

# EVERYTHING OLD IS NEW AGAIN

## NEWS FROM THE

# CLARA THOMAS ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



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Collaborative projects are an important aspect of the Clara Thomas Archives & Special Collections operations. In recent years, two very successful projects have grown out of collaborations with doctoral candidates in York's History Department: **The Portuguese Canadian History Project | Projecto de História Luso-Canadiana (PCHP)** and **The Greek Canadian History Project | Πρόγραμμα Έρευνας Ελληνο-Καναδικής Ιστορίας (GCHP)**. Both projects have identified important archival records held by members of their respective communities and have advocated for their donation to public institutions such as the CTASC. They have also developed online and traveling exhibits that highlight the documentary heritage of Toronto's immigrant communities.

In May 2014 the GCHP curated an exhibit held at Toronto City Hall to commemorate 150 years of the city's Greek community. The event was well attended by members of the community and reviews of the exhibit were very favourable. This exhibit was inspired in part by a similar exhibit the previous year curated by PCHP members. In June 2014, PCHP ran a popular walking tour through historical Portuguese sites in Kensington Market as part of **Heritage Toronto's** public history programming.

The purpose of both projects, in collaboration with CTASC, is to become the source of information on Canadians of Greek and Portuguese descent that will be accessible for current and future research. With the end goal of documenting "ordinary" citizens and ensuring that personal histories, and the records of community groups, activists, and advocates, are preserved and made available to researchers, both groups build key relationships within their community, reinforced by shared experiences, language proficiency and scholarly interest.

These partnerships between historians and archivists have helped bridge the divide between "town and gown," providing ways of getting archives "out into the community" and ensuring that the community "gets into the archives."



For more information about GCHP and PCHP activities, see: <http://archives.library.yorku.ca/gchp/> and <http://archives.library.yorku.ca/pchp/>.

*Left: members of the PCHP during their walking tour.*  
*Right: members of the GCHP at the opening of their exhibit at City Hall.*



## DONALD S. MACDONALD

**Donald Stovel MacDonald** (1932- ) was a long-serving Member of Parliament for the riding of **Rosedale** in Toronto. MacDonald served as the president of the **Privy Council**, the **Minister of National Defence, Energy, Mines and Resources** and **Finance** under **Pierre Elliott Trudeau**. MacDonald's personal papers complement earlier donations made to Library and Archives Canada. The included materials relate to MacDonald's research on the operation and inspection of the **Athabasca tar sands**, files related to the **Northern Pipeline**, working files on the **Anti-Inflation Board**, records from his stint as Canada's **High Commissioner in London**, election campaign files, fundraising materials for the Liberal Party at both the provincial and federal levels, as well as correspondence with Prime Ministers, Leaders of the Opposition, and other parliamentary figures, politicians and civil servants of the twentieth century. This material will be available in late 2014.



## COMING SOON: MARY LOU FINLAY

## 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.

**Mary Lou Finlay** is a retired broadcaster, host and researcher, best known for her work on CBC Radio. Born in 1947 in Ottawa, Finlay earned a BA in English and French Literature from the **University of Ottawa**. She worked as a writer, researcher, and events planner for the **Canadian War Museum** from 1967 to 1970 before moving to broadcasting at **CBOT TV** in Ottawa. From 1975 to 1977 she co-hosted CBC's **Take Thirty** and later hosted her own show **Finlay and Company**. From 1978 to 1981 Finlay was co-host of **Live It Up** at CTV. From 1982 to 1988 Finlay co-hosted CBC's **The Journal** with **Barbara Frum**. She would later host various shows for CBC Radio, including *Sunday Morning*, *Now The Details* and *As It Happens*. Her records will be available in late 2014.

## ITALIAN-CANADIAN NEWSPAPERS &amp; ARCHIVES

A retired lecturer who has taught at York University and at the University of Toronto, **Dr. Angelo Principe** is an avid collector of Italian Canadiana. York acquired his very rare collection of **Italian-language newspapers** published throughout Canada (mainly in Toronto) and a few from the U.S. dating from the early decades to the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and beyond. The newspapers reflect the dominant political orientations of the time (from anarchist to socialist to communist to fascist). They cover important years during the Red Scare, the rise of Fascism and the reaction to it, and the war and post-war periods, right up to the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The collection also includes documents from the Ontario chapter of the Order of the Sons of Italy, as well as research material related to Principe's study of antifascist activists in Canada. The collection will be available to researchers in late 2015 or early 2016.

## JOHN KASTNER

**John Kastner (1950- )** is a documentary film maker, producer, writer, actor and director. Born in Toronto, he began his career as a professional child actor and appeared in many TV and radio programs including the CBC drama *The Offshore Island*. He produced, directed and wrote for a variety of television programming including game shows (*Photo Finish*), variety shows (*Street Comedy*, *Ask a Silly Question* and *90 Minutes Live*) and a children's comedy (*Just Kidding*). In addition to winning over 75 international awards, Kastner has been awarded Emmys for his documentary work. The prominent subject matter for his documentaries, such as *Four Women* (1978), *Fighting Back* (1982), and *The Lifer and the Lady* (1986), has been the examination of Canada's prison system and the personal struggles of those with life-threatening illnesses. More recently, Kastner has been writing and producing TV programs in Los Angeles and Toronto including the documentaries *Somebody's Gotta Do It* and *Chickens are People Too*. Kastner's most recent donation to the archives consists of production records related to his documentary *NCR: Not Criminally Responsible*, about the personal impact of the mental disorder defence in Canadian courts. Access to these records in this fonds is permitted only through a research agreement.

Finding aid can be browsed at: <http://archivesfa.library.yorku.ca/fonds/ON00370-f0000195.htm>

## JANICE TYRWHITT

**Janice Tyrwhitt (1928- )**, author and editor, was born and educated in Canada, receiving the Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Toronto (1950). She worked as fiction editor and staff writer at *Maclean's* (1950-1958), as an editor at *Macmillan* (1958-1960), and as writer and senior editor at *Reader's Digest* (1974-1992). She was an editor for the **Royal Commission on the Status of Woman** (1970), a researcher on the television series *The Pierre Berton show* for two seasons, and sold freelance articles to *Maclean's*, *Saturday Night*, *The Star Weekly*, and other publications. She researched and wrote the text for *Bartlett's Canada*, *The Mill*, and other books. She was Perre Berton's editor for style and substance from 1976 until his death in 2004. Her archives consist of her manuscripts, research notes and correspondence with writers, including **Pierre Berton**, **Ernest Buckler**, **Mark Gayn**, **Robert Kroetsch**, **Yves Theriault**, **Adele Wiseman**, **Sean O'Faolain**, **George Ronald**, and others.

Finding aid can be browsed at: <http://archivesfa.library.yorku.ca/fonds/ON00370-f0000437.htm>

## COMING SOON: DAVE CAPLAN

**Dave Caplan (1925-2000)** was born in Toronto, Ontario, and began his working career as an apprentice tailor, eventually establishing his own business as a custom tailor. Caplan's true passion was for jazz music and jazz musicians, and by 1950 he was already pursuing any possibility of working as a jazz promoter and booking agent. During the 1960s he wrote regular columns for *The Toronto Star* and *The Toronto Telegram* newspapers, among other publications. He also hosted a jazz radio show for a time on **CKEY**, and worked on jazz benefit programs at every opportunity. His fonds consists of contracts and business records, correspondence, publicity photos, press kits and clippings, memorabilia, and photo albums of Caplan with jazz personalities on vacations and business trips pertaining to his interest in jazz during this period. Personalities captured in the photo collection include **Dinah Washington**, **Duke Ellington**, **Sonny Stitt**, **Sarah Vaughan**, **Harry Belafonte**, **Louis Armstrong**, **Dizzy Gillespie**, **Stan Kenton**, **Tiny Tim**, **Moe Koffmann**, **Peter Appleyard**, **Laverne Baker**, **Woody Herman**, **Tex Beneke**, and many others.

Finding aid can be browsed at: <http://archivesfa.library.yorku.ca/fonds/ON00370-f0000630.htm>

## ALL ABOUT US

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 and the public.

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 York's 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!  
Visit soon, visit often!



# CLARA THOMAS ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

*In 2005, the York University Archives (established in 1970) was renamed in honour of Dr. Clara McCandless Thomas (1919-2013), Professor of English at York University from 1961 to 1984. The Clara Thomas Archives has been a beneficiary of Dr. Thomas's extensive literary connections, moral and financial support, and goodwill for many years.*

*Donations can be made in her honour at:*  
[ForClara.ca/](http://ForClara.ca/)



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