

A Guide to the Earl of Cranbrook Collection (1962-1963) OA.08

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

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Summary Information

Repository	College Archives & Special Collections / Wallace E. Mason Library / Keene State College
Title	Earl of Cranbrook Collection
Date	1962-1963
Extent	1.66 Linear feet
Language	English
Abstract	This collection documents the Earl of Cranbrook's contact with Orang Asli peoples in Malaysia circa 1963. It includes CDs, color slides, and laser prints.

Preferred Citation note

Earl of Cranbrook Collection / Archive & Special Collections / Keene State College

Biographical Note

Gaithorne (Earl of) Cranbrook was born on June 20 in 1933. He received his Bachelor of Arts (1956) and Master of Arts (1960) degrees at Cambridge, England. He has pursued a career as an environmental biologist, initially in South East Asia and subsequently in the UK and Europe. He is a specialist in the biology and management of the cave swiftlets, the “birds-nest soup birds” and the biology of living mammals and archaeozoology of the Malaysian region.

His first post-graduate appointment, 1956-58 was at the Sarawak Museum, Kuching (Borneo) where he was engaged generally in collection and curation duties and specifically in the archaeozoology and studies of cave swiftlets. After obtaining a Ph.D. at Birmingham University (1958-1960), he undertook further swiftlet studies in Indonesia (1960-61). He then joined the Zoology Department, University of Malaya, Malaysia (1961-70). In 1965 with funds granted by the Nutfield Foundation, U.K. he was instrumental in establishing the University’s Field Studies Centre at Mile 26, Ulu Gombak, Selangor, alongside the road crossing the main range of the Peninsula. While living in the area he became acquainted with the Temuan people whose lands crossed both sides of the Main Range, from the Malaysian states of Selangor into Pahang. He also made friends with members of the Semai community living near Kampar, Perak from whom several men came to staff the Ulu Gombak Field Studies Centre (Pusat Penyelidikan Kajahayat Luar) in the late 1960#s.

In 1970 the Earl of Cranbrook returned to his family home in Suffolk, England and became both involved in the management of the family farm and active in local, national and international public and voluntary service, and in the private sector. In 1978 he took the family title and seat in the House of Lords until 1999 when hereditary rights were abolished by the Act of 1999. He has been author (or co-author) and editor of books on the mammals, the birds, the tropical rainforest, and wonders of the natural world of the South-East Asian region, and of many scientific papers on these and related topics including *Mammals of South-East Asia* (1988), *Wonders of Nature in South-East Asia* (1997) as editor, and *Swiftlets of Borneo: builders of edible nests* (2002).

Scope and Content Note

The sound recording has nine tracks of Temuan bamboo instrumental music and was originally recorded on open reel tape. The five color slides (Folder 1) depict (with one exception) unidentified Orang Asli individuals. The digital photographs were scanned from black and white negatives held by the Earl of Cranbrook. Photos A-1 through A-14 show two Malay staff members of the Earl of Cranbrook’s bird ringing team: Husain Osman and Dawam (last name not known). Photos C07 and C08 are childhood photos of two Orang Asli individuals: Baya Busu, recently deceased (on the right) and his younger brother (probably) Epin Busu (on the left). The other images in this group of digital photographs depict

unidentified Orang Asli individuals. The laser copies of photographs (Folder 2) include copies of pages in the Earl of Cranbrook's scrapbook and copies of individual photographs from his collection. They were presumably taken at the same time as the other photographs, circa 1963 but are not dated. Seventeen of those images have an accompanying caption.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

College Archives & Special Collections / Wallace E. Mason Library / Keene State College

Conditions Governing Use note

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Processing Information note

This collection and finding aid were organized and prepared by Irene McGarrity.

Controlled Access Headings

Copyright Note

The Keene State College Orang Asli Archive owns the copyright for the sound recording and slides in the collection. The copyright for the laser and digital photographs resides with the Earl of Cranbrook.

Collection Inventory

CD Box 1, CD #1; Sound recording, Temuan music, 1962 1: Dekut flute (2 tunes) 2: Buloh ketok pig call (3 rhythm) 3: Tebong (1 tune) 4: Buloh 5:TuntongPulang(MP3, 504KB)* 6: Telor Burong 7: Tukang Lidang 8: Bujang Halus 9: FluteTebong(MP3, 1.13MB)** The above sound files are in .MP3 format, and require a media player to play.

CD Box 1, CD #2; 113 digital photographs, Rolls A,B,C,D, c. 1963

Box 1, Folder 1; Color Slides 1: White haired man, Earl of Cranbrook's father; man on right, Hokin, Tasek Bera, c. 1963 2: unidentified men, c. 1963 3: unidentified group, Iskandar, c. 1963 4: unidentified man, c. 1963 5: unidentified man, c. 1963

Oversized Box 1, Folder 2; 94 laser prints of black and white photos, n.d.