



CLARA THOMAS ARCHIVES

**Inventory of the
Margaret Norquay fonds**

Inventory #F0176

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F0176 - Margaret Norquay fonds

Fonds/Collection Number: F0176

Title: Margaret Norquay fonds

Dates: 1900-2007, predominant 1943-2007

Extent: 7.9 m of textual records
ca. 110 photographs
ca. 200 audio cassettes
2 video cassettes

**Biographical Sketch/
Administrative History:** Margaret (Dillon) Norquay (1920-2014), writer, teacher, broadcaster and pioneer in distance education, was born in Toronto to a well-educated family of modest means. She was educated at the University of Toronto where she earned her Bachelor of Arts (Sociology) in 1943, and her Master of Arts (Sociology) in 1950. During 1943-1944, Norquay served as Executive Secretary, Rural Adult Education Service, MacDonald College, Quebec which provided education services via radio for farm families. From 1944 to 1946, Norquay was a welfare officer with the Canadian Women's Army Corp (CWAC). In 1947-1949 she served as Recreation Director for the Dunnville Community Recreation Council and this work provided the basis for her M.A. thesis entitled "A Study of a Community Recreation Council as an Agent of Social Change", a sociological study of the economic and political changes which took place in the textile town of Dunville, Ontario. Norquay married a United Church minister in 1949 and began to raise her own family in Mayerthorpe, Alberta. Returning to Ontario, she was a researcher, writer and broadcaster between 1963 and 1967 for "Take 30", a CBC programme co-hosted by Adrienne Clarkson. Between 1967 and 1971, she worked as a professor of sociology for Ryerson Polytechnical Institute. She was the founding director of CJRT-FM's Open College program whose first course was offered over radio in January 1971. From 1972 to 1974, she was Director of Studies for Ryerson and Open College in addition to her teaching duties, and continued as director of Open College until 1987 at which time she became a consultant for the Ryerson International Development Centre. She was also program director for CJRT-FM from 1974 to 1985. Throughout her life, Norquay has remained interested and active in community involvement, chairing or volunteering on several committees and projects. From 1964 to 1972, she chaired the Community Committee on Immigrants of the Social Planning Council, and from 1963 to 1973 was the volunteer director of the Earl's Court Community project in Toronto. From 1987 onwards, she chaired the Committee for Intercultural/Interracial Education in Professional Schools (CIIEPS). She also played an active role in the Project for Development Supports Communications in Northern Thailand as well as many other community and interculturally based endeavours. In 2008, Norquay's work "Broad is the way : stories from Mayerthorpe" was published as part of the Wilfrid Laurier University Press life-writing series and provides interesting glimpses of the life of a young minister's unorthodox wife. Norquay passed away 11 January 2014.

Scope and Content: The fonds consists of Margaret Norquay's records pertaining to her graduate studies, her work with the Open College project, and to her community involvement with several committees and organizations, as well as personal files related to her family. The fonds is arranged in the following series:

S00110	Open College files
S00111	MA Thesis files
S00112	Take Thirty scripts
S00113	A Prospect in Development Support Communications in Northern Thailand files
S00114	Committee for Intercultural / Interracial Education in Professional Schools files
S00115	Social Planning Council: Community Committee on Immigrant Children files
S00244	Canadian Pensioners Concerned
S00379	Project and writing files
S00380	Personal files

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S00381

Earl's Court Community Project

Restrictions on Access and Use: Some restrictions may apply.

Finding Aid: Series-level descriptions with corresponding file lists are complete at this time. Individual accession file lists are available separately; see accruals note.

URL of Finding Aid: <http://archivesfa.library.yorku.ca/fonds/ON00370-f0000176.htm>

Accruals: The fonds comprises the following accession: 1999-012, 2003-055, 2007-030. Further accruals may be expected.

Immediate source of acquisition: Donated by Margaret Norquay in 1999, 2003 and 2007.

Provenance Access Points: Norquay, Margaret.

Date of creation: 2002/04/05

Date of last revision: 2014/01/14