Guide to the Steven Lasswell/Peter Tiersma Frisian research archive Mss 321

Finding aid prepared by Catherine Chen and Zachary Liebhaber, 2016; revised by Beaudry Allen and Kovin Sherrod, 2016.

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**Title:** Steven Lasswell/Peter Tiersma Frisian research archive  
**Identifier/Call Number:** Mss 321  
**Contributing Institution:** UC Santa Barbara Library, Department of Special Research Collections  
**Language of Material:** Multiple languages  
**Physical Description:** 9.5 linear feet (3 cartons, 4 document boxes, 3 flat boxes, 71 audiocassettes)  
**Creator:** Lasswell, Steven Theophilos, 1952-  
**Creator:** Tiersma, Peter Meijes  
**Date (inclusive):** 1926-2016  
**Date (bulk):** 1980-2016  
**Abstract:** Materials created and collected by the linguist Steven Lasswell in the course of writing his 1998 dissertation An Ecological Reference Grammar of Sölring North Frisian, as well as materials by and from the legacy of the late Peter Tiersma, Frisian linguist and professor of law.  
**Physical Location:** Special Research Collections, UC Santa Barbara Library  
**Language of Material:** The collection is in English, Frisian, various dialects of German, Plautdietsch, Dutch, and Danish.  
**Access Restrictions**  
The collection is open for research.  
**Use Restrictions**  
Copyright has not been assigned to the Department of Special Research Collections, UCSB. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Head of Special Research Collections. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the Department of Special Research Collections as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which also must be obtained.  
**Preferred Citation**  
[Identification of Item], Steven Lasswell/Peter Tiersma Frisian research archive, Mss 321. Department of Special Research Collections, UC Santa Barbara Library, University of California, Santa Barbara.  
**Acquisition Information**  
Additions acquired by Special Research Collections, as a gift by Steven Lasswell, in 2016, with an additional increment in 2016.  
**Processing Information**  
File names retain the creator's naming convention.  
**Scope and Content**  
The Frisian Research Archive comprises materials used by the linguist Steven Lasswell in producing his 1998 dissertation An Ecological Reference Grammar of Sölring North Frisian as well as materials by and from the legacy of the late Peter Tiersma, Frisian linguist and professor of law. The Ecological Reference Grammar is particularly significant as not only the sole English-language treatment of Sölring, but also as the only exhaustive study of the language ever made – a language that is one of the most closely related to English and is thus of special interest historically.  
Given the ‘ecological’ perspective of the dissertation for which it served as basis and Lasswell's pan-Frisian approach to his subject, the archive has much more than a purely grammatical orientation. With the term ecological here signifying the broadest possible approach to language, including knowledge of society, culture, and history of the speech community, the materials used encompass both academic and non-academic treatments of issues that bear on the functioning of the speech community on Söl (German Sylt), the North Sea island that is the home of the variety of North Frisian that is the focus of the study. Accordingly, there are manuscript and printed writings in Sölring, including an extensive body of correspondence between the author and inhabitants of the island; many of the published materials written by the Sölring islanders themselves; and several of the pedagogical works being used in schools to try to promote the language to a new generation. Of major importance is the collection of the newspaper Fuar Söl’ring Lir published during 1926-1939 and 1953-1970 in Sölring by Hermann Schmidt. Unique is the manuscript translation (in photocopy) of the entire New Testament by Peter Michael Clemens (1804-1870), from which the four Gospels were finally published in Germany and the Netherlands by Hindrik Brouwer in 2008. At the heart of the collection are approximately twenty-one hours of conversation with speakers of Sölring that were recorded by Lasswell on research trips in 1992 and 1993.  
In addition to looking at the grammar and other structural characteristics of Sölring, Lasswell devoted much attention in his dissertation and other writings to the issue of language endangerment, language maintenance, and language revitalization, and the archive contains a number of source documents on these subfields of sociolinguistics which were emerging in the...
1990s and which continue to be important in the face of widespread language loss around the world. In conducting his research, Lasswell maintained close contacts throughout the historical area of the three Frisias (north, east, and west), and there are language materials in and about not only Sölring, but also Fering-Öömrang, the other insular variety of North Frisian; Freesk, Mooring, Frasch and Halunder (mainland varieties); and Seeltersk (East Frisian). Frysk, centered in the Frisian province of the Netherlands and the most widespread variety of Frisian, is also represented in the archive, and it is in fact to the "West Frisians" that Lasswell and many Frisianists look for inspiration in today's efforts at measures for maintaining and revitalizing the much smaller varieties of North and East Frisian, which are structurally changing and rapidly disappearing under unrelenting pressure from Standard German as the most viable and useful mode of communication in society in Germany. A large number of research materials are in German; further studies in Dutch, and Danish and other Scandinavian tongues round out the selection of foreign languages present in the archive.

Additional material was acquired in later half of 2016 (Boxes 7-10) and is comprised of correspondence, newspapers, magazines, academic papers and related research materials, books, and notes. The correspondence relates to conferences, article publishing, and general correspondence amongst the academic community. The research materials are in English, German, and Danish. Beyond correspondence, many of the records relate to writing, publishing, and conferences Lasswell participated in from the mid 1990s to early 2000s.

**Arrangement**

The collection has been divided into four series: Series I. Research Files, Series II. Newspapers and Manuscripts, Series III. Additions, and Series IV. Audio.

**Related Material**

Books on the Frisian Language from the libraries of Steven Lasswell and Peter Tiersma have been separated from the collection and cataloged. These may be accessed via the UCSB Library catalog under Steven Lasswell/Peter Tiersma Collection.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

- Frisian language
- Frisian language -- Dialects
- Linguistics
- Letters (correspondence)
- Manuscripts (document genre)
- Clippings (information artifacts)
- Sound recordings

**Series I. Research Files 1990s**

- **Box 1**: Addenda re Lexik, Lasswell, and Materials on Frisian circa 1990s
  - Altfriesisch
  - Amring/Öömrang
  - Århammar
  - Bibliographic
  - Bilingualism
  - Boie, Margarete, Der Sylter Hahn (copy)
  - Bosma-Banning, Büter, Brea en Griene Tsiis (copy) (Frysk)
  - Candidacy
  - Codeswitching in Sölring North Frisian
  - Clemens
  - Clemens, Bibelübersetzungsarbeit
  - Clemens, Dit helig Evangilje van Lukas (notes)
  - Correspondence (Academic)
  - D-Colloqu.
  - Degn, Christian Von - Schleswig-Holstein
  - Danish West Frisian, West Frisian Danish outline grammars
  - Outline grammars of Sölring: Nann Mungard (1909), Peter Saxild (1846), Hermann Schmidt (ca. 1961)
| Box 1 | Early Sölring Literature: C.P. Hansen's Uald Söld’ring Tialen (1858), Jap Peter Hansen's Di Gitshals of di Söl'ring Pidersdai & Di lekkelk Stjürman (1896), Boy Peter Möller's Söl'ring Leesbok (1909) |
| Box 1 | Ebert |
| Box 1 | Economic Text - Original and Translation, Lexical Elaboration |
| Box 1 | Faltings / Ebert |
| Box 1 | Faroe |
| Box 1 | Feitsma, Vernacular and Identity; Die Friesen und ihre Sprache |
| Box 1 | Fering - Öömrang (insular N. Fris.) |
| Box 1 | Ferring |
| Box 1 | Folien / Dir. Rds. |
| Box 1 | Frasch / Freesk - Mainland N. Frisian |
| Box 1 | Friserstudier 1979-1980 |
| Box 1 | Friserstudier 1981-1983 |
| Box 1 | Fridsma, Bernard J. Sr., Introduction to Frisian (copy) |
| Box 1 | Friesische Bewegung - Language Movement |
| Box 1 | Friesisch und Englisch |
| Box 1 | Frisian allgm. (Hoekstra/Tiersma) |
| Box 1 | Frisians in America |
| Box 1 | Frysk Diminutives (D. Hoffmann) |
| Box 1 | Frysk / West Frisian 1 |
| Box 1 | Frysk / West Frisian 2 |
| Box 1 | Frysk / West Frisian 3 |
| Box 1 | Genetics and Typology |
| Box 1 | Glasgow, ESSE Papers: Sociolinguistic Factors...English/N. Frisian |
| Box 1 | Handwritten Grammatical Notes, Lasswell |
| Box 1 | Halunder - N. Frisian / Helgoland |
| Box 1 | History of Frisia(n) |
| Box 2 | History Schleswig - Holstein/Slesvig/Denmark |
| Box 2 | Hoekstra, Braunmüller |
| Box 2 | Hofmann |
| Box 2 | IHC - Fall 1994 PhD |
| Box 2 | Jørgensen, Über die Herkunft der Nordfriesen |
| Box 2 | Jørgensen, Peter, Phonetics/Phonology |
| Box 2 | (Journal) Nordfriesland |
| Box 2 | Kalenderium (Eider, Wiedau) |
| Box 2 | Kööp, Karl-Peter, Quellen und Materialien zur Nordfriesischen Geschichte |
| Box 2 | Language Contact |
| Box 2 | Language Maintenance |
| Box 2 | Language Maintenance, Education, Politics |
| Box 2 | Language Purism |
| Box 2 | Lasswell [1] |
| Box 2 | Lasswell [2] |
| Box 2 | Lasswell [3] |
| Box 2 | Lasswell [4] |
| Box 2 | Lasswell, An Ecological Reference Grammar of Sölring North Frisian (Dissertation - Final) |
| Box 2 | Lasswell, An Ecological Reference Grammar of Sölring North Frisian (Dissertation - Preliminary Ver.) |
| Box 2 | Lasswell - Articles and Lecture Notes |
| Box 2 | Lasswell - Directed Reading Fall 1992 |
| Box 2 | Lasswell - Linguistics 252 Fall 1994 |
| Box 2 | Lasswell, North Frisian Dialectalization or Demise [1] |
| Box 2 | Lasswell, North Frisian Dialectalization or Demise [2] |
| Box 2 | Lasswell, North Frisian Language Management and Planning |
| Box 2 | Ljouwert |
| Box 2 | Lowlands |
| Box 2 | Lowlands 1999 |
Clemens, Dit helig Evangilje van Lukas (copy of manuscript) 2008

Scope and Content

Manuscript translation (in photocopy) of the entire New Testament by Peter Michael Clemens (1804-1870), from which the four Gospels were finally published in Germany and the Netherlands by Hindrik Brouwer in 2008.
Series II. Newspapers and Manuscripts

Flat-box 5-6

**Fuar Söl'ring Lir (Newspaper) 1926-1970**

**Scope and Content**

**Related Material**
For comprehensive index to this publication, see Schmidt, Hermann, Index to Fuar Söl'ring Lir (Box 3).

Series III. **Additions 1991-2006**

**Scope and Content**
This series, constituting an addition to the Lasswell/Tiersma Frisian Research Archive, comprises correspondence and research files acquired from a number of later acquisitions. Arranged in original order and retains original folder titles of the creator with added English translations when applicable.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**
Frisian language
Frisian language -- Dialects
Linguistics

**Box-folder 7:1**

**Söliring Umschriften (Söliring Transcriptions) 1995 June 9 - 1997 April 1**

**Other Descriptive Information**
Steven Lasswell dissertation colloquium.

**Box-folder 7:2**

Plautdietsch 1995 - 1996

**Box-folder 7:4**

Intro/Preview 1 1997-1999

**Box-folder 7:5**

Unity in diversity, the lesser used languages of Europe undated

Correspondence 1998-2006

**Box-folder 7:6**

Correspondence 1998-2006

**Box-folder 7:8**

[Correspondence] 1998-2001

**Box-folder 7:9**

[Correspondence] 1997-2006

**Box-folder 8:1**

Correspondence 1991 - 1995

Postcards/Letters 1993-1999

**Box-folder 8:4-5**

Frisian conference 1998 - 1999

**Scope and Content**
Regarding presentation on Frisian grammar at a Frisian conference. Also includes correspondence.

**Box-folder 7:11**

Notes/address book 1995 March 5

**Box-folder 8:2**

Newspapers 1999

**Box-folder 8:3**

Magazine clippings 1985

**Box-folder 8:4**

Hans Hoeg dechtings [poems]. 1993

**Box-folder 9:2**

Academic papers 1993

**Box-folder 9:3**

Publishers 2000

**Box-folder 9:4**

Academic Journals, includes correspondence 1996-1997

**Box-folder 9:5**

Dissertation colloquium/Conference papers 1997-1999

**Box-folder 9:6**

Germanic/European Histories undated

**Box-folder 9:7**

Liigönen (Light) 1998

**Box-folder 9:8**

Weinrich 1993

**Box-folder 9:9**

Dissertation von Steven Lasswell 1999

**Box-folder 9:10**

Academic papers, includes correspondence 1994 - 1995

**Box-folder 9:11**

NF Handouts en: me elev jaar 1995

**Box-folder 9:12**

Defense 1997

**Box-folder 9:13**

Rødgrød 1993-1997

**Box-folder 9:14**

Dansk (Danish) undated

**Box-folder 10:1**

Old English undated

Guide to the Steven Lasswell/Peter Tiersma Frisian research archive Mss 321
Series III. Additions 1991-2006

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Box-folder 10: 2  Fering lidj an leewent. by Peter Paulsen 1993
Box-folder 10: 3  Mein Sylt Ein Lesebuch Von Hinrich Matthiesen 1992
Box-folder 10: 4  Hans Hoeg (plus Min Jest Duusend: Uurter Sölring by Heather Amery) 2011-12

Series IV. Audio

Scope and Content

This series contains twenty-one hours of conversation with speakers of Sölring that were recorded by Lasswell on research trips in 1992 and 1993, and includes recordings in Öömrang and in mainland varieties of N. Frisian.

item A27207/CS  Abelings/Bartels, Hoeg
item A27208/CS  Arichsem, Muasem
item A27209/CS  Arnold/Brunhilde Voss (Muasem) and Hans Hoeg
item A27210/CS  Annemarie (M Kamp)
item A27211/CS  Bai üs tu hüs (Frasch)
item A27212/CS  Thiessen, Blunk
item A27213/CS  Bohn: 1
item A27214/CS  Bohn: 2
item A27215/CS  Bohn: 3
item A27216/CS  Bohn: 4
item A27217/CS  Bohn: 1
item A27218/CS  Bohn: 2
item A27219/CS  Bohn/Ingwertsen
item A27220/CS  Bohn/Jacobsen, T. Hansen
item A27221/CS  Borgfeld/Golatic, dill 4/4
item A27222/CS  Boysen
item A27223/CS  Boysen/Nissen broket
item A27224/CS  Buchholz
item A27225/CS  Clemens; Bencziks
item A27226/CS  Christoph, Kaarten/Bartling
item A27227/CS  C. Petersen/P. Schober
item A27228/CS  Frysk 1-8 (Butter Brea Griene Tsiis)
item A27229/CS  Frysk 9-20
item A27230/CS  Frysk 21-22
item A27231/CS  Hansen/Abelings
item A27232/CS  E. Hansen and U. Holst
item A27233/CS  Hans Hoeg, Glasgow
item A27234/CS  Hiir Sölring, Lir Sölring
item A27235/CS  Hoguev; Andrezen, Tadsen (Öömrang)
item A27236/CS  Holst, Voss (Arichsem)
item A27237/CS  Irene Bartels (biiring)
item A27238/CS  Jacobsen, Borgfeld and Golatic/T. Hansen
item A27239/CS  Kamp (töjen);Michelsen, Simonsen and NÅ 1996
item A27240/CS  M. Kamp and H. Lade
item A27241/CS  Kieckbusch/Schrähé
item A27242/CS  M. Kieckbusch ; E-U Schrahé, Herm. Lorenzen
item A27243/CS  Krogmann ; Gantzel ; Schneider M. Kamp
item A27244/CS  Lauritzen/Christoph
item A27245/CS  Matzen
item A27246/CS  Neeli-most "üp raisin" Sölring komeedi fan Erich Johannsen 1934
item A27247/CS  Nissen/Voss
item A27248/CS  Martinsen, Nissen
item A27249/CS  Moore, Dachte Foon E. (Freesh)
item A27250/CS  Öömrang: Chr. Flor
item A27251/CS  Öömrang: Weithas, Quedens Martinen, Gerretz
item A27252/CS  Paula Schneider and Alastair Walker
item A27253/CS  Petersen/Nicolai, Bohn
item A27254/CS  Proben, Kieckbusch/K.
item A27255/CS  Sangschaw and Penny Wheep by Huch MacDiarmid (The Boonie Broukit Bairn)
<table>
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<th>Item Code</th>
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<tr>
<td>A27252/CS</td>
<td>Scharper/Jacobsen</td>
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<td>A27253/CS</td>
<td>Schober/Thaysen</td>
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<tr>
<td>A27254/CS</td>
<td>Schrahé 1966</td>
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<td>A27255/CS</td>
<td>Schrahé/Alte Aufnahmen</td>
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<td>A27256/CS</td>
<td>Siemens Fliirstön, Brer'ep</td>
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<td>A27257/CS</td>
<td>Siewertsen, Winger 1</td>
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<td>A27258/CS</td>
<td>Siewertsen, Winger 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>A27259/CS</td>
<td>Sobila ; Jürgen Kamp</td>
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<td>A27260/CS</td>
<td>Söirling: Abelingo ; Bartels/Hoeg</td>
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<tr>
<td>A27261/CS</td>
<td>Söirling: E. Hansen / U. Holst</td>
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<tr>
<td>A27262/CS</td>
<td>Söirling: Irene Bartels (3, 4)</td>
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<td>A27263/CS</td>
<td>Söirling: Ossenbr/Lade; Schröders</td>
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<tr>
<td>A27264/CS</td>
<td>Söirling: P. Hansen ; Abelings</td>
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<tr>
<td>A27265/CS</td>
<td>Söirling (Kamp/Lade)</td>
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<tr>
<td>A27266/CS</td>
<td>Thaysen/s ; döör NÅ 1966</td>
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<td>A27267/CS</td>
<td>Thaysen, Bartling/B.</td>
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<td>A27268/CS</td>
<td>Thaysens (ual) ; Bencsiks</td>
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<td>A27269/CS</td>
<td>Thaysen/Voss</td>
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<td>A27270/CS</td>
<td>Thiele, Gieppner - Carstensen</td>
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<td>A27271/CS</td>
<td>Üüs Ains Kieckbusch</td>
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<td>A27272/CS</td>
<td>Voss (Kiil) ; Krogmann (inkl. Eke Nepekken)</td>
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<td>A27273/CS</td>
<td>Voss/Hans ; Voss (K)</td>
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<td>Voss, Kieckbusch / K.</td>
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<td>A27275/CS</td>
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<td>Willy Schröder 1990</td>
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