

Garnett Sedgewick fonds

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Last revised January 2011



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The Library

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Fonds Description

Garnett Sedgewick fonds. – 1880-1954, 1980.

71 cm of textual records.

134 photographs.

Biographical Sketch

Garnett Gladwin Sedgewick was born May 20, 1882 in Middle Musquodoboit, Nova Scotia to Henry A. and Bessie Woollery (nee Gladwin) Sedgewick. He attended high school while living with relatives in Oxford, Nova Scotia and then taught grade school (1900/01) in Oyster Pond, Jeddare, Nova Scotia. He then attended Dalhousie University in Halifax, graduating with a BA in 1903 (Honours in Classics and English). Sedgewick served as principal of schools in Oxford, Nova Scotia (1903-1905) and Nanaimo High School (1905-1907), History Master at St. Andrew's College in Toronto (1907-1908), and high school teacher in Vancouver (1908-1910). Sedgewick received his MA from Harvard University in 1911 and PhD from Harvard in 1913. He was instructor and assistant professor at Washington University in St. Louis from 1913 to 1918 when he became an associate professor and acting head of the Department of English at UBC. In 1920, he was made a professor and first head of the department. In 1934 he was the Alexander Lecturer at the University of Toronto (these lectures were later published) and in 1946 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. He retired from UBC in 1948 and the same year was awarded an honorary LLD from Dalhousie.

Sedgewick was known for his lectures on Shakespeare and Chaucer; he also wrote scholarly articles, radio broadcasts and a weekly column, "More Heat than Light" for the *Vancouver Sun*. He served on the University Senate and was involved with the Vancouver Art Gallery, Symphony and Little Theatre, as well as the Civil Liberties Union. The former undergraduate library at UBC was named in his honour, as were the Sedgewick Lectures, sponsored by the Department of English. Sedgewick died in Vancouver in September 1949.

Scope and Content

Fonds consists of correspondence, photographs, clippings, artifacts, publications, legal documents, notes, transcripts of lectures and broadcasts, examinations, certificates, and other miscellaneous items. Most of the material was created and collected by Sedgewick himself and a small amount was collected by friends including Robert apRoberts after Sedgewick's death.

Notes

File list available.

Photographs catalogued and stored at UBC 25.1

For additional information about Sedgewick see the [Akrigg Family fonds](#).

Series Descriptions

Personal Papers series. -- 1893-1953.

10 cm of textual records.

124 photographs.

11 artifacts.

1 photograph album.

Series includes correspondence, legal documents, certificates, written verse, and various written memorabilia and artifacts, acquired by Sedgewick and his family.

Academic Papers series. -- 1907-1950, 1980.

12 cm of textual records.

Series includes examinations, lecture notes, and manuscripts from Sedgewick's academic and teaching career.

Published Materials series. -- 1902-1950.

33 cm of textual records.

Series includes newspaper clippings, journal issues, offprints, books, and other published materials acquired by Sedgewick.

Sedgewick Memorial Collection series. -- [ca.1900-1954].

10 cm of textual records.

10 photographs.

The Sedgewick Memorial Collection was gathered by friends of Sedgewick following his death to honor his achievements.

Series consists of letters, verses, speeches and articles written by Sedgewick, photographs, a scrapbook of Sedgewick's newspaper columns, and printed materials. In addition, the series includes correspondence, sketches, and reports relating to the establishment of the Sedgewick Memorial fund and the Sedgewick Memorial reading room in Main Library.

Correspondence in file 4-23 was forwarded to the University Archives by Robert P. apRoberts in 1995.

File List

BOX 1

PERSONAL PAPERS

Correspondence

- 1-1 Incoming correspondence (six items), 1910-1946
- 1-2 Outgoing correspondence (three items), 1927-1948
- 1-3 Miscellaneous correspondence (five items), ca. 1938-1953
Note: One item is from Lester and Cora McLennan re: G.G. Sedgewick's bow tie, and was donated, with the bow tie, separately from the rest of this material (see ARTIFACTS, BOX 3).

Legal Documents

- 1-4 Statutory Declaration by Bessie Woollery Sedgewick re: G.G. Sedgewick's birth (unsigned), 1948
Certification by U.B.C. registrar of date of birth of Bessie Woollery Sedgewick (unsigned), 1948
Last Will and Testament of G.G. Sedgewick, 1949
Notice of Registration of Death of G.G. Sedgewick, 1949

Certificates

- 1-5 Certificate of membership in the Rising Star Band of Hope (a temperance group), 1893
Certificate of ownership of burial plot in Ocean View Burial Park, 1935
Certificate of membership in the Literary and Scientific Honourary Society of U.B.C., 1947

[\(continued\)](#)

ACADEMIC PAPERS

Examinations

- 1-6 Five U.B.C. English examinations, 1924-1937
Two lists of examination or essay questions regarding *The Return of the Native*, undated

Lectures and Broadcasts

- 1-7 18 transcripts of lectures and broadcasts by G.G. Sedgewick, typed and handwritten, ca. 1930s-1940s
(see also OFFPRINTS and JOURNALS)

Notes

- 1-8 Rough text of a speech "A Teacher's Reading", in notebook with notes for teaching English and History, 1907
- 1-9/11 Three notebooks and 16 loose pages with notes from English courses taken at Harvard University, ca. 1912
Note: 1-9 is dirt, water and mold-damaged
- 1-12 Miscellaneous notes by G.G. Sedgewick for lectures on literature, undated

Verse

- 1-13 Nine pieces of verse: six by G.G. Sedgewick, one a translation from the Latin, one by a class taught by Sedgewick, and one by Sedgewick's aunt, 1906-1944

Miscellany

- 1-14 Order of Proceedings at the Convocation of Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, 1903
Vote solicitation from W.M. Sedgewick, 1906
U.B.C. Graduation Dinner booklet, 1922
Outline of the researches of members of the U.B.C. English Department, 1928-31
Outline for a lecture on the short story, 1932
Flyer re: George H. Sedgewick, 1935

Menu and Toasts (with insert of songs) for Dinner in Honour of Retiring Members of the Staff, U.B.C. (autographed), 1948
Chart re: G.G. Sedgewick from Mount Pleasant Undertaking Company Ltd., Vancouver, 1949
Information about Sedgewick's portrait, ca. 1950
Information about the Sedgewick Memorial Fund, ca. 1950
Flyer re: Sedgewick Memorial Lecture on G.G. Sedgewick, 1980
Reading list (Elizabethan literature), undated
Curriculum statement, undated

[\(cont.\)](#)

BOX 2

PUBLISHED MATERIALS

Newspaper Clippings

- 2-1 54 "More Heat Than Light" columns by G.G. Sedgewick, clipped from the Vancouver Sun, undated
- 2-2 18 miscellaneous newspaper clippings collected by G.G. Sedgewick in the 1930s and 1940s
- 2-3 21 newspaper clippings concerning G.G. Sedgewick, collected by R.P. apRoberts after Sedgewick's death, 1949

Journals

- 2-4 Three issues of the Dalhousie Gazette, Dalhousie University: April 30, 1902; October 17, 1902; November 6, 1903
- 2-5 The Eliot Literary Magazine, Washington University, St. Louis, November 1915
- 2-6 United Empire, Journal of the Royal Empire Society, London, February 1938 (with article "Anglo-Canadian Relations" by G.G. Sedgewick)

- 2-7 The Modern Language Quarterly, University of Washington Press, Seattle, December 1940 (with article "The Progress of Chaucer's Pardoner, 1880-1940" by G.G. Sedgewick)
- 2-8 The School, Secondary Edition, Ontario College of Education, The University of Toronto, June 1944 (with article "John Doe's First School" by G.G. Sedgewick)
- 2-9 Two issues of The University of Toronto Quarterly, Toronto: October 1945 (with article "Stephen Leacock as a Man of Letters" by G.G. Sedgewick) and July 1948 (with article "The Structure of The Merchant's Tale" by G.G. Sedgewick)
- 2-10 Three issues of The U.B.C. Chronicle, Vancouver: June, 1948; October, 1949; March, 1950

Offprints

- 2-11 Six offprints from The Dalhousie Review of articles by G.G. Sedgewick ("The Unity of the Humanities", "Wordsworth, Arnold, and Professor Lane Cooper", "A.M.", "Musquodoboit", "Then and Now: An Address to Convocation", and "Kittredge of Harvard"), 1928-1948
- 2-12 Two offprints from The University of Toronto Quarterly of articles by G.G. Sedgewick (see file 2-9)
- 2-13 Offprint from The Modern Language Quarterly of article by G.G. Sedgewick (see file 2-7)
- 2-14 Offprint from Queen's Quarterly of "Of Disillusionment in Freshmen" by G.G. Sedgewick, undated
- 2-15 Four offprints of CBC broadcasts by G.G. Sedgewick ("Tree, Goose, Pudding", "John Doe's First School", "John Doe's First Christmas in the Far West", and "A Bachelor's Lesson on Santa Claus"), 1939-1947

Publications (Misc.) by Universities

- 2-16 The Oxford School Banner, Oxford, Nova Scotia, 1904
List of Graduates, Dalhousie University, 1866- 1907

Third Annual of the University of B.C., 1918-19
Literary Supplement of the Ubysey, January 31, 1928 (with article "Thomas Hardy" by G.G. Sedgewick)

Publications - Misc.

- 2-17 Booklet "Is Election a Doctrine of the Bible? A Discourse Delivered at Nine Mile River Presbyterian Church" by Rev. John Cameron, printed 1862 (with very critical annotations)
"Vancouver City Schools", the 6th annual report published by the Board of School Trustees, 1908
"Centenary of Presbyterianism in the Musquodoboit Valley", 1915
Two chapbooks ("Three Sea Songs" and "The Orchards of Ultima Thule") by Archibald MacMechan, Sedgewick's mentor at Dalhousie, ca. 1916
"Dentdale Christian Review", Dentdale, Yorkshire, 1948
- 2-18 Bound typescript (carbon copy) of Part 2 of Dramatic Irony by G.G. Sedgewick, undated (annotated)

BOX 3

- 3-1 Education and Leisure: Addresses Delivered at the Fourth Triennial Conference on Education Held at Victoria and Vancouver, April 1929. Ed. S.E. Lang., J.M. Dent, and Sons, Toronto: 1930 (with article by G.G. Sedgewick: "A National and Provincial Policy for the Radio")
- 3-2 The Graveyard by the Sea, G.G. Sedgewick's translation of Paul Valery's Le Cimetiere Marin (with a hand-written list of corrections), 1938
- 3-3/5 Nine books of Shakespeare, edited by George Lyman Kittredge, Sedgewick's mentor at Harvard, and published by the Athenaeum Press. Some are identified as belonging to R.P. apRoberts, some to G.G. Sedgewick. All are heavily annotated. Julius Caesar, Hamlet and A Midsummer Night's Dream published in 1939, Romeo and Juliet, King Lear and King Henry the Fourth Part I in 1940, and Twelfth Night, Antony and Cleopatra and Othello in 1941.

Memorabilia

Ribbon with names of G.G. Sedgewick's 1948 Shakespeare class typed on it
Silver cigarette box "Presented by the Members of the Department of English, U.B.C., to Garnett G. Sedgewick, for thirty years Head of the Department, 1918-1948", with signatures of members of the English Department engraved on it

Small silver tray "Presented to Garnett G. Sedgewick March 25th, 1948 To recall his Many Happy Years in the education of the Sigma Epsilon Chapter of Zeta Psi Fraternity" on front, "And don't forget the spirit that goes with this" on back (Note: This was presented along with a case of Scotch; hence the inscription on the back)

Printed plaster relief portrait of G.G. Sedgewick

Small leather folder with "Mr. Garnett G. Sedgewick" cards

Small china dish showing "High School, Oxford, N.S."

Leather-covered case containing Bowdoin medal from Harvard University (for best Ph.D. dissertation in English), 1912

Blue velvet-covered box containing a KA pin, a cigar-cutter pendant, a U.B.C. Symphony 47 pin, and an "Honourary LSE G.G. Sedgewick Ph.D. March 24, 1947 pendant

Metal stamp with G.G. Sedgewick's address

Bow tie, maroon with white polka-dots - Note: This was donated separately by Lester and Cora McLennan, along with a piece of incoming correspondence (see 1-1)

Membership certificate, Royal Society of Canada, 1947

Correspondence

Letters written to Robert apRoberts when he was at the Officers' Training Centre at Gordon Head from June 11, 1941 to approximately July 24; then at Curry Barracks for six weeks followed by two weeks quarantine (polio in Alberta) at Otter Point, Vancouver Island. Subsequently, apRoberts was posted to the Irish Fusiliers and stationed at Nanaimo.

In the summer of 1942, G.G.S. taught summer school at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles. Robert apRoberts was married to Ruth Heyer June 10 and she lived with the Sedgewicks until her father died in the fall of 1942.

Dates written in pencil on the letters were transcribed from the postmarks on the envelopes by apRoberts.

BOX 4

4-1 Correspondence (1941-1942) [41 letters]

Letters written to R. apRoberts and his wife when they were living in Berkeley, California where he was studying for his doctorate. References to Mary G. are to Mary Garnett, apRoberts' daughter.

4-2 (October 1947 - April 1948) [32 letters]

4-3 (May 1948 - November 1948) [44 letters]

4-4 (November 1948 - August 1949) [52 letters]

ACADEMIC PAPERS (cont.)

Manuscripts

4-5 Handwritten undated manuscript for GGS's talk on the structure of Henry IV Part 1

4-6 Undated typescript essay - "Thoughts Counter Current: A Canadian Cross Examines President Hopkins"

4-7 Undated typescript essay about Emily Carr

4-8 Undated handwritten manuscripts for talks

Radio Broadcasts

4-9 Book review delivered over CBR (Feb. 1938)

4-10 Broadcast over CBR (June 1938)

4-11 Typescripts of 2 broadcasts (April 23 1944 & April 21 1945)

PERSONAL PAPERS (cont.)

Memorabilia

- 4-12 Washington University Calendar (1918)
- 4-13 "A Brief History of Dalhousie University" (1919)

Signed football

The football was signed by the members of the UBC team which won the McKecknie Cup (1936/37). It was in Sedgewick's office until he died. He was a rugby fan who turned out regularly to root for the team. The football is stored in Special Collections' artifact cupboard.

SEDGEWICK MEMORIAL COLLECTION

- 4-14 Biographical materials and case file
- 4-15 Letters from GGS:
B.H. Lehman (Benjie) -- 11 October 1948, 23 October 1948, 6 January 1949
Thomas Bailey -- 6 June 1948, 20 April 1948, 3 November 1949
Jan de Bruyn -- 19 May 1949
Eva and Les -- 5 January 1949
- 4-16 Verse by GGS:
Roundel to my botel
A sad Christmas for my section
To the English seminar, 1941-1942
- 4-17 Speeches and addresses (1937-1939):
A late Victorian looks back
Address presented to their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth by the City of Vancouver
- 4-18 Printed material:
Tree, goose, pudding
John Doe's first school
Stephen Leacock as a man of letters
A Bachelor's lesson on Santa Claus with Peter in mind

- A.M.
Kittredge of Harvard
Wordsworth, Arnold and Professor Lane Cooper
Thomas Hardy
John Doe's first Christmas in the far west
- 4-19 Scrapbook:
More light than heat (articles by GGS for Vancouver Sun)
- 4-20 Books:
The Tempest (annotated by GGS)
The Graveyard by the sea (translated by GGS)
- 4-21 UBC Library records [Sedgewick Memorial Reading Room] (1949-1954)
- 4-22 Geneological note (n.d.)
- 4-23 Correspondence:
Letter from G.L. Kittredge's son about GGS's article "Kittredge of Harvard" in
Dalhousie Review (25 May 1942)
- BOX 5
- Photograph Album (96 photographs)
- Family of Layton, and Thomas and Joseph Evening of Nova Scotia, Canada
(Sedgewick's aunt Laetitia Layton (nee Gladwin) was married to Morton
Layton)
- BOX 6
- 6-1 "Dramatic Irony" [Harvard dissertation by GGS] (1913)
- 6-2 Scrapbook – "Sedgewickiana" [clippings of "More Light Than Heat" and other
articles]
- Oversized items [OS Box 7]
- Honorary degree from Dalhousie University [rolled] (1948)

Group photograph [class picture?] -- GGS seated middle row, centre [n.d.]

Verse [written for GGS?] -- first line "With us there was a lerned man also;" --
autographs on back [n.d.]