Margaret Ormsby fonds

Compiled by Marnie Burnham (1995) and Christopher Hives (1999, 2001) Last revised March 2011



University of British Columbia Archives





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Fonds Description

Margaret Ormsby fonds. – 1839-1996. 4.92 m of textual records.

Biographical Sketch

319 photographs.

Margaret Anchoretta Ormsby was born in 1909 in Quesnel but spent most of her childhood in the Okanagan Valley. In 1925, she enroled at UBC earning a B.A. (1929) and M.A. (1931) in History. Ormsby began her Ph.D. at Bryn Mawr in 1931, interrupting her studies between 1934 and 1936 to work as a teaching assistant in the Department on History at UBC. After completing her Ph.D. in 1936, she taught in the United States for three years. In 1940, Ormsby became a lecturer in the History Department of McMaster University. She returned to UBC to teach in 1943, becoming a professor in 1955 and the Head of the History Department in 1965. She held the position of head until her retirement from the University in 1974. During the 1970's, Ormsby taught courses at the University of Toronto as well as at the University of Western Ontario. Between 1960 and 1967, she chaired the Historical Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. Ormsby made several literary contributions to the field of Canadian history including British Columbia: A History (1958) commemorating the centennial of the designation of B.C. as a crown colony, A Pioneer Gentle Woman in British Columbia: the Recollections of Susan Allison (1976), and Coldstream - Nulli Secundus (1990) as well as numerous entries to journals and encyclopedias. She received honourary doctorates from each of the major universities in B.C., as well as the Insignia of the Order of British Columbia. Margaret Ormsby died in 1996.

Scope and Content

The fonds consists of correspondence, drafts, essays, lecture notes, course outlines, clippings and research materials created and collected by Ormsby in her diverse roles as student, professor, researcher and author. Also included are records generated between 1957 and 1967 by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.

Notes

File list available.

Researchers will also find additional information about Ormsby in the Margaret Ormsby Oral History Project fonds in the University of British Columbia Archives.

The Greater Vernon Museum and Archives also includes a Margaret Ormsby fonds.

Other records relating to the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada can be found in the fonds of Margaret Prang, Charles Humphries, and Walter Noble Sage.

Series Descriptions

Historical Sites and Monuments Board of Canada series. – 1957-1967.

80 cm of textual records.

Series consists of minutes, agendas, reports and correspondence generated by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.

Correspondence series. – 1927-1995.

69cm of textual records.

Series consists of incoming and outgoing correspondence created in the course of Ormsby's communications with her mother Margaret, other family members, colleagues, students, publishers, government officials and archival institutions. The series includes several hundred incoming letters to Margaret from her mother. Because Margaret and her mother corresponded very frequently the correspondence provides a great deal of information about life in Vernon and the Okanagan as well as things happening at the University of British Columbia. Unfortunately, the bulk of the incoming correspondence is not dated and this made the arrangement of the letters very difficult.

Teaching Material series. – 1964-1978.

26 cm of textual records.

Series consists of lecture notes, course outlines, biographical sketches, assignments and related correspondence created by Ormsby as a professor and sessional lecturer at UBC, the University of Toronto and the University of Western Ontario.

Drafts and Essays series. – 1938-1992.

34 cm of textual records.

Series consists of offprints, essays, articles, and book reviews written by Ormsby for a variety of publications including historical journals and encyclopedias. Also included are copies of addresses given by Ormsby as well as drafts of chapters of her books.

Research Materials series. – 1937-1994.

2.85 m of textual materials.

Series consists of clippings, copies of essays by student and colleagues, photocopies of archival documents, published bibliographies, and lists of completed thesis topics. Also included are notes and transcriptions of documents in the holdings of the B.C. Provincial Archives and Records Service made by Ormsby during the writing of *British Columbia: A History* in 1957. Some related correspondence is included within the files in

this series. The series is organized into four subseries: Clipping, Collected Essays and Resources, Copies of Archival Materials and Notes from BCARS - B.C.: A History.

Miscellaneous Biographical Information series. – 1930-1996.

10 cm. of textual records.

Series consists of a transcript of Ormsby's UBC Grades (1930), clippings about her career, printed material documenting various awards she received, clippings she collected and, finally, material generated following her death and added to fonds by her sister Catherine Marcellus in 1999.

Photograph series. – 1914-1996.

360 photographs.

Series consists of approximately 349 photographs. Almost 300 appear in an album which was created with photographs taken during a school trip to Europe from San Francisco in 1938. Many of the remaining photographs show Margaret Ormsby from childhood through her years at UBC, as well as her family and friends. There are also a few photographs of Ormsby later in life.

File List

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HISTORIC SITES AND MONUMENTS BOARD OF CANADA

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1-2	HSMBC Agenda Papers (1961)
1-3	HSMBC Agenda Papers (1962)
1-4	HSMBC Agenda Papers (1963)
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2-4	HSMBC Minutes (1962, 1967)
2-5	HSMBC Agendas (1961-1964)
2-6	HSMBC Agendas (1966-1967)
2-7	"The Ukaranian Canadian" (April 1958)
2-8	Bureau of Economic Statistics Report- Chilliwack and District, East and West
	Kootenays (1960, 1963)
2-9	Jewish Western Bulletins (1957-1958)
2-10	Reports RE: Newfoundland (1970-1972)
2-11	Reports RE: Newfoundland (1970-1972)

CORRESPONDENCE

3-1	Alberta Headship (1963)
3-2	American State and Local History (1961)
3-3	B.C.: A History (1956-1959)
3-4	B.C. History (1951-1961)
3-5	B.C. History Studies (1971)
3-6	B.C. Electric Papers (1961)
3-7	Bryn Mawr College (1931-1942)
3-8	[Correspondence] (1964-1969)
3-9	Canada Council (1962-1970)
3-10	Champlain Society (1962-1968)
3-11	1968-69 [Clippings and Correspondence]
3-12	Comments on British Columbia: A History (1958-1976)
3-13	Correspondence (1974-1980)
3-14	[Correspondence with the Public Archives of Canada] (1957-1967
3-15	Freeman of Vernon, Headship Manitoba LLD (1958-1965, 1990)
3-16	John Gray (1959-1963)
3-17	J.M. Gray (1961-1977)
3-18	Headship (1964-1965)
3-19	History Department Correspondence (1927, 1961)
3-20	Honours Manitoba Congratulations (1964)
3-21	Hudson's Bay Company (1963-1968)
3-22	Hudson's Bay Record Society (1977-1981)
3-23	D.G.G. Kerr (1959-1962)
3-24	Notre Dame (1968)
3-25	Macmillan (1954-1971)
3-26	Macmillan (1961-1975)
3-27	Miscellaneous Correspondence (1950-1987)
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4-1	Order of British Columbia (1990-1994)
4-2	Pacific Northwest Quarterly (1965-1968)
4-3	Pensions (1967-1968)
4-4	A Pioneer Gentlewoman (1973-1978)
4-5	Dr. M.E. Prang (1963-1969)

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4-6
         Public Record Office: British Museum, Somerset House (1969)
4-7
         Royal Society (1965-1972)
4-8
         Royal Society (1967-1968)
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         S.F.U. (1985-1987)
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         UBC DLitt (1974)
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         UBC Press (1985-1987)
4-12
         U.N.B.C. (1995)
4-13
         University Press Correspondence (1972)
         University of Manitoba (1964-1965)
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         University of Victoria (1976)
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         Vancouver Historical Society (1970)
4-17
         Wellings Mint Correspondence (1971-1972)
4-18
         [Yukon Order of Pioneers] (1969)
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         [Class Notes and Correspondence] (1975-1977)
4-20
         Grad History Seminar SSH 2068 (1978)
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- 4-21 History 100 (1967)
- 4-22 History 140 (1964-1975)
- 4-23 History 304 (n.d.)
- 4-24 History 358 (1977-1978)
- 4-25 History 426 (1964-1965)

- 5-1 History 426 (1966-1975)
- 5-2 History 433 (1950-1951)
- 5-3 University of Toronto Spring 1978 (1977-1978)

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DRAFTS AND ESSAYS

- 5-4 Addresses (1952)
- 5-5 Articles MAO (1955-1964)

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5-6
         B.C.: A History, Rev. Ed. (1956-1970)
5-7
         Cooper, James DCB (n.d.)
         DCB [Dictionary of Canadian Biography Submissions] (n.d.)
5-8
5-9
         DCB (1974)
5-10
          [Draft: B.C.: A History Chp.1] (1957?)
5-11
          [Draft: B.C.: A History Chp.2] (1957?)
5-12
          [Draft: B.C.: A History Chp.3] (1957?)
5-13
          [Draft: B.C.: A History Chp.4] (1957?)
          [Draft: B.C.: A History Chp.5] (1957?)
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5-15
          [Draft: B.C.: A History Chp.6] (1957?)
          [Draft: B.C.: A History Chp.7] (1957?)
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5-17
          [Draft: B.C.: A History Chp.8] (1957?)
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          [Draft: B.C.: A History Chp.9] (1957?)
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6-4
          [Draft: B.C.: A History Epilogue] (1957?)
6-5
          [Draft: B.C.: A History End Notes] (1957?)
6-6
          [Draft: Cold Stream: Nulli Secundus] (n.d.)
6-7
         Fort Victoria (n.d.)
6-8
         Introduction to Fort Victoria Letters (n.d.)
6-9
         [Manuscript Chp.1-5] (n.d.)
6-10
         M.A.O. Book Reviews (1958-1965)
6-11
         M.A.O. Offprints (1939-1966)
6-12
         Neglected Aspects (1956)
6-13
         [Notes and Essays] (1948)
6-14
          [Ormsby Articles] (1939-1985)
6-15
         Royal B.C. Museum: Newcombe (1990-1992)
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RESEARCH MATERIALS - Clippings

- 6-16 B.C. Books (1971-1973)
- 6-17 B.C. Politics Bennett (1966-1968)
- 6-18 Biography (1956-1958)
- 6-19 Buildings (1956-1957)
- 6-20 Canadian Politics (1959-1968)
- 6-21 Canadian West (1962-1968)
- 6-22 Gas Pipeline (1956)
- 6-23 History Department (n.d.)
- 6-24 Mining (1956-1957)
- 6-25 Miscellaneous (1956)
- 6-26 Personal Dr.Ormsby (1957)

Oversize 6-2 Scrapbooks (1937-1938)

[Stored in University Archives storage area in Rare Books and Special Collections vault]

BOX 7

- 7-1 Politics (1956-1958)
- 7-2 Railways (1956-1957)
- 7-3 Ships and the Seas (1956-1957)
- 7-4 Towns and Areas (1956-1957)
- 7-5 S.F.U. (1967-1971)
- 7-6 U.B.C. (1966-1967)

RESEARCH MATERIALS - Collected Essays and Resources

- 7-7 Articles (1939-1951)
- 7-8 Author Unknown [The Klu Klux Klan in British Columbia] (n.d.)
- 7-9 [B.C. Entry into Confederation] (n.d.)
- 7-10 B.C. History Articles (1956-1961)
- 7-11 B.C. History M.A. Subjects and Theses to 1937 (1937)
- 7-12 [B.C. Studies Conference: Essays Presented] (1979-1985)
- 7-13 [B.C. Studies Conference: Essays] (1994)
- 7-14 Bibliographies (n.d.)
- 7-15 Champlain Society (n.d.)
- 7-16 Dissertations in B.C. History (1968-1969)
- 7-17 Douglas (1980)

8-1	[Essays and Correspondence] (1961-1962)
8-2	Robin Fisher (1975)
8-3	Goodfellow - United Church in B.C. (1958)
8-4	[Kent Haworth - Musgrave Research Project] (1977)
8-5	F.Kappel - "A History of the Shuswap Lake Region" (1954)
8-6	Library Holdings (1952-1975)
8-7	M.A.O. Library (n.d.)
8-8	Prohibition (n.d.)
8-9	[Provincial Heritage Advisory Board] (1981-1982)
8-10	Keith Ralston - Dissertation (n.d.)
8-11	R.L. Rosenberg - Origins of the Peoples of Washington and B.C. (1968)
8-12	[Student Essays] (1970-1975)
8-13	Theses on British Columbia History and Related Subjects in the Library of the University of British Columbia (1972)
8-14	[Appendices] (n.d.)
	CH MATERIALS - Copies of Archival Materials Parks of British Columbia II [10(4,10(4), (n.d.))]
8-15	Bank of British Columbia II [1964-1966] (n.d.)
8-16 9-17	[B.C. History] (1954)
8-17 8-18	B.C. History - Part 1 (n.d.) B.C. History - Part 2 (1961 1962)
0-10	B.C. History - Part 2 (1961-1962)
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9-1	Better Terms [1904-1951] (n.d)
9-2	C0 60 Reels 1-14 [1859-1863] (n.d.)
9-3	Columbia River Treaty [1955-1965] (n.d.)
9-4	Confederation [1866-1991] (n.d.)
9-5	[Correspondence and Resources] (1950-1952)
9-6	James Cooper [1792-1860] (1963-69)
9-7	Cox and Cattle Ranching (n.d.)
9-8	Cracroft Journal (1965)
9-9	Crease (1959)
9-10	Crease (Trutch) [1867-1883] (n.d.)
9-11	A.G. Dallas (1976-1977)
9-12	Jane Dallas Letters [1862-1891] (n.d.)

10-1	Dominion Provincial Financial Relations 1940-1970 (n.d.)
10-2	Douglas (n.d.)
10-3	Sir James Douglas (n.d.)
10-4	Douglas Family [1839-1877] (1966?)
10-5	Douglas-Hargrave Correspondence [1844-1850] (1972)
10-5	Douglas Correspondence 1967-1870 (1960)
10-6	Douglas Letters 1839-1852 (n.d.)
10-7	Douglas Letters 1867-1870 (1960)
10-8	Douglas Letters - Yale Library [1842] (1961)
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11-5	HBC Archives London (1972-1980)
11-6	Helmcken [1850-1858] (n.d.)
11-7	Indian Land Question [1850-1888] (n.d.)
11-8	Immigration [1879-1946] (n.d.)
11-9	Jacobsen's Journey (n.d.)
11-10	[Land Records 1853-1867] (n.d.)
11-11	Laurier Papers [1905-1917] (n.d.)
11-12	New Castle [1859-1867] (1963-1964)
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12-3	[P.A.C. King Papers 1935-1936] (n.d.)
12-4	[Photos] (1957)

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22-2	1939-1946
22-3	1959-1972
22-4	1960s [Note from Catherine Marcellus - "many references to UBC History
	Dept. crisis"]
22-5	n.d.
22-6	n.d.
22-7	n.d.
22-8	n.d.
22-9	n.d.

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22-10
         n.d.
22-11
         n.d.
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         n.d.
23-2
         n.d.
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23-15
         Correspondence to Margaret (Mother) Ormsby from various (1935-1969)
23-16
         Letter to Catherine Ormsby from Dot (n.d.)
23-17
         Correspondence with Irish relatives (1930s)
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MISCELLANEOUS BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SERIES

24-1	UBC Transcript (1930)
24-2	Biographical Information - Clippings
24-3	University of Victoria - Honorary Degree - Convocation Program (1976)
24-4	Order of Canada Award - Program, printed material, clippings
24-5	Order of BC - printed material (1991)
24-6	Clippings - Coldstream
24-7	Clippings - Misc.
24-8	MO's Death - Obituaries and printed material [collected by Catherine
	Marcellus]
24-9	MO's Death - Letters of condolence to Catherine Marcellus (1996)
DI 1070 C	
PHOTOG	GRAPH SERIES
24-10	Album of photographs from European trip (1938)- 298 photographs and miscellaneous printed material including maps, brochures and other memorabilia
42.1/1sp	Margaret Ormsby and brother Hugh as children (ca. 1914)
-	Margaret Ormsby (ca. 1915)
-	Margaret Ormsby, brother Hugh and mother Margaret (ca. 1916)
_	Margaret Ormsby and friend Betty Whiteside at New Westminster (ca. 1918)
-	Margaret Ormsby (n.d.)
42.1/6sp	Margaret Ormsby in class photograph [MO in front centre with ringlets]
40 1 /7	(n.d.)
42.1/7p	Margaret Ormsby and other girls in Vernon Queen of the May pageant (1921) - Three views
42.1/8p	Margaret Ormsby and high school friends [MO in stripped skirt] (n.d.)
42.1/9sp	Margaret Ormsby and friends in Vernon (n.d.)
42.1/10sp	Margaret Ormsby outside the Library at UBC (n.d.) - four views
42.1/11sp	Margaret Ormsby and friends (n.d.)
42.1/12sp	Margart Ormsby and friends at UBC (n.d.)
42.1/13sn	Margaret Ormsby [at M.A, grad?] (1931) - Two views
42.1/14p	Margaret Ormsby - Portrait (193-)
42.1/15p	Pencil Sketch of Margaret Ormsby (1936)
42.1/16sp	Margaret Ormsby and Joyce Hallamore in Munich (1938)

- 42.1/17sp Margaret Ormsby at St. Mark's (1938)
- 42.1/18sn Margaret Ormsby and nephew (1950) four slides
- 42.1/19p Margaret Ormsby portrait (n.d.)
- 42.1/20sp Margaret Ormsby and group (1960)
- 42.1/21sp Margaret Ormsby (n.d.)
- 42.1/22sp Margaret Ormsby (n.d.)
- 42.1/23p Margaret Ormsby at Christmas (1989) 2 views (1) with Santa Claus and (2) with niece Elizabeth Marcellus
- 42.1/24p Margaret Ormsby following Order of Canada ceremony (1996)
- 42.1/25p Margaret Ormsby and family during Order of Canada trip to Ottawa (1996) 2 views (1) Catherine Marcellus, Chris and Rob Ormsby and George Ormsby; (2) MO and Rob Ormsby

42.1/26p Album Page

- 1. MO at MA graduation (1931) neg. available
- 2. MO and three other women on golf course (n.d.) neg. available
- 3. MO playing golf (n.d.) neg. available
- 4. MO and sister Catherine at beach (n.d.)
- 5. Family photo MO, mother Margaret, sister Catherine and father George (n.d.)
- 6. MO (n.d.)
- 7. Catherine Ormsby and (cousin?) Joan (n.d.)
- 8. Hugh Ormsby (n.d.)
- 9. MO (n.d.)

42.1/27 Album Page

- 1. Group in front of UBC Library (ca. 1929)
- 2, 3 MO with three other women in front of Library (ca.1929)
- 4. MO and sister Catherine (n.d.)

42.1/28 Album Page

- 1. MO and cousin Jean (n.d.)
- 2, 3 MO BA Grad. (1929)
- 4. MO and unidentified woman (n.d.)
- 5. Unidentified
- 6. MO in front of UBC Library (n.d.)
- 7. MO and group of women (n.d.)

42.1/29 Album Page

1. MO - BA Grad. (1929)

- 2, 3 Unidentified grads
- 4. MO with two other women at Grad. (1929)
- 5. MO and unidentified woman at Grad. (1929)
- 6. MO and three other women in front of UBC Library (n.d.)

OVR Photos 1

- 42.1/30 Three views of Dredge Heron
- 42.1/31 Property of Warwick Arnott, Penticton, BC (1908)
- 42.1/32 Participants in Quebec Conference (1943)
- 42.1/33p Six view of river control on the Okanagan River (ca. 1949)

BOX 25

DRAFTS AND ESSAYS (cont.)

- 25-1 Fragment from "BC A History" [n.d.]
- 25-2 Unidentified fragment [1972?]

TEACHING MATERIALS (cont.)

[Notes on various historical topics – some in Ormsby's handwriting, some apparently written by others, also some typescripts] [n.d.] [4 folders]