

# PENOBSCOT MARINE MUSEUM

Inventory for  
Manuscript Collection

**PMM 42**

**Richard Lunt Lobsterboat Collection**

1970 – 1989

5 boxes  
3 linear feet  
Accession No. LB2017.2

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## PMM 42

# Richard Lunt Lobsterboat Collection

**Lunt, C. Richard K., 1940-**

Collection, 1970-1989

5 boxes (3 linear feet)

Folklorist and professor; scholar of maritime folklore and Maine lobster boats

Manuscripts, oral histories, boat plans, and research material from C. Richard K. Lunt's study of Maine fishing boats in the 1970s and 1980s. The bulk of the collection consists of source materials and manuscripts for his dissertation, *Lobsterboat Building on the Eastern Coast of Maine: A Comparative Study*. These include tapes and transcripts of Lunt's interviews with Maine lobster boat builders in the Jonesport and Mount Desert Island areas and plans of lobster boats from the region.

In English

Organized in three series: Series I. Manuscripts; Series II. Oral Histories; Series III.

Plans

C. Richard K. Lunt; Gift; 2017; LB2017.2

Finding aid available; folder level control

Subject Headings:

Lunt, C. Richard K., 1940-

Boatbuilding

Boatbuilders

Fishers

Fishing boats

Fishing boats—design and construction

Lobster fisheries

Lobster industry

Maine

Local Subject Headings:

Lobster boats

### **Acquisition:**

This collection was given to the Penobscot Marine Museum by Richard Lunt.

### **Restrictions**

This collection is open for research. It must be cited as the Richard Lunt Lobsterboat Collection.

### **Condition:**

This collection is in good condition.

### **Related Materials:**

Digitized copies of Lunt's interviews with lobsterboat builders are available from the Northeast Archives of Folklore and Oral History, University of Maine, as MF082, the C. Richard K. Lunt Collection. <https://archives.library.umaine.edu/repositories/5/resources/3009>

### Historical Note:

C. Richard K. Lunt was a scholar of folklore who studied Maine lobsterboats and New England's maritime culture. He was born in 1940 and graduated from Mount Desert Island High School before attending college at Northeastern University and the University of Maine. He earned a master's in English from the University of Maine, and then, after a stint in the Peace Corps, received his PhD in American Folklore from the University of Indiana in 1976.

Lunt wrote his doctoral dissertation on lobsterboat design and construction in coastal Maine. He approached the subject as a folklorist and anthropologist, relying on interviews and discussions with Maine lobsterboat builders. He also spent a year at the Smithsonian working with Howard Chapelle, and that background in recording and interpreting boat design was an essential part of Lunt's work.

After earning his PhD, Lunt taught at the State University of New York in Potsdam. During sabbaticals, he served as a consultant to the Apprenticeshop at Maine Maritime Museum and as the research director for the Northeast Archives of Folklore and Oral History at the University of Maine.

### Scope and Content:

This collection contains material from C. Richard K. Lunt's research into Maine lobster boats and other maritime traditions. There are two types of material: primary resources, including oral interviews, boat plans, and photographs that Lunt collected as part of his research; and secondary material, consisting of Lunt's thesis, later articles, and correspondence with other scholars of maritime folklife. The collection is organized into series by media: Series I contains manuscripts and written material, Series II has oral history recordings, and Series III contains plans.

The bulk of the primary material consists tapes and transcripts of Lunt's interviews with fifteen lobsterboat builders and lobstermen who were active in the Mount Desert Island and Jonesport areas in 1970. Lunt's interviewees included several well-known boatbuilders, like Ralph Stanley, Robert Rich, Alvin Beal, Bert Frost, Richard Alley, and Harold Gower. The interviews are lengthy and detailed, focusing on boat design and use in coastal communities. These are supplemented by line drawings and plans of lobster boats which Lunt took from boats under construction, historical builder's half models owned by the men he interviewed, and, occasionally, other museum collections.

Manuscripts for Lunt's thesis and later papers provide the bulk of the secondary material. This is supplemented by correspondence, guides for historic documentation, conference programs, materials from the Apprenticeshop, and related ephemera from Lunt's activities as a scholar of maritime traditions. There is also a complete copy of David A. Taylor's 1989 dissertation, titled "A survey of traditional systems of boat design used in the vicinity of Trinity Bay, Newfoundland, and Hardangerfjord, Norway."

### Box and Folder List:

#### Series I. Manuscripts

Obj. ID	Box	Folder
		<u>Dissertation:</u>
1	1	<i>Lobsterboat Building on the Eastern Coast of Maine: A Comparative Study.</i> C. Richard K. Lunt. PhD Dissertation, University of Indiana, 1975
		<u>Dissertation drafts:</u>
42-47	1	2 Acknowledgements & List of Illustrations
42-42		3 Chapter 1: History

42-43	4	Chapter 2: Design
42-44	5	Chapter 3: Construction
42-48	6	Conclusions
42-41	7	Illustrations
42-46	8	Glossary
42-45	9	Proposal and correspondence
		Dissertation sources: oral histories (original recordings are in box 5)
42-58	2	1
		Transcripts, vol. A: interviews with Ronald Rich, January 1970 Malcolm McDuffy, January 1970 Len Pierce, January 1970 Clarence Harding, January 1970
		2
		Transcripts, vol. B: interviews with Oscar Smith, March 1970 Ralph Stanley, January 1970 James Beal, March 1970 Erwin Alley, March 1970 Alvin Beal, March 1970
		3
		Transcripts, vol. C: interviews with Harold Gower, March 1970 Bert Frost, March 1970 Richard Alley, April 1970 Harry Beal, March 1970 Clinton Beal, April 1970
		Dissertation sources: plans (see Series III)
42-49	4	Bibliographies
		<u>Papers and articles:</u>
42-33	2	5
		"The Origins and Early Evolution of the Maine Lobsterboat." Paper read at the Maritime History Symposium, Maine Maritime Museum, Bath, Maine, 1981
42-34		6
		"Metataxis in Folk Art: The Case for the Maine Lobster Buoy." Paper read at the Fall Meeting of the New York State Folklore Society, North Country Community College, Saranac Lake, NY, 1981
42-36	3	1
		"Crafting the Model: Maine Lobsterboat Building as a Design Tradition." Published in <i>By Land and by Sea: Studies in the Folklore of Work and Leisure Honoring Horace P. Beck on his Sixty-Fifth Birthday</i> . Hatboro, PA: Legacy Books, 1985.
42-37		2
		"Crafting the Model," annotated drafts
42-38		3
		"Crafting the Model," illustrations
42-39		4
		"Crafting the Model," publication correspondence
42-55		5
		"They Still Tailor Maine Lobsterboats." Published in the program for the Smithsonian Institution's 1970 Festival of American Folklife
		<u>Career and later research:</u>
42-29	3	6
		National Trust for Historic Preservation, Maritime History Task Force, draft guidelines for documenting maritime heritage, 1983
42-51		7
		"Maritime Preservation – A Guide to Documentation," drafts
42-40		8
		Apprenticeshop, notes and publications, 1979
42-35		9
		Notes on Hampton boats, made as a visiting scholar at the Apprenticeshop, 1979

42-50	4	1	Articles on Hampton boats, photocopies
42-52		2	Howard Chapelle, lines for fishing boats, photocopies
42-57		3	General correspondence, 1976-1986
42-54		4	Correspondence, planning a maritime ethnology conference, 1978
42-53		5	Correspondence and programs, 11 <sup>th</sup> Maritime History Symposium, Maine Maritime Museum, 1983
42-30		6	<i>A survey of traditional systems of boat design used in the vicinity of Trinity Bay, Newfoundland, and Hardangerfjord, Norway.</i> David A. Taylor. PhD Dissertation, Memorial University of Newfoundland, 1989. Pages ii – 136
42-31		7	Pages 137 – 316
42-32		8	Pages 317 – 450

### Series II. Oral History Recordings

19 reel to reel tapes with interviews of Maine lobsterboat builders, conducted by C. Richard K. Lunt, 1970. (Transcripts are in box 2. Interviews marked \* have not been transcribed.):

42-58	5	1	Interview with Ronald Rich, January 8 1970
		2	Ronald Rich, January 9 1970
		3	Ronald Rich, January 10 1970
		4	Malcolm McDuffy, January 10 or 15 1970
		5	Ronald Rich, January 16 1970
		6	Ronald Rich, January 16 1970
			Len Pierce, January 19 1970
			Clarence Harding, January 21 1970
		7	Oscar Smith, March 21 1970
		8	Ralph Stanley, January 20 1970
			Robert Smallidge, January 2 1969*
		9	James Beal, March 18 1970
		10	Erwin Alley, March 23 1970
		11	Alvin Beal, March 25 1970
		12	Harold Gower, March 27 1970
		13	Bert Frost, March 20 1970
			Richard Alley, April 1 1970
		14	Harry Beal, March 31 1970
		15	Clinton Beal, April 4 1970
		16, 17	John Gardner, March 11 1970*
		18	Harold Gower, March 26 and 27 1970*
		19	Raymond Bunker, August 16 1974*

5 Index to interviews by topic

### Series III. Plans

42-4	Richard Alley, lobster boat, first model
42-17	Richard Alley, Beals Island lobster boat, built 1970

- 42-16 Alvin Beal, Beals Island lobster boat, 1935-1940
- 42-1 Clinton Beal, lobster boat, built 1970
- 42-18 Ralph Ellis and Raymond Bunker, Mt. Desert Island lobster boat, 1970
- 42-5 Will Frost, offshore lobster boat or rumrunner
- 42-6 Will Frost, Redwing lobster boat, 1924
- 42-7 Redwing lobster boat, taken from half model at Mystic Seaport
- 42-15 Will Frost, Jonesport lobster boat, 1930
- 42-27 Will Frost, Jonesport-Beals Island torpedo-stern lobster boat  
Built by for Malcolm Lowell, 1930. Plan by Royall Lowell & Sons
- 42-12 Frank Johnson, Hampton boat EGRETТА, Bailey's Island, Maine,  
Half model in the Smithsonian collections, TR.311150
- 42-20 Robert Rich, lobster boat built for Donal L. Staples, Brant Rock, Massachusetts, c. 1970
- 42-21 Robert Rich lobster boat, model #1, c. 1940
- 42-22 Model #2, built 1969
- 42-23 Model #3, built 1969
- 42-24 Ronald Rich, 26' lobster boat. 1969
- 42-25 36' lobster boat, 1969
- 42-2 Oscar Smith, lobster boat #1
- 42-3 Oscar Smith, lobster boat #2
- 42-8 Ralph Stanley, model for a generic lobster boat, c. 1915
- 42-11 Ralph Stanley, model for a peapod lobsterboat, c. 1915
- 42-9 Ralph Stanley lobster boat, built 1970
- 42-10 William Upton, powered peapod, built in Millbridge, Maine, 1907  
Original boat is in the collection of the Penobscot Marine Museum
- 42-13 Penobscot wherry
- 42-14 Moosabec Reach boat  
Built by Freeman Beal, Beal's Island, 1910
- 42-19 Mt. Desert Island lobster boat, c. 1930  
Plans taken from a model in the collection of Les King, Southwest Harbor
- 42-26 Tancook whaler, 1909  
Plan by Howard Chapelle