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**Boyd Raeburn  
Papers  
1938-1966**

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Boyd Raeburn Papers

**Contents**

**Biographical note:..... 3**

**Scope and content: ..... 3**

**Series 1: Correspondence..... 5**

**Series 2: Notes and Unpublished Manuscripts ..... 8**

**Series 3: Collected Published Materials..... 10**

**Series 4: Photographs and Ephemera..... 12**

MS  
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Boyd Raeburn Papers

**Date(s):**  
1938 - 1966

**Extent:**  
**3 boxes (0.36 metres)**

**Biographical note:**

Boyd Raeburn (1927-2001) was a Canadian science fiction fanzine writer. Born in New Zealand, Raeburn relocated to Toronto as an adult, where he joined the Toronto Science Fiction Society, also known as the Toronto Derelicts. Raeburn, Ron Kidder, Howard P. Lyons, Pat Patterson, and Ger Stewart helped to revitalize the Toronto Science Fiction Society in 1953 and called themselves the Derelict Insurgents.

Raeburn's first fanzine, *Á Bas*, began as a publication of the Derelict Insurgents in 1954. After the first issue, however, Raeburn served as the sole editor of the zine until its final issue in 1959. *Á Bas* was nominated for a Hugo Award for Best Fanzine in 1956.

Raeburn also published *Le Moindre* for FAPA (the Fantasy Amateur Press Association), of which he was a member from 1955 to his death in 2001. From 1963 to 1967 he worked alongside Ontario fans Norm Clarke and Georgina Ellis to publish *Queebshots*.

Besides his fanzines, Raeburn also gained repute within fandom for being one of the "Balcony Insurgents" at NYCon II in 1956, who occupied a balcony to hear cartoonist Al Capp speak without having to pay for the convention's dinner, and for coining the term "sercon," or "serious constructive," to refer to fans more interested in critical discussion of science fiction, as opposed to those primarily interested in discussing fan activity itself.

**References**

Olson, Mark. *Fancyclopedia III*. Boston, Mass.: Operation Crifanac, 2010.

**Scope and content:**

This accession consists of materials related to the science fiction fandom activities of Boyd Raeburn, predominantly from 1955 to 1966, when Raeburn was most prominent in the fandom. It includes a significant amount of correspondence sent from other prominent science fiction fans to Raeburn. The accession also contains manuscripts for fanzine articles sent to Raeburn from other fans, Raeburn's own notes and manuscripts for his fanzine *Á Bas*, as well as a collection of fanzines.

MS  
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00457A

Boyd Raeburn Papers

**Contains series:**

1. Correspondence
2. Notes and Unpublished Manuscripts
3. Collected Published Materials
4. Photographs and Ephemera

**Custodial History:**

Material was purchased from Mark Funke in 2024. All material was acquired by Funke directly from the estate of Robert Lichtman and Carol Carr.

**Arrangement:**

The contents of the collection were received with no discernable existing order. As a result, an arrangement based on their contents has been imposed on them.

**Note:**

The contents of the collection were received in unlabelled folders. Folder titles have been supplied based on their contents.

Shorthand notations are used in the finding aid:

TLS: Typed letter signed (typed letter signed by hand)

TL: Typed letter, not signed

ALS: Autograph letter signed (signed by the author of the letter, handwritten)

AL: Autograph letter not signed.

## Series 1: Correspondence

### Date(s):

1952-1966

### Scope and content:

Series consists mainly of correspondence with other science fiction fans occurring between 1954 and 1966. Correspondence from before 1954 is largely unrelated to science fiction fandom. Series also contains comment letters sent to Raeburn concerning various issues of *Á Bas*. Additionally, the series contains correspondence sent between Raeburn, Norm Clarke, Georgina Ellis, F.M. Busby, and Elinor Busby as part of the secret APA (Amateur Press Association), SHFU. The APA arose from the sustained correspondence between these individuals in response to the ejection of Walter Breen from *Pacificon II* in 1963, on the grounds of sexual abuse of minors. While letters in this sub-series may be addressed to only one person in this group, they are intended for all members and would be copied or forwarded. The group eventually became known as "Lilapa."

Box: Folder	Contents
	<u>General Correspondence</u>
1:1	Robert Bloch to Boyd Raeburn, 1 TNS, 2 TLS. 1955
1:2	Sally Ann Bloch to Boyd Raeburn, 1 ALS. Feb 14, 1958
1:3	N[?] Blundell to Boyd Raeburn, 1 ALS. Dec 1954
1:4	Redd Boggs to Ron Kidder and Boyd Raeburn, 1 TLS. Dec 20, 1954 Boyd Raeburn to Redd Boggs, 1 TL. Dec 15, 1954
1:5	Boyd Raeburn to B.T. Buttolph, 1 TL.
1:6	George Collins to Boyd Raeburn, 1 ALS.
1:7	Roger Dard to Boyd Raeburn, 1 ALS, 1 ANS. Nov 15, 1954 - Oct 10, 1955
1:8	Dick Ellington to Boyd Raeburn, 2 TLS. Apr 24, 1955 - Apr 18, 1958
1:9	Ron Ellik to Gerald Stewart, Boyd Raeburn, Howard Lyons and Ron Kidder, 1 TLS. Mar 22, 1955 Ron Ellik to Boyd Raeburn, 3 TLS. Jul 23, 1955 - Dec 4 1956
1:10	L.M. German to Boyd Raeburn, 1 ANS. Dec 6, 1954
1:11	Clifford Gould to Boyd Raeburn, 1 TL, 2 TLS. Oct 18, 1956 - Sep 2, 1958 Duplicate of George [surname unknown] to Clifford Gould, 1 TLS. Mar 3 1956

MS  
Coll.  
00457A

Boyd Raeburn Papers

1:12	Dean A. Grennell to Boyd Raeburn and Toronto Derelicts, 4 TLS. Dec 5, 1954 - Jan 20, 1959
1:13	Morris Hertz to Boyd Raeburn, 1 ANS, 1 TLS. Feb 1, 1955
1:14	Curtis D. Janke to Boyd Raeburn, 1 TLS. Nov 24, 1959
1:15	Rich Kirs to Boyd Raeburn, 11 TLS, 6 TL, 1 ALS, 1 TNS. May 6, 1955 - Nov 21 1959
1:16	Vernon L. McCain to Boyd Raeburn, 4 TLS, 1 TL.
1:17	V. Paul Nowell to Boyd Raeburn, 1 TN. Dec 12, 1954
1:18	Ethel M. Pinder to Boyd Raeburn, 1 ALS. Aug 13, 1953
1:19	David Rike to Boyd Raeburn, 1 ANS. Jul 16, 1955
1:20	H. Simon to Boyd Raeburn, 1 ALS. Jun 3, 1954
1:21	Cpl R.C. Swanson to F.A. Coulter, cc: Boyd Raeburn, 1 TLS. Oct 19, 1954
1:22	Bob Tucker to Boyd Raeburn, 1 TLS. Nov 21, 1955
1:23	Pierre Versins (pseud. of Jacques Chamson) and Martine Chamson to Boyd Raeburn, 2 TLS. Oct 24, 1957 - Dec 16, 1957 Martine Chamson to Vaporisateurs V.B., 1 TL. Feb 19, 1958 [French] Vaporisateur V.B. to Martine Chamsom, 1 TLS. Feb 22, 1958 [French]
1:24	Sylvia and Ted White to Boyd Raeburn, 1 TL. Jan 1959
1:25	John Stanton (Arkham House Publishers) to Boyd Raeburn, 1 TLS. Mar 18, 1957 August Derleth (Arkham House Publishers) to Boyd Raeburn, 1 TLS. Mar 23, 1957 F. (?) D. (?) [illegible] (Arkham House Publishers) to Boyd Raeburn, 1 TLS. Mar 30, 1957
1:26	Harris Haywood (Baggot & Morrison Commodities) to Boyd Raeburn, 1 TLS. Jan 1, 1961
1:27	Charles B. Gillet (Associate Editor of Road & Track) to Boyd Raeburn, 2 TLS. Feb 11, 1955 - Jul 19, 1955 John R. Bond (Editor of Road & Track) to Boyd Raeburn, 1 TLS. Jan 9, 1956
1:28	George T. Wein (Storyville Records) to Boyd Raeburn, 1 TLS. Feb 28, 1955
1:29	Unknown Sender to Boyd Raeburn, Excerpt of 1 TL. Jul 29, 1952 Unknown Sender to Boyd Raeburn, 1 AL. Sep, 11, 1952 Unknown Sender to Boyd Raeburn, 1 TL. Jun 10, 1958 Unknown Sender to Boyd Raeburn, 1 AN.
	<u>Ron Kidder</u>

1:30	Ron Kidder to Harry Calnek, 4 TLS, 2 TL, Nov 1, 1954 - Feb 5, 1955 Ron Kidder to Dean A. Grennell, 1 TL, Dec 2, 1954 Ron Kidder to Redd Boggs, 1 TL, Dec 12 1954 Ron Kidder to Bob Tucker, 1 TLS, 1 TS. Jan 22, 1955 - Feb 2 1955 Ron Kidder to Gina "Dutch" Ellis, 1 TLS. Feb 16, 1955
1:31	Harry Calnek to Ron Kidder, 4 TLS. Jan 18, 1954 - Mar 13 1955 Gina "Dutch" Ellis to Ron Kidder, 1 TL. Oct 24, 1954 - Jan 30, 1955. Dean A. Grennell to Ron Kidder, 1 TN. Nov 29, 1954 Curtis D. Janke to Ron Kidder and Boyd Raeburn, 1 TLS. Mar 17, 1955 Bob Tucker to Ron Kidder, 1 TLS. Jan 27, 1955
	<u>Newsletter and Open Letters</u>
1:32	Phyllis Economou, 2 TL. Open Letter to John Berry; "Economou for Vice-President. The Economou Sex Platform"
1:33	Alma Hill, 1 TLS. Mar 15, 1960. "FANARTIFACTS"
1:34	Donald E. Ford, 1 TL. Sep 3, 1957. Report on 1957 TAFF election.
1:35	Newsletters from Cliff Richard Fan Club, prepared by Pat Burns, 10 TLS. Nov 1965 - Summer 1967. Cliff Richard factsheet. Pat Burns to Boyd Raeburn, 2 TLS. Sep 25, 1966 - Nov 8, 1966.
1:36	6 Quote Cards
	<u>Á Bas Comment Letters</u>
1:37	Letters commenting on <i>Á Bas</i> #6. 5 TLS, 1 TL. Apr 24, 1955 - Jun 25, 1955.  Correspondents include: Walt Willis, Peter Vorzimer, Gregg Calkins, and Jeremy Millett.
1:38	Letter commenting on <i>Á Bas</i> #9. Chester A. Polk to Boyd Raeburn, 1 TLS. Dec 26, 1956.
1:39	Letters commenting on <i>Á Bas</i> #10. 2 ALS, 1 TLS. Feb 10, 1958 - Feb 20, 1958.  Correspondents include: Sid Birchby, Roger Horrocks and Don Durwand.

MS  
Coll.  
00457A

Boyd Raeburn Papers

1:40-41	Letters commenting on <i>Á Bas</i> #11. 34 TLS, 2 TL, 2 ALS. Mar 13, 1959 - Jan 26, 1960.  Correspondents include: F.M. Busby. G.M. Carr, Robert Lichtman, Bob Pavlat, Rich Kirs, Elinor Busby, Nick Falasca, Larry Shaw, Bob Bloch, John Trimble, Belle C. Dietz, Joan Skirvin, Stanley C. Skirvin, Bob Lemman, Donald Franson, Greg Benford, Bob Tucker, George Nims Raybin, Buck Coulson, Redd Boggs, Bill Daner, Ethel Lindsay, Harry Warner Jr., Ron Bennet, Gregg Calkins, Len Moffat, Peter Singleton, Dean A. Grennell, Martha Cohen, Jim Kennedy, Jeff Wanshel, Dick Eney, Joe Sanders, Joy Goodwin, Richard Bergeron, and Bill Donaho.
	<u>SHFU/ Lilapa correspondence</u>
2:1-2:25	61 TLS, 36 TL. Jan 1964 – Apr 1966.

**Series 2: Notes and Unpublished Manuscripts**

**Date(s):**

[1955] – [1959]

**Scope and content:**

Series consists of notes and manuscripts written by both Raeburn and other science fiction fans. While unlabelled and undated, many of the notes can be identified as being used in various issues of *Á Bas*. The bulk of these notes concern drafted dialogue ideas for the zine’s “Derelicti Derogations” Segments. The series also contains a large number of collected manuscripts, with the poetry of Rich Kirs, a regular contributor to *Á Bas*, being particularly prominent in the collection.

**Arrangement:**

Raeburn’s loose notes were cross-referenced with published issues of *Á Bas* to determine their origin and grouped together on this basis.

Box: Folder	Contents
	<u><i>Á Bas</i> Notes</u>
2:26	<i>Á Bas</i> 5
2:27	<i>Á Bas</i> 6
2:28	<i>Á Bas</i> 7
2:29	<i>Á Bas</i> 8
2:30	<i>Á Bas</i> 9

2:31	<i>Á Bas</i> 10
2:32	<i>Á Bas</i> 11.  Includes typescript drafts of Raeburn's prologue and <i>Derelicti Derrogations</i> , with holographed revisions. Also includes typescripts of "Christmas with the Lunarians" by Edsel McCune, "Silverberg's Precedent" by Eric Needham, "Terrans are Better than Anybody" by Dean A. Grennell, and "How Others See Us" By Walt Willis, enclosed with letter from Willis to Raeburn, 1 ALS, Sep 30, 1958.
	<u>General Notes</u>
2:33	Typed reproductions of published works  1. "josh brandon's blues", originally published in <i>Gegenschein</i> Part 1, edited by Jean Young 2. Excerpt from "Ye Olde Manual With Which to Cross the Vacuum Spaces" by Spencer 3. Excerpt from "The Muses are Heard" by Truman Capote. 4. Collection of excerpts by Alexander King and Alan Griffiths. 5. "Grown Up (Founded on Fact)", Reprinted from "The Beacon," December 1937
2:34	Notes not leading to publication. Includes holographs and typescripts of " <i>Derelicti Derrogations</i> " drafts.
	<u>Collected Manuscripts</u>
3:1	Typescripts: 14 poetry pieces by Rich Kirs
3:2	Typescripts: 3 prose pieces by Rich Kirs
3:3	Typescript: "A La Recherche Du Temps Perdu" by Robert Bloch Enclosed in letter from Robert Bloch to Boyd Raeburn, TLS. Apr 8, 1959
3:4	Typescript with handwritten revisions: "The Anomaly of the Hyphenated Fan" by Clifford Gould
3:5	Typescript: "Barefoot Boy with Limp" by Dave Edgerton. Sent by Jack McKenty
3:6	Typescript: "Encounter with an Alien" by Gregg Calkins
3:7	Typescript: "Dragon -- II" by Jean and Andy Young. 2 drafts. Includes 8 sheets of original illustrations. Enclosed in Jean Young to Boyd Raeburn, 1 TLS. Jun 6, 1957
3:8	Typescript: "Crenelate me, Jesus" by Dick Lupoff. Enclosed in excerpt of letter from Dick Lupoff to Boyd Raeburn, 1 TLS.

3:9	<p>Uncredited manuscripts.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Typescript: "Mr. Grieg Comes to Town." Enclosed in letter from unknown sender to Boyd Raeburn, TL. Apr 7, 1955.</li> <li>2. Typescript: "How to Sell a Second-Hand Pencil Which Has Lost Its Eraser"</li> <li>3. Holograph draft: Untitled Poetry</li> <li>4. Typescript: "Maladie Du... (an answer to Jean.)"</li> <li>5. Typescript: "Report on the 17th World Science Fiction Convention"</li> <li>6. Typescript: Dialogue between Ger Steward, Howard Lyons, Ron Kidder and Albert [surname unknown]</li> <li>6. Typescript: Untitled poem, [Norman Browne's a son of a bitch...]</li> <li>7. Typescript: Untitled Poem, [Poem 3]</li> <li>8. Typescript: Collection of song lyrics about Soviet Union. Includes "Way Down in Lubyanka Prison" by Dave Van Ronk, among others that may be original works.</li> </ol>
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**Series 3: Collected Published Materials**

**Date(s):**

1938-1959

**Scope and content:**

Series consists mainly of collected fanzines from 1957 to 1958, as well as a single complete issue of Raeburn's own, *Le Moindre*. A smaller collection of published materials that are not related to fandom are also present, including newspaper clippings.

<b>Box: Folder</b>	<b>Contents</b>
	<u>Fanzine material</u>
3:10	<i>Le Moindre</i> #5, edited by Boyd Raeburn. [August 1958]
3:11	<p><i>RUR</i>, edited by David Rike</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>RUR</i> 10. May 1, 1958. Contains supplement, "A Letter on <i>RUR</i> 8" by G.M. Carr</li> <li>2. <i>RUR</i> 11. May 5, 1958.</li> <li>3. <i>RUR</i> 14. May 30, 1958.</li> </ol>

3:12	<p><i>Rumble</i>, edited by John Magnus Jr.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <i>Rumble</i> Number 13. June 1, 1958.</li><li>2. <i>Rumble</i> Number 14. June 10, 1958.</li><li>3. <i>Rumble</i> Number 15. June 23, 1958.</li><li>4. <i>Rumble</i> Number 18. August 15, 1958.</li></ol>
3:13	<p><i>Back Blast !!!</i>, edited by Andy Young.</p> <p>One-shot zine responding to John Magnus Jr.'s <i>Rumble</i> Number 18 and <i>Varioso</i> 17. October 15, 1958.</p>
3:14	<p><i>gafia</i>, edited by Ted E. White.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <i>gafia</i> 6. [1958]</li><li>2. <i>gafia</i> 7. Alternate title, <i>Fandom's Own Home Weekly</i>. [1958]</li></ol>
3:15	<p><i>Fanac #23</i>, edited by Terry Carr and Ron Ellik. [August 1958]</p>
3:16	<p><i>Stupefying Stories</i> 35, edited by Dick Eney. [1958]</p>
3:17	<p>Collected excerpts from fanzines</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Excerpt from <i>Yandro</i> 55, edited by Robert and Juanita Coulson. Pages 19-23. Includes comment letters on <i>Yandro</i> 51 and reproduction of advertisement for new fanzine by Alan J. Lewis. [August 1957]</li><li>2. Excerpt from <i>Cry of the Nameless</i> 113, edited by Wally Weber. Pages 21-22. Includes "Fandom--Is it Enough?" by Norman Sanfield Harris (pseud. of hoax fan Carl Brandon) and "Foursome" by John Berry.</li><li>3. Excerpt from <i>Cry of the Nameless</i> 114, edited by Wally Weber. Pages 7-8. Includes announcement from Solacon committee and excerpt of "The Science-Fiction Field Plowed Under," by Renfrew Pemberton (pseud. for F.M. Busby). [April 1957]</li><li>4. "Case 72104 - N.Y." author and source unknown.</li></ol>
	<p><u>Non-fanzine published material</u></p>
3:18	<p><i>The Astronaut, Journal of the Manchester Interplanetary Society</i>, Volume 2, No. 2. Edited by H.E. Turner (August 1938), Manchester, England.</p>
3:19	<p><i>Elimination</i>, by John W. Campbell. Published by Malian Press, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia, [1954]. Edition also includes the short stories "Frictional Losses" by John W. Campbell and "The Altruist" by Morton Klass</p>
3:20	<p><i>Industry</i>, published by the Canadian Manufacturer's Association, No. 146, (December 1959).</p>

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Boyd Raeburn Papers

3:21	8 clippings of Pierre Berton columns from <i>Toronto Daily Star</i> . Sept 24, 1958 - Oct 7, 1959
3:22	Miscellaneous newspaper clippings.

**Series 4: Photographs and Ephemera**

**Date(s):**

1945-1962

**Scope and content:**

Series consists of photographs of Raeburn and other sci-fi fans. Ephemera in series includes materials unrelated to Raeburn's activities in fandom.

<b>Box: Folder</b>	<b>Contents</b>
3:23-24	21 black and white photographs. Includes photographs of Boyd Raeburn, Cliff Gould, Rich Kirs, Ron Bennett, and Curtis D. Janke. Several photographs are unlabelled and the individuals in them remain unidentified.
3:25	Philatelic Materials  Includes materials such as catalogues from Philatelic societies, clippings of stamp vendor advertisements, correspondence with vendors and a small collection of stamps.
3:26	Collection of invoices for purchases from New World Books in Suffern, N.Y.
3:27	Handwritten list of books with calculated total price. Programme for a production of "Will Success Spoil Rock Hunter?" at the Premiere Theatre, Toronto on March 5, 1956. Includes handwritten review notes.
3:28	Pure Mathematics I school notebook. C. 1945

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Boyd Raeburn Papers

3:29	Postcard offering subscription to "The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction" 2 blank postcards from Eva Firestone. 1 used carbon transfer sheet. 2 military leave cards for Bill Donaho, 1946. Postcard from Stratford Shakesperean Festival Foundation bearing a portion of the original Theatre-Tent's canvas. Subscription letter from <i>Gentleman's Quarterly</i> Subscription letter from <i>Esquire</i> 1 Tom of Finland print, clipped from a magazine
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