

Description and Finding Aid

**DERWYN R.G. OWEN FONDS
F2100**

Prepared by
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DERWYN R.G. OWEN FONDS

Dates of creation

1938-1996

Extent

156 cm of textual records

34 photographs

3 etchings

1 scrapbook

Biographical sketch

Derwyn Randolph Grier Owen, Anglican clergyman and administrator, was born on 16 May 1914, the son of Derwyn Owen and Nora Grier Jellet. He attended Ridley College in St. Catharine's from 1928 to 1932 and then Trinity College, where he took honours in Classics, graduating with a BA and the Governor General's Medal in 1936. He studied next at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, 1936-1938, and the Union Theological Seminary, New York, 1940-1941. He was ordained deacon in 1941 and priest in 1942 and completed his PhD in philosophy at the University of Toronto the same year, while teaching at Trinity College. In 1942 he enlisted in the Canadian army and served as chaplain in the Westminster Regiment, 5th Division, on campaigns in Italy and Holland. He returned to Canada in 1946 and resumed his post as lecturer and head of the Department of Religious Knowledge at Trinity. In 1957 he was elected Provost of Trinity College and served in that capacity until 1971 when he resigned to continue teaching. He served as Professor of Religious Studies until his retirement in 1979. Owen published several books, including *Scientism, Man and Religion* (1952), *Body and Soul* (1956), *Social Thought and Anglican Theology* (1980), and *Trinity College: Past, Present and Future* (1964).

Derwyn Owen married Anne Kathleen Armour in 1942 and they had three children: Laurie, David, and Timothy. He died on 23 April 1997 in Toronto, Ontario.

Scope and content

Fonds contains records of Derwyn Owen's career as a scholar, including subject notes, lecture notes, thesis materials, manuscripts, reading lists, and class lists from Owen's time as a fellow and lecturer at Trinity College as well as correspondence and reviews relating to his published works. Files also include personal correspondence, primarily with Anne Armour (later Mrs Owen), diaries, passports, and personal and professional certificates. Also included are pamphlets, programmes, letters, official papers, newspaper clippings, speeches, and other documents from his tenure as Provost of Trinity College (1957-1971).

Contains series

1. Personal documents
2. Scholarly papers
3. Documents relating to Owen at Trinity College
4. Published works and associated materials
5. Photographs

Notes

Acquisition history: The fonds was received in five accessions. Some material was given by Dr. Owen during his lifetime; the rest was given by his estate and family after his death.

Arrangement: Materials have been arranged by the archivist in chronological order within each series.

Restrictions on access: None

Terms governing use and reproduction / publication: Various copyright holders. It is the researcher's responsibility to obtain permission to publish any part of the fonds.

Related Groups of Records in Different Fonds: Derwyn Owen's official records as Provost of Trinity College can be found in F1002.

Provenance access point

Owen, Derwyn Randolph Grier, 1914-1997.

SERIES 1: PERSONAL DOCUMENTS

Dates of creation: 1938-1984

Extent: 52 cm of textual records

Scope and content: Series contains personal correspondence between Derwyn and Anne Owen (then Armour) and from Derwyn Owen to his mother, a personal notebook as well as letters to Anne and Derwyn. Files also contain Derwyn Owen's academic diplomas, vaccination record, passports, diaries, prayer book, and a copy of *Scientism, Man and Religion*. The series is in chronological order by end date.

Location / File Listing

FOLDER/UNIT TITLE	START DATE	END DATE	CONTENTS	BOX/ FILE #
Personal Notebook	[193-?]	[193-?]	University of Toronto notebook containing passages of poems and other writings.	1-1
Letter to Mother	1938	1938	Letter from Owen to Mother while abroad in Italy 1938.	1-2
Personal correspondence between Anne Armour and Derwyn Owen	26 Dec 1939	7 July 1940	Letters from Owen to Anne Armour.	1-3
Personal Correspondence between Anne Armour and Derwyn Owen	17 July 1940	17 Aug 1940	Letters from Owen to Anne Armour.	1-4
Personal Correspondence between Anne Armour and Derwyn Owen	18 Aug 1940	8 Oct 1940	Letters from Owen to Anne Armour.	1-5
Personal Correspondence	10 Oct 1940	29 Oct 1940	Letters from Owen to Anne Armour.	1-6
Personal Correspondence	1 Nov 1940	25 Nov 1940	Letters from Owen to Anne Armour.	1-7
Personal Correspondence	26 Nov 1940	10 Dec 1940	Letters from Owen to Anne Armour.	1-8
Personal Correspondence	12 Dec 1940	16 Jan 1941	Letters from Owen to Anne Armour.	1-9

Personal Correspondence	18 Jan 1941	30 Jan 1941	Letters from Owen to Anne Armour.	2-1
Personal Correspondence	1 Feb 1941	22 Feb 1941	Letters from Owen to Anne Armour.	2-2
Personal Correspondence	23 Feb 1941	6 Mar 1941	Letters from Owen to Anne Armour.	2-3
Personal Correspondence	8 Mar 1941	21 Mar 1941	Letters from Owen to Anne Armour.	2-4
Personal Correspondence	22 Mar 1941	10 Apr 1941	Letters from Owen to Anne Armour.	2-5
Personal Correspondence	11 Apr 1941	23 Apr 1941	Letters from Owen to Anne Armour.	2-6
Personal Correspondence	24 Apr 1941	7 July 1941	Letters from Owen to Anne Armour.	2-7
Personal Correspondence	8 July 1941	13 Aug 1941	Letters from Owen to Anne Armour.	2-8
Personal Correspondence	22 Aug 1941	4 Sept 1941	Letters from Owen to Anne Armour.	2-9
Programme	1946	1946	Church of England dinner for the Clergy and Laity of the Diocese of Toronto	3-1
Curriculum Vitae	[1957]	[1957]	A typed CV up to 1957.	3-2
Letters to Anne and Derwyn Owen	1957	1957	Letters of congratulation addressed to Anne and Derwyn after Owen's appointment as provost.	3-3
Certificate of Authenticity	[196-?]	[196-?]	Letter to certify that an "Old Sheffield Tea Urn" is authentic, along with a newspaper clipping about the Armour family bible.	3-4
Books	1940	1961	A copy of Derwyn Owen's book <i>Scientism, Man and Religion</i> (1952), a copy of <i>Draft Prayer Book Canada</i> (1959), a copy of the Ward Price catalogue for Gerald Larkin's estate (1961), and a booklet for the 50 th anniversary of St Cuthbert's Anglican Church, Leaside (1940).	3-5
Book Lists and Notes	1962	1971	Handwritten notes on books, typed lists of books from "Mrs. Kirkwood's Reading Group" belonging to Anne Owen.	3-6
Certificates	1914	1977	Birth certificate, baptism and communion certificates, marriage certificate, certificates regarding	3-7

			Owen's war service and church duties.	
Diaries	1957	1977	Yearly diaries, missing 1958 and 1971.	4
Sermons	1941	1984	Typed and handwritten sermons given by Owen.	3-8
Passports and travel documents	1936	1997	Passports stretching from 1936 to 1997, international driving permit and vaccination record.	4
Owen Family tree	[19--?]	[19--?]	Photocopied family tree.	Over-size Box 1-2
Honorary degrees	1958	1965	Diplomas from Trinity College, Bishop's, St John's College, Winnipeg.	Over-size Box 1-3
Degrees	1936	1964	From Trinity College, Wycliffe College, Emmanuel College, University of Windsor.	Over-size Box 1-4

SERIES 2: SCHOLARLY PAPERS

Dates of creation: 1948-1996

Extent: 65 cm of textual records

Scope and content: Series consists of scholarly notes, lecture notes, thesis notes, and speeches relating to education, theology, ethics, religion, and philosophy. Also includes class lists for divinity, graduate and religious studies classes, programmes from Owen's presentation as Honorary Fellow and an Admission of Scholars programme. The series has been arranged in chronological order by end date.

Location / File Listing

FOLDER/UNIT TITLE	START DATE	END DATE	CONTENTS	BOX/ FILE #
Notes on the History of Modern Philosophy	[1938?]	[1938?]	Handwritten notes on the History of Modern Philosophy	5-1
Notes on the History of Modern Philosophy	[1938?]	[1938?]	Handwritten notes on the History of Modern Philosophy	5-2
PhD Thesis draft	1941	1941	Handwritten draft of PhD thesis, 'Meaning, Metaphysics, and Symbolism', comments on the thesis, programme from the final oral examination of Owen on 18 December 1941.	5-3
Course notes on Greek Philosophy	[194-?]	[194-?]	Typed outline of Greek Philosophy course, handwritten notes.	5-4
Thesis notes on Language, Truth, and	[1948?]	[1948?]	Handwritten notes and manuscript.	5-5

Logic

Thesis notes on Language, Truth, and Logic	[1948?]	[1948?]	Handwritten manuscript.	5-6
Notes on Freedom and Christian Liberty	[195-?]	[195-?]	Typed notes on science, freedom, and Christian liberty; modern science and human freedom.	5-7
Christianity and Modern Consciousness manuscript	[195-?]	[195-?]	Handwritten manuscript.	5-8
Notes on Modern Philosophers	1950	1950	Handwritten notes on philosophers A-K.	5-9
Notes on Symbolism	[195-?]	[1950?]	Handwritten notes, journal articles.	5-10
Notes on Communism	1948	1951	Handwritten notes, <i>Christianity and Society Journal</i> (1948), Set up our banners: 35 th annual report (1950).	5-11
Notes on Marx and Freud	[1952]	[1953]	Handwritten notes.	5-12
Notes on Linguistic Analysis	[1955?]	[1955?]	Handwritten notes.	6-1
Class documents Ethics 2C	1953	1957	Class outline, examination questions (1953-1957), handwritten notes.	6-2
Notes on Myth and Truth	[1959]	[1959]	Handwritten and typed notes.	6-3
Notes on Christian Ethics	1955	1964	Class outlines, article from the <i>Anglican Outlook</i> , handwritten notes.	6-4
Notes on Medieval Philosophy	[196-?]	196-?]	Handwritten and typed notes.	6-5
Notes on Medieval Philosophy	[196-?]	196-?]	Handwritten and typed notes; course outline for Philosophy of Religion 30.	6-6
Reading Notes	[1930?]	[1960?]	Handwritten notes.	6-7
Communication lecture notes	1957	1965	Notes on 3 lectures (Communicating the Gospel, Issues in Communication), article on communication in the <i>Journal of Theology</i> . Handwritten and typed notes.	6-8
Reading Lists	1958	1966	Reading lists and bibliographies. Handwritten and typed.	6-9
Programme	1968	1968	Programme from the 1968 Trinity College Admission of Scholars ceremony.	6-10
Theological Reconstruction Manuscript	1968	1968	Typed manuscript by Owen.	6-11
Notes on Radical Theology	1963	1969	Handwritten notes, journal articles.	7-1
Speeches on the College and Liberal Education	1957	1970	Installation address (1948), speech at the Freshman dinner (1970), 'Aims and Principles of Trinity College,' speech (1958), 'A Christian	7-2

			Philosophy of Education,' speech (1963), 'Social Control: Totems and Taboos,' speech (1963?), 'The Future of Humanities in Higher Education,' speech (1962).	
Notes on Continental Apologetics	[1970?]	[1970?]	Handwritten notes.	7-3
'Death of God in the 19 th Century', manuscript	1966	1971	Typed manuscript and handwritten notes.	7-4
Trouble in Corporation Documents	1970	1971	Newspaper articles, letters, and writings regarding a special meeting of corporation.	7-5
Notes on the rise of Modern Consciousness	1965	1972	Handwritten notes, copy of <i>Theology: a monthly review</i> (Jan 1965).	7-6
Notes on Futurology	[1972?]	[1972?]	Handwritten notes, journal article by J.C. Oates.	8-1
Church Reunion Documents	1963	1974	Articles, essay "The Unity of the Church" by Owen, responses to Owen essay.	8-2
Class documents and notes on Darwin, Marx, and Freud	[1974]	[1974]	Handwritten notes, course schedule and syllabus for INT 203.	8-3
Christianity and Contemporary Thought	1976	1976	Handwritten lecture notes.	8-4
Notes on the Rejection of Religion in the 19 th Century	[1976]	[1976]	Handwritten notes, class outline for REL 223.	8-5
Graduate Student Papers	1970	1978	Graduate student thesis proposals, comprehensive examinations, and questions for exams.	8-6
Religious Studies Class Lists	1973	1979	Class lists for classes taught by Owen in Religious Studies.	8-7
Notes on Anglican Theology	1976	1981	Handwritten notes, a copy of "Anglicanism and the Essentials of the Faith," typed essays by Owen.	8-8
Notes on Anglican Theology: Christian Thought in England, 16 th -20 th Centuries	[1976]	[1981]	Handwritten notes.	8-9
The Sacramental View of Reality Lecture	1981	1981	Typed lecture given at Temple Conference, Trinity College, 1981. Includes thank you letter from Kenneth Hare.	8-10
Notes on Science and Religion	1948	1981	Handwritten notes, class bibliography and outline for REL 204, newspaper clippings, typed essays by Owen, rejection of essay letter from <i>University of Toronto Quarterly</i> (1948).	8-11
Christianity and Modern Consciousness Lecture	1981	1981	Handwritten lecture notes, course outline for TST 201.	8-12

Notes on Religion and Science	1981	1982	Handwritten notes, Religion and Science (SCS 4384) syllabus, outline and bibliography, course arrangements form with pay amount.	9-1
Process Theology	1982	1982	Handwritten notes, schedule from conference on process theology.	9-2
Notes on 20 th century theology	[1984?]	[1984?]	Journal and newspaper articles, handwritten notes, course outline for TRT 3741.	9-3
Divinity Class Lists	1952	1984	Class lists with student grades for classes taught by Owen in the Faculty of Divinity.	9-4
Notes on William Temple	1981	[1985?]	Handwritten notes, letter from Kenneth Hare, preface to volume by Kenneth Hare.	9-5
Typed speech by William S. Rogers	1989	1989	Speech from the presentation of Derwyn Owen as honorary fellow to Trinity College given by William S. Rogers.	9-6
Papers RE: Gerald Larkin and the Larkin-Stuart Lectures	1992	1996	Letters from John B. Lawson, Robert H. Painter, Bob Greene, memo from Robert H. Painter concerning the future of the college, drafts of article by John B. Lawson on the Larkin-Stuart Lectures.	9-7

SERIES 3: DOCUMENTS RELATING TO OWEN AT TRINITY COLLEGE

Dates of creation: 1952-1986

Extent: 26 cm of textual records; 1 scrapbook

Scope and content: Series consists of letters written to Owen congratulating him after his appointment as provost, letters to him about his retirement as well as a scrapbook and scrapbook materials relating to his time as provost and certificates bestowed on Owen by Trinity students. Series also includes Trinity history documents compiled by Owen and a manuscript of Trinity College history by Owen covering his time as provost. Arranged in chronological order by end date.

Location / file listing

FOLDER/UNIT TITLE	START DATE	END DATE	CONTENTS	BOX/ FILE #
Letters to Owen	Nov 1957	Nov 1957	Letters congratulating Owen on becoming provost; responses.	10-1
Letters to Owen	Nov 1957	Nov 1957	Letters congratulating Owen on becoming provost; responses.	10-2
Letters to Owen	Nov 1957	Nov 1957	Letters congratulating Owen on becoming provost; responses.	10-3
Letters to Owen	Dec 1957	Dec 1957	Letters congratulating Owen on becoming provost; responses.	10-4

Letters to Owen	Jan 1958	Mar 1958	Letters congratulating Owen on becoming provost; responses.	10-5
Correspondence	1963	1963	Letter to Owen from Dr W.E. Boothroyd; response.	10-61
Newspaper clippings	1947	1972	Newspaper clippings about Owen speaking at Trinity College in 1947, a party thrown by him as provost in 1971, and about the installation of George Ignatieff as provost.	10-7
Trinity College Documents	1952	1972	Documents about the status and governance of Trinity College, programmes from events in the centenary year, consecration of the war memorial, and Honorary Fellow ceremonies.	11-1
Letters to Owen	1971	1972	Letters to Owen following the announcement of his retirement; responses.	11-2
Trinity College 1952-1972: A Personal View	1974	1974	Typed manuscript about Trinity College during the years Owen was Provost.	11-3
Scrapbook	1956	[197-?]	Bound volume labelled 'Photographs' containing newspaper clippings and programme about Owen's installation as provost.	11-4
Scrapbook Materials	1955	1979	Newspaper clippings, Trinity College annual reports, copies of Trinity College <i>Convocation Bulletin</i> , newspaper photocopies, programmes from events at Trinity College.	11-5
Correspondence	1939	1986	Letters to Owen and Mrs Owen, papers about the silver collection at Trinity College.	11-6
Framed document from Trinity students to Owen	1972	1972	Framed, illustrated document that begins 'We the students of Trinity College...'	OS Box 1-1
Episkopon certificate	1972	1972	'Companion of the order of the golden key,' certificate awarded to Owen by Father Episkopon.	OS Box 1-2

SERIES 4: PUBLISHED WORKS AND ASSOCIATED MATERIALS

Dates of creation: 1947-1978

Extent: 13 cm of textual records

Scope and content: Series consists of articles, reviews, and correspondence regarding Owen's books *Body and Soul* and *Scientism, Man and, Religion*. Arranged in chronological order by end date.

Location / file listing

FOLDER/UNIT TITLE	START DATE	END DATE	CONTENTS	BOX/ FILE #
<i>Scientism, Man and Religion</i> Reviews	1952	1953	Clippings and photocopies from newspapers and journals reviewing Owen's book.	12-1
<i>Body and Soul</i> Reviews and Correspondence	1959	1965	Reviews and letters about Owen's book.	12-2
<i>Scientism, Man and Religion</i> Correspondence	1952	1969	Letters to and from Owen about his book.	12-3
Articles and Reviews	1948	1978	Journals and journal articles by Owen and others.	12-4

SERIES 5: PHOTOGRAPHS

Dates of creation: 1934-1985

Extent: 34 photographs : b&w/col ; 20 x 25 cm and smaller; 3 etchings

Scope and content: Series consists of photographs from Owen's time as a student and scholar. Files also include etchings of Trinity College.

Location / file listing

FOLDER/UNIT TITLE	START DATE	END DATE	CONTENTS	BOX/ FILE #
Photographs	1934	1970	Photo of a group of students, including D.R.G. Owen, at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, c. 1934, and an unidentified group at the University of Toronto, c. 1970 (including Owen, Claude Bissell, Lawrence Lynch, and Robert McCrea), 2 colour photographs of the Larkin Building and the quadrangle of Trinity College showing Cosgrave House and Owen House.	OS Box 5
Photographs	[193-?]	1972	Owen with an unidentified group (probably fellow students); 2 unidentified men; Owen with an unidentified group on the occasion of his 25th anniversary of ordination, 1966; Owen in the Trinity College Chapel, 1972	13-2
Photographs	[1945]	[1985]	Owen with others, list enclosed with file.	13-3
Etchings	[192-?]	[19--?]	1 etching by Stanley Morgan and 2 by Manly MacDonald showing old and new Trinity.	OS Box 1