

University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections

Finding Aid - Bamford family fonds (RBSC-ARC-1726)

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Bamford family fonds

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Summary information

Repository: University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections

Title: Bamford family fonds

ID: RBSC-ARC-1726

Date: 1889-2003, predominant 1910-2003 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1.96 m of textual records and other material

**Dates of creation,
revision and deletion:**

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

William Bamford (b. 3 June 1826) was born in England and immigrated to Canada in 1860. On 26 August 1862, Bamford married Lydia Ann Blackley in Belleville, Ontario. Blackley was a descendent of American Loyalists who fled Boston, Massachusetts, in 1785 and settled in Picton, Prince Edward County, Ontario. William Bamford and Lydia Blackley lived in Ancaster and Burlington, Ontario, where Bamford worked as a manufacturer and later as a store keeper and merchant. The couple had three sons that lived to adulthood: William Blackley Bamford; Charles Harry Sydney Bamford, who became the director of Ashdown Hardware Company; and Thomas Henry Lord Bamford, who was a merchant of the firm of Hicks and Bamford.

William Blackley Bamford (10 Sept. 1863-29 Aug. 1946) was a railroader, beginning his career in 1880 as a telegraph operator. In 1889, he married Henrietta Odell in Sherbrooke, Quebec, and had at least one son, William Blackley Stanley Bamford, and one daughter, Florence Odell Bamford (d. 7 July 1918). Bamford served as a Canadian Pacific Railway operator, station agent, and later traveling freight agent and district freight agent in several Ontario cities and towns. He moved to St. John, New Brunswick, in 1910 to act as a division freight agent before returning to Ontario in 1916. In 1920 he was transferred to the Kootenay and Boundary Division at Nelson, British Columbia. Bamford's retirement from the CPR became effective 31 December 1928 after 48 years as a railroader.

William Blackley Stanley Bamford (24 Jan. 1890-9 Oct. 1966) was born in Elora, Ontario, and enjoyed a long career in the banking industry. In 1908, he secured his first position with the Traders Bank of Canada in Tweed, Ontario, and in 1917, he obtained a job as a temporary clerk with the Bank of Montreal. He continued with the company in various roles and through a transfer to Vancouver, British Columbia, until his retirement in April 1952. Bamford married Amy Laretta Huestis on 26 December 1929 at St. Mark's Church in Vancouver. The couple had one son, William Huestis Bamford.

William Huestis Bamford (17 Sept. 1930-) was born in, Vancouver, British Columbia. After completing his schooling in Vancouver, Bamford worked briefly in the British Columbia forestry sector before joining the Canadian Army. Bamford acted as a driver mechanic, attaining the rank of Lance Corporal, and spent one year overseas in Korea before leaving the service in April 1954. Bamford then

worked briefly as a taxi driver before becoming an employee of Canada Post in June 1956. Bamford served as a letter carrier and later as a supervisory letter carrier in Richmond and Vancouver until his retirement. Bamford married Esther Adelina Lasell Blyth in July 1957 in Vancouver. Bamford was step-father to his wife's four children from a prior marriage: Lynne, Sharon, Roy, and Verne. William Blackley Bamford, William Blackley Stanley Bamford, and William Huestis Bamford were all avid diarist and kept line-a-day or page-a-day diaries for most of their adult lives.

Scope and content

The fonds consists of diaries, scrapbooks, and correspondence spanning the period 1910-2003 and related to the professional and personal lives of three generations of the Bamford family—William Blackley Bamford, his son William Blackley Stanley Bamford, and his grandson William Huestis Bamford—as well as to members of the Lasell and Ord families, related by marriage to William Huestis Bamford. Diaries in the fonds include concise “five year” or “line a day” diaries, as well as more detailed daily journals and many cover aspects of the Bamfords’ professional and personal life. Scrapbooks in the fonds, which contain newspaper clippings, ephemera, correspondence, photographs, notes, and other material, primarily reflect the Bamfords’ personal interests, but also interests their chosen professions and employers, including the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and the Bank of Montreal. Beyond the incoming and outgoing personal and professional correspondence included in the scrapbooks, the Esther Adelina Lasell Bamford series contains incoming correspondence related to a branch of the Ord family living in New Zealand. The fonds is arranged into four series by family member: William Blackley Bamford; William Blackley Stanley Bamford; William Huestis Bamford; and Esther Adelina Lasell Bamford.

Notes

Title notes

- **Source of title proper:** Title based on the provenance of the fonds.

Immediate source of acquisition

The original accession was donated to Rare Books and Special Collections at UBC Library by William Huestis Bamford on 9 July 2013.

Arrangement

Diaries and scrapbooks in the fonds are arranged in chronological order.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
 - **Level of detail:** Full
 - **Status description:** Final
 - **Physical description:** Includes 52 diaries and 6 scrapbooks containing multiple media.
-

Access points

- Bamford, Amy Laurretta Huestis (subject)
 - Lasell, Adelina Ord (subject)
 - Bamford, Henrietta Odell (subject)
 - Bamford, William Blackley (subject)
 - Bamford, William Blackley Stanley (subject)
 - Bamford, William Huestis (subject)
 - Bamford, Esther Adelina Lasell (subject)
-

Series descriptions

William Blackley Bamford

Date: 1889-1965, predominant 1910-1946 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The series consists of eight (8) “line a day” diaries and two (2) scrapbooks created by William Blackley Bamford between the years 1910-1946, reflecting his professional life as an agent for the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, as well as his personal and family life. Bamford’s diaries document many aspects of his professional and personal life. Entries dealing with work life include information about time spent in the office, particular work projects, volume of work and work completed, business meetings and travel, and hirings made, among other topics. Entries related to personal life cover church attendance; visits made and received; birthdays and holidays; personal travel; leisure and recreational activities; purchases; banking and financial information and transactions; voting habits; household and garden chores and repairs; personal and family illness and death; moves and real estate transactions; organizational memberships and responsibilities; gifts received and given; important family events; and personal appointments. The diaries also include information of general interest, such as weather; local, regional, and world news updates, including war news; election results; and sports scores. Some diaries include inserts, such a list of political candidates and a church service program, and memoranda such as lock combinations. The diaries in the series begin when Bamford was residing in St. John, New Brunswick, and continue through a move to Nelson, British Columbia, where Bamford died.

Scrapbooks in the series contain newspaper clippings related to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company; marriages and deaths of note; quotes and poems; pictures; and articles on topics of general interest, including Canadian and American news, society, and history; astronomy; popular

entertainment; and the British royal family. Scrapbooks also contain business and personal correspondence and ephemera, including various programs, tickets, and invitations; menus; maps and guides; schedules and bulletins; membership cards and certificates; bills of lading; informational booklets and pamphlets; posters and notices; stamps; travel documents; bills and receipts; radio broadcast transcripts; sketches; statements of earnings; periodicals; and other material. Scrapbooks also contains some notes made by Bamford on Canadian Pacific Railway history. William Blackley Stanley Bamford's diaries indicate that he worked on his father's scrapbook after his death.

Physical description: 38 cm of textual records and other material

Access points:

- Bamford, William Blackley (subject)
- Bamford, Henrietta Odell (subject)

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1726-01-01	File - A line a day diary, 1910-1915	29 May 1910-28 May 1915		
RBSC-ARC-1726-01-02	File - Year by year diary, 1915-1920	29 May 1915-28 May 1920		
RBSC-ARC-1726-01-03	File - A line a day diary, 1920-1925	29 May 1920-28 May 1925		
RBSC-ARC-1726-01-04	File - A line a day diary, 1925-1930	29 May 1925-28 May 1930		
RBSC-ARC-1726-01-05	File - A line a day diary, 1930-1935	29 May 1930-28 May 1935		
RBSC-ARC-1726-01-06	File - A line a day diary, 1935-1940	29 May 1935-28 May 1940		
RBSC-ARC-1726-02-01	File - A line a day diary, 1940-1945	29 May 1940-28 May 1945		
RBSC-ARC-1726-02-02	File - A line a day diary, 1945-1946	29 May 1945-26 Aug 1946		
RBSC-ARC-1726-02-03	File - Scrapbook, 1889-1965 <u>Note:</u> Item located in Box 11.	1889-1965		
RBSC-ARC-1726-02-04	File - Scrapbook, 1890-1950 <u>Note:</u> Item located in Box 12.	1890-1950, predominant 1914-1921		

William Blackley Stanley Bamford

Date: 1908-1966 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The series consists of ten (10) "line a day" or "five year" diaries and two (2) scrapbooks created by William Blackley Stanley Bamford between the years 1921-1966, reflecting his professional life as a banker with the Bank of Montreal, as well as his personal and family life. Bamford's diaries

document many aspects of his professional and personal life. Entries dealing with work life include information about time spent in the office; volume of work and work completed; a leave of absence taken; and transfers between branches, among other topics. Entries related to personal life cover marriage and raising a son; church attendance, services, and volunteer efforts; leisure and recreational activities; purchases and subscriptions; banking and financial information and transactions; voting habits; household and garden chores and repairs; personal and family health issues and deaths; moves, real estate transactions, and construction; organizational memberships and responsibilities; and family pets, among other topics. The diaries also include information of general interest, such as weather; local, regional, and world news updates, including war news; election results; and sporting results. As a career banker, Bamford made particular note of bank robberies in the news. Bamford also made a number of memoranda in the diaries, making note of insurance policy, bank account, and safety deposit box numbers; income tax figures; safe combinations; motorcycle and bicycle models and license numbers; planting diagrams; poems; transcriptions of correspondence; home remedy recipes; phone numbers and addresses; his son's platoon number and rank; employment start date, salary, and bonuses from the Bank of Montreal; phone numbers and addresses; and birthdates. The diaries in the series begin when Bamford was residing in Toronto, and continue through a year's leave from the Bank of Montreal, which he spent in Nelson, British Columbia, and a subsequent move to Vancouver. Scrapbooks in the series contain newspaper clippings related to Canadian and American news, politics, society, and history; the United Empire Loyalist Association and the British royal family; deaths of note; church and religious matters; poems and pictures; and articles of general interest. Scrapbooks also contain business and personal correspondence, photographs, and ephemera related to Bamford as well as his wife and son, including various programs, tickets, and invitations; visiting cards; cheques; ribbons; membership cards; certificates and licences; menus; informational brochures and pamphlets; receipts; and other material.

Physical description: 40.5 cm of of textual records and other material

Access points:

- Bamford, William Blackley Stanley (subject)
- Bamford, Amy Laurretta Huestis (subject)

File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1726-02-05	File - A line a day diary, 1921-1925	1 Jan. 1921-1 Nov. 1928		
RBSC-ARC-1726-02-06	File - A line a day diary, 1926-1930	1 Jan. 1926-31 Dec. 1930		
RBSC-ARC-1726-02-07	File - A line a day diary, 1931-1935	1 Jan. 1931-31 Dec. 1935		
RBSC-ARC-1726-02-08	File - A line a day diary, 1936-1940	1 Jan. 1936-31 Dec. 1940		
RBSC-ARC-1726-03-01	File - A line a day diary, 1941-1945	1 Jan. 1941-31 Dec. 1945		
RBSC-ARC-1726-03-02	File - A line a day diary, 1946-1950	1 Jan. 1946-31 Dec. 1950		
RBSC-ARC-1726-03-03	File - Five year diary, 1951-1955	1 Jan. 1951-31 Dec. 1955		

RBSC- ARC-1726-03-04	File - Five year diary, 1956-1960	1 Jan. 1956-31 Dec. 1960
RBSC- ARC-1726-03-05	File - Diary 5 years, 1961-1965	1 Jan. 1961-31 Dec. 1965
RBSC- ARC-1726-04-01	File - Diary 5 years, 1965-1966	1 Jan. 1966-7 June 1966
RBSC- ARC-1726-04-02	File - Scrapbook, 1908-1955 <u>Note:</u> Item located in Box 13.	1908-1955
RBSC- ARC-1726-04-03	File - Scrapbook, 1911-1966 <u>Note:</u> Item located in Box 14.	1911-1966

William Huestis Bamford

Date: 1940-2003, predominant 1962-2003 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The series consists of thirty-three (33) diaries and one (1) scrapbook created by William Huestis Bamford between the years 1962-2003, primarily reflecting his personal and family life. Only the first diary in the series, written between 1962 and 1964, touches on Bamford's employment with Canada Post, including information about delivery routes and labour strikes. The subsequent daily diaries cover Bamford's family and personal life in great detail, including part-time, temporary work at an insurance company; visits made and received; birthdays and holidays; household and garden chores and repairs; meals eaten; purchases and subscriptions; leisure / recreational activities and hobbies; personal travel; banking and financial information and transactions; voting habits; personal and family health issues and deaths; gifts received and given; important family events; personal appointments; and family pets, among other topics. The diaries also include information of general interest, such as weather, news updates, and sports results. Later diaries include extensive memoranda related to health appointments, treatments, surgeries, medications, etc. of Bamford and his wife, Esther, particularly related to her rheumatoid arthritis. Other memoranda in the diaries include lists of Christmas gifts, notes about sale and other tax increases, records of weight and weight loss, and more. Some diaries include inserts such as bookmarks; brochures and flyers; funeral service programs; postcards; tickets; theatre and event programs; invitations; coupons; and other ephemera and memorabilia. Scrapbooks in the series contain photos, personal correspondence, notes, and ephemera, including travel-themed stickers; tickets; napkins; receipts; business cards; postcards; blood donor cards; ribbons; programs; greeting cards; grade reports; certificates; flyers; and travel documents.

Physical description: 1.13 m of textual records and other material

Access points:

- Bamford, William Huestis (subject)
- Bamford, Esther Adelina Lasell (subject)

Arrangement:

The first diary in the series is a “five-year” diary that is sparsely filled out between 1962-1964. Regular daily diaries begin in 1973 and continue uninterrupted until 2003.

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1726-04-04	File - Five year diary, 1962-1964	17 Sept. 1962-25 Apr. 1964		
RBSC-ARC-1726-04-05	File - One year diary, 1972	1 Jan. 1972-31 Dec. 1972		
RBSC-ARC-1726-04-06	File - One year diary, 1973	1 Jan. 1973-31 Dec. 1973		
RBSC-ARC-1726-04-07	File - Daily journal, 1974	1 Jan. 1974-31 Dec. 1974		
RBSC-ARC-1726-05-01	File - Daily journal, 1975	1 Jan. 1975-31 Dec. 1975		
RBSC-ARC-1726-05-02	File - Daily journal, 1976	1 Jan. 1976-31 Dec. 1976		
RBSC-ARC-1726-05-03	File - Daily journal, 1977	1 Jan. 1977-31 Dec. 1977		
RBSC-ARC-1726-05-04	File - Daily journal, 1978	1 Jan. 1978-31 Dec. 1978		
RBSC-ARC-1726-05-05	File - Date book, 1979	1 Jan. 1979-31 Dec. 1979		
RBSC-ARC-1726-06-01	File - Daily journal, 1980	1 Jan. 1980-31 Dec. 1980		
RBSC-ARC-1726-06-02	File - Daily journal, 1981	1 Jan. 1981-31 Dec. 1981		
RBSC-ARC-1726-06-03	File - Daily journal, 1982	1 Jan. 1982-31 Dec. 1982		
RBSC-ARC-1726-06-04	File - Daily journal, 1983	1 Jan. 1983-31 Dec. 1983		
RBSC-ARC-1726-06-05	File - Daily journal, 1984	1 Jan. 1984-31 Dec. 1984		
RBSC-ARC-1726-07-01	File - Daily journal, 1985	1 Jan. 1985-31 Dec. 1985		
RBSC-ARC-1726-07-02	File - Daily journal, 1986	1 Jan. 1986-31 Dec. 1986		
RBSC-ARC-1726-07-03	File - Daily journal, 1987	1 Jan. 1987-31 Dec. 1987		
RBSC-ARC-1726-07-04	File - Daily journal, 1988	1 Jan. 1988-31 Dec. 1988		
RBSC-ARC-1726-07-05	File - Daily journal, 1989	1 Jan. 1989-31 Dec. 1989		
RBSC-ARC-1726-08-01	File - Daily journal, 1990	1 Jan. 1990-31 Dec. 1990		
RBSC-ARC-1726-08-02	File - Daily journal, 1991	1 Jan. 1991-31 Dec. 1991		
RBSC-ARC-1726-08-03	File - Daily journal, 1992	1 Jan. 1992-31 Dec. 1992		
RBSC-ARC-1726-08-04	File - Daily journal, 1993	1 Jan. 1993-31 Dec. 1993		

RBSC-ARC-1726-08-05	File - Daily journal, 1994	1 Jan. 1994-31 Dec. 1994
RBSC-ARC-1726-09-01	File - Daily journal, 1995	1 Jan. 1995-31 Dec. 1995
RBSC-ARC-1726-09-02	File - Daily journal, 1996	1 Jan. 1996-31 Dec. 1996
RBSC-ARC-1726-09-03	File - Daily journal, 1997	1 Jan. 1997-31 Dec. 1997
RBSC-ARC-1726-09-04	File - Daily journal, 1998	1 Jan. 1998-31 Dec. 1998
RBSC-ARC-1726-09-05	File - Daily journal, 1999	1 Jan. 1999-31 Dec. 1999
RBSC-ARC-1726-10-01	File - Daily journal, 2000	1 Jan. 2000-31 Dec. 2000
RBSC-ARC-1726-10-02	File - Daily journal, 2001	1 Jan. 2001-31 Dec. 2001
RBSC-ARC-1726-10-03	File - Day-by-day journal, 2002	1 Jan. 2002-31 Dec. 2002
RBSC-ARC-1726-10-04	File - Day-by-day journal, 2003	1 Jan. 2003-31 Dec. 2003
RBSC-ARC-1726-10-05	File - Scrapbook, 1940-1995 <u>Note:</u> Item located in Box 15.	1940-1995

Esther Adelina Lasell Bamford

Date: 1933-1942 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The series contains a scrapbook created by Esther Adelina Lasell Bamford between the years 1933-1942, reflecting her early schooling and personal interests, as well as correspondence to Esther's aunt, Adelina Ord Lasell, from various members of a branch of the Ord family living in New Zealand. The scrapbook contains newspaper clippings covering local and national news and events, songs, poems, pictures, knitting and needlecraft patterns, and recipes. Also included are copies of the local school paper, the Wainwright High School "Gusher," programs from local performances, and song and poems copied out by Bamford. The letters to Adelina Lasell are written between 1938 and 1940 by several members of the Ord family (Lasell's maiden name) living in New Zealand. The letters concern family updates and history and the death of Lasell's sister, Mary.

Physical description: 4 cm of textual records

Access points:

- Lasell, Adelina Ord (subject)
- Bamford, Esther Adelina Lasell (subject)

Arrangement:

Adelina Lasell's letters were removed from the Esther Bamford's scrapbook into a separate file for preservation purposes and to facilitate patron consultation.

File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC- ARC-1726-10-06	File - Scrapbook, 1933-1942 <u>Note:</u> Item located in Box 16.	1933-1942		
RBSC- ARC-1726-10-07	File - Adelina O. Lasell correspondence	1938-1940		