and continuing to the bottom of the music at the left-hand side of the left page.

Acquisition Information

Purchased from the estate of Dale F. Walden, 2008, with funds from the McCain Collection for Western Life and Honor with Books gift in Honor of John Purton Cochrane, FY2008-2009.

Custodial History

Purchased by Boise State University Albertsons Library Special Collections and Archives from the estate of Dale F. Walden, 2008. Previously owned by Charles Bemis and Taylor Smith.

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Dance music--Idaho--Warren
Mining camps--Idaho--19th century
Sheet music--Idaho--Warren
Warren (Idaho)--Music.