

# Federal Resettlement Project Oral Histories, 1985-1986

## Overview of the Collection

<b>Creator</b>	Cannon, Brian Q.
<b>Title</b>	Federal Resettlement Project Oral Histories
<b>Dates</b>	1985-1986 (inclusive) 1985 1986
<b>Quantity</b>	1 box, (0.5 linear feet)
<b>Collection Number</b>	USU_COLL MSS 401
<b>Summary</b>	This collection contains the interviews of Brian Cannon pertaining to Federal Resettlement Project and the Great Depression in Utah. Mr. Cannon used the interviews for his 1986 book, <i>Remaking the Agrarian Dream : The New Deal's Rural Resettlement Program in the Mountain West</i> .
<b>Repository</b>	<a href="#">Utah State University, Merrill-Cazier Library, Special Collections and Archives Division</a> Special Collections & Archives Merrill-Cazier Library Utah State University Logan, UT 84322-3000 Telephone: 435-797-8248 Fax: 435-797-2880 <a href="mailto:scweb@usu.edu">scweb@usu.edu</a>
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	No restrictions on use, except: not available through interlibrary loan.
<b>Languages</b>	English

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## Biographical Note

Brian Q. Cannon graduated from BYU with a BA in American Studies in 1984. He completed an MA in History at Utah State University in 1986 and a PhD in History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1992. Since that time he has been teaching at BYU. Much of his research focuses upon agricultural settlement, rural community development and federal rural policy in the twentieth century. He has received fellowships or other awards from the Western History Association, the Agricultural History Society, the Charles Redd Center for Western Studies, the Ford Foundation and the Aspen Institute for Humanistic Studies.

These oral histories are related to the Federal Resettlement Project in Utah, which was part of a broader New Deal resettlement project in the United States during the Great Depression. The program sought to make better use of the nation's natural resources by reassigning poor farmers from marginal to productive land. The undertaking was supervised by various governmental departments including the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, the Resettlement Administration, and the Farms Security Administration from the 1930s until the early 1940s.

## Content Description

This collection contains 11 cassette tapes of oral histories pertaining to the Federal Resettlement Project and the Great Depression in Utah. They were conducted by Brian Cannon, for his 1986 book, *Remaking the Agrarian Dream : The New Deal's Rural Resettlement Program in the Mountain West*. These tapes include interviews about the Green River Drought Pumping Project; resettlement in Benmore, Utah; resettlement in Widtsoe, Utah; and the Leota Bottoms Drought Pumping Project.

## Use of the Collection

### Restrictions on Use

It is the responsibility of the researcher to obtain any necessary copyright clearances.

Permission to publish material from the Federal Resettlement Project Oral Histories must be obtained from the [Special Collections Manuscript Curator](#) and/or the Special Collections Department Head.

### Preferred Citation

*Initial Citation:* Federal Resettlement Project Oral Histories USU\_COLL MSS 401, Box [ ]. Special Collections and Archives. Utah State University Merrill-Cazier Library. Logan, Utah.

*Following Citations:*USU\_COLL MSS 401, USUSCA.

## Administrative Information

### Arrangement

This collection is organized alphabetically by last name.

### Processing Note

Processed in October of 2013

### Acquisition Information

This collection was donated to Utah State University Special Collections by Bryan Q. Cannon in 1993.

### Related Materials

Utah Resettlement Project papers, [COLL MSS 146](#)

### Bibliography

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

# Cassette Tapes, 1985-1986

Box1

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Tape		
1	1	Interview with George Bennion	1986 Feb 10
1	2	Interview with James Larson Jacobs	1985 Nov 9
1	3	Interview with Swen Jenson	1985 Dec 14
1	4	Interview with Merrill Lisenbee	1985 Aug 22
1	5	Interview with Leon Michaelson	1985 June 17
1	6	Interview with Calvin Olson	1985 Aug 20
1	7	Interview with Joe Osbourne	1985 Nov 30
1	8	Interview with Joe Osbourne	1985 Nov 30
1	9	Interview with Ileen Reynolds	1985 Jan 12
1	10	Interview with Clyde Thompson	1985 Aug 12
1	11	Interview with Lee Workman	1985 Aug 22

## Names and Subjects

### Subject Terms :

Depressions--1929--Utah.  
Drought management--Green River Valley (Wyo.-Utah)  
Drought management--Utah--Leota.  
Land tenure--Utah--History.  
New Deal, 1933-1939--Utah.

### Personal Names :

Cannon, Brian Q.

### Corporate Names :

Benmore (Utah) Suburban Homesteads Resettlement Project.  
Green River Drought Pumping Project.  
Leota Bottoms Drought Pumping Project.  
United States. Resettlement Administration.

Utah Resettlement Project.

Widstoe (Utah) Suburban Homesteads Resettlement Project.

**Geographical Names :**

Benmore (Utah)--History.

Widstoe (Utah)--History.

**Form or Genre Terms :**

Oral histories.

Finding aid/Register created by Elisabeth Cropper  
2013