# **Caribou Public Library** Archives & Special Collections

Caribou Public Library
429 High Street
Caribou, ME 04064

Anastasia S. Weigle, Project Archivist



Inventory of manuscript collection

**MS 101
Grover M. Hardison Plat and Survey Map Collection**

Bulk Dates: 1839-1979

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July 2019

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# Collection Summary

**Title:** Grover M. Hardison Plat and Survey Map Collection

**Inclusive Dates:** 1839-1979

**Creator/Compiler:** Grover M. Hardison, 1877-1925

**Extent:** approximately 973 items

**Repository:** Archives & Special Collections, Caribou Public Library, Maine

**Abstract**: Survey and Plat maps of Caribou, Maine and neighboring communities in Aroostook County. Includes field notebooks, quick claim deeds, lands deeds, abstracts, correspondence, and warranties. Additional items Includes 164’x 4’ foot hand drawn to scale St. John River from Quisibis Island (Canada) to Jones Mill, Maine (south of Jones Island).

# Added entries—persons:

Barker, Noah

Burleigh, A. A.

Burleigh, Preston N.

Butterfield, William

Cunningham, H. W.
Danforth, Frederic

Davis. O.

Dennett, Daniel
Drury, J.

Fitzgerald, Millard

Gardner, John
Hanson, A. E.
Hardison, Clayton H. (1911-1994)

Hardison, Grover M. (1885-1950)
Hardison, Parker L. (1860-1916)
Hardison, Waldo M. (1917-2002)

Harriman, Alonzo J.

Knight, E.

Macintyre, B. B.

McKay, A. C.

Norris, Joseph

Rheinlander, A. H.

Rideout. L. E.

Sewall, James. W.

Stetson, C. E. F.

Thurlough, J. R.

Whitney, T. B.

Added entries—topical:

Assessor parcel maps
Boundary maps, Property Civil engineers

Contract of deeds

Field notebook [no LC]

Genealogy—Caribou, Maine

Land deeds [not LC]

Parcel line maps

Plat maps
Survey maps

Surveyors

Real property—Maps

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# Administrative Information

**Acquisition**

The Caribou Public Library received the Grover M. Hardison collection from the University of Maine at Presque Isle in 2009.

**Provenance**

There are no transferred records or exact date of collection accession. Provenance is based on verbal documentation by previous library director of Caribou Public Library, Debbie Dubois. Initially housed at the University of Maine at Presque Isle (UMPI) archives, the Grover M. Hardison collection was de-accessioned due to lack of space. It was decided by the “University” that the collection be donated to the Caribou Public Library as Hardison was a former resident and city manager of Caribou and was an integral part of the Caribou community. The collection was accepted by Ms. Dubois in 2009.

**Physical Condition**

The survey and plat maps are in various conditions from fairly good to very poor. Many of the deeds, abstracts, and correspondence are discolored and stained. Other materials have creases with minor tears on edges or fold lines. There are a number of very find tissue paper documents. Conservation repairs include the use of thin, transparent document repair tape, rehousing fragile and thin papers in polyethylene sleeves. Deeds and other related documents were placed in folders and housed in archival boxes. Maps and documents with heavier crease lines, curls or dog-ears were flattened with a tacking iron at medium heat. Maps were placed in large map folders with buffered tissue papers. Metals pins, paperclips, and staples were removed and replaced with plastic paper slips. Rolled maps were wrapped in buffered tissue papers and tied with cotton strings.

**Preferred citation**

Researchers using APA format:

Author, A. A. (Year, Month Day). Title of material. [Description of material]. Name of Collection (Call number, Box number, File name or number, etc.). Name of Repository, Location.

Hardison, G. M. (1894). *Original hand drawn on paper - lots on north side Pig Alley,” Roberts and Caribou St. area.* Grover M. Hardison Plat and Survey Map Collection MS100, Folder 9, Item GMH-CAR-PLT-081.1. Caribou Public Library Archives & Special Collections, 30 High Street, Caribou, Maine.

Researchers using MLA format

Author (last name, first name). Title/description of material. Date (day month year). Call number, identifier or box/folder/item number. Collection name. Name of repository, location.

Hardison, Grover M. Original hand drawn on paper - lots on north side Pig Alley,” Roberts and Caribou St. area (1894). MS100, Folder 9, Item GMH-CAR-PLT-081.1. Grover M. Hardison Plat and Survey Map Collection. Caribou Public Library Archives & Special Collections, 30 High Street, Caribou, Maine.

**Access and Restrictions**

The Grover M. Hardison Collection is open to researchers, genealogists, historical, and the general public. Users are advised to contact the Library in advance prior to visiting. No users may have access to collection without a librarian, archivist, or library volunteer present.

**Biographical Notes**

Grover Merrill Hardison was born January 23, 1885 outside Caribou village on the New Sweden road, the oldest son of Haines and May Merrill Hardison. Grover had two older sisters, Mabel, born in 1878. She died in 1897 at the age of 19 years. Lena was born in 1881 and died in 1943. Grover has two younger brothers. Clifford was born in 1888 and died in 1984 at the age of 96. Leigh, was born in 1890 and died in 1974.

Grover graduated from Caribou High School in 1904. His major was English. Grover entered the University of Maine and was member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity. Grover majored in Civil Engineering and graduated in 1908.

Upon graduation from the University of Maine, Grover worked for his uncle Parker in a surveying business. During the winter months when survey work was slow, he worked at the Jerrard Seed Company owned by his father Haines and his brother-in-law Edgar Russ.

Grover followed his profession of Civil Engineering and surveyor with is uncle Parker until 1911 when Parker was name state Highway Commissioner and moved to Augusta. In 1911, Grover took over Parker’s surveying business and a few years later also worked as supervisor of State Aid roads in northern Aroostook.

Grover married Jenny Adeline Lewis (b. May 21, 1886; d. December 12, 1966) on October 1, 1908. They had three sons, Clayton (born 1911), Lewis (born January 18, 1913), and Waldo Flanders (born July 29, 1917).

Grover was active in the rotary club including term as president, a member of the Caribou Masonic Club, director of a savings and loan association, a strong supporter of the Caribou fire company, active in the Universalist Church, interested in the bands of Caribou, in sports and school affairs.

In 1924, Grover was elected first selectman and served in that capacity until 1934 with the exception of one year, 1925, when another man beat him in the election. A new group of selectman were elected in 1926 and found that the problems in town management were more than they expected and Grover was elected in 1926. In March of 1934, Grover was appointed Town Agent by the selectman to act for them in conducting town business and as Town manager and served at this capacity until his retirement in 1945. Grover M. Hardison died in 1950.

Source: Hardison, L. M. (1986). *Life and times of Grover Merrill Hardison, 1885-1950*. Caribou Historical Society.

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# **Scope and Content Notes**

# The collection contains 56 original survey field notebooks, more than 500 plat and survey maps, 329 original deeds and abstracts covering areas from St. Francis, Aroostook County and includes Northern Penobscot, Piscataquis, and Somerset. Original deeds for Caribou include Eaton Grant and Townships “H” and “I”. Survey and plat maps of Caribou utilities including sewer, water, light, and power. Fifteen plats maps of cemetery plots and a survet set of plots for new cemetery. Survey maps showing all three railroad lines in Aroostook County. Deed, quick claim deeds, abstracts and small maps are attached to correspondences. Also Includes 164’x 4’ foot hand drawn to scale St. John River boundary from Quisibis Island (Canada) to Jones Mill, Maine (south of Jones Island). Additional items include approximately 14 USGS maps. Genealogy charts for Haines and May Merrill Hardison.

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# **Arrangement of the Collection**

The collection is arranged in alphabetical order by the name of the communities. There are three series in the collection:

Series 1. Plat/survey maps

Series 2: Field notebooks

Series 3: Deed/abstracts.