

Where's Maud?



The LM Montgomery Research Collections at the UPEI Robertson Library: A Short Introduction



Winter 2015-2016

Introduction

Thanks to the generosity and vision of donors such as Dr. Donna Campell and The Heirs of LM Montgomery, the LM Montgomery Institute (LMMI) has, over the past 10 - 15 years, assembled one of the largest and most important collections anywhere of publications, artifacts, and other material documenting the life and legacy of internationally-celebrated author Lucy Maud Montgomery. For reasons of security, preservation, and accessibility, these collections are housed at the University of Prince Edward Island's Robertson Library. The Library's own collecting efforts over the years -- particularly with its Prince Edward Island research collection -- complement and support the resources of the LMMI collections.

This guide provides a brief overview of the most important elements of the Montgomery-related research collections of the LMMI and the UPEI Library. Any questions on searching and accessing these collections may be directed to the Library's University Archives & Special Collections (UASC) unit -- contact information can be found at the end of this guide.

LMMI Collections

The Ryrie-Campbell Collection is the most sizeable and significant of the LMMI Collections, the fruits of a life-time's work by Dr. Donna Jane Campbell, a leading collector of publications by and about LM Montgomery, Dr. Campbell is currently donating her great trove of Montgomeriana in instalments to the LMMI. Among this collection's riches are first editions of *Anne of Green Gables* (including a very rare first impression and another in the scarce "chocolate" brown binding), along with a complete run of early North American editions of all the books published by Montgomery in her lifetime. Other rare English-language editions (notably Australian and British publications), are joined by more than 20 editions in languages other than English, ranging from Arabic to Spanish. Already amounting to more than 700 titles, the collection will soon grow stronger still with the donation of its final instalment, a vast archive of original issues of North American periodicals in which Montgomery published hundreds of stories and poems.

The Stuart Macdonald and Macdonald Collections were donated by Montgomery's Heirs, and feature ~30 early editions of Montgomery's books, inscribed by the author to her sons, Stuart and Chester Macdonald. The Stuart Macdonald Collection also includes a number of volumes from Montgomery's private library.

The LM Montgomery Artifact Collection is comprised of a series of individual gifts from Montgomery's Heirs, and includes such treasures as the certificate and lapel medal for her OBE, a Japanese silk kimono given Montgomery by an unknown admirer, the authors' pocket watch, her son Stuart's Second World War naval uniform, and a richly-detailed, hand-made bedspread created by Montgomery herself.

LMMI Collections (Continued)

In addition to the collections already described, several titles of note have been donated singly, including: a rare first edition of Montgomery's book of poems, *The Watchman*, inscribed by the author to her dear friend Frede Campbell; a Macneill / Montgomery family bible, with centre pages containing a record of births, marriages, and deaths, many in Montgomery's own hand; a Pocket Book edition (the first known paperback of a Montgomery novel) of *Anne of Windy Poplars*, donated by Mary Beth Cavert, and; an assortment of overseas editions of Montgomery's novels. Also notable is a collection of **Swedish-language** works by and about Montgomery, donated to the LMMI by scholars Gabriella Åhmansson and Åsa Warnquist.

UPEI Library Collections

The PEI Collection is mandated to acquire all Island-related publications: more than 15,000 titles strong, it features hundreds of items relating to Montgomery and her beloved Island home. In addition to numerous books, dissertations, and articles published about Montgomery and her work, the PEI Collection contains a wealth of information on Island culture, heritage, politics, religion, and numerous other topics of potential interest to Montgomery scholars and admirers.

Although the PEI Collection does not normally acquire archival documents, two small-but-important Montgomery-related collections were donated to the Collection many years ago:

The Penzie Macneill Letters, ~20 letters written by a young Montgomery to her close friend Penzie Macneill, donated to the Library by internationally-acclaimed Island historian and Montgomery scholar Father F.W.P. Bolger.

12 Photocopied Scrapbook Volumes, copies of scrapbooks kept by Montgomery for clippings of scores of the stories and poems she published in North American periodicals.

Also notable is a first-edition *Further Chronicles of Avonlea*, still in it its presentation box to George B. Macmillan ("My Dear Mr. M"), and heavily annotated by the author to reflect her lawsuit against US publisher L.C. Page.

The UPEI Archives acquires documents, publications and other materials recording the life and work of UPEI and its forebears, St. Dunstan's University and Montgomery's alma mater, Charlottetown's Prince of Wales College (PWC). PWC-related items of note include issues of The College Times student paper with articles by Montgomery, photographs of PWC faculty from Montgomery's time as a student, and artifacts such as the bust of Montgomery frrom the lobby of Montgomery Hall, PWC's first student residence, named in her honour. The Archives also retains documents of UPEI and affiliated research institutes, including the LMMI itself.

Searching & Access

Online searching and accessibility for the **LMMI Collections** are currently limited, and the Library is working with the LMMI and the Insitutute's Friends' group to address this; as of Fall 2015, the books component of the Ryrie-Campbell Collection is searchable via the Library's main Catalogue. Researchers interested in the contents of these collections are advised to consult directly with our University Archives and Special Collections Librarian (see below). Most of the material in the LMMI Collections can be used in the Library's University Archives & Special Collections (UASC) reading area by anyone presenting photo identification, but special permissions and usage restrictions may apply in certain cases: again, please consult with UASC staff when planning a research visit, and we will be happy to assist you in this regard.

Most of the Montgomery-related books and articles contained in the **PEI Collection** or **University Archives** can be searched using the Library's mainCatalogue (available at http://library.upei.ca) or one of our ancilliary PEI article databases, *PEI PAD* and *Eureka* (see library.upei.ca/pei/tips for access and search tips). Indexing of older (pre-1999) articles, clippings, etc. -- including Montgomery-related items -- is offered in the PEI card catalogue, located in the UASC reading area. There are generally few restrictions on the in-Library use of PEI Collection and Archives materials, but photo identification is required, and researchers -- especially those traveling from farther afield and/or with complex research questions -- are encouraged to consult with UASC staff when planning a visit.

The main service point for UASC collections is the Library's **Reference Desk**.

Winter 2015-2016 Hours for the Reference Desk are:

Monday - Thursday:

9:30 AM - 8:00 PM

Saturday: 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM Sunday: Noon - 5:00 PM

Friday: 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Hours subject to change: visit http://library.upei.ca/hours for updates
For appointments outside these hours, please contact the UASC Librarian (see below)

For a UPEI **campus map**, showing the location of the Library (building # 15), visit: http://files.upei.ca/map.pdf

Information on UPEI **visitor parking** can be found here: http://www.upei.ca/facilities/parking

As noted, researchers interested in the LMMI Collections are advised to consult directly with **Simon Lloyd**, the Librarian responsible for University Archives and Special Collections.

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