

University News Beat

by Department of Information and Publications

Emergency Services
Centre — 3333

York Archives

DON'T THROW IT OUT!

Do you have old papers, letters or files that are piling up under your desk? There's no more room for your feet so what are you going to do with them? Throw them in the garbage or maybe build a cosy fire for two. STOP! Your car registration could be going up in smoke.

Well... maybe not, but too often documents as valuable are lost this way. Information that your archivist would be more than happy to keep.

"We try to get hold of everything published or recorded in the university," explained Hartwell Bowsfield, Archivist for York University. Located in the basement of the Scott Library the Archives Section was officially created in 1970. David Hughes, assistant to Archivist notes that "before that, any archival material was housed in the Rare Books section, but lacked real organization."

With the institution of the Archives, records and publications found a "caretaker" to preserve important historical information of the university's past. "The material doesn't circulate," Mr. Bowsfield expounded, "It must be used in the archives research area. As a result we hope we are holding on to things that would otherwise disappear."

Documents of the Canadian Association of Adult Education trace

the infant stages in the formation of York. Papers of past presidents, chancellors and staff join a complete library of university newspapers, handbooks and other publications to provide an extensive information bank of university life since 1956.

There is much more, many private collections also line the shelves. Among them are the personal papers and letters of Lady Victoria Welby, pioneer in the field of semantics (she was also infamous for tea parties no one liked to attend.); Roy Mitchell's notes and diagrams in theatrical design and the diary and manuscripts of Canadian diplomat/writer Walter Riddell.

The Toronto Telegram photography collection is a must for avid photojournalists. For the hard working essay writer there are plenty of thesis papers for research.

Disappointment has been expressed by personnel that better use hasn't been made of this other "source of information". Tackling archival material isn't any more difficult than acquiring a book in a library, thought it should be approached differently. "Think of yourself as a historian — asking questions of the material" said Mr. Bowsfield, "then proceed to find the answer."

At present there are a few

restricted collections that have certain stipulations for their usage attached; however, these are limited and the restrictions are often removed after a number of years.

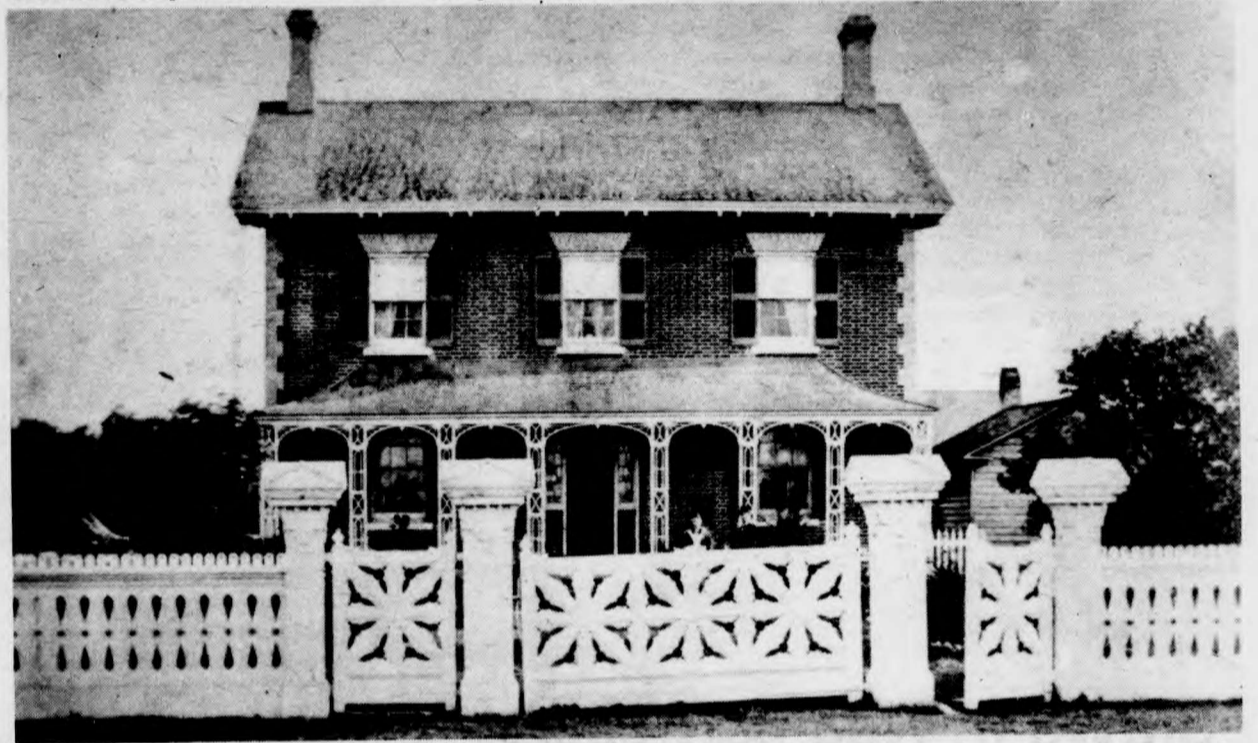
The archives is not just a resting place for "old papers" it should be thought of as a constant reference library and resource centre. It can provide university departments with information as to dates of openings, particular functions, or early business correspondence. For the in-

dividual it carries a wealth of research and unusual material.

"We are constantly looking for early university material in any area," Mr. Bowsfield explained. There have been attempts to get departments and offices to hold on to their old documents. "We recognize that certain records have to be restricted because of personal reference. Should we come across such information we would first seek the permission of the department

before making it public," assured Mr. Bowsfield.

The most important factor in maintaining good archives is the availability of material. Material many of us hold in our possession. "Before you throw it out, think about the archivist. Think about it!" asks Bowsfield. Not only will you be helping preserve history but giving others a chance to explore timeless records.



Archival material such as the above photo helps in tracing the history of York and area. The Stong House was originally built in 1859-60 by Jacob Stong. Though time has altered its appearance the

Stong homestead still stands on university property as part of the institution. Photo donated by R.K. Cooper.

Supplementary Grant Up 300%

York University has received a supplementary operating grant of \$750,000 from the Ministry of Colleges and Universities for 1975-76. This compares with the current year's supplementary grant of \$260,000. The grant is part of a total of \$7,234,000 distributed by the Ministry of Colleges and Universities to Ontario universities with "special financial problems". Also it was announced that the special grant for the added costs of bilingualism at Glendon

College will be increased from \$128,000 to \$140,000.

The effect of these decisions and of the pegging of the Basic Income Unit at a value of \$2,108 for 1975-76 is to increase York's general operating grant from the province by 14.9% for next year. The government's position that student tuition fees may not be increased has not changed, however, with the result that York's total grant and fee revenue for 1975-76 will increase by only 11.6%.

Arts by-election slated for Wednesday

By-elections for the remaining student vacancies on the Faculty of Arts Council are being held until Wednesday, March 5. Any student registered in the Faculty of Arts is eligible to run.

The Council is the standing committee of Senate charged with deciding the legislative matters of

the Faculty and recommending their adoption by Senate. It is made up of all full-time and part-time faculty members, and in addition, has a number of students equal to ten per cent of the total faculty membership.

The role of the student councillor is to represent the student body by

attending and voting at the Council meetings, which are normally held four times during the academic year. The Council deals with such things as degree requirements, academic regulations and recommendations for new programmes of study.

Nomination forms are available from the Office of the Faculty Council, in Room S935 of the Ross Building; or from Radio York, the CYSF office, Information York and the York Enquiry Service.

IBM 370 - A Friendly Machine

If you walk through Steacie you'll probably run into signs referring to the York-Ryerson Computing Centre, and you might then wonder what Ryerson has to do with York.

The Centre is a co-operative arrangement between York and Ryerson Polytechnical Institute. It was incorporated as a non-profit corporation in January of last year.

Three years ago York began looking for more economical ways of doing its computing. It was decided

that it would be better if York could share facilities and costs with other institutions with similar computing needs.

At first Guelph and McMaster were approached, and consideration was given to setting up a microwave relay system.

In the Fall of 1972 the University of Toronto, Ryerson and York got together, and out of these talks agreement in principle between Ryerson and York was reached in

the Spring of 1973. The corporation was then set up the following January.

The computer used is an IBM 370 Model 158. This is a medium-sized computer, with a capacity of 2 million memory bites. There is also a smaller Hewlett-Packard computer.

Both institutions have their own separate computer departments, which make use of the jointly-operated equipment.

York's Computer Services has a full-time staff of thirty-eight. The facilities are open from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 8:00 a.m. to midnight Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturdays, and 9:00 a.m. to midnight Sundays.

A large part of the staff consists of resource people who are always around to offer guidance and advice.

In order to do computing you have to open an account with Computer Services, but anyone at York can open one. This also entitles the user to use the terminals down at Ryerson (except during peak periods).

Recently York acquired a Plotter, a machine which can make visual

representations of mathematical designs.

Anyone at York can also obtain a Learning Resources Entitlement Card (\$5.00 for students, \$10.00 for others). This allows the user to take advantage of all kinds of resources, including free, non-credit courses which the department offers from time to time.

Computer Services also runs a reading room and lending library, which keeps on hand all the IBM manuals, various technicals journals, books and hand-books. There is also a video-tape library and viewing room, which enables self-instruction.

York's Computer Services also publishes fact sheets on the various programming languages and its own "Users' Reference Manual".

The general enquiry number for the department is 667-2317 (Room T138 in Steacie). By calling 667-6311 at anytime a person can find out whether equipment is up (operable) or down.

Computers have no inherent intelligence, but there are reports that the York-Ryerson IBM 370 can be quite friendly at times.

Gerstein 75

The 1974-75 Gerstein Lecture Series is being held next week on Thursday, March 6 in Burton Auditorium. The theme for the series this year is "Communications Canada 2000".

The following is the list of speakers and correct times: Pierre Juneau, Chairman of the Canadian Radio and Television Commission, will speak from 10:00 to 11:00; Gordon B. Thompson, of Communications Studies for Bell-Northern Research, from 11:00 to 12 noon; Marshall McLuhan, Director of the Centre for Culture and Technology at the University of Toronto, from 1:30 to 2:30; and Davidson Dunton, Director of the Institute of Canadian Studies at Carleton University, from 2:30 to 3:30.

It should be noted that the times for Thompson and McLuhan were erroneously reversed in the last issue. There will be a panel discussion after the speeches, beginning at 4 o'clock. The lectures are free and open to the public.

Math Logicians Gather At York

On Saturday, March 8 the Department of Mathematics is sponsoring a one-day conference on Mathematical Logic. This will be the fourth such conference. The first one was hosted by York in 1971.

More than sixty people are expected to attend, and various papers will be given. The purpose of the conference is to give a survey of recent researches and to give logicians a chance to find out what each other is doing.

Special guest speakers will be

Professors K.J. Barwise and K. Kunen from the University of Wisconsin and Professor R.L. Constable from Cornell University. Professor Constable is currently a Visiting Professor at the university of Toronto and will talk about "Recent developments in computer science of interest to logicians".

A complete schedule will be published next week in the Daily Bulletin. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.