

Anne B. Piternick fonds

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University of British Columbia Archives



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Fonds Description

Anne Piternick fonds. – 1973-2020, predominant 1983-2018.

27 cm of textual records.

1 DVD-R.

Biographical Sketch

Anne Brearley Piternick was born on October 13th, 1926, in the town of Blackburn in Lancashire County, England. Anne graduated from Manchester University in 1948 with an Honours Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature. In exchange for free tuition, Anne completed a one-year Teacher's Diploma following graduation and worked as a teacher for two years. She then worked as an Information Officer for the Manchester-based textile company, Tootal Broadhurst Lee. During this time, Anne took afternoon courses in librarianship and successfully became an Associate of the Library Association (the equivalent of accreditation with the American Library Association today).

In the spring of 1956, Anne accepted a position at the University of British Columbia (UBC) in the library's Reference Department and immigrated to Canada. Neil Brearley, a colleague from Tootal Broadhurst Lee, joined Anne at UBC shortly after and the two married in December 1956.

After working the Metallurgy and Engineering departments as an Information Officer and then as Head of the Social Sciences Division at Main Library, Anne was hired as a full-time Assistant Professor at UBC's School of Librarianship (currently known as the School of Information or iSchool) in 1966. She became a full Professor in 1978. Anne met fellow iSchool faculty member George Piternick, whom she would marry in 1971 following the end of her first marriage. They remained together until George's passing in March 1999.

At the iSchool, Anne taught a variety of courses related to special libraries, indexes and indexing, and, as technology advanced, electronic information services and information retrieval systems. Anne authored or co-authored dozens of articles and reports with research interests relating to librarianship in the sciences, bibliographic control, and indexing. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, Anne worked to legitimize and bolster the field of Information Science and successfully chaired a committee to make professional studies — such as Information Science — eligible for funding by the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). In 1985, Anne became the first woman in UBC's history to serve in the Dean's Office, where she was an Associate Dean of the Faculty of Arts. Anne retired in 1991 but stayed connected to UBC as an executive

member of the Association of Professors Emeriti as well as the President's Advisory Committee on Campus Enhancement (PACCE).

Anne passed away on January 20, 2023.

Scope and Content

Fonds consist of published and unpublished works, correspondence, drafts, notes, and research materials related to Anne's personal life, career, and her involvement with PACCE. Fonds also contain the George Piternick sous-fonds.

Notes

File list available.

Title based on the contents of the fonds.

Materials related to PACCE and SSHRCC were donated by Anne to the University Archives annually from 2002-2018. All other materials were donated by Jocelyn Godolphin in April 2024, who was Anne's former colleague.

The information for the fonds-level description primarily relied on Anne's reflection and summary of her life written in 2014 and 2019, which is available in this fonds.

No further accruals are expected.

Series Descriptions

President's Advisory Committee on Campus Enhancement series. – 2002-2018.

12 cm of textual records.

Series consists of meeting minutes, correspondence, annual reports, and other materials related to UBC's President's Advisory Committee on Campus Enhancement (PACCE) activities during Anne's involvement from 2002 to 2018.

Beginning in 2008, PACCE organized its activities and records according to UBC's academic calendar. As the original order of the items has been preserved, the physical arrangement reflects this change.

Files are arranged in chronological order based on date of creation.

Professional Papers series. – 1973-2020, predominant 1983-1995.

7 cm of textual records.

Series consists of textual materials related to Anne's professional life. This includes her CV upon retirement from UBC and correspondence related to her work for SSRHCC. Series also includes scholarly publications, related correspondence, and notes. Also included are records related to her analysis of the *Historical Atlas of Canada*, which was the final project of Anne's academic career.

Files are arranged in chronological order based on date of creation.

Personal Papers series. – 2002-2018.

5 cm of textual records.

1 DVD-R.

Series consists of textual and audiovisual materials related to Anne's personal life and interests, including a reflection/autobiography of her life and records related to artist Margaret Peterson. Series also includes records related to the architect Daniel White, who designed a renovation to Anne and George's house. File contains a DVD of a video-tour of their house that is narrated by Anne. A copy of the video is available [online](#). Series also records related to the founding and maintenance of the Anne and George Piternick Research Award at UBC.

Files are arranged in chronological order based on date of creation.

Sous-fonds Description

[George Piternick sous-fonds](#). – 1963-1999, predominant 1963-1979.

2.5 cm of textual records.

Biographical Sketch

The information in this sketch was sourced from George's publications and his obituary that was written by iSchool colleague Basil Stuart-Stubbs in 1999. It is available in this fonds.

George Piternick was born in 1918 in New York and raised in Pasadena, California. In 1939, George received his Bachelor of Arts from the University of California at Berkeley. He pursued graduate studies in Zoology but was interrupted by World War II, where he served in the United States Navy from 1942 to 1946. Upon return, George completed a degree in Library Studies and worked as a Cataloger and Catalog Analyst at the University of California library. In 1965, George joined UBC's School of Librarianship (currently known as the School of Information or iSchool) as an Associate Professor and became a full professor in 1970. At the iSchool, George taught a variety of courses related to research methodology and librarianship in the sciences. In 1971, Piternick married fellow faculty member Anne Brearley.

Throughout his career, George was involved in several councils and committees within his field. He served as Director of the British Columbia Library Association (BCLA) from 1966 to 1967 as well as the President of the Canadian Association of Library Schools from 1969 to 1970. George also published numerous scholarly journals and books reviews related to his interests in cataloging and technical services.

George and Anne Piternick remained together until his death on March 5, 1999. He passed away at the age of 80 in their Vancouver home. A memorial bench in the VanDusen Botanical Garden is dedicated to his memory.

Scope and Content

Sous-fonds consists of one series titled Publications. It contains published and unpublished materials created by or about George Piternick, predominantly book reviews and articles he authored or co-authored. Also included are published materials related to George's personal life, such as a 1998 booklet he authored in memory of Fresno State University librarian Henry Miller Madden and an obituary written by iSchool colleague Basil Stuart-Stubbs following George's passing in 1999. Files are arranged in chronological order based on date of creation.

Notes

File list available.

Title based on the contents of the sous-fonds.

Materials were donated by Jocelyn Godolphin in April 2024, who was Anne Piternick's former colleague.

The information for this sous-fonds description was sourced from George's publications and his obituary that was written by iSchool colleague Basil Stuart-Stubbs in 1999. It is available in this sous-fonds.

No further accruals are expected.

File List

Box 1

President's Advisory Committee on Campus Enhancement series

- 1-1 PACCE materials — 2002
- 1-2 PACCE materials — 2003
- 1-3 PACCE materials — 2004
- 1-4 PACCE materials — 2005
- 1-5 PACCE materials — 2006
- 1-6 PACCE materials — 2007
- 1-7 PACCE materials — 2008/2009
- 1-8 PACCE materials — 2009/2010
- 1-9 PACCE materials — 2010/2011
- 1-10 PACCE materials — 2011/2012
- 1-11 PACCE materials — 2012/2013
- 1-12 PACCE materials — 2013/2014
- 1-13 PACCE materials — 2014/2015
- 1-14 PACCE materials — 2015/2016
- 1-15 PACCE materials — 2016/2017
- 1-16 PACCE materials — 2017/2018

Professional Papers series

Box 1 (cont.)

- 1-17 [Scholarly publications/articles (1/2)] — 1973-1990
- 1-18 [Scholarly publications/articles (2/2)] — 1991-1995
- 1-19 Historical Atlas of Canada [project] — 1980-2017
- 1-20 SSHRCC General — 1983-1986
- 1-21 [Notes on indexing and citations in sciences — ca. 1990
- 1-22 UBC Curriculum Vitae [CV] — May 31, 1991

Personal Papers series

Box 1 (cont.)

- 1-23 [Margaret Peterson (artist)] — 1978, 2011
- 1-24 [Daniel Evan White (architect)] — 2007-2014
- 1-25 [Anne's house tour + narration (DVD-R)] — ca. 2007
- 1-26 [Autobiography] — 2014, 2019
- 1-27 [Anne and George Piternick Research Award] — 2016-2020

GEORGE PITERNICK SOUS-FONDS

Box 1 (cont.)

- 1-28 [Book Reviews] — 1967-1976
- 1-29 [Articles] — 1963-1979, 1995

1-30 Henry Miller Madden Recalled — 1998

1-31 [George Piternick's Obituary, BCLA Reporter] — 1999