

Descriptions for Maurice Sydney Flint Fonds

The Ruth Scott Archives

Wycliffe College,

University of Toronto

Prepared by karen emily suuramm
20 December 2006

Fonds Level Description

Title: Maurice Sydney Flint fonds

Dates of creation: 1936-2005

Physical description: 50 cm of textual records and other material

Biographical sketch: Maurice Sydney Flint was born in London, England on June 5, 1913 to Randolph Rymer Flint, a stereotyper, and Kate Elizabeth Wood. In 1936, he concluded his studies at Tyndale Hall at the Bible Churchmen's Missionary and Theological College in Bristol, and was ordained a Deacon at St. Paul's in London. He immediately left for missionary work in the Canadian Arctic and served at Pond Inlet on north Baffin Island, from 1936 to 1941. After learning the language, he translated many biblical books, expositions, catechisms, and a dictionary of difficult New Testament terms into Inuktitut. He also wrote the English lesson book for Eskimo children (1946) and the Revised Eskimo Grammar Book: from the work of Rev. E.J. Peck (1954), and translated Pilgrim's Progress (1956), which was published accompanied by Inuit drawings. In addition to his missionary work in this region, Flint is recognized as the first white man to cross Baffin Island by dog sled, and Flint Lake, located in central Baffin Island, is named in his honour.

During World War II, Flint was commissioned as a Squadron Leader and served as Chaplain for the Royal Air Force, stationed throughout Canada from 1941 to 1944, and in Nassau, Bahamas, from 1944 to 1945. On June 5th, 1943, he married Honora Chew Atkins, and they had two daughters: Elizabeth Norah Chew Flint in 1944, and Kathryn Louise Flint in 1949. After the war, Flint served as Scripture Union Director and the Canadian representative for the Children's Special Service Mission, from 1945-1947. He was Assistant at Toronto's Church of Messiah from 1947 to 1950, and studied at the University of Toronto, earning a BA from University College and an L.Th (Certificate of Licentiate in Theology) from Wycliffe College, both in 1950. He then moved to Massachusetts, where he served as Priest in Charge at St. James in Roxbury and earned an STM (Master of Sacred Theology) from Boston University in 1951.

Flint returned to Toronto in 1951 and was appointed Priest-in-Charge (and later Rector) of Little Trinity Church, which he helped revive and save from closure. He left Little Trinity in 1956. From 1953 to 1962, Flint ministered to convicted female narcotic addicts as part-time Chaplain at the Mercer Reformatory in Toronto. He also served on the Mayor of Toronto's Citizens' Committee for the Investigation of Narcotic Addiction and Vice in Metropolitan Toronto in 1959. In 1964, Flint received his PhD in the Psychology of Religion at Boston and in 1967, he received the Governor General's Centennial Medal,

Flint's teaching career began in 1961 at Wycliffe College, where he lectured on pastoral counselling, pastoral psychology, and the psychology of religion until 1980. He also lectured on urban sociology at the Ecumenical Institute, from 1962 to 1969. Flint continued his ministry, serving as Director of Chaplaincy in the Ontario Department of Reform Institutions (later the Ministry of Correctional Services) from 1963 to 1972 and as Co-ordinator of Chaplaincy Services for the Ontario Civil Service

Commission, from 1972 to 1978. In 1978 he received a citation from the Premier of the Province of Ontario, for twenty-five years of public service on behalf of the government and people of Ontario. That same year, Wycliffe College conferred him the honorary degree, Doctor of Divinity.

In the 1980s, Flint developed “A Course in Pastoral Counseling,” a series of written and audio lectures, which he used to promote international improvement in clergy education, especially in Antigua, Jamaica, and Malaysia. In 1987, he started the Flint Trust at Wycliffe College, to promote teaching missions in parishes.

In addition to his books of Inuktitut translations and grammar, Maurice Sydney Flint wrote the following published works: The Arctic: land of snowmen (1948), Operation canon: a short account of the life and witness of the Reverend John Hudspith (1949), Treasure within: the influence of the church upon the penal system in England (1968), and A touch of heaven: thirty-five years of the Chapel-By-The-Sea 1949-1984 (1984). In 1991, he finished A work book for the study of Innuktitut, a volume of over 800 pages.

Flint never finished working on his autobiography, No Greater Privilege, and died in his home in Oakville, Ontario, on August 13th, 2000.

Custodial history: The records of Maurice Sydney Flint were given by Flint, over a period of time, to his close friend, Rev. Peter R.M. Mogk, who then donated them to the archives after Flint’s death. The fonds also contains some of Flint’s publications owned by Mogk, and Mogk’s completed version of No Greater Privilege.

Scope and content: Fonds consists primarily of Flint’s published materials, but also includes diaries written on Baffin Island; correspondence with Wycliffe College; photographs and newspaper clippings about Little Trinity Anglican Church; photographs and bulletins for chapels at Ontario correctional institutions; reports for the City of Toronto, the Ontario Ministry of Correctional Services, and the Bishop of Toronto; teaching guides and lectures on audiocassettes for the course in pastoral counselling in Antigua and Jamaica. The fonds also consists of publications by Flint, owned by Peter R.M. Mogk, the card Mogk enclosed with the donation of the fonds, and paper and electronic versions of Flint’s autobiography, as assembled and completed by Mogk. The fonds is divided into six series: Baffin Island diaries (1936-1939); Little Trinity Anglican Church (1950-1962); Chaplaincy at correctional institutions (1959-1973); Teaching materials (1984-1985); Reports and publications (1968, 1991) and Peter R.M. Mogk research and donor materials (1949-2005). The fonds also contains two loose items: an undated photograph of Flint, a letter regarding his education (1946), and a church bulletin for St. Peter’s Erindale in Mississauga (1993).

Source of supplied title: Title based on contents of fonds.

Includes: 3 black and white photographs; 1 volume containing 74 black and white photographs, 3 graphs, 2 sketches, and 6 temperature graphs; 1 volume containing 2 maps and 4 temperature graphs; 36 audio cassettes; 1 CD-ROM (textual record with photographs).

Restrictions on access: No restrictions on access.

Associated material: Other records relating to Maurice Sydney Flint are located at the National Library and Archives of Canada.

Series Level Descriptions

Title: Baffin Island diaries

Dates of creation: 1936-1939

Physical description: 2 volumes (textual records and other material)
1 folder (textual records)

Scope and content: Series consists of three diaries detailing Flint's activities and missionary work with aboriginal peoples at Pond's Inlet, Baffin Island. Two diaries are bound, and include black and white photographs of Baffin Island and its people, sketches of living quarters, drawn maps of trip routes, and temperature graphs for September 1936 to August 1938. The third diary is a collection of loose typewritten pages, sent to Flint's father in England, detailing his life and missionary work with aboriginal peoples at Pond's Inlet, Baffin Island. The account was written over a short period of time, but covers his activities over the year 1939.

Source of supplied title: Title based on content of series.

Includes: 74 photographs, 2 sketches, 5 maps, 10 temperature graphs

Title: Little Trinity Anglican Church

Dates of creation: [1950?] – [1962?]

Physical description: 1 folder
2 photographs : b&w ; 20.3 x 25.4 cm

Scope and content: Series consists of newspaper clippings and photographs related to Flint's service as priest-in-charge of Little Trinity Anglican Church in Toronto Ontario. One newspaper clipping pertains to Flint's appointment as priest-in-charge of the church, and features a photograph of him with Rev. Ray McCleary. Two newspaper clippings pertain to the fire, theft, and vandalism suffered by the church in 1961, and feature photographs of Flint looking at the remains. One photograph depicts the exterior of the church, showing a billboard advertising their \$50,000 fundraising goal. The second is a photograph of the Chancel, which was rebuilt after the fire in 1961, and reopened in March 1962. The second photograph is attributed to the Canadian Churchman, Anglican Church of Canada.

Source of supplied title: Title based on content of series.

Title: Chaplaincy at correctional institutions

Dates of creation: [1959?]-[1973?]

Physical description: 5 cm of textual records

Scope and content: Series consists of two reports: The Mayor's Citizens' Committee for the Investigation of Narcotic Addiction and Vice in Metropolitan Toronto, on which Flint sat in 1959, and a feasibility study on the "Implications of the Creation and Appointment to Regional Chaplaincy Positions in the New Administrative Structures of the Ontario Ministry of Correctional Services," written by Flint in 1973. The series also consists of a program for the dedication of the Door of Hope Chapel at the Ontario Reformatory in Guelph, Ontario (1966); an unsigned Christmas greeting featuring the All Faiths Chapel "built and furnished by the students and staff of the Ontario training centre, Brampton"; and a news clipping regarding prostitution in Toronto, based on an interview with Flint. The series is divided into three files: Reports, Chapels, and Newspaper clippings

Source of supplied title: Title based on content of series.

Title: Teaching materials

Dates of creation: 1984-1985

Physical description: 3 cm of textual records
37 audio cassettes

Scope and content: Series consists of course instructions, manuals, and audio taped lectures for "A Course in Pastoral Counselling," a course Flint developed for use internationally. The course was implemented in Antigua. The series also includes a binder of teaching materials, a report from a workshop in Jamaica, and a photocopied article on pastoral care. The series is divided into two files: Course in pastoral counselling and Other teaching materials.

Source of supplied title: Title based on content of series.

Accompanying materials: Guides to the tape contents are available on the inside of the tape case and in the teaching manual.

Related materials: Another teaching manual is located in the R.M. Mogk series.

Title: Reports and publications

Dates of creation: 1968, 1991

Physical description: 6.5 cm of textual records

Scope and content: Series consists of reports and publications written by Flint, and includes the Report of Bishop of Toronto's Commission on the Church's Ministry of Healing (1968), Treasure Within: The Influence of the Church Upon the Penal System in England (1968), and A Workbook for the Study of Innuktetut (1991). The series is divided into two files: Reports and Publications.

Source of supplied title: Title based on content of series.

Related materials: Other publications are located in the R.M. Mogk series.

Title: Peter R.M. Mogk research and donor materials

Dates of creation: 1949, 1954, 1985-2005

Physical description: 6 cm of textual materials
1 CD-ROM (textual records with photographs)

Scope and content: Series consists of publications by Flint that were owned by Peter R.M. Mogk. These include Operation Canon: Turner of the Arctic (1949), Revised Eskimo Grammar Book (1954), and Introduction to Theology (1985). The series also consists of a paper copy and CD-ROM of No Greater Privilege, Flint's autobiography, which was completed by Mogk, and a card from Mogk to Rev. Dr. George Summer, regarding his donation of Flint's material to the archives (20 March 2005).

Source of supplied title: Title based on content of series.

Item Level Descriptions
(3 loose items)

Title: Photograph of Maurice Sydney Flint

Dates of creation: [195-?]

Physical Description: 1 photograph : b&w; 10.75 x 8.2 cm

Scope and Content: Item is a headshot of Flint, wearing a graduation gown and hood.

Source of supplied title: Title based on contents of item.

Attribution: Photographed at the studio of LeRoy Toll, in Toronto, Ontario.

Title: Letter to Rev. Prof. W.E. Taylor

Dates of creation: 13 Dec. 1946

Physical Description: 4 p.

Scope and Content: Item is a letter sent from Flint to Rev. Prof W.E. Taylor at Wycliffe College, asking permission to study at Wycliffe. The letter also outlines Flint's "Eskimo language work" and its reception.

Source of supplied title: Title based on contents of item.

Physical condition: Paper is brittle and cracking around edges.

Title: Trinity Sunday

Dates of creation: 6 June 1993

Physical Description: 6 p.

Scope and Content: Item is a church bulletin for a service at St. Peter's Erindale in Mississauga, Ontario, for which Flint gave the sermon and homily.

Source of supplied title: Title based on contents of item.

