

# McGill University Archives

## McGill University, Montreal Canada



MG4273  
Jeremy Walker Fonds  
Accession 2009-0005

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## **Jeremy Walker fonds**

Accession 2009-0005

### **1911- 2006**

3 m of textual records

220 photographs

### **Biographical Sketch**

Jeremy Desmond Bromhead Walker was born in Magwan Porth, Cornwall, England in 1936. His father, Colonel James Gerald Bromhead Walker, was an officer in the British Army in India and his mother was Sylvia Patricia Pollard Lowsley. Jeremy was educated at the King's School in Canterbury, the Dragon School and Trinity College, Oxford. His only sibling was his brother, Antony Jeremy Bromhead Walker. After graduating from Oxford with an M A (Oxon) in 1964, Jeremy taught at Leicester University. In 1965 he published his first major academic work on the German mathematician and logician Gottlob Frige. He came to McGill University as an assistant professor in 1966. In 1969 he became an associate professor and a full professor in 1985. Although he spent the bulk of his academic career at McGill, he was also a visiting lecturer at the University of Minnesota (Minneapolis) in 1968 and a visiting lecturer at Sir George Williams University (now Concordia University) in Montreal from 1971-1973. Walker taught courses chiefly on moral philosophy or meta-ethics, often including links to society, politics, and religion. He also taught political philosophy, including Marxian and post-Marxian theories, philosophy of literature with emphasis on Jane Austen, Dostoyevsky and children's literature and the philosophy of psychology stressing the British School of Psychoanalysis. He took early retirement from McGill in 1992 but continued to live in Montreal thereafter.

Walker viewed himself first and foremost as a mentor, seeking to encourage students to reflect upon their lives. He valued quite highly the personal contact with students, both in formal classroom and in informal settings. He published three books on the Danish philosopher Soren Kierkegaard as well as many articles and book reviews. He was also a published poet. After his retirement from McGill, he continued to work on a variety of projects and produced a number of unpublished manuscripts.

He was married to Catherine Hilliard (nee Forster) and Louise Leahy (nee Kohl) and had two children, Lucy Fisher and Adam Walker. He fell ill to cancer in 2004 and died in 2008.

### **Custodial History**

This material was acquired from the Estate of Jeremy Walker shortly following his death through contacts via the literary executors.

### **Scope and Content**

The fonds contains chiefly the writings of Jeremy Walker on a variety of issues in moral philosophy and related literary topics. These writings, including anthologies, drafts of books and lecture notes, demonstrate the range of his eclectic interests from his formal studies of Kierkegaard and moral philosophy to his more personal intellectual pursuits concerning the

literature of Kipling, Jane Austen, and Dostoyevsky, as well as the poetry of Woodsworth and reflections on Englishness. There are also examples of his published and unpublished poetry.

His more personal writings are in diaries that cover more than 20 years of his adult life and in contrast to his erudite writings on grand philosophical topics reflect his feelings and at times his dreams, on the state of his health, relationships with women, and recount the day-to day events of urban travel and socializing.

His personal and family relationships are reflected by correspondence with family, friends and students, photo albums of travels to England and Greece, travel diaries document his summer activities from 1947 -1950, including lists of books read, drawings and photographs. As well, in a file titled *Personalia* (3) *Apologiai* Walker provides some personal chronologies, and reflects upon his writings and his life.

**Source of Title Proper:** Title based on contents of the fonds.

**Language:** Material in English.

**Restrictions on Access:** Open

**Provenance:** Walker, Jeremy, 1936-2008

February 12, 2009

## Jeremy Walker Fonds      Accession 2009-0005

unit number	title	date(s)	notes
textual records			
.01.01. – 01.36	Diaries	1984-2006	
.01.01.37	The Little One's Baby's Record		
.01.38 - .01.41	Summer Holiday [Diaries]	1947-1950	
.01.42	[Poetry]		
.01.43 (2 files)	Out of My Mind: A Book about Books (Part 1)		
.01.44 (4 files)	English Prophetic: An Anthology		
.01.45 (5 files)	Morality and Moral Philosophy: An Anthology		
.01.46	6 Sister Friend (1968)	1968	
.01.47	1 Country Poems (1957-1958)	1957-1958	
.01.48	6 Sister Friend (1968)	1968	
.01.49 (4 files)	Some poems		
.01.50	Summer 1980	1980	
.01.51 (6 files)	Notes for a book (1990's)	[199-]	
.01.52 (2 files)	Englishness and England: A family and a few of the paradigms by an Englishman		
.01.53 (2 files)	Essays in Morality, Religion and Literature		
.01.54	[Notes]		
.01.55 (3 files)	Notes for Seminars on Literature and Philosophy		
.01.56 (3 files)	Moral Philosophy I Notes for a book		
.01.57 (2 files)	Butterfly Dreaming		
.01.58 (2 files)	Through Wonder to Wisdom (Anthologies and Questions)		
.01.59 (2 files)	Essays on Compassion and Love		
.01.60	Poems (1957-1987)	1957-1987	
.01.61 (3 files)	A Book on Books: Moral Philosophy in the Present Age		
.01.62 (4 files)	Essays (1985-1994) (Copy A)	1985-1994	
.01.63 (2 files)	[Notes on Wilfred R. Bion]		
.01.64	Dates:1825-1919		
.01.65 (2 files)	My Work		
.01.66	Plato on the Poets (translation)		
.01.67 (2 files)	On Philosophy: An Anthology		
.01.68	Trying to Understand Winnicott: Five Circular Essays		
.01.69 (2 files)	Notes on Epistemic		

unit number	title	date(s)	notes
	Language		
.01.70 (2 files)	Ave Atque Vale: A Self Accounting		
.01.71 (2 files)	On Philosophy, Meaning, Knowledge, Truth (an anthology)		
.01.72 (2 files)	Dostoyevsky Notes		
.01.73 (2 files)	Woodsworth The Sublime: A Thesaurus Anthology	1997	
.01.74	Moral Novelists – Richardson, George Eliot, Conrad, Forster		
.01.75	Dickens Notes August 2003 – January 2004	2003- 2004	
.01.76	2 Moonstruck Mid Victorians – Lear and Arnold: A Fantasy in 5 Movements	1997	
.01.77	Notes (mostly 1970's and 1980's)	circa 1970- circa 1989	
.01.78	Mystery, Poetry and the Divine: Chapters for the Book 2004-2005	2004-2005	
.01.79	Conservation, Friendship, Joy		
.01.80	Plato Philomousos: Plato on the Poets, the City and the Good		
.01.81 to .01.143	[Manuscripts]		
.01.144 (4 files)	Materials for My Book (Vol. 2)		
.01.145 (2 files)	Selected Poems, 1957-1984	1957-1984	
.01.146 (2 files)	Kipling's Dreams, 1996-1997	1996-1997	
.01.147 (2 files)	An Anthology on Books: Writing and Reading, Thinking, Learning and Teaching		
.01.148	From First Things	1972	
.01.149	First Things	1972	
.01.150 (2 files)	An Essay on Jane Austen (1983)	1983	
.01.151 (2 files)	Collected Essays Volume 1 Jane Austen's Moral World		
.01.152 (3 files)	Primary Poetic Images in European Poetry		
.01.153 (3 files)	Verbal Landscapes of A Poetic Mind - Woodsworth	1997-1998	
.01.154 (3 files)	Morality, Religion, Philosophy: An Anthology		
.01.155 (2 files)	A Dreaming Book	2001	
.01.156	[Correspondence]	1972-1991	
.01.157	[Correspondence]	1982-1990	
.01.158 (3 files)	[Correspondence]	1974-1989	
.01.159	[Correspondence]	1992-2004	
.01.160	[Correspondence]	1976-1990	
.01.161	[Correspondence]	1988-1991	

unit number	title	date(s)	notes
.01.162	Judy Doyle	1999-2001	
.01.163	Louise [Kohl]	1976-1990	
.01.164	Kathleen [Hulser]	1988-1990	
.01.165	[Alumni Correspondence]		
.01.166	My Private Numbers	Circa 1985	
.01.167	Astral Portrait	1988	
.01.168	Personalia (3) Apologiai		
printed matter			
.02.01	Articles	1967-1983	
.02.02.01	The Cantuarian	1954	
.02.02.02	Poetry: An Apocalypse with Figures	1974	
.02.03.1	Kierkegaard's Sighe by Jeremy Walker	1986	
.02.03.2	To Will One Thing: Reflections on Kierkegaard's Purity	1972	
	Of Heart by Jeremy Walker		
.02.04	A Study of Frege by Jeremy Walker	1965	
.02.05	Kierkegaard: The Descent into God by Jeremy Walker	1985	
.02.06	Poems 1951	1951	
.02.07	The Weird Fountain by Gerald Bromhead Walker	1975	
.02.08	Letter in a Bottle by Gerald Bromhead Walker	1953	
photographic materials			
.04.01	Trip to Greece	1957	
.04.02	The Tao II – Poverty, Labour, Oppression (1515 to 1914): An Anthology		
.04.03	Photo Replay	1974-1991	
.04.04	Mawgan Porth, Cornwall	1977	
.04.05 (3 files)	Jeremy England	1911-1972	
Objects			
.11.1	Dragon School Tie		
.11.2	King's School Tie		
.11.3	Tie		