

Obituaries



Nancy Grenville (1928-1994)

Nancy Grenville, former archivist with the Centre for Newfoundland Studies, Memorial University of Newfoundland, died at her home at Sutton, Quebec, after a short illness on 9 August 1994. Nancy was born in Evanston, Illinois, 9 January 1928, but grew up in Washington, D.C. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (cum laude) from Bryn Mawr College, Pennsylvania in 1949, and an Economics Tripos II from Cambridge University in England in 1950. It was during her stay at Cambridge that she met David Grenville, who would become her husband.

After living and working in Houston and Montreal, the Grenvilles moved to St. John's in the early 1970s, where in January 1976 Nancy began work with the Memorial University library system. In 1977, she joined the library's Centre for Newfoundland Studies, becoming its archivist the next year. During the years that followed, she was instrumental in the development of the Centre's archives and manuscript holdings from a few shelves in the back of the book stacks to a properly-constructed archives room meeting accepted temperature and humidity standards. She also presided over the growth of the collection and the conversion of its catalogue to electronic database and MARC format. She completed the Public Archives of Canada Archives course in 1981.

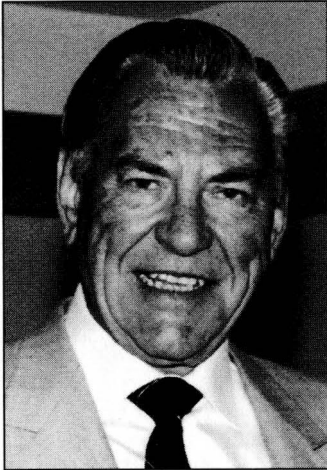
Nancy was very involved in the community, first of all in her professional community as a founder and frequent executive member of the Association of Newfoundland and Labrador Archivists and the Council of Newfoundland and Labrador Archives. She was a member of the Newfoundland Historical Society, the Newfoundland and the Atlantic Provinces Library Associations, and the Association of Canadian Archivists. She also contributed greatly to the work of the Amnesty International group based in St. John's. She published a number of articles and presented a number of papers on archival work in Newfoundland, created the *Guide to the Archival Holdings of the Centre for Newfoundland Studies* (1983

and 1989) and was a driving force behind the publication of *The Wicked Mate: The Antarctic Diary of Victor Campbell* (Huntington, UK, 1988).

Nancy retired from the Centre for Newfoundland Studies in 1989 and she and her husband moved to a farm, which they had bought in the 1950s in the Eastern Townships of Québec, near the village of Sutton. From that base, she became an active part of the cultural and heritage preservation life of Sutton, travelled extensively, and maintained an interest in all things related to Newfoundland. She leaves her husband, David, her children, Jeff, Sally, and Andrew and their spouses, her grand-daughter Natania, and her many, many friends.

Bert Riggs

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Donald Baird (1926-1994)

Donald Baird, former University Archivist and University Librarian of Simon Fraser University, British Columbia, died on 1 November 1994. Don was for twenty-six years a key figure in the development of Simon Fraser University, serving as the University Librarian from a year before the University started in 1965 until he resigned in 1977 to become University Archivist. During his tenure in both positions, he was recognized as a builder and innovator by his peers. At the time of his retirement in 1990, because of ill-health, he was made an honorary member of the Association of British Columbia Archivists in recognition of his contribution to the archives profession and to the ABCA.

Don was born in 1926 in Edmonton, Alberta. He received a B.A. from the University of British Columbia, and was a graduate of the School of Librarianship of Columbia University. He was one of the first appointees at the new University of Simon Fraser when he was recruited from the University of Alberta to become University Librarian at SFU. During his years as University Librarian, he introduced many innovative ideas to the University community at large and when he became the University Archivist he continued to apply his expertise, knowledge, and creativity to the benefit of our profession.

Almost immediately after joining ABCA, Don produced the first published membership guide. He also became closely involved in the work of the Association of Canadian Archivists and did a detailed survey of University Archives in 1980 and 1985, which proved a very useful tool for university archivists.

Among Don's contributions to ABCA was his work as vice-president, president, and past president of the association. As editor of the ABCA Newsletter, which was targeted towards small archives in the province, he brought members into an expanded network of consciousness of their many colleagues.