

**SFU** Simon Fraser University Archives and Records  
Management Department

## Finding Aid - Allan B. Cunningham fonds (F-70)

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# Allan B. Cunningham fonds

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## Summary information

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| Repository:                               | Simon Fraser University Archives and Records Management Department |
| Title:                                    | Allan B. Cunningham fonds  |
| ID:                                       | F-70   |
| Date:                                     | 1961 - 1989 (date of creation)                                     |
| Physical description:                     | 25 cm of textual records   |
| Dates of creation, revision and deletion: |  |

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## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

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### Note

Allan Cunningham was the first head of the History Department at Simon Fraser University. He obtained his BA degree from the University of Durham, and his MA and PhD degrees from the University of London. He was a Senior Research Fellow at Oxford University, when he accepted an appointment to SFU in 1964 to set up the History Department. Cunningham was a specialist in the Middle East and Arab-Israeli relations. A fellow of the Royal Geographic Society, the Royal Historical Society, and the Turkish Historical Society, Cunningham won a Guggenheim fellowship in 1979. He also served two terms as Dean of Arts during the early years of the University.

In addition to his career as a historian, Cunningham had a distinguished record as a spitfire pilot during World War II. He was also an accomplished painter and a well-known mountaineer. The Peak of the Brothers in the Andes is named after him and his brother, Frank Cunningham, who taught in SFU's geography department.

Allan Cunningham died in January 1988.

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## Scope and content

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Fonds consists primarily of the personal and professional correspondence of Allan Cunningham and a collection of historical essays about SFU.

## Notes

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### Title notes

- Source of title proper: Title of collection based on provenance.

### Immediate source of acquisition

The fonds was donated to the Archives by Allan Cunningham's wife, Jean, and Professor Bill Cleveland. Allan Cunningham's file on Africa and the Middle East was donated in 1997 by Professor Philip Stigger. Series Two was collected after Cunningham's death by Don Baird, the University Archivist at the time.

### Arrangement

The materials were arranged by the archivist.

### Restrictions on access

Some files may contain personal or confidential information. Access to these files may be restricted as stipulated by Archives policy or the donor. Files marked 'pending review' must be reviewed by an archivist prior to release, and as a result of the review access restrictions may apply. Please see the file lists and consult the archivist for more details.

### Finding aids

Series descriptions and file lists are available.

### Related material

Consult the fonds of the Department of History, F 26 . Also consult the Simon Fraser University Archives sound collection for two cassettes of Cunningham: an oral history (100/12/1) and an interview about foreign travel (100/8/82).

### Accruals

All accessions have been processed as of September 2002. No further accruals are expected.

### Other notes

- Publication status: published
- Level of detail: Full
- Status description: Revised

## Series descriptions

### Series F-70-1: Correspondence

Date: 1961 - 1975 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of the personal and professional correspondence of Cunningham as well as miscellaneous documents apparently kept by Cunningham for their historical value in depicting the early years at SFU. Documents relate to such topics as the opening of the University, administrative and teaching matters, student protests, and the Friends of SFU (a U.S.-based fund-raising organization).

Physical description: 14 cm of textual records

#### File / item list

| Ref code      | Title                         | Dates       | Access status      | Container |
|---------------|-------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-----------|
| F-70-1-0-0-1  | File - Correspondence         | 1961 - 1964 | Open               | 70-1      |
| F-70-1-0-0-2  | File - Correspondence         | 1965        | Open               | 70-1      |
| F-70-1-0-0-3  | File - Correspondence         | 1965        | Open               | 70-1      |
| F-70-1-0-0-4  | File - Correspondence         | 1965        | Restricted in part | 70-1      |
| F-70-1-0-0-5  | File - Correspondence         | 1966        | Restricted in part | 70-1      |
| F-70-1-0-0-6  | File - Correspondence         | 1966        | Open               | 70-1      |
| F-70-1-0-0-7  | File - Correspondence         | 1967        | Restricted in part | 70-1      |
| F-70-1-0-0-8  | File - Correspondence         | 1967        | Restricted in part | 70-1      |
| F-70-1-0-0-9  | File - Correspondence         | 1968        | Restricted in part | 70-1      |
| F-70-1-0-0-10 | File - Correspondence         | 1969        | Open               | 70-1      |
| F-70-1-0-0-11 | File - African Studies        | 1963 - 1973 | Open               | 70-1      |
| F-70-1-0-0-12 | File - Opening Ceremonies     | 1965        | Open               | 70-1      |
| F-70-1-0-0-13 | File - General Correspondence | 1965 - 1968 | Open               | 70-1      |
| F-70-1-0-0-14 | File - Friends of SFU         | 1968        | Open               | 70-2      |
| F-70-1-0-0-15 | File - Art Gallery            | 1974 - 1975 | Open               | 70-2      |

### Series F-70-2: SFU Historical Essays

Date: 1985 - 1989 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Cunningham asked several early faculty and other members of the SFU community to write down their recollections of the early years of the University. He had hoped that the University would produce a collection of essays to mark its 20th Anniversary. On the advice of an anonymous referee, the University decided against publishing the work. Cunningham considered other ways of producing the volume, but died before he could complete the project.

Series includes rough drafts and final drafts of essays selected for the volume by Cunningham. Essays are listed by individual author. Series also includes correspondence about the project, essays not selected for the proposed volume (submissions by

Cunningham, G. Bursill-Hall, T. Finlayson, M. Gibbons, E. Harden, A. Hean, D. Roberts, W. Vidauer, and L. Wilson), and a collection of historical essays by Archie MacKinnon.

Physical description: 12 cm of textual records

Note:

All of the files in this series date from the 1980s, but the exact date of most of them (files 2-22) is not known.

File / item list

| Ref code      | Title  | Dates       | Access status | Container |
|---------------|--|-------------|---------------|-----------|
| F-70-2-0-0-1  | File - Correspondence  | 1985 - 1989 | Open          | 70-2      |
| F-70-2-0-0-2  | File - Early drafts  | 1985        | Open          | 70-2      |
| F-70-2-0-0-3  | File - I. Arthur Erickson, Designing Simon Fraser University   | 1985        | Open          | 70-2      |
| F-70-2-0-0-4  | File - II. Mel Linden, Fond Remembrance  | 1985        | Open          | 70-2      |
| F-70-2-0-0-5  | File - III Ron Baker, The Beginning  | 1985        | Open          | 70-2      |
| F-70-2-0-0-6  | File - IV. Allan Cunningham, For Richer, For Poorer  | 1985        | Open          | 70-2      |
| F-70-2-0-0-7  | File - V. Marilyn Cairns, A Strong Sense of Duty   | 1985        | Open          | 70-2      |
| F-70-2-0-0-8  | File - VI. Thomas J. Mallinson, Brave New University   | 1985        | Open          | 70-2      |
| F-70-2-0-0-9  | File - VII Sandy Dawson, The Origins of the Professional Development Program                               | 1985        | Open          | 70-2      |
| F-70-2-0-0-10 | File - VIII. Marg Sawyer, Unlikely Trail   | 1985        | Open          | 70-2      |
| F-70-2-0-0-11 | File - IX. Gordon Elliott, An Eye-hole in the Frosted Windowpane   | 1985        | Open          | 70-2      |
| F-70-2-0-0-12 | File - X. L. Johanne Stemo, The Lemondae Brigade   | 1985        | Open          | 70-2      |
| F-70-2-0-0-13 | File - XI. Heribert Adam, The Teaching of Political Literacy at SFU  | 1985        | Open          | 70-2      |
| F-70-2-0-0-14 | File - XII. Gregg Macdonald, Man in a Trenchcoat   | 1985        | Open          | 70-2      |
| F-70-2-0-0-15 | File - XIII. Richard Lester, A View from the Board   | 1985        | Open          | 70-2      |
| F-70-2-0-0-16 | File - XIV. Marg Sawyer, Search Committee  | 1985        | Open          | 70-2      |
| F-70-2-0-0-17 | File - XV. Frances Frazer, Jack Worthing on Burnaby Mountain   | 1985        | Open          | 70-2      |
| F-70-2-0-0-18 | File - XVI. Klaus E. Rieckhoff, On Trying to be Responsible and Responsive: A Physicist's Liaison with SFU | 1985        | Open          | 70-2      |
| F-70-2-0-0-19 | File - XVII. J.M. Sandison, That Two-Handed Engine   | 1985        | Open          | 70-2      |

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|---------------|--|------|------|------|
| F-70-2-0-0-20 | File - XVIII. Fulton Fisher, Change: Adaptive or Destructive? A Plea for Principles                    | 1985 | Open | 70-2 |
| F-70-2-0-0-21 | File - XIX. Ian Mugridge, Distance Education in the 1980s: A Personal View                             | 1985 | Open | 70-2 |
| F-70-2-0-0-22 | File - Submissions not included in final draft   | 1985 | Open | 70-2 |
| F-70-2-0-0-23 | File - An Adventure of Ideas: Reflections on the Beginnings of Simon Fraser University, A.R. MacKinnon | 1989 | Open | 70-2 |