



# Smithsonian

*National Museum of Natural History*

## Guide to the Frederick E. Farnsworth papers and photographs

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Anthropological Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Frederick E. Farnsworth papers and photographs
<b>Date:</b>	1929
<b>Identifier:</b>	NAA.2020-13
<b>Creator:</b>	Farnsworth, Frederick E.
<b>Extent:</b>	1.25 Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	English .

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Donated by Sarah, Susan, and Catherine E. Farnsworth, Frederick Farnsworth's daughters, in November of 2019.

### Preferred Citation

NAA.2020-13, Frederick E. Farnsworth papers and photographs, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

### Restrictions

The collection is open for research.  
Access to the collection requires an appointment.

### Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

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## Biographical / Historical

Frederick E. Farnsworth was a student of Carleton Coon while earning his BA in anthropology at Harvard University. Following his graduation in 1929, he joined Coon on a trip to Albania as a research assistant. His stepfather, Francis Drexel Smith, generously covered his expenses to enable him to be part of the trip. During his time in Albania, Farnsworth became good friends with Julius Holmes at the American Legation in Tirana. After the field work was completed, Farnsworth stayed on to help Holmes with the opening of the American Embassy and was encouraged by Holmes to apply to the Foreign Service. Upon returning to the United States, Farnsworth applied and was accepted into the Foreign Service. Over his 35 years with the Department of State, Farnsworth served in eleven locations: Ciudad Juarez, Palermo, Istanbul, Singapore, Montreal, Ottawa, Cairo, Shanghai, Djakarta, Halifax, Washington, and Hong Kong. He retired in 1966 with the rank of Consul General.

## Scope and Contents

The collection documents Farnsworth's trip to Albania with Carleton Coon in 1929. It includes a photograph album and letters Farnsworth wrote home to his family during the trip, as well as a small amount of correspondence with Coon regarding Coon's autobiography chapter on Albania.

The photographs document people, landscapes, and ceremonies across Albania. According to Farnsworth's album annotations, photographed locations include the Mat (Mati) river, the Black Drin river, Dibër county, Lezhë county, Luma region, Kubës, Prizren, Has (Hasi) region, Jugo-Slavia, Pukë, Orosh (Oroshi) village, municipality of Mirditë (Mirdita), Malësi e Madhe district, Shrkeli, and Kir (Kiri) river. Likewise, tribes and cultural groups photographed include the Shoshi, Shala, Ghegs (Gegët), and Tosks (Toskët). The album also contains three postcards, a newspaper clipping outlining the Albania trip, and an open letter from Lazer Çetta.

The collection also includes a first edition (1981) of Carleton Coon's autobiography, "Adventures and Discoveries: The Autobiography of Carleton S. Coon Anthropologist and Explorer", where Chapter 9 relays his experience with Farnsworth in Albania.

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Names:

Coon, Carleton S. (Carleton Stevens), 1904-1981

Places:

Albania

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## Container Listing

Box 1, Folder 1	Correspondence, September-October 1929
Box 1, Folder 2	Correspondence, November-December 1929
Box 1, Folder 3	Correspondence, January-February 1930
Box 1, Folder 4	Correspondence, March 1930
Box 1, Folder 5	Correspondence, April-May 1930
Box 1, Folder 6	Correspondence, 1929-1930
Box 1, Folder 7	News clippings (undated)
Box 1, Folder 8	Correspondence and manuscript draft, 1972
Box 1, Folder 9	Photographs (undated)
Box 2, Item 1	Photograph album, 1929
Box 2, Item 2	Adventures and Discoveries: The Autobiography of Carleton S. Coon Anthropologist and Explorer, 1981