

York University Archives & Special Collections (CTASC)

Finding Aid - Nancy Barbara Fleming fonds (F0537)

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Nancy Barbara Fleming fonds

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Summary information

Repository: York University Archives & Special Collections (CTASC)

Title: Nancy Barbara Fleming fonds

ID: F0537

Date: ca. 1953-2006 (date of creation)

Language: English

Physical description: 0.08 m of textual records
15 prints : b&w and col. ; 86 x 51 cm and smaller

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Nancy Barbara Fleming was born in 1931 to Barbara Ellen and Gordon McCullough Chisholm, and spent her childhood in West Toronto Junction. She studied commercial arts at Western Technical High School, and married Allan Robb Fleming in 1951. They lived in London, England from 1953 to 1955 and visited Europe while Allan studied graphic design and worked in advertising, and Nancy worked as an office manager for a nylon stocking manufacturer. They met Canadian poet Richard Outram and his eventual wife, artist Barbara Howard, while in London, and they remained lifelong friends. Upon their return to Canada, Allan set up a freelance business and became creative director of the typesetting firm, Cooper & Beatty. Nancy became a mother and for the next 20 years brought up her three children while being an executive wife as Allan moved through senior posts at MacLaren Advertising and the University of Toronto Press. Nancy administrated Allan's busy freelance consultancy, and handled the financial management of graphic design and corporate branding projects. When Allan and Nancy separated in 1976, Nancy found work as the Toronto office co-ordinator for John Roberts, Pierre Elliot Trudeau's Secretary of State. When Roberts was not returned in the 1979 election, she accepted the post of Executive Director for the Canadian Book and Periodical Development Council, which she held until her retirement in 1999. Her extensive work in publishing advocacy and lobbying, freedom of expression, and copyright policy, as well as her defence of Canadian content in books and magazines, were exemplary and passionate. She was instrumental in organizing the Freedom of Expression Committee and Freedom to Read Week, as well as the Canadian Children's Book Centre. She made important contributions to the infrastructure and support of publishing and bookselling in Canada. Her work with the Book and Periodical Council, the Canadian Copyright Institute and Give the Gift of Literacy helped underpin initiatives such as the national Freight Plan for book shipments and the royalty payments of the League of Poets, and contributed to the survival of independent publishers in Canada. Nancy Fleming was chief executive of the Book and Periodical Council from 1979 to 1999, and a laureate of the Canadian Library Association award for the Advancement of Intellectual Freedom in Canada. She died in Toronto on February 24, 2008.

Scope and content

Fonds consists of: correspondence with Richard Outram and Barbara Howard; Christmas and St. Valentine's Day cards published by The Gauntlet Press; unpublished poetry by Outram; wood engravings by Howard, as well as programs for her exhibits and articles about her work; seven silkscreen prints created by Ronald King and numbered, titled and signed by the artist; and "Alphabet 1," a papercut alphabet designed and cut by Ronald King on hand-made paper and published by Circle Press.

Notes

Title notes

Immediate source of acquisition

The fonds was acquired from the children of Nancy Fleming following her death.

Restrictions on access

No restrictions on access.

Related material

The fonds was accompanied by 18 books devoted to the work of Richard Outram and Barbara Howard that have been added to Special Collections.

Accruals

The fonds comprises the following accessions: 2008-033. Further accruals are expected.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
-

Access points

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Graphic material (documentary form)

Collection holdings

File: F0537-2008-033/001(01) - Richard Outram and Barbara Howard : correspondence

Title: Richard Outram and Barbara Howard : correspondence

ID: F0537-2008-033/001(01)

Date: ca. 1953-2005 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File consists of a photograph of Richard Outram in London, England, taken in either 1952 or 1953, letters written by Outram and Howard to Nancy Fleming between 1956 and 2004, and poetry and prose by Outram. Topics of the correspondence include: life in London, Outram's work with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), the state of Canadian poetry in the 1950s, Howard's work as an artist, Outram's remarks intended for the service in memory of Allan Robb Fleming that were not delivered because Outram was not asked to speak, and Outram's work with the Porcupine's Quill.

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: F0537-2008-033/001(02) - Richard Outram and Barbara Howard : Christmas and St. Valentine's Day cards by the Gauntlet Press

Title: Richard Outram and Barbara Howard : Christmas and St. Valentine's Day cards by the Gauntlet Press

ID: F0537-2008-033/001(02)

Date: 1961-2002 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File consists of poetry by Outram and wood engravings by Howard usually printed on single sheets, but occasionally bound in marbled paper covers.

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: F0537-2008-033/001(03) - Richard Outram : poetry and prose

Title: Richard Outram : poetry and prose

ID: F0537-2008-033/001(03)

Date: 1961-2003 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File consists of Outram's creative writing, as well as reviews of his published work.

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: F0537-2008-033/001(04) - Richard Outram : South of north : images of Canada

Title: Richard Outram : South of north : images of Canada

ID: F0537-2008-033/001(04)

Date: 1999 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File consists of a work created by Outram in 1998, and inscribed by hand to Nancy Fleming upon her retirement.

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: F0537-2008-033/001(05) - Barbara Howard : wood engravings

Title: Barbara Howard : wood engravings

ID: F0537-2008-033/001(05)

Date: [19--] (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File consists of seven matted prints.

Physical description: 7 prints

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Graphic material (documentary form)
-

File: F0537-2008-033/001(06) - Barbara Howard : exhibits and publications

Title: Barbara Howard : exhibits and publications

ID: F0537-2008-033/001(06)

Date: 1976-2006 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File consists of announcements and programs for exhibits of Howard's work, the brochure for her book, "Twenty-eight drawings by Barbara Howard," and published articles about her work.

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: F0537-2008-033/001(07) - Richard Outram and Barbara Howard : memorial

Title: Richard Outram and Barbara Howard : memorial

ID: F0537-2008-033/001(07)

Date: 2005 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: F0537-2008-033/001(08) - DA 44 : a special issue on the Gauntlet Press

Title: DA 44 : a special issue on the Gauntlet Press

ID: F0537-2008-033/001(08)

Date: 1999 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: F0537-2008-033/001(09) - Drawing attention : Barbara Howard's ecologies / by Martha Fleming

Title: Drawing attention : Barbara Howard's ecologies / by Martha Fleming

ID: F0537-2008-033/001(09)

Date: 2005 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File consists of an article written for the magazine, "Canadian art."

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: F0537-2008-033/001(10) - Gwen Harwood : poetry

Title: Gwen Harwood : poetry

ID: F0537-2008-033/001(10)

Date: [1996] (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File consists of two of Harwood's poems sent by Richard Outram to Nancy Fleming in memory of the poet, who died in 1995.

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: F0537-2008-033/001(11) - Poetry and prose : general

Title: Poetry and prose : general

ID: F0537-2008-033/001(11)

Date: 1986-1996, [19--] (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File consists of looseleaf poetry by David Campbell, Stevie Smith, Wendy Cope, and James Reaney, likely sent by Richard Outram to Nancy Fleming.

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: F0537-2008-033/002(01) - Alphabet 1

Title: Alphabet 1

ID: F0537-2008-033/002(01)

Date: 1983 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File consists of a papercut alphabet designed and cut by Ronald King on hand-made paper, published by Circle Press, Guildford, United Kingdom.

Physical description: 1 print ; 85 x 51 cm

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Graphic material (documentary form)
-

File: F0537-2008-033/003(01) - Silkscreen prints by Ronald King

Title: Silkscreen prints by Ronald King

ID: F0537-2008-033/003(01)

Date: [19--] (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File consists of prints numbered, titled, and signed by the artist.

Physical description: 7 prints : col. ; 86 x 51 cm

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Graphic material (documentary form)
-