

Barney Crosier (1922-)
Newspaper Articles, 1976-1999
MSA 315

Introduction

This collection contains photocopies of newspaper articles about Vermont history and country ways written by *Rutland Herald* columnist Barney Crosier (1922-) during the period 1976-1999. They came to the Vermont Historical Society sometime in 2000 or 2001 when the Society was considering publishing a collection of his writing. It is housed in one archival box (.25 linear feet).

Biographical Note

Bernard Harley “Barney” Crosier was born on November 25, 1922, in Wilmington, Vermont, and grew up on two dairy farms there. In 1941 he graduated from Wilmington High School where he was the editor of the school newspaper. He attended Vermont Agricultural School in Randolph Center, Vermont. In 1945 he married Agnes Bryant of Springfield, a student nurse at Gifford Hospital in Randolph. Five days after they married, Barney Crosier shipped off to the war in Europe where he served in Italy. After the war he and his wife settled in Springfield, Vermont, and raised five children.

Crosier became the *Herald's* Springfield reporter in 1957 at \$75 a week. He worked for 45 years as a reporter, bureau chief, Sunday features writer and columnist for the *Rutland Daily Herald*, and later for the Sunday edition of the *Herald* and *Times Argus*. In 1971 he began a column called “In Windsor County” about life growing up on a farm in southern Vermont in the 1930s and ‘40s. The column became known as “Windchaff” in 1975. He retired in January 2002.

Scope and Content

This collection includes photocopies of newspaper articles about Vermont History and country ways written by Barney Crosier during the period 1976-1999. Most, if not all, of these articles appeared in the Vermont Living section of the *Rutland Herald*. This collection does not include copies of his “Windchaff” series that appeared on the Op Ed pages of the same newspaper.

The collection has been divided into four series that correspond to the four folders in the collection. The titles of the series, assigned by someone before the collection came to the Vermont Historical Society Library, reflect the nature of the collection:

- I. Mood and Nostalgia
- II. Vermont Outings
- III. Vermont Places
- IV. Vermont People Close to History

Inventory

I. Mood and Nostalgia

MSA 315:1

- October 3, 1976, "The October Moon Brings On a Colorful Vermont"
December 26, 1976, "Christmas (50 Years Ago): Bundling Up for a Sleigh Ride"
October 16, 1980, "Trunk Yields Melodious Memories"
May 7, 1981, "April Showers, No Umbrellas"
November 14, 1982, "'The Peepers': A Personal Reflection"
April 3, 1983, "Going Calling on Sunday: A Ride, a Tradition, a Memory"
July 3, 1983, "Oink!"
September 25, 1983, "Attic Fading as Play Area"
December 16, 1984, "When We Used to Cut Our Own"
February 2, 1986, "'56 Push-Button Plymouth Was Best in Mud"
March 23, 1986, "Mud Season: Drivers Hate It; Dogs, Kids Love It"
May 25, 1986, "Sipping Sodas, Stealing Kisses at a Drug Store"
July 27, 1986, "In Barton, You Can Slurp Soda at a Drug Store"
October 19, 1986, "Early Days of Motoring in Vermont"
December 21, 1986, "Christmas Past: A Look at How Vermonters Celebrated the Holiday"
March 29, 1987, "Celebration Time for Secret Spam-Lovers. In Defense of Spam: Confessions of a 50-Year Fan"
January 22, 1989, "A Powerful North Wind May Have Rearranged Your Entire Life"
July 7, 1991, "Sweet Memories of Croquet and Out-of-State Kin"
July 28, 1991, "Blackberry Time: Sweet Connection to Days Gone By"
August 25, 1991, "Milk Memories: Recalling When Fat Was Beautiful"
No date, "Haying in the Old Days a Ritual Involving the Whole Farm Family"
No date, "Paying Respects to the Marvelous Elderberry"

II. Vermont Outings

MSA 315:2

- November 5, 1991, "Whitingham's 'Glory Hole' Spillway Remains a Marvel of Old-Fashioned Engineering"
January 12, 1992, "Pavilion, Capitol Hold Historical Surprises"
March 8, 1992, "St. Johnsbury's Elegant Athenaeum: A Cultural Jewel in the Kingdom"
June 7, 1992, "Coolidge Birthplace Opens Doors to a Way of Life"
July 12, 1992, "Brownington Museum Is Legacy of Alexander Twilight"
August 9, 1992, "Battle of Bennington Was Pivotal Moment in History"
November 8, 1992, "When It Comes to Bridges, Northfield Has You Covered"
February 7, 1993, "Arlington Museum Honors Rockwell"
June 20, 1993, "Vermont's Woodsy Retreats"
July 11, 1993, "War Sites Appeal to Picnickers and History Buffs"
September 5, 1993, "Getting Up and Over the Hump"

- November 7, 1993, "Pay Tribute to Veterans with a Trip to Cemetery"
- December 5, 1993, "Museum Recreates Christmas of Old"
- April 17, 1994, "Echoes of the Log Drives"
- July 17, 1994, "Mystery Trail Offers Glimpses of Wildflowers, Vermont's Past"
- August 7, 1994 "When Water Power Ruled: Through Long Ago Shut Down, the Adams Grist Mill Speaks Eloquently of Bellow Falls' Past"
- October 9, 1994, "Founder of a Faith"
- November 13, 1994, "Revisiting Grandma Moses' Years in Vermont"
- December 4, 1994, "A Place of Reflection and Hard Work: Visiting the Weston Priory Can Remind You of Older Values"
- February 5, 1995, "Curd Watching: A trip to the Cabot Creamery Will Show You How They Make Their Famous Cheese"
- March 12, 1995, "Tapping into Maple Sugaring's History: Pittsford Museum Shows Evolution of Vermont's Most Distinctive Product"
- April 2, 1995, "Springfield Followed the River's Flow: A Tour Today Shows the Power of Water in Shaping a Community"
- April 30, 1995, "Visiting the Cradle of Vermont: A hike in East Dorset this Spring will take You to the Bat Cave"
- [July?] 2, 1995, "Visiting the Cradle of Vermont: Despite Its Rough Past, the Constitution House in Windsor Has Held Up Well"
- September 3, 1995, "Monumental Effort Hope Cemetery Serves As Testament to Barre's Quarrying Legacy"
- No date, "Vermont's Holy Place in a Corner of Isle La Motte, St. Anne's Shrine Sits Where Champlain Touched Ground"
- No date, "Floating Bridge Is an Angler's Delight"

III. Vermont Places

MSA 315:3

- April 30, 1978, "Manchester"
- Jan. 14, 1979, "Road Grader, Schoolhouse Are Baltimore's Worldly Assets, but Residents Love Their Hamlet"
- October 30, 1980, "Sandgate: Wet but Winsome"
- September 19, 1982, "Warners Grant Beacons Only Loggers"
- February 30, 1983, "Gaps Galore: You Can Get There from Here (If you're Willing to Go Uphill)"
- February 27, 1983, "Bellows Falls: A New England Industrial Prototype"
- January 1984, "Vermont's Grand Canal Capers"
- January 8, 1984, "Ski Fever - 1930s"
- July 29, 1984, "The Wonders of Willoughby"
- August 26, 1984, "West Haven: A Pastoral Burg, but No Ghost Town"
- September 30, 1984, "Names Aren't All that's Changed Since Gazetteer Days"
- December 30, 1984, "Somerset's (Three) Residents Gave a Wild Time"
- June 8, 1986, "Franklin's Colorful Past"
- September 14, 1986, "High and Historic Mount Holly"
- August 2, 1987, "Concord Is a Shadow of Its Past:Fate of Church Bell a Metaphor for Town"

March 31, 1991, "Family's Roots Are Deep in the Rocky Fields of Searsburg"
December 30, 1999, "The Machine Town"
No date, "Berlin Corners Glue That Binds Fragmented Town"

IV. Vermont People Close to History

MSA 315:4

July 23, 1978, "Vermont Ready for CCC; Used It Well When It Came"
September 5, 1982, "The 'Elegant' Mr. Arthur of North Fairfield"
November 7, 1982, "The 10th Mountain Division: Many of Its Alumni Are Vermonters"
December 19, 1982, "Norwich, Dartmouth and the Road to Northfield"
September 11, 1983, "J. Howard Flower: Traveling Poet an Original Free Spirit"
November 18, 1984, "N.H.'s (Or Vermont's?) Samuel Morey: A Prolific but Unrecognized Inventor"
November 19, 1984, "What They Said About Vermont"
January 27, 1985 "World-Renowned Livestock Artist Unsung AT Home"
May 5, 1985, "Vermonters Saw the World War Like Willie'n Joe"
May 12, 1985, "Power to the Farmers"
May 17, 1987, "Vermont Native Was a Father of the Automotive Age"
August 14, 1985, "V-J Day Comes to a Native Son"
August 14, 1985, "Final Call to Duty"
October 20, 1985, "The Art of Benjamin Kinney on Display"
October 29, 1984, "Vermonters Were Loyal Aides"
November 11, 1985, "Veteran Heard an 'Unreal' Silence"
November 17, 1985, "Remembering Rockwell: Arlington Folks Who Posed Say Illustrator Was Model Neighbor"
[No Month] 13, 1986, "A Pal of Presidents: Fisk, Vt., No Longer Exists, but Nelson Has Place in History"
November 27, 1988, "Young Reporters and Deane Davis Found Humor in Courts of Law"
February 19, 1989, "Plymouth's Famous Son Was a Hit in Retired Teacher's Tea Room"
May 6, 1990, "Taking a Look At Vermont's Best-Known Blacksmith"
May 5, 1991, "Hard-Nosed Ag School Principal Really Had a Compassionate Heart"
No date, "'Merrill's Marauders' – Edson Keith Remembers"

Bernadette Harrington
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