

Archives & Manuscript Collections
National Sporting Library
Middleburg, VA

**Henry Hugh Somerset (10th Duke of Beaufort)
Scrapbook
1960-1989**

Name: **Somerset, Henry Hugh A. F. (1900-1984)** **MC0022**

Materials: Scrapbook

Dates: 1960-1989 (bulk dates 1971-1978)

Volume: 0.25 cubic feet

Donation: Gift of Anthony and Suzanne del Balso, 1999

Usage: Unless otherwise stated by NSL staff, these records are open for research without restrictions.

Biographical Note

Sir Henry Hugh Arthur FitzRoy Somerset, 10th Duke of Beaufort, was the youngest of three children and the only son of Henry Adelbert Wellington FitzRoy Somerset, 9th Duke of Beaufort and Louise Emily Harford. He was born on April 4, 1900 at Hamilton, Scotland, and received his education from Eton College and the Royal Military College, both in the county of Berkshire. Upon the death of his father on November 24, 1924, he became the 10th Duke of Beaufort, the 16th Earl of Worcester, the 12th Marquess of Worcester, the 18th Lord Herbert, and the 10th Lord of Botetourt. Somerset held several high offices, the most important of which, the Queen's Master of the Horse, he held from 1936 until his death. He was invested as a Knight, Order of the Garter in 1937, in addition to many other such honors.

Throughout his life, Somerset was known as "Master," not because of his status in the peerage, but because of his love of hounds and foxhunting; he had his own pack before he was ten years old. His Beaufort Hounds were recognized as superior examples of English foxhounds; the pack placed first in numerous hounds shows at Peterborough and has enhanced bloodlines throughout the world. In 1948 the Olympic Games were held in Great Britain, and the Duke was a spectator at the equestrian events held at Aldershot in which the British team did poorly. Realizing that British riders could benefit from more intense training, he offered his estate at Badminton House as the site of a horse trial that would do just that. The first Badminton Three-Day Event was held in 1949, and is still today one of

the premiere equestrian competitions in England. Queen Elizabeth and the Royal Family, frequent visitors to the event, would stay with the Duke and Duchess at Badminton during the trial, as Princess Anne was an accomplished rider who placed in the top ten a number of times.

Somerset married Lady Victoria Constance Mary Cambridge, Princess of Teck, on June 14, 1923; the couple had no children. He died on February 5, 1984 at age 83 at Badminton House, London, England; Mary died at Badminton in 1987. Upon the death of Henry Somerset, the dukedom passed on to his cousin, David Robert Somerset, while several of the other titles fell to the children of Henry's sister Blanche.

Collection Description

The Henry Hugh Somerset (Duke of Beaufort) Scrapbook was compiled by the del Balsos as part of a journalism assignment in which they covered the Badminton Three-Day Event in 1973. The scrapbook contains numerous magazine and newspaper clippings regarding the event, Somerset, his hounds, and Badminton House, as well as numerous photographs and slides.

Series and Subseries

- I. Scrapbook, 1960-1989** **8 folders**
 Consists of newspaper and magazine clippings, correspondence, photographs, and slides regarding the Duke's renowned love of the sporting life and the Badminton Three-Day Event of 1973. Includes items detailing the event, the royal family's visits to Badminton House, the Beaufort lineage, biographical sketches of the Duke, descriptions of Badminton House, and the champion Beaufort Hounds. Materials arranged in original order.

Container List MC0022

I. Scrapbook, 1960-1989

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Dates</u>
J30	01	Loose article and slides	1978-1989
J30	02	The Beaufort Hounds	1971-1975
J30	03	The Duke and Duchess of Beaufort	1960-1974
J30	04	The Somerset lineage	c1975
J30	05	The Badminton Three-Day Event	1972-1973
J30	06	The Badminton Three-Day Event	1973
J30	07	Photographs	1971-1973
J30	08	Photographs	1971-1973

This collection was processed by Michele M. Tourney, June 2004.