Sybren Hendrik de Jong fonds

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University of British Columbia Archives
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Fonds Description

1.46 m of textual records.
12 black & white photographs.

Biographical Sketch

Sybren de Jong was born October 20, 1908 in Ashern, Manitoba, Canada, and moved to East Kalandan (now part of Winnipeg) in his early teens. He graduated from the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering in 1931, and proceeded to teach as Demonstrator at the University of Manitoba for the next four years. From 1936 to 1940, Sybren assisted as a surveyor and helped produce the Topographical Survey of Canada. In 1938, he was commissioned as a Dominion Land Surveyor to continue the project. However, after working on the Dominion Land Survey, he returned to the University of Manitoba to complete his Master’s degree in Civil Engineering and graduated in 1940. And again, for a period of three years he taught as a Demonstrator of Civil Engineering, this time at the University of Toronto. From 1944-1945, he was an official Lecturer at the University of Toronto. And afterwards, from 1945-1967, de Jong taught Civil Engineering as an Associate Professor at the University of British Columbia. In 1967-1968, he attended the University of Ohio at Columbus, earning his Doctorate of Applied Science and subsequently obtaining a promotion to full Professor. He continued to teach at UBC until he retired in 1975. He died in 1983.

Sybren was published extensively in the Engineering Journal and the Canadian Surveyor. And he co-authored a book with Semih Tezcan in 1965 entitled, The Electronic Computer in Surveying Adjustment at the University of British Columbia. Throughout his career his affinity for his major fields of interest never wavered: from his BSc. to his PhD, they remained, Geodetic Science (in particular Photogrammetry) and Civil Engineering.

Scope and Content

The fonds consists of personal and professional materials created and collected Sybren de Jong. The fonds is divided into five series: Publications (1940-1975), Lectures and Course Notes (1944-1975), Projects series (1955-1966), the Professional Life series (1960-1977), and the Photographs series (1954).

Notes

File list available.

Most materials were acquired in one accrual, with Boxes 6-7 added in 2014.
Series were established based on the contents of the fonds.

Title based on content of fonds.

**Series Descriptions**

28 cm.

The series consists of drafts and final editions of Sybren de Jong’s papers, predominantly his Master’s Thesis and Dissertation. It includes correspondence, theses, advertisements about his theses, and drafts of his papers.

Box 1(1-7); Box 6 (1-2)

**Lectures, Course Notes series.** – 1944-1975.
27 cm.

This series is dedicated to Sybren’s Lecture and Course Notes from his time as a Demonstrator of Civil Engineering at the University of Toronto and his time as an associate professor and professor at the University of British Columbia. For over a decade, Sybren taught Civil Engineering 353 and Civil Engineering 453 at UBC. This series includes mathematical problems that he would give to his students, exam preparation notes, and reading lists.

Box 2(1-6); Box 6 (3-6)

41 cm.

This series is related to his time as the Dominion Land Surveyor, and includes correspondence, a paper that would inspire his dissertation, and mostly, Dominion Land Survey Project Calculations, spanning from 1961-1966.

Box 3(1-5); Box 4(1-4); Box 6(7-8)

47 cm.

This series includes correspondence and minutes from various associations that Sybren participated in. The Association of Professional Engineers minutes from 1960-1977 are quite comprehensive. It also includes some papers forwarded to him from colleagues.
and students as well as correspondence and other documents related to professional conferences and other scholarly activities.

Box 4(5-7); Box 5(1-3); Box 6(9-14); Box 7(1-6)

Photographs series – 1954.
12 black & white photographs.

Series consists of 13 black & white photographs of activities related to Dr. de Jong’s role as a Professor at the University of British Columbia.
File List

BOX 1

PUBLICATIONS SERIES

1-1 A Critical Study of Some of the More Common Methods of Design of the Vierendeel Truss [Master’s Thesis], 1940
1-2 Publications of the Faculty and Staff, 1959
1-3 Publications, 1963
1-4 [Professional Articles], 1971-1975
1-6 The Skew Mercator Projection in Rectangular Plane Coordinate Systems, 1968
1-7 Plane Rectangular Coordinates and the Skew Mercator Projection, 1968

BOX 2

LECTURES AND COURSE NOTES SERIES

2-1 Lecture Notes on Elementary Surveying – University of Toronto Faculty of Applied Science, 1944
2-3 Mathematics for Geodesists [MATH 692, MATH 693, GS 641], 1959-1967
2-4 CE 353 and CE 453, 1965-1975
2-5 CE 353 and CE 453, 1965-1975
2-6 CE 353 and CE 453, 1970-1971

(continued)

BOX 3

PROJECTS SERIES

3-2 D.L.S. [Dominion Land Survey] Project Calculations, 1961-1963
3-2 D.L.S. [Dominion Land Survey] Project Calculations, 1961-1963

BOX 4

4-2  Dominion Land Surveys and their Control by Tellurometer Traverse, Dissertation, 1966
4-3  Crustal Deflection Measurement Project in the Peace River Reservoir Area, 1965
4-4  DLS Board of Examiners [Correspondence] 1955-1963.

(continued)

PROFESSIONAL LIFE SERIES

4-5  [Miscellaneous Correspondence Re: Associations]
4-6  Association of Ontario Land Surveyors, 1969
4-7  Michigan Society of Registered Land Surveyors, 1970

BOX 5

5-1  Association of Professional Engineers Minutes, 1960-1977
5-2  Association of Professional Engineers Minutes, 1972-1974
5-3  Association of Professional Engineers Minutes, 1976-1977

BOX 6


(continued)

LECTURES AND COURSE NOTES SERIES (cont.)

6-3  Civil Engineering 160 – Engineering Problems. 1957.
Civil Engineering 452 – Sessional Examinations. 1975.
Physics 155 – “The Elementary Dynamics of Satellites”. [N.D.]

PROJECTS SERIES (cont.)


PROFESSIONAL LIFE SERIES (cont.)

Copy of “The Alumni Association of the University of British Columbia - The First Fifty Years 1916-1966” by Frances Tucker. [1966].
Surveying Teachers Conference – Correspondence. 1968-1971.
The College of New Caledonia – Correspondence. 1973.

BOX 7

Papers from the Canadian Institute of Surveying Annual Convention. 1976.
Copy of “Local Coordinates and U.S.C. & G.S. Special Publications #8” by J.W. Melson. [N.D.]
Copy of “The Spartan Group”. [N.D.]
Miscellaneous bulletins and pamphlets. [N.D.]
Miscellaneous documents. [N.D.]
PHOTOGRAPHS SERIES

174.1/1 to 12  12 black & white photographs. 11.1 cm x 9.1 cm. 1954.
[written on envelope containing photographs “Dr. De Jong / Civil Engineering”]