



# Guide to the Tim Smith "The Hutterites" project collection, 2010-2024

---

This collection guide was produced in **July 2025**.  
This PDF version was created on **April 3, 2026**.

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

411 Chapel Drive

Duke University

Durham 27708

[askRL@duke.edu](mailto:askRL@duke.edu)

URL: <https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

---

## Table of Contents

---

<a href="#">Summary</a> .....	3
<a href="#">Background</a> .....	4
<a href="#">Arrangement</a> .....	5
<a href="#">Administrative Information</a> .....	5
<a href="#">Names and Subjects</a> .....	6
<a href="#">Collection Inventory</a> .....	7
<a href="#">Prints</a> .....	7
<a href="#">Papers and Film</a> .....	9

## Summary

---

**Collection Title:**

Tim Smith "The Hutterites" project collection, 2010-2024

**Creator:**

Smith, Tim, 1978-

**Source:**

Archive of Documentary Arts (Duke University)

**Abstract:**

Tim Smith (born 1978) is an award-winning photographer based in Manitoba, Canada. "The Hutterites" is part of an ongoing project by Tim Smith, entitled "In The World But Not Of It", documenting the Hutterites, Anabaptists who live communally in colonies in Canada and the United States, largely removed from broader society. Materials span 2010-2024 and include 25 color prints sized 18x24 inches featuring various Hutterite colonies particularly the Deerboine Hutterite Colony in Manitoba, Canada; a directory; a Christmas program; a tiechel (headscarf); journal notes written by Smith; postcards and small ephemera related to Smith's exhibitions; and one video file showcasing cattle branding at Forty Mile Hutterite Colony in Montana, United States. Topics include family life; marriages; communal living; farmwork, ranching, and livestock; depictions of women and youth; adoption of new technology; and religious practices. Acquired by the Archive of Documentary Arts.

**Extent:**

1.75 Linear Feet (1 oversize box)

854 Megabytes (1 file)

**Language:**

Materials in English.

**Collection ID:**

RL.13155

**Permalink:**

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m1f16x>

**Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], Tim Smith "The Hutterites" project collection, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Background

---

### Scope and Content

Collection contains selected materials dating 2010-2024 from Tim Smith's ongoing project photographing the Hutterite community. Materials include 25 color prints sized 18x24 inches, depicting life in various Hutterite colonies in Manitoba and Saskatchewan within Canada with a particular focus on the Deerboine Colony in Manitoba; a directory; a Christmas program; a tiechel (headscarf); postcards and related ephemera for Smith's exhibitions; journal notes written by Smith on some early experiences visiting members in Hutterite colonies; and one video file depicting the yearly branding carried out at Forty Mile Hutterite Colony in Montana, United States. Topics include family life; marriages; communal living; farmwork, ranching, and livestock; depictions of women including clothing and labor; depictions of youth at play and in education; adoption of new technology; and religious practices such as church services, funerals, and baptisms.

### Biographical/Historical

Tim Smith (born 1978) is an award-winning photographer based in Manitoba, Canada with a background in photography and journalism. His projects and talks have included documenting life in Canadian prairies, the Hutterite community, photographing sensitive communities or subjects, slow journalism, mental health in journalism, and being a part of people's lives. Smith's work has been featured internationally in solo and group exhibitions in countries such as Canada, Cote D'Ivoire, Germany, Italy, Israel, Korea, the United Arab Emirates, the United States, and many more, including a permanent display at the Múzeum habánov v Sobotište (Hutterites Museum in Sobotište) in Slovakia.

"The Hutterites" is part of an ongoing project that began in 2009, entitled "In The World But Not Of It." In 2009, Smith encountered a group of Hutterite women and asked to take a photograph. Over the years, he continued to visit, build relationships, and photograph the various Hutterite communities in Manitoba, Alberta, and Saskatchewan in Canada, and in parts of the United States.

The Hutterites are an insular Anabaptist community practicing adult baptism, communal living ("community of goods"), pacifism, separation of church and state, and self-sufficiency particularly through farming, ranching, and some manufacturing. Largely settled in Canada and parts of the United States since the 1800s in small colonies, the community numbers approximately 45,000.

Tim Smith is a 2024 recipient of an Archive of Documentary Arts Collection Award for the project, "The Hutterites."

Sources: Tim Smith website, <https://www.timsmithphotography.ca/>, accessed July 22, 2025

"Tim Smith: Among the Hutterites," <https://talking-pictures.online/2024/02/17/tim-smith-among-the-hutterites/>, accessed July 22, 2025

Hutterian Brethren, "History", <https://www.hutterites.org/>, accessed July 22, 2025

The Canadian Encyclopedia, "Hutterites in Canada", <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/hutterites>, accessed July 22, 2025

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Arrangement

---

Materials are arranged into two series: Prints; and Papers and Film.

Prints are arranged in order provided by the donor.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Administrative Information

---

### Publication Statement

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

411 Chapel Drive

Duke University

Durham 27708

[askRL@duke.edu](mailto:askRL@duke.edu)

URL: <https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

### Access Restrictions

Access note. Some materials are electronic records and need special equipment.

## **Use Restrictions**

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the Rubenstein Library's Citations, Permissions, and Copyright guide.

## **Acquisition Information**

The Tim Smith "The Hutterites" project collection was received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library from Tim Smith as a winner of the 2024 Archive of Documentary Arts Collection Award.

## **Processing Information**

Processed by Tere Elizalde, July 2025

Accessions described in this collection guide: 2025-0039

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## **Names and Subjects**

---

- Hutterian Brethren
- Hutterite farmers -- Photographs
- Hutterite women -- Photographs
- Technology -- Religious aspects -- Hutterian Brethren
- Collective settlements -- Canada
- Clothing and dress -- Religious aspects -- Hutterian Brethren
- Sex role -- Religious aspects -- Hutterian Brethren
- Marriage -- Religious aspects -- Hutterian Brethren
- Agriculture -- Manitoba -- Photographs
- Youth -- Photographs
- Manitoba -- Social life and customs
- Saskatchewan -- Social life and customs
- Montana -- Social life and customs
- Color prints (photographs)
- Machine-readable artifacts
- Smith, Tim, 1978-
- Archive of Documentary Arts (Duke University)

---

## Collection Inventory

---

### Prints, 2010-2024

#### Scope and Contents

Contains 25 color prints, sized 18x24 inches, depicting the Hutterite community, mainly in Canada between 2010-2024 as part of Smith's ongoing project, "In The World But Not Of It." Most photographs feature the Deerboine Colony in Manitoba, Canada, but other colonies include Maple Grove, Baker, Hillcrest, Decker, Pine Creek, and MacGregor in Canada; and Forty Mile Colony in the United States. Photographs feature family life, marriages, farmwork, depictions of women, depictions of youth, and new technology, religious practices, and other topics.

The Hutterites prints (1 of 5), 2010-2024	Box 1
Michelle Wurtz tugs on the suspenders of her younger brother Simeon, 2010	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0001
Rebecca, Deborah, Dahlia, and Lana, 2010	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0002
Children play tag on a pyramid of straw bales, 2010	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0003
Junia watches the movie The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants on a television at the colony school, 2010	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0004
Family and friends laugh as bride and groom Deborah Hofer and Dereck Maendel are pressured into a kiss, 2013	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0005
The Hutterites prints (2 of 5), 2010-2024	Box 1
John and Ruth Waldner give thanks after her helped her with her lunch, 2013	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0006

---

Clay shooting over the Assiniboine River, 2015	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0007
Justin and Kevin work in the killing plant butchering chickens, 2015	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0008
Justin Hofer after day two of butchering egg-laying chickens, 2015	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0009
Edwin Hofer sits in the living room of his home waiting for the call to church, 2015	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0010
The Hutterites prints (3 of 5), 2010-2024	Box 1
Nevada Waldner holds her American Girl style doll, 2016	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0011
Hadassah Maendel takes Kahlua for a swim, 2016	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0012
Students at Hillcrest Colony listen to their English teacher, 2017	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0013
German school teacher Jonathan Hofer presides over prayer after dinner in the essenschul, 2017	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0014
Chantel Hofer poses for a portrait in her wedding dress, 2018	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0016
The Hutterites prints (4 of 5), 2010-2024	Box 1
Jack Hofer prepares to slaughter a hog for the colony's use, 2018	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0017
Bethany Hofer in the colony garden after planting cucumbers in the rain, 2019	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0018

---

Young people load straw bales onto a flat bed, 2022	Box 1 > Print RL.13122-P-0020
Family, friends, and loved ones sing hymns around Susanna Wolman's casket in her home at Decker Colony, 2023	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0021
Branding, castrating, and vaccinating calves at Forty Mile Colony in Montana, 2023	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0022
The Hutterites prints (5 of 5), 2010-2024	Box 1
Kids swim in Pine Creek on a hot July evening, 2024	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0024
Kira Wurtz lies atop of a pile of freshly picked carrots in the colony garden, 2024	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0025
Hadassah Maendel practices headstands at Baker Colony, 2016	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0026
Judith Maendel plays the puck during a charity game in MacGregor, Manitoba between Hutterite women and the local town team, 2016	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0027
Marcus Wurtz stops for a portrait while riding his Hoverboard, 2024	Box 1 > Print RL13155-P-0028

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

## **Papers and Film, 2010-2024**

### **Scope and Contents**

Contains printed and digital materials related to Tim Smith's work on the Hutterites, created and collected between 2010-2024. Materials include photocopied journal entries written by Smith about early visits to Deerboine Colony in Manitoba, Canada; a directory published in 2011 aimed at Canadian Hutterites; promotional materials for Smith's work such as postcards and

other ephemera; a Christmas program from Deerboine School; a black tiechel (headscarf) commonly worn by Hutterite women; and a video file showcasing the yearly branding at Forty Mile Colony in Montana.

**Access Restrictions:**

Access note. Some materials are electronic records that require special equipment.

Journal Entries, 2010-2011	Box 2
2011 Hutterite Directory, 2011	Box 2
Promotional Materials, 2022-2024	Box 2
Forty Mile Branding, 2023	Digital-materials RL13155-SET-0001
<b>Physical Description:</b> 854 Megabytes 1 video file	
Deerboine School Christmas Program, 2024	Box 2
Black Hutterite Tiechel (Headscarf), undated	Box 2

[Return to Table of Contents](#)