

**University of Toronto Archives
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Les Green Fonds
B2023-0021

Marnee Gamble, 2024

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Biographical note

Les Green is a 1958 University of Toronto graduate of Math and Physic. While still a student, he accompanied Tuzo Wilson and other geophysicists on a four-month expedition to Salmon Glacier. After graduating he briefly joined the Computer Center and then went on to have a career in computer programming in various organizations including KCS Limited, an early computer company founded by Joseph Kates. Other organizations include the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN in Rome, the OECD and consultant to the City of Toronto designing software for traffic flow and the Ministry of Education designing educational software for teachers.

Les Green and his wife Marion (U.C. 1958) were friends and neighbours of Raymond Souster. Green collaborated on several projects with Souster in his later years including a docupoem called *What men will die for* (2007).

References: <https://www.uc.utoronto.ca/alumni-influence/leslie-green>

Scope and content

1957-2023

0.28 m of textual and graphic records (3 boxes)

616 digital files (226 MB)

This fonds contains records in the form of published articles, lecture notes and memorabilia documenting Les Green's career as a computer programmer. There is also correspondence, typescript, poems and notes documenting his friendship and collaboration with poet Raymond Souster. It also contains a detailed account and slides of a four-month expedition on Salmon Glacier led by Tuzo Wilson in 1956.

Access: Open

Boxes: B2023-0021/001 – /002 and /001P

Digital folders: B2023-0021_df001 – df005

Related material: McPhedran / Duncan / Green Family fonds

Series 1: Salmon Glacier Expedition

1957, 2018

0.05 of textual files

200 35 mm slides: col

1 digital file (26 MB; .pdf)

File number	File title	Date range
B2023-0021/001(01)-(05)	Salmon Glacier Expedition Files – includes stories of expedition over 4 parts and children's book	1957
B2023-0021/001P(01)-(04)	95 35 mm col slides	1957
B2023-0021_df001	Salmon Glacier picture book [digital file – PDF]	2018

Series 2: Computer programming and teaching

1959-1979

0.07 m of textual records

This series includes articles written by Les Green on computer programming as well as some written by others. It also includes some records relating to his employment at KCS Limited as well as courses he taught in early computer science for the University of Toronto Department of Extension.

File number	File title	Date range
B2023-0021/001(06)	Conversation with a Computer – L. Green	1959
B2023-0021/001(07)	Time Sharing in Traffic Control Panel – L. Green	1964
B2023-0021/001(08)	Traffic Prediction Models – L. Green	1964
B2023-0021/001(09)	How computers work – L. Green	1965
B2023-0021/001(10)	Computer Programming for Business Applications – L. Green	1966
B2023-0021/001(11)	Breaking into the Computer Lab – L. Green	1967
B2023-0021/001(12)	The Engineer's Approach to Computers – L. Green	1967
B2023-0021/001(13)	Administering a Computer Curriculum – L. Green	1968
B2023-0021/001(14)	The Programmer Selection Equation - Edward Samuels	n.d.

File number	File title	Date range
B2023-0021/001 (15)	Automating the Engineer's task - Joseph Kates	1957
B2023-0021/001 (16)	Articles about KCS Limited – Company the Computer Built and Mathematics for an Everyday World	1959, 1962
B2023-0021/001 (17)	KCS Limited – personnel record and psychological assessment for Les Green	1960-1966
B2023-0021/001 (18)	KCS Limited - Newsletters	1962
B2023-0021/001 (19)	Article about early computing at UofT – Technology Issues demand Public Attention	1979
B2023-0021/001 (20)-(21)	Department of Extension – High Speed Data Processing – lectures, exams	1965-1967
B2023-0021/001 (22)	Department of Extension – Course – Man and the Computer – correspondence, lectures	1969

Series 3: Raymond Souster

1985-2023, predominant 2002-2011

0.07 m of textual records

615 digital files (198 MB)

This series documents the relationship between Green and Ray Souster, particularly their collaboration on *What men will die for* (2007) and *Never Counting the Cost* (2012). Most of this documentation is contained within the digital files and includes drafts, background notes, digital photographs and some correspondence. There are 392 emails from 2002-2013 from his lesgreen@sympatico.ca email address, discussing his work and relationship with Souster. Note that there are no emails between him and Souster.

There are also poems written for Les and Marion Green, and other people, as well as some correspondence and legal documents. Also included is a booklet Souster wrote about the League of Canadian Poets for the groups 35th anniversary, digital photographs documenting a book launch in 2011, and scans of a photograph of Souster and his wife Lia.

File number	File title	Date range
B2023-0021/002(01)	'Our relationship with Raymond Souster', Les Green	2023
B2023-0021/002(02)	Power of Attorney – Roselia Souster	2002
B2023-0021/002(03)	Notes, Poems, Thank yous from Souster to Les and Marion?	2002-2003
B2023-0021/002(04)	Green and Souster, book collaboration	2003-2008
B2023-0021/002(05)-(06)	What Men will Die For	2006-2008
B2023-0021/002(07)	Souster correspondence	2003-2006
B2023-0021/002(08)	Souster's UAC Stamp collection	2000
B2023-0021/002(09)	"In this Dark Earth' publication Souster and Jame Deahl	1985
B2023-0021/002(10)	'How I spend my V.E. Day – poem by Ray Souster to George Fells	n.d.
B2023-0021/002(11)	For my Poet-Twin on his 82 nd Birthday To Sam Simchovitch	n..d
B2023-0021/002(12)	Kite Talk a poetry sequence for the computer by Ray Souster for Les and Marion Green (photocopy)	n.d.
B2023-0021/002(13)	'Making the Damn Thing Work' (booklet re. League of Canadian Poets) by Souster	2001
B2023-0021/002(14)	Passage Through the Pyrennes (poem written by Souster just prior to his death)	2012?
B2023-0021/002(15)	Booklet of poetry autographed by Gael Turnbull	2002
B2023-0021/002(16)	Articles about Souster	1991-2002
B2023-0021/001P(06)	Les Green and Ray Souster in office	ca. 2007
B2023-0021_df002	Digital photographs	
B2023-0021_df003	Les Green's email correspondence about Ray Souster	2002-2013
B2023-0021_df004	Souster – personal [digital files]	2002-2012
B2023-0021_df005	Writings and Collaboration with Les Green [digital files]	1999-2012

Series 4: Memoir

2014-2018

0.01 m of textual records

Self-published memoir that details his time at the University of Toronto and his early days in computer programming. Also included in this series is one photograph of Les Green receiving a Distinguished Alumnus award.

Files: B2023-000/001 (23) and /001P (05)