

Tomas Bartroli fonds

Compiled by Katelyn Gibson (2024)



University of British Columbia Archives



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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



The Library

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Fonds Description

Tomas Bartroli fonds. – 1957-1994.

38 cm of textual records.

Biographical Sketch

Tomas Bartroli was one of the first scholars to extensively research and write about the early Spanish presence and settlement in British Columbia. Born in Spain, he fled the country during the Spanish Civil War, spending time in an internment camp in France. Bartroli earned a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Western Ontario in 1954, and started as an instructor in Spanish at UBC in 1957 in the Department of Romance Studies. He earned his Master of Arts from UBC in 1960, and continued teaching as an Assistant Professor until retiring in 1975.

Bartroli's master's thesis focused on the early Spanish expeditions and eventual occupation of Nootka Sound, and he continued to research, write, and speak about this history throughout his career. He contributed articles to BC Historical News, and wrote and self-published several books chronicling the history of exploration on Canada's Pacific Coast. He frequently lectured at UBC events and to various organizations and historical societies across B.C., on topics relating to Spain's Northwest Coast presence, his experiences in the Spanish Civil War, and contemporary Spanish politics and culture. Bartroli was also an outspoken advocate for the development of a reconstructed fort at the site of the former Spanish occupation near Nootka Sound.

Custodial History

Material was held by Rare Books and Special Collections before being transferred to the University Archives in 2023.

Scope and Content

This fonds primarily reflects Bartroli's research interests in the early exploration and settlement of the Pacific Northwest by Spain. Research materials include annotated articles, notes, and article and book drafts on the early Spanish presence in B.C. Drafts and notes from his books and articles also involve research and writing on the early British voyages and occupations of the Northwest Coast. Notes and drafts from his research and writing on the Spanish language, as well as Sancho Panza from *Don Quixote*, are included as well.

This fonds also contains correspondence, programs, and clippings from his speaking engagements, as well as newsletters and administrative records from his time as a member of El Circulo, UBC's Spanish club.

Notes

File list available.

Acquired by transfer from Rare Books and Special Collections in December 2023.

Much of the material in the Research and Writing Material series is in Spanish. Some newsletters, programs, and correspondence in the Speaking Engagements series are in Spanish.

A file of research on Tomas Bartroli can be found in UBC's Rare Books and Special Collections [Philip J. Thomas fonds](#).

Series Descriptions

Research Material and Writing series. – 1960-1994.

34 cm of textual records.

This series consists of annotated publications, notes and notecards, and typed and handwritten drafts for books and articles. A partial copy of Bartroli's master's thesis is included, as well as his contributions to a proposal for the development of Nootka Sound as an historical site. Some book drafts and chapters do not have identifiable titles or dates.

Speaking Engagements series. – 1957-1972.

4 cm of textual records.

This series includes newsletters, programs, newspaper clippings, and flyers that promote lectures and talks Bartroli gave. He spoke for a variety of academic and community organizations on European exploration in the Pacific Northwest, the politics and culture of Spanish-speaking countries, literature, and travel. Also included are correspondence, minutes, and promotional material for UBC's Spanish club El Circulo, as Bartroli was a faculty member and frequent speaker for the club.

File List

BOX 1

RESEARCH MATERIALS AND WRITING SERIES

- 1-1 Thesis part 2, 1960
- 1-2 Origenes del Español, n.d.
- 1-3 Sancho Panza – Megalomanía, 1964
- 1-4 Sancho Panza, c. 1970
- 1-5 Sancho notes, n.d.
- 1-6 [Copies of 18th century historical documents], n.d.
- 1-7 [Spanish ship prints], n.d.
- 1-8 [Nootka Sound research material], 1978-1990
- 1-9 [Nootka Sound development project], 1964
- 1-10 Spain on the Pacific Coast of Canada and the U.S.A., 1968
- 1-11 The Spanish Presence on the North-West Coast of America in the Eighteenth Century, n.d.
- 1-12 Sex—Cook at Nootka, n.d.
- 1-13 Cook Exped Monops Draft, n.d. [2 folders]
- 1-14 Sex + Monops, n.d.
- 1-15 [Writing on John Ledyard], n.d.
- 1-16 Simon Fraser [notes], 1975-1994

- 1-17 Galiano [voyage] notes, n.d.
- 1-18 Point Grey – Noon Breakfast Point, 1994
- 1-19 First 50 pages of Santiago Voyage of 1774, n.d.
- 1-20 Voyage of the Frigate Santiago, 1993 [2 folders]
- 1-21 Captain Cook on Canada's Pacific Coast, 1978
- 1-22 [Untitled book chapters], n.d.
- 1-23 Eliza – [Untitled book chapters], n.d.
- 1-24 [Chapter drafts and copies], n.d.
- 1-25 The History of Nootka up to 1790 [Ch. 1-5], n.d.
- 1-26 The History of Nootka up to 1790 [Ch. 38-64], n.d. [2 folders]
- 1-27 [The History of Nootka chapter drafts], n.d.
- BOX 2
- 2-1 Topònims Catalans de la Costa del Nord-Oest d'Amèrica, 1992

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS SERIES

- 2-2 Lectures, 1957-1976
- 2-3 [El Circulo – UBC Spanish Club], 1957-1964
- 2-4 El Circulo, 1957-1972