

Norman Hacking Fonds

Dates of Creation: 1919-1997

Physical Extent: 2.9 meters of textual records; 215 photographs

Biographical History:

Norman Rupert Hacking was born on February 12, 1912. His career as a journalist began at an early age when he started collecting scrapbooks filled with images and articles about the maritime industry. Norman grew up in Vancouver and in 1925 attended one year of high school in Melbourne, Australia. He returned to Vancouver and completed his secondary education at Prince of Wales High School in 1928. Norman attended the University of British Columbia where he graduated with a B.A. in History, with First Class Honours in 1934. While attending UBC, Norman was the editor of *The Ubysey* in 1934. Norman's graduating thesis was titled "The Early Marine History of British Columbia".

Norman began his career with the Vancouver Daily Province as a Campus Correspondent while in his last year at the University of British Columbia. After graduation, he moved to the newsroom where he began writing columns about Vancouver's marine community. During World War II, Norman took a leave from the newspaper and served with the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve. He was stationed in the North Atlantic from 1941 to 1945 where he served on corvettes and minesweepers. By the end of his service, he had attained the rank of First Lieutenant. After the war, he returned to writing for the Province and became the Marine Editor, a position he held for 30 years from 1947-1977. His column, titled "Ship and Shore" covered all aspects of British Columbia's dynamic and growing marine shipping community. In 1953 Norman began regularly contributing articles to *Harbour and Shipping*, a local magazine about Vancouver's maritime activities. In 1978, shortly after retiring from the Province, Norman resumed his writing in *Harbour and Shipping* where he wrote a monthly column (also) titled "Ship and Shore". Norman wrote this column until just weeks before his death on September 18, 1997.

Norman lived an energetic life, travelling around the world and pursuing his love of all things maritime. He travelled to Europe many times and led an active life on the water. He sailed from Gibraltar to the West Indies as a crew member on a small schooner, and in 1966, Norman sailed on a 27-foot engineless ketch from Hawaii to Victoria, British Columbia. Norman was a deeply-respected member of Vancouver's maritime community. He was an active supporter of the Vancouver Maritime Museum and was an influential member on its Collections Committee. Norman was instrumental in the acquisition of numerous pieces, including some of the major and valuable artifacts at the museum.

Norman received public recognition for a number of his endeavours within and for the marine industry in British Columbia. In 1974 he received the Honorary Commodore Award from the Port of Vancouver and in 1979, was awarded the Medal of Merit from the Canadian Port and Harbour Association for his marine writing. Norman was also honoured as a Lifetime Member of the Marine Technology Society.

Norman expanded his love of journalism by writing and publishing a number of books. His thesis, *Early Maritime History of British Columbia*, was formally published in 1934 and is still

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used as a standard reference work in the B.C. Archives. Other published books by Norman Hacking include:

- *Annals of the Royal Yacht Club* (1965)
- *Princess Story: A Century and a Half of West Coast Shipping*. (1974) In collaboration with W. Kaye Lamb
- *The Two Barney's: A Nostalgic Memoir About the Two Great British Columbia Seamen* (1984)
- *Capt. William Moore: BC Amazing Frontiersman* (1993)
- *The Princess of the North* (1994)
- *The Princess Story: A Century and a Half of West Coast Shipping, 2nd ed.* (1994)
- *Prince Ships of Northern B.C.: Ships of the Grand Trunk Pacific and Canadian National Railways* (1995)

An auto-biography written by Norman entitled *Hacking Aweigh* exists in an unpublished form. During his career, Norman also worked actively as an editor for other marine historians.

Custodial History:

Throughout his career, Norman donated various photographs to the Vancouver Maritime Museum's photograph collection. However, the two major accessions containing his papers, photographs, and books did not occur until after his death. Mr. Hacking bequeathed his reference library to the New Westminster Public Library and his papers to the Vancouver Maritime Museum. An unknown amount of personal materials went to Mr. Ian Hacking, Norman's nephew who resides in Toronto. The lawyer handling the estate allowed some of Norman Hacking's papers to be removed by unknown persons, and unfortunately, no record was made of who and what was taken. At some point, these unidentified materials may end up in the museum's possession after donation from these individuals.

The first major accession of Norman Hacking's records came shortly after his death in September 1997 and consisted of papers, photographs, books and periodicals. The second accession came in April 2000 from New Westminster Public Library who gave the Vancouver Maritime Museum books that were originally bequeathed to the Library. All total, 784 books were acquired by the Vancouver Maritime Museum from the Norman Hacking estate.

Scope and Content:

The fonds consists of records created by Norman Hacking during his private life and public life as a writer. The majority of the fond are textual records, but there are some photographs that document his childhood, family members and friends, and marine vessels. Included in the fonds are a number of Norman's daily journals and a series of correspondences that record his activities and relationships with family and friends while stationed overseas during World War II. There are theatre pamphlets and other travel ephemera that reflect Norman's travels throughout Europe and there are records relating to research into the Hacking family history. Also included in the fonds are research notebooks, scrapbooks, and ephemera relating to B.C. history and the maritime history of Vancouver, newspaper articles from the Vancouver Daily Province, and unpublished drafts of manuscripts and short stories.

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The records have been arranged into the following series:

- I. Personal Papers, 1905-1997
- II. Correspondences, 1919-1997
- III. Research, 1923-1997
- IV. Draft Publications, 1934-1974
- V. Newspaper Articles, 1936-1997.

Notes:

Source of Supplied Title: Title based on provenance of fonds.

Conservation: A number of nitrate negatives were discovered in a box among the acquired records. An assessment was made of these negatives and more than half of the images were damaged as a result of distortion and buckling of the emulsion layer. The damaged negatives were also dangerously off gassing and this posed a threat to the rest of the Hacking fond and to staff who handled the negatives. The damaged negatives were removed and safely destroyed while the remaining negatives were placed in the conservation freezer to slow any further decomposition.

Accompanying Materials: In addition to his papers, a large quantity of periodicals from Norman Hacking's estate were acquired by the Vancouver Maritime Museum. A box-list inventory was made of all the journals and magazines when they first arrived at the museum. Original magazines and specific issues that the museum did not have were culled from the accession, catalogued, and integrated into the museum's library holdings. Duplicate journals that were already in the museum's collection were sold or given away. A number of marine related books were also acquired from the Norman Hacking estate. Original books were kept and integrated into the Vancouver Maritime Museum library holdings while duplicate publications were sold.

Arrangement: Records removed from the Norman Hacking estate were arbitrarily boxed and brought to the museum where their arrangement and description took place. An initial box inventory was created by Bob Cuthbert, a Vancouver Maritime Museum Volunteer in 1998. The fond has since been arranged by function as there was no sense of the creator's original order from the initial appraisal of the materials. In cases where the creator's original order existed clearly within the defined series, all efforts were made to preserve it.

Finding Aids: Three finding aids exist for this fonds. In April 2001, a Box File List was created in conjunction with this RAD description. There is a Periodical Inventory that is a complete list of all the magazines and journals acquired from the Norman Hacking Estate. Those editions with a * beside them denote originals that were catalogued and kept by the museum. The Librarian also has a digital inventory of the books acquired from the Norman Hacking estate.

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Related Records: A number of photographs were found loose within the fonds. They were labelled as "Norman Hacking Collection" and integrated into the existing VMM photograph collection and include:

- Casco*, "From Derelict Sailing Fleet Three Ships Reconditioned"
- Casco*, "Ship of Drama" as she served Sea Scouts, W.W. I
- Casco*, sailing on last voyage, June 1919
- Casco*, circa 1899
- Casco* in Coal Harbour, Vancouver, B.C. 1913
- Melanope*, photo of brass name plate being donated to Maritime Museum of B.C.
- Glacier Queen*
- Steamer *Onward* in the Fraser River (from Admiral Hasting's Album 1867-1869)
- Victoria*
- Te Rapunga*, Auckland, February 3, 1959
- HMCS Athabaskan*, date stamped October 8, 1955
- Miweta*, Canadian Australian Line, 1893 (mail steamship)
- Pentowna*
- Brico*
- Empress of India*, arrival of liner at Vancouver, April 28, 1891
- Silver Yew* at Belawan, Deli., 31/3/1936
- Victoria* (2 copies)
- Captain John Irving
- Hastings Saw Mill, Vancouver, B.C. "ships loading lumber", circa 1896
- Moodyville, B.C. "View at Burrard Inlet" photograph by D. Withrow
- Hastings Saw Mill, no date
- Trojan*, September 1984
- Princess Louise*, crew photo
- Pamir*, drawing in "Gale off Cape Flattery" Jan. 6, 1946
- City of Seattle*
- Western Slope*
- Alexandra*
- J.W. Hardcastle,
- Tyndareus*, *Hikawa Maru*, *Kingsley*, *CP55 Princess Mary*, *Teeshoe*, circa 1933/34

Additional loose items related to ship histories was labelled and integrated into the VMM ship reference file collection by corresponding boat name:

- 2 postcards of *M.S. Hikawa Maru*
- Postcard of *S.S. Prince George*
- Hikawa Maru*-card with Japanese print on the front, inside the plan of passenger accommodation
- R.M.S. Scythia* lunch menu October 29, 1939
- S.S. Mariposa* dinner menus (8 menus), September 8 -20, 1960
- S.S. France* dinner menu, Wednesday February 7, 1962
- Narration of "The Cruise of *H.M.C.S. Thiepval* and the British Round-the-World Flight
- Union Line*: "Guide to the Services of the Union Steam Ship Company of N.Z. LTD. and to its Shipping and Airways Agencies, October 1951, New Zealand Edition"

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- Scotia*, newspaper clipping
- American President's Line 1960
- Seawise*, formerly RMS Queen Elizabeth
- SS *Seawise* University deckplan
- History of Home Lines (1963)
- Royston Wrecks (series of 7 articles)
- Tug *Bentinck*
- M.V. Haida* Transporter brochure
- "The Cunard Steam-ship Company", the *Times*, Monday, July 12, 1965
- MacMillan Bloedel, February 3, 1975 "*Haida Monarch* Unloading" news release
- Port of Vancouver, British Columbia: "*Interesting Information about the Port, 1947*"
- Casco*, Robert Louis Stevenson's *Ship of Many Dramas*, 40th Anniversary of Wreck
- Canadian List of Shipping*, 1928
- Canadian List of Shipping*, 1963

Norman Hacking Fonds

Series Level Descriptions

Series 1: Personal Papers [textual record, graphic material]

Dates: 1905-1997

Physical Extent: 45.5 cm of textual records. - 155 photographs

Scope and Content:

Series consists of personal papers and photographs belonging to Mr. Norman Hacking. There are journals that comment on daily activities and trips that he undertook. Included are birthday, graduation, Christmas and New Years Eve cards from friends and family, bank books, invitations to maritime events in Vancouver, a History paper, school transcripts from Australia and U.B.C., a youth hostel membership card, a ration book from England and a copy of the *Ubyyssey* when Norman was the editor. Some of the records capture Norman's interest in researching the Hacking family history. There are numerous travel brochures, maps, guides and theatre programs from England and across Europe. There are also a number of retirement cards and articles that commemorate Norman's retirement as the Marine Editor from the Vancouver Province in 1977. In addition to textual records, photographs are also contained within the series. The photographs are primarily black and white and they document stages of Norman's life from his childhood to his retirement. There are photographs of both unidentified family and friends and there is also a photograph album with pictures taken by Fred Hacking, Norman's father.

Notes:

Source of Supplied Title: Title based on content of series.

Related Records in Same Fonds: Letters in the Correspondences series provide more detailed information about Norman Hacking's personal life.

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Series Level Descriptions

Series 2: Correspondences [textual record, graphic material]

Dates: 1919-1997, predominately 1930-1943

Physical Extent: 54.5 cm of textual records. - 14 photographs

Scope and Content:

Series consists of letters written by Norman Hacking and those received by him from family, friends, colleagues and admirers. A number of the letters are to family members such as H.E. Hacking, his father Fred Hacking, and to his aunt and uncle, Lil and Bert (Happy) Hotson with whom he had regular correspondences with. There are a number of postcards and airmail letters. Letters written between 1930-1943 make up a substantial number of the total correspondences in the series. Letters during this time document school activities, life as a reporter for the Vancouver Province, and Norman's experiences while overseas in the Naval Reserve during World War II. Other letters relate to information that Norman was gathering for newspaper articles or books he was writing. There are letters written from the general public in response to Norman's articles written in the Province that seek his response to questions, stories and photographs needing identification.

Notes:

Source of Supplied Title: Title based on content of series.

Arrangement: The correspondences were initially organized into files by their annual date by Mrs. Doris Kipling, one of the volunteers at the Vancouver Maritime Museum. The correspondences have since been organized chronologically.

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Series Level Descriptions

Series 3: Research Materials [textual record, graphic material]

Dates: 1923-1997

Physical Extent: 45.5 cm of textual records. - 46 photographs

Scope and Content:

Series consists of scrapbooks, papers, notebooks, photographs, ephemera, and newspaper clippings used by Norman Hacking to develop the framework for his newspaper articles and other research publications. There is specific research about the history of British Columbia and some of the materials in the B.C. Research folder include testimonials and letters that contain information about town and city namesakes throughout B.C. and the Yukon. The photographs, primarily in black and white, document both historic and modern marine vessels. There are also newspapers and research notebooks that contain notes on ship names, dimensions, origins, and destruction dates. Additional information exists on recipe cards that track the history of ships and their name changes. There are notes relating to local port events as well as those in Victoria, Washington, San Francisco and from ports along the West Coast that related to, or effect Vancouver's maritime community.

Notes:

Source of Supplied Title: Title based on content of series.

Arrangement: Photographs and boat-related ephemera that were identifiable have been integrated into the Vancouver Maritime Museum Collection. Each photograph and piece of ephemeral material has been labelled on the back as belonging to the Norman Hacking Fonds and is listed in the Finding Aid under Series 3 *Research*, Box 10.

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Series Level Descriptions

Series 4: Draft Publications [textual record]

Dates: 1934-1974

Physical Extent: 17.5 cm of textual records

Scope and Content:

Series consists of unpublished, annotated drafts of manuscripts written by Norman Hacking. A finished draft of his UBC Thesis, *Early Maritime History of British Columbia*, is also included in this series. Some of the manuscripts are titled and dated, while others have no identification, and there is a notebook filled with comments for the outline of an unnamed manuscript. The series also contains reviews about The *Princess Story: A Century and a Half of West Coast Shipping*, the book Norman Hacking wrote with W. Kaye Lamb in 1974. The reviews are from local papers, magazines, and journals, as well as those from national papers sent by colleagues. There is also a copy of a radio broadcast about the release of the book and an interview with Hacking and Lamb in the UBC Alumni Chronicle, Autumn 1975.

Notes:

Source of Supplied Title: Title based on content of series.

Related Records in Same Fonds: See published books by Norman Hacking.

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Series Level Descriptions

Series 5: Newspaper Articles [textual record]

Dates: August 1936- August 1977

Physical Extent: 36.0 cm. of textual records

Scope and Content:

Series consists of articles written by Norman Hacking at the start of his journalistic career and those written while employed as a columnist for the Vancouver Province from 1947-1977. Primarily, Hacking's "Ship and Shore" column reported on activities and events happening at the Port of Vancouver. This included reports on shipping companies, marine accidents, B.C. Ferries, boat sales, cargo movements, the fishing industry, Vancouver's port development, news about visiting international ships, and historical information about British Columbia's waterfront. Some newspaper articles also include book reviews written by Mr. Hacking.

Notes:

Source of Supplied Title: Title based on content of series.

Arrangement: The newspaper articles have been divided into folders by their year of publication and are arranged in chronological order.

Conservation: The contents of the first nine folders are original clippings from the Vancouver Province that have been taped or glued onto paper and date stamped. Newspaper articles dated after May 21, 1977 are photocopies of the original articles.

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Box-File List

Box 1

Series 1 *Personal Papers*

- File 1 Photographs, personal, thumbnail
- File 2 Photographs, personal, slides
- File 3 Photographs, personal
- File 4 Photographs, personal
- File 5 Photographs, personal
- File 6 Photographs, personal
- File 7 Photographs, personal
- File 8 Photographs, receiving Honorary Commodore Award
- File 9 Photographs, Retirement from Vancouver Province
- File 10 Photograph by Fred Hacking
- File 11 Photograph by Fred Hacking
- File 12 Photograph by Fred Hacking
- File 13 Photograph by Fred Hacking
- File 14 Photograph by Fred Hacking
- File 15 Negatives (nitrate), located in VMM freezer, see Curator for access
- File 16 Journal, trip from Vancouver to Sydney, Australia, 1925
- File 17 Journal 1: March 25, 1939 to November 28, 1939
- File 18 Journal 2: January 1, 1940 to May 18, 1940
- File 19 Journal 3: January 1, 1949 to December 31, 1949
- File 20 Journal 4: December 31, 1968 to December 29, 1969
- File 21 Journal 5: July 30, 1976 to May 17, 1977
- File 22 Journal 6: Undated

Box 2

Series 1 *Personal Papers*

- File 23 Personal Papers
- File 24 Retirement Letters and Newspaper Articles
- File 25 Hacking Family Genealogy

Box 3

Series 1 *Personal Papers*

- File 26 Theatre Play Bills
- File 27 Travel Ephemera 1
- File 28 Travel Ephemera 2

Box 4

Series 2 *Correspondences*

- File 1 Correspondences To and From Date Unknown
- File 2 Correspondences To and From 1900-1919
- File 3 Correspondences To and From 1922-1925
- File 4 Correspondences To and From 1926-1929
- File 5 Correspondences To and From 1930-1932

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Box 5

Series 2 *Correspondences*

- File 6 Correspondences To and From 1933-1934
- File 7 Correspondences To and From 1935-1937
- File 8 Correspondences To and From 1938
- File 9 Correspondences To and From 1939
- File 10 Correspondences To and From 1940
- File 11 Correspondences To and From January-March 1941

Box 6

Series 2 *Correspondences*

- File 12 Correspondences To and From April-June 1941
- File 13 Correspondences To and From July-December 1941
- File 14 Correspondences To and From January-March 1942
- File 15 Correspondences To and From April-July 1942
- File 16 Correspondences To and From August-December 1942

Box 7

Series 2 *Correspondences*

- File 17 Correspondences To and From 1943
- File 18 Correspondences To and From 1944
- File 19 Correspondences To and From 1945
- File 20 Correspondences To and From 1946
- File 21 Correspondences To and From 1947
- File 22 Correspondences To and From 1948
- File 23 Correspondences To and From 1949
- File 24 Correspondences To and From 1950's
- File 25 Correspondences To and From 1960-1990's

Box 8

Series 3 *Research*

- File 1 B.C. Research
- File 2 B.C. Research
- File 3 Maritime Research
- File 4 Newspapers used for Research
- File 5 Research Notebooks (9)
- File 6 Research Notes

Box 9

Series 3 *Research*

- File 7 Scrapbook of annotated ship photos, vol. 1, no date
- File 8 Scrapbook of annotated ship photos, vol. 2, no date
- File 9 Scrapbook of annotated ship photos, vol. 3, no date
- File 10 Scrapbook of annotated ship photos, vol. 4, no date

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Box 10

Series 3 *Research*

- File 11 Unidentified boat photographs
- File 12 Scrapbook of ship photos, newspaper and magazine clippings
- File 13 Black scrapbook #1 of newspaper clippings, 1923-1925
- File 14 Black scrapbook #2 of newspaper clippings, 1922-1925
- File 15 "Big 5 Tablet" scrapbook of newspaper clippings, 1935
- File 16 Purple scrapbook, 1925-1926
- File 17 Black scrapbook, newspaper clippings dating 1933-1954

Box 11

Series 4 *Draft Publications*

- File 1 "Early Marine History of British Columbia" by N. Hacking, April 1934
- File 2 Manuscript for Novel, pages 1-122, no date, annotated
- File 3 Manuscript for Novel, pages 1-162, 2 annotated drafts, no date
- File 4 Manuscript for Novel, pages 1-124, annotated draft, no date
- File 5 Unnamed manuscript for novel, pages 2-91, no date

Box 12

Series 4 *Draft Publications*

- File 6 "Smoke from Heaven" by Norman Hacking, 331 pages, no date
- File 7 Journal with unnamed short story, 2 drafts, no date
- File 8 *William Henry Chase. Reminiscences of Captain Billie Moore.*, Burton Publishing Co., Kansas City, 1947
- File 9 *Captain Bill Moore. The 'Flying Dutchman' of British Columbia. 1822-1909*, by Norman Hacking, 2 annotated drafts, 46-49 pages
- File 10 Reviews of "*The Princess Story*" by Norman R. Hacking and W. Kaye Lamb, 1974

Box 13

Series 5 *Newspaper Articles*

- File 1 Newspaper Articles, 1936-1965
- File 2 Newspaper Articles, Sept. 20, 1966-May 31, 1967
- File 3 Newspaper Articles, June 1-Sept. 30, 1967
- File 4 Newspaper Articles, Sept. 4, 1968-April 30, 1969
- File 5 Newspaper Articles, Feb. 10-August 29, 1970

Box 14

Series 5 *Newspaper Articles*

- File 6 Newspaper Articles, September 1-December 31, 1970
- File 7 Newspaper Articles, January 2-May 20, 1971
- File 8 Newspaper Articles, May 21-December 31, 1971
- File 9 Newspaper Articles, January 4- December 30, 1972

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Box 15

Series 5 *Newspaper Articles*

- File 10 Newspaper Articles, January 3-December 29, 1973
- File 11 Newspaper Articles, January 2-December 31, 1974
- File 12 Newspaper Articles, January 2-April 30, 1975
- File 13 Newspaper Articles, May 1-August 30, 1975
- File 14 Newspaper Articles, September 3-December 31, 1975

Box 16

Series 5 *Newspaper Articles*

- File 15 Newspaper Articles, January 2-June 30, 1976
- File 16 Newspaper Articles, July 2, 1976-August 8, 1977
- File 17 Newspaper Articles, no date