

P235- Shirley K. Wigmore Fonds
15 sheets of textual records, 7 photographs
n.d.; 1990 (originals 1929-2014)

Biographical sketch: Shirley Kathleen Wigmore, B.A., M.L.S., M.Ed (1928-2014), daughter of Marjorie Fitzpatrick and Roy D.H. Wigmore, was born September 14, 1928 in Gowganda, Ontario. Her father, a mining engineer, graduated from Acadia University in 1923, and by 1925 was employed at the Castle-Trethewey Mine near Gowganda. It was here that Shirley Wigmore first learned of Frontier College's labourer-teachers who worked alongside labourers during the day and provided literacy and citizenship education in the evenings, a subject that would inform her professional research later in life.

Wigmore attended secondary school at Kirkland Lake Collegiate and Vocational Institute (K.L.C.V.I.), and went on to complete a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature (1953) and a Master of Library Science (1966) at the University of Toronto, as well as a Master of Education in Adult Education. From 1953, Wigmore worked at the University of Toronto's Ontario College of Education (OCE), first as assistant librarian, and then research librarian in education. In 1965, she took on the additional role of lecturer in education at the university's Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), moving on to become chief librarian until her retirement in 1993.

Shirley Wigmore died in Toronto on November 14, 2014.

Scope and content: The Shirley K. Wigmore Fonds consists of textual records and photographs that attest to Wigmore's early life and education, as well as her professional research into adult education during her tenure at OISE.

The fonds contains three photocopied texts: one handwritten account titled "Memories" and two articles written by Wigmore during her time at OISE. While "Memories" establishes the careers and interests of several of Wigmore's family members, the two published articles carry those subjects from Wigmore's childhood into her professional research, elaborating on the methods used to educate labourers in Northern Ontario's remote areas – chiefly the railway school car, and Frontier College.

The fonds also contains seven black and white photographs which serve to support the biographical information and research interests presented in the textual records. Three group portraits from K.L.C.V.I. are included, emphasizing Wigmore's roots in Northern Ontario, as well as one professional group portrait (likely at OISE). Three reproductions of photographs of Dr. Margaret Strang (the first woman labourer-teacher to participate in Frontier College's settlement program) and the Margaret Strang Settlement House near Hearst, Ontario complete the fonds, underscoring Wigmore's professional research.

This fonds is organized into two series: Series I: Written works; Series II: Photographs.

Note: Immediate source of acquisition: Documents were transferred to Laurentian University Archives from Library and Archives Canada in 2017.

Terms governing use and reproduction/publication: Copyright regulations apply.

Associated material: Library and Archives Canada, *Frontier College fonds*, item ID number 100337.

Accruals: One accrual received in 2017. No more accruals expected.

Custodial history: The Shirley K. Wigmore fonds was sent directly to Library and Archives Canada (LAC) by the Estate of Shirley Wigmore. They were received by LAC in April 2017, and were subsequently transferred to the Laurentian University Archives in November 2017.

P235 Shirley K. Wigmore fonds
Detailed Listing

Series I: Written works

n.d. (originals 1991-2014)
15 sheets of textual records

Scope and content: This series consists of photocopies of three written works by Shirley K. Wigmore – two professional articles and one handwritten account of her family history. This series is organized in chronological order.

/I,1: “Mining” the Frontier College Archives: Labourer-teachers at the Castle-Threthewey Mine, Northern Ontario, 1925-1930
n.d. (original 1991)
4 sheets of textual documents

Photocopy of the article “‘Mining’ the Frontier College Archives: Labourer-teachers at the Castle-Threthewey Mine, Northern Ontario, 1925-1930” written by Shirley K. Wigmore in her role at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, and published in *Proceedings of the 10th Annual Conference of Canadian Association for the Study of Adult Education* (1991).

Note: Availability of other formats: Article available [online](#)
Terms governing use and reproduction/publication: Copyright regulations apply.

/I,2: Conquering Distance: Adult education in the railway school cars of Northern Ontario
n.d. (original 1992)
6 sheets of textual documents

Photocopy of the article “Conquering Distance: Adult education in the railway school cars of Northern Ontario” written by Shirley K. Wigmore in her role at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, and published in *Proceedings of the 11th Annual Conference of Canadian Association for the Study of Adult Education* (1992).

Note: Availability of other formats: Article available [online](#)
Terms governing use and reproduction/publication: Copyright regulations apply.

/I,3: Memories
n.d. (original 2014)
5 sheets of textual documents

Photocopy of handwritten account by Shirley Wigmore in which she briefly discusses her maternal grandfather, her father’s career as an engineer on mine sites, her mother’s interest in Northern Ontario, and the family photos that she has in her possession.

Note: Terms governing use and reproduction/publication: Copyright regulations apply.

Series II: Photographs

n.d.; 1990 (originals 1929-[196-?])

7 b&w photographs

Scope and content: This series consists of 7 photographs that document the education and professional research of Shirley Wigmore. This series is organized in chronological order.

/II,1: [Kirkland Lake Collegiate and Vocational Institute, Form 13A, 1946-1947]
[1946?]
1 b&w photograph

One black & white group portrait of form 13A at Kirkland Lake Collegiate and Vocational Institute (K.L.C.V.I.) in the 1946-1947 school year, including Shirley Wigmore.

Note: Signatures and inscriptions: Names of students inscribed on verso.

/II,2: [Kirkland Lake Collegiate and Vocational Institute, Form 13A, 1946-1947]
[1946?]
1 b&w photograph

One black & white group portrait of form 13A at Kirkland Lake Collegiate and Vocational Institute (K.L.C.V.I.) in the 1946-1947 school year, including Shirley Wigmore.

Note: Signatures and inscriptions: Names of students inscribed on verso.

/II,3: M13B – '46-'47 – K.L.C.V.I.
[1946?]
1 b&w photograph

One black & white group portrait of form 13B at Kirkland Lake Collegiate and Vocational Institute (K.L.C.V.I.) in the 1946-1947 school year.

Note: Signatures and inscriptions: Names and signatures of students inscribed on verso.

/II,4: [Group portrait]
[196-?]
1 b&w photograph

One black & white photograph of a group of adults posing for a formal group portrait, possibly the Ontario Institute for Studies of Education (OISE).

Note: Signatures and inscriptions: Some names are inscribed on verso.

- /II,5:** Margaret Strang
1990 [original ca. 1929]
1 b&w photograph

One black and white portrait of Dr. Margaret Strang.

Note: Source of title proper: Title taken from photograph.

Alpha-numeric designations: Mikan no. C-126507.

Location of originals: Original photograph held by Library and Archives Canada.

Terms governing use and reproduction/publication: Rights held by Library and Archives Canada.

- /II,6:** Dr. Margaret Strang, teacher, visitor and social influence among families, 86 miles West of Cochrane, Ontario
n.d. (original 1929)
1 b&w photograph

One black & white photograph of Dr. Margaret Strang on horseback in a settlement near Hearst, Ontario.

Note: Source of title proper: Title by Library and Archives Canada.

Alpha-numeric designations: Mikan no. C-057069.

Location of originals: Original photograph held by Library and Archives Canada.

Availability of other formats: Electronic version available on Library and Archives Canada's [website](#)

Terms governing use and reproduction/publication: Credit Library and Archives Canada/C-057069.

- /II,7:** Frontier College in the settlement
n.d. [original ca. 1929]
1 b&w photograph

One black & white photograph of two log buildings in Edlund, near Hearst, Ontario.

Note: Source of title proper: Title by Library and Archives Canada.

Alpha-numeric designations: Mikan no. C-126514.

Location of originals: Original photograph held by Library and Archives Canada.

Availability of other formats: Electronic version available on Library and Archives Canada's [website](#)

Terms governing use and reproduction/publication: Credit Library and Archives Canada/C-126514.

General note: This photograph appears on the Frontier College website as "The Margaret Strang Settlement House."