

Frederick Niven fonds

RBSC-ARC-1404

Finding aid

Sarah Romkey, February 2011

Rare Books and Special Collections
University of British Columbia Library



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Fonds description

Frederick Niven fonds.

1919 - 1944.

40 cm of textual material.

3 photographs : b&w.

Biographical sketch: Frederick Niven was born in Valparaiso, Chile, in 1878 but left for Scotland at the age of five. After studying painting, ill-health forced him to move in his late-teens to the drier climate of the Okanagan Valley of British Columbia to live with missionary friends of his mother. He worked at Hastings Saw Mill in 1900 before returning to Scotland, where he began to write. Returning to western Canada in 1911 after marrying Mary Pauline Thorne-Quelch, he wrote freelance and continued novel-writing until his death in 1944.

Source:

ABC Bookworld. "Niven, Frederick."

http://www.abcbookworld.com/view_author.php?id=4492 (accessed February 21, 2011).

Custodial history: Most of the material was transferred to UBC Library by Niven's widow Pauline in 1962. Another accrual (1-7 through 1-9) was transferred by Pauline Niven via William H. New in the 1960's and added to the collection in 2011, and the manuscript of *Colour in the Canadian Rockies* (folder 3-8) was purchased from John Howell books, San Francisco, in 1982.

Scope and content: Fonds consists of manuscripts and typescripts of Niven's work, as well as personal documents such as clippings, correspondence and photographs. Fonds has been arranged into two series: Manuscripts and research notes and Correspondence and personal documents.

Source of title proper: Title based on the provenance of the fonds.

Accruals note: No further accruals are expected.

Related groups of records note: Correspondence from and related to Niven can be found in the Robert Allison Hood fonds; there is also a letter from Niven in the Alfred Myrick Pound fonds.

A radio play script of *Mine Inheritance* adapted by Ben Lepkin in 1959 was previously described as part of this fonds; it can now be found in the vertical file collection by searching the library catalogue.

Series descriptions

Manuscripts and research notes.

[193- - 194-?].

37 cm of textual records.

Scope and content: Series consists mainly of manuscripts and typescripts for novels and prose written by Niven, including *Mine inheritance*, *When I was a child*, *The transplanted* and *Colour in the Canadian Rockies*. Also contains one research file from *Mine inheritance* consisting of notes and a list of quotes. Files are arranged primarily by title.

Source of title proper: Title based on the content of the series.

General note: The last version of the *Mine inheritance* typescript (folders 2-3 through 3-2) has the annotations from the previous typescript typed in to the text.

Correspondence and personal documents.

1919 – 1944.

3 cm of textual records.

3 photographs : b&w.

Scope and content: Series consists of 4 pieces of outgoing correspondence, newspaper clippings regarding Niven (including his obituary), a copy of *Lady in the wilderness* annotated by Niven and 3 photographs.

Source of title proper: Title based on the content of the series.

File list

Series: Manuscripts and research notes

Location (Box-file)	File title	Date
1-2	<i>Mine inheritance</i> typescript part 2, chapters 4-10, pages 193-256	[193-]
1-3	<i>Mine inheritance</i> typescript part 2, chapters 11-13, pages 266-306	[193-]
1-4	<i>Mine inheritance</i> typescript part 3, chapters 1-4, pages 315-353	[193-]
1-5	<i>Mine inheritance</i> typescript part 3, chapters 5-11, pages 363-422	[193-]
1-6	<i>Mine inheritance</i> typescript (second) part 3, chapters 1-11	[193-]
2-1	<i>Mine inheritance</i> typescript (third) part 1, chapters 1-12, pages 1-334	[193-]
2-2	<i>Mine inheritance</i> typescript (third) parts 2 and 3, pages 335-793, bibliography	[193-]
2-3	<i>Mine inheritance</i> typescript (third) part 1, chapters 1-12	[193-]
3-1	<i>Mine inheritance</i> typescript (third) part 2, chapters 1-13	[193-]
3-2	<i>Mine inheritance</i> typescript (third) part 3, chapters 1-11	[193-]
3-3	<i>When I was a child</i> typescript	[194-?]
3-4	<i>The transplanted</i> manuscript part 2	[194-?]
3-5	<i>The transplanted</i> manuscript part 2 continued	[194-?]
3-7	<i>Mine inheritance</i> list of quotes and notes	[193-?]
3-8	<i>Colour in the Canadian Rockies</i> manuscript	[193-?]

Series: Correspondence and personal documents

Location (Box-file)	File title	Date
1-1	Biographical information	1941-1944
1-7	Clippings book	[ca. 1933]
1-8	A lady in the wilderness	[ca. 1938]
1-9	Photographs	[193-?]

3-6	Outgoing letters: Wright, Herbert C. Bramley, C. Macleod	1919-1938
3-9	Outgoing letter: Castle	1927

Photograph list

Series: Correspondence and personal documents

Identifier	File (Box-file)	Title	Date
BC-2140-1	1-7	A chief of the Blackfoot, Heavy Sheild, and his wife, with the author [Frederick Niven]	[193-?]
BC-2140-2	1-9	Frederick Niven and Tatters, Willow Point, Nelson B.C.	[193-?]
BC-2140-3	1-9	Frederick Niven	[193-?]