

# RECENT ACQUISITIONS BY THE CLARA THOMAS ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



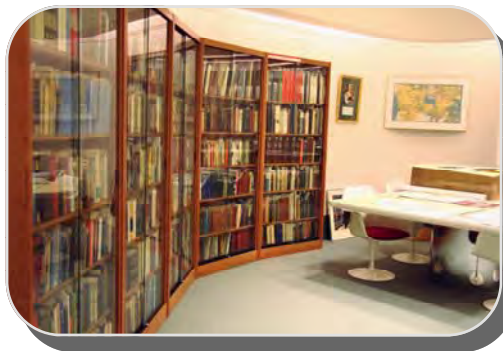
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The Clara Thomas Archives & Special Collections of York University Libraries collects primary source material to support research and learning by the university's faculty and students, and a community of international scholars.

New materials are acquired from a wide variety of sources, including antiquarian book dealers, researchers working in the field, and the general public.

While York University has always specialized in research collections relating to Canadian literature, politics,



fine arts and social reform, generational change in faculty has opened new horizons in our acquisition activities.

Recent acquisitions pertain to a wide diversity of disciplines and topics, including: broadcast communications, environmental history, sexual diversity, social and constitutional reform, film and theatre production, and the multicultural experience.

Visit our website, email us, or drop by during our research hours to explore our rich collections!

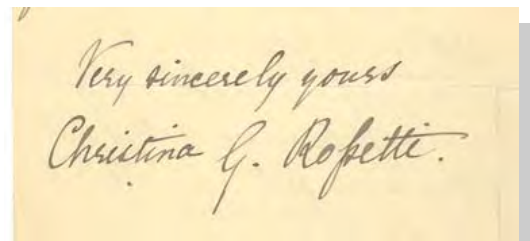
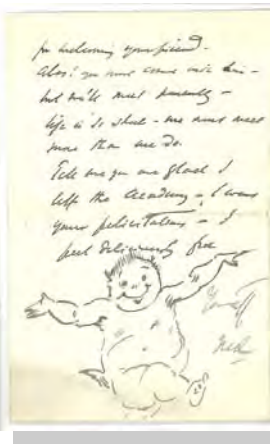
## V I C T O R I A N   C O R R E S P O N D E N C E

In 2011, ASC began purchasing letters written by Victorian authors, poets, artists, activists, and other individuals to create a collection that could be used to support research and teaching by faculty associated with the Victorian Studies Network at York.

An item level inventory of this collection is available online to researchers. The letters have already been used by the English Department for a Victorian poetics course.

Additions will be made to this series as opportunity and funds permit.

Authors include Christina G. Rossetti, Ford Madox Brown, Mary Louisa Molesworth, Sir Edward Coley Burne-Jones and Kineton Parkes.



## S H E L D O N E S B I N C O L L E C T I O N O F T O R O N T O E P H E M E R A

Sheldon Esbin was born in Toronto and has lived in the city for his whole life. He attended the University of Toronto and graduated from Osgoode Hall Law School in 1964. Called to the Bar of Ontario in 1966, Esbin practised law with real estate law firm Spencer Romberg for 26 years.

Informed by his background in business and an intimate knowledge of Toronto real estate and property development, Sheldon Esbin has been an avid collector of Toronto-related rare books, archival materials and ephemera since the 1980s, with a focus on early businesses and

commercial products, property development, and tourism.

His collection, donated in 2012, provides a wide scope of documentation of industry and business of Toronto in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, local landmarks, tourist at-

tractions and related infrastructure throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and the urban development of Toronto, both architectural and social, as it transitioned from its early industrial period to its present post-amalgamation configuration.

Collection can be browsed at : <http://bit.ly/Zv3jS5>

## B A R C L A Y C O L L E C T I O N

### Archival Research Tutorial

The Archival Research Tutorial has been refreshed and updated as a new resource guide.

If you have never visited an archive before, or if you want to familiarize yourself with York's holdings, go to :

<http://bit.ly/NIVw8H>

Our guide is also a great introduction to archival research for undergraduate students in your tutorials.

Donated by Anthony Barclay in 2012, this small collection of 82 items consist of literature, political, and historical works, biographies and travel memoirs, as well as some scarce or short-lived newspapers from colonial or newly independent African nations, particularly Nigeria, Biafra, Rhodesia, Nyasaland and South Africa, including many first editions with original dust

jackets.

This collection could be useful to researchers studying post-colonialism in Africa.

Collection can be browsed at: <http://bit.ly/VQ3kyZ>



## C H I L D B I R T H B Y C H O I C E T R U S T

The Childbirth by Choice Trust, founded in 1982, was the research arm of CARAL, the Canadian Abortion Rights Action League (founded in 1973 as the Canadian Association for the Repeal of the Abortion Law

and renamed in 1980) and disbanded in 2005.

The purpose of the organization was to educate the public on the issues of birth control, abortion and, family planning, and to advocate for legal and easily

available abortion services in Canada.

The archives consists of research and reference material in the form of subject files, reports, briefs, clippings, drafts, notes and correspondence.

Finding aid can be browsed at: <http://archivesfa.library.yorku.ca/fonds/ON00370-f0000513.htm>

## SOUND & MOVING IMAGE PILOT PROJECT

The holdings in the Archives & Special Collections include documents housed on fragile, disintegrating and obsolete media, particularly in the areas of sound recordings and video.

In an effort to establish a baseline for infrastructure to support the ongoing migration and preservation of unique records in these formats, archivists and librarians from York's Archives

and Special Collections, Sound and Moving Image Library and the Scott Library's Bibliographic Services are collaborating on a pilot project running through the summer term of 2013.

Assisted by a Young Canada Works Grant (YCW) administered by the Canadian Council of Archives (CCA), this pilot project is selectively digitizing sound and video recordings

from the Michael Posluns fonds (related to First Nations, Inuit and Métis cultural and political activism in the late twentieth century) and the AIDS Committee of Toronto Collection to be made available through a new online repository supported by the institutional repository framework Islandora.



A selection of digitized recordings can be streamed on campus at: <http://digital.library.yorku.ca/>

## AIR FARCE COMEDIC REFERENCE

As part of a much larger donation of the business records and creative elements from their long-running radio and television comedy series, The Royal Canadian Air Farce, the members of the comedy troop donated their comedic

reference library.

Making up a little under 100 volumes, this reference collection includes many standard joke, humour and satirical works published from 1961 to the early 2000s.

This collection documents a range of historical trends within mainstream comedy and could be a useful resource to researchers studying historical trends in popular culture during the twentieth century.

Collection can be browsed at: <http://bit.ly/18vYHMX>



## ED DOSMAN ARCHIVES

Edgar J. Dosman was born in Annaheim, Saskatchewan and earned his BA at the University of Saskatchewan and University of Munich in 1963. He was subsequently awarded an MA from University College in 1965, and his PhD from Harvard University in 1970.

Dosman began his teaching career as a special lecturer at the University of Saskatchewan in 1968, and went on to join York University's department of political science in 1970.

He is currently Professor Emeritus, and Senior Research Fellow in the

Centre for International Security Studies (CISS) at York University.

Throughout his career his research interests have focused on international development thought, Western hemisphere studies, Canadian foreign and public policy, and

regional conflict, Dosman has been internationally recognized for his biography of Raul Prebisch, and lauded for his work in promoting academic and cultural ties between Canada, Latin America and the Caribbean.

Finding aid can be browsed at: <http://archivesfa.library.yorku.ca/fonds/ON00370-f0000557.htm>

## ASC COLLABORATIONS WITH SCHOLARS

### Greek Canadian History Project

#### Προγραμμα Ερευνας Ελληνο-Καναδικής Ιστορίας

The Greek Canadian History Project (GCHP) is an initiative designed and committed to identifying, acquiring, digitizing, preserving, and providing access to primary source materials which reflect the experiences of Canada's Greek immigrants and their descendants. Material collected from private individuals and organizations will be placed in the care of the archives. The Project's stewards are Dr. Athanasios (Sakis) Gekas, HHF Chair in Modern Greek History at York and Christopher Grafos, Ph.D. Candidate in History.

GCHP blog: <http://archives.library.yorku.ca/gchp/>

### The Portuguese Canadian History Project

#### Projeto de História Luso-Canadiana

Started in 2008, this non-profit, community outreach initiative is coordinated by Gilberto Fernandes, Susana Miranda, Raphael Costa and Emanuel Silva. Committed to locating historical records in the hands of private individuals and organizations in the Portuguese-Canadian community, the project shepherds donations into the care of the archives. Community associations, unions, and community press, along with politicians, journalists, researchers, and social workers have entrusted the PCHP | PHLC with their collections.

PCHP blog: <http://archives.library.yorku.ca/pchp/>



## CLARA THOMAS ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

**Hours :** Monday—Friday, 10:00 am — 4:30 pm.

**Telephone:** 416-736- 5442

**Email:** [archives@yorku.ca](mailto:archives@yorku.ca)

**Homepage :**

<http://www.library.yorku.ca/cms/archivesspecialcollections/>

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<http://deantiquate.blog.yorku.ca/>

*In 2005, the York University Archives (established in 1970) was renamed in honour of Dr. Clara Thomas, Professor of English at York University from 1961 to 1984. The Clara Thomas Archives has been a beneficiary of Dr. Thomas' extensive literary connections, moral and financial support, and goodwill for many years.*

### Image credits:

p.1 : Photograph of Clara Thomas Archives & Special Collections reading room | Excerpts from correspondence from Sir Edward Coley Burne-Jones and Christina G. Rossetti Accession 2011-049 / 001 (04) and (08).

p. 2: Dust jackets for Chinua Achebe's *Things fall apart*, Julia Burton and Phyllis Garlick's *Bless this roof*, and mastheads for *New Africa* (1955) and *Nigerian spokesman* (1954) . Barclay collection, call numbers: 14296 ,14311, 14334, 14335.

p. 3: Scanned cover of a 1/4 inch audio reel tape case from the Michael Posluns fonds (F0382) | Dust jacket for Ken Irwin's *Laugh with The Comedians*, Royal Canadian Air Farce Collection, call number 14201.

p.4 :  
Portrait of Clara Thomas, York University Libraries fonds, F0066. ASC00502.