

Trent University Archives

Finding Aid - John Quentin Brown fonds (24-021)

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Trent University Archives
Trent University Library & Archives
Archives, Room 117
Thomas J. Bata Library
1600 West Bank Drive
Peterborough
Ontario
Canada
K9J 7B8
Telephone: 705-748-1011 ext. 7413
[Email: archives@trentu.ca](mailto:archives@trentu.ca)
<http://www.trentu.ca/library/archives>
<http://archives.trentu.ca/index.php/24-021>

John Quentin Brown fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	Trent University Archives
Title:	John Quentin Brown fonds
Reference code:	24-021
Date:	1946-1998 (creation)
Physical description:	20 cm of textual records 29 photographs 1 postcard

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

John Quentin Brown (Quentin), U.E.L., was born in Toronto, Ontario, to Newton H. Brown and Grace Amanda Young, U.E.L. He worked for the Fairchild Aircraft Company between May 1939 and December 1941. In 1941, he joined the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve (RCNVR). On active duty, Quentin served in Prince Rupert on HMCS French, on HMCS Malpeque and on HMCS Ontario demobilizing in December 1945. Correspondence from the War years exchanged between Quentin, his brother Robert and his sister Elizabeth is found in the book *The Army's Mister Brown: A Family Trilogy 1941-1952*, compiled by Elizabeth, Robert and Quentin in 1982; another brother, Harcourt Brown, was editor. After returning from War, Quentin earned a B.A. from McGill University in 1946 and a M.A. in dramatic art from the University of North Carolina in 1948. He married Myrtle Louise Stumberg of Alabama 28 August 1948 and together they had four children. Quentin worked in Ottawa at Crawley Films for 11 years. He moved to Boston and worked for the Educational Development Centre for 10 years where his main contribution was as producer of the Netsilik Eskimo film series—innovative films that focused on close portrayals of Indigenous people living in their own settings, with Inuit dialogue, and without English-speakers and talking heads. He also held a position at the University of Manitoba as Director of Instructional Media for seven years. In 1976, he moved to the Peterborough area where he was a researcher, amateur historian and writer; he was the editor of *This Green and Pleasant Land: Chronicles of Cavan Township* produced by the Millbrook and Cavan Historical Society in 1990. For a number of years, Quentin volunteered at Trent University Archives and was an active member of the Friends of the Bata Library at Trent.

Scope and content

Fonds consists of records relating to John Quentin Brown's work for theatre, film, and television, including for Crawley Films and the Educational Development Center in Boston. Fonds primarily includes original

scripts and screenplays, but also includes criticism and reviews, promotional material, photographs, correspondence, notes, and other records.

Notes

Immediate source of acquisition

Donated by Juliet Brown, Quentin Brown's daughter, in February 2024.

Arrangement

Fonds has been organized chronologically by project, with Brown's resumes and a general file on Crawley Films located at the beginning.

Restrictions on access

None: records are open

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published

Access points

- Textual records (documentary form)
- Photographs (documentary form)
- Film (subject)
- Theatre (subject)

Series descriptions

Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
24-021/001(01)	File - Quentin Brown resumes and screen credits	ca. 1968-1977	1 folder of textual records
24-021/001(02)	File - Crawley Film Limited: photographs, publicity, and other materials <i>Scope and content:</i> File includes brochures and other publicity for Crawley Films, poems, newspaper clippings, correspondence, and photographs of individuals, meetings, and sets at Crawley Films Limited. The file also contains memorial programs for Judy Crawley (1914-1986) and George M. Gorman (-1992).	1952-1998	1 folder of textual records11 photographs1 postcard
24-021/001(03)	File - Make hot the house: a topical comedy in one act by J. Quentin Brown: typescript for McGill University experimental playwriting course	January 31, 1946	1 folder of textual records

24-021/001(04)	File - Squatter's rites: a skit by Quentin Brown, second draft	[1947]	1 folder of textual records
24-021/001(05)	File - The big pat-pat: a Laurentian incident by Quentin Brown: produced script, theatre program, and photographs	1947	1 folder of textual records3 photographs
24-021/001(06)	File - A fresh wind blowing: a play in three acts by Quentin Brown, drafts and notes	1947	1 folder of textual records
24-021/001(07)	File - Hold back the night: a film for The Canadian National Institute for the Blind, Crawley Films Limited, scripts, notes, correspondence	1948-1958	1 folder of textual records
24-021/001(08)	File - Production guide on motion picture for Aluminum Limited, Crawley Films Limited	August 1, 1951	1 folder of textual records
24-021/001(09)	File - The electric metal: first draft of a script prepared for Aluminum Limited by Crawley Films Limited / writer: Quentin Brown	March 17, 1955	1 folder of textual records
24-021/001(10)	File - Draft script for a motion picture entitled "Ambassador extraordinary" for Hiram Walker and Sons Limited prepared by Crawley Films Limited Canada / writer: Quentin Brown	1957-1958	1 folder of textual records
24-021/001(11)	File - Shooting guide for "Manitoba trails" a tourist promotion film on Southwestern Manitoba being produced by Crawley Films Limited for the Department of Industry and Commerce of the Province of Manitoba / writer and producer Quentin Brown, director Rene Bonniere	1958	
24-021/001(12)	File - Educational Development Center: catalogue, photographs, and newsclippings	[196-]	1 folder of textual records15 photographs
24-021/001(13)	File - Public will by private choice: shooting script for a documentary film for the Ontario Election Office to be produced by Crawley Films Limited / written by Quentin Brown	June 28, 1977	1 folder of textual records
24-021/001(14)	File - Tom Anderson: original typescript and notes	1977	1 folder of textual records
24-021/001(15)	File - Cooper's bluff: a play in three acts by Quentin Brown, script	August 1979	1 folder of textual records
24-021/002(01)	File - Cooper's bluff: comments and criticisms	1978-1980	1 folder of textual records
24-021/002(02)	File - The scrimshaw stone: a play in two acts by Quentin Brown	August 1979	1 folder of textual records
24-021/002(03)	File - I understand you perfectly: third draft and criticisms	1979-1980	1 folder of textual records

24-021/002(04)	File - Where there's a will: a play in two acts by Quentin Brown	May 1981	1 folder of textual records
24-021/002(05)	File - Where there's a will: criticism	1981-1982	1 folder of textual records
24-021/002(06)	File - The family tree: a play for television by Quentin Brown, script	May 1982	1 folder of textual records