

# University of Victoria Special Collections and University Archives

## Finding Aid - W. S. Graham fonds (SC135)

---

Generated by Access to Memory (AtoM) 2.4.0 Printed: January 04, 2019

Language of description: English

University of Victoria Special Collections and University Archives

Special Collections & University Archives

University of Victoria

PO Box 1800 STN CSC

Victoria

BC

Canada

V8W 3H5

Telephone: 250-721-8257

Fax: 250-721-8215

Email: [archives@uvic.ca](mailto:archives@uvic.ca) ; [speccoll@uvic.ca](mailto:speccoll@uvic.ca)

<https://www.uvic.ca/library/locations/home/archives/index.php> ; <https://www.uvic.ca/library/locations/home/spcoll/index.php>

<https://uvic2.coppul.archivematica.org//index.php/w-s-graham-fonds>

# W. S. Graham fonds

---

## Table of contents

---

Summary information .....	3
Administrative history / Biographical sketch .....	3
Scope and content .....	3
Notes .....	4
Access points .....	4
Series descriptions .....	4
SC135-1997-027, Poetry, "The Nightfishing", 1950-1955 .....	4
SC135-1997-029, Artwork, Portrait, 1973 .....	4
SC135-1997-040, Correspondence, Poetry, Notebooks, Artwork, 1949-1994 .....	5

## Summary information

---

**Repository:** University of Victoria Special Collections and University Archives

**Title:** W. S. Graham fonds

**ID:** SC135

**Date:** 1949 - 1994 (date of creation)

**Physical description:** 35 cm of textual records and other material

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

---

## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

---

### Note

W. S. Graham was born in Greenock, Scotland. He was generally known as Sydney to his friends, but occasionally used the name "Jock". He began his working career as a journeyman engineer before becoming a full-time poet. He married Nessie Dunsmuir in 1954. Among his most important works are "Cage Without Grievance" (1942); "The Nightfishing" (1955); and "Implements In Their Places" (1977). He died in Cornwall, where he had resided for many years.

---

## Scope and content

---

The fonds consists primarily of typescript from "The Nightfishing" used for a radio broadcast; poetry worksheets for "Implements In Their Places", "Malcolm Mooney's Land", and "The Nightfishing"; correspondence with Crieff Williamson and Robin Skelton; and four notebooks, together with Robin Skelton's research notes. Also included is a typescript of "Aimed At Nobody", which was published posthumously, together with related publishing documents and correspondence. The final items are two folders of Graham's artwork and a silk screen portrait of Graham by William Featherston.

## Notes

---

### Title notes

### Finding aids

File list available.

### Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
- **Description identifier:** w-s-graham-fonds-2
- **Physical description:** Includes 22 photographs; 11 drawings.

## Access points

---

- Williamson, Moncrieff (subject)
- Skelton, Robin, 1925-1997 (subject)
- English literature--20th century (subject)
- English poetry--20th century (subject)

## Series descriptions

---

### Series SC135-1997-027: Poetry, "The Nightfishing"

Date: 1950-1955 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The accrual consists mostly of extracts from "The Nightfishing" used for a poetry reading on the radio.

Physical description: 1 file.

Publication status:

Published

#### File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
SC135-1997-027-1.1	File - Extracts from "The Nightfishing"	1950-1955		

### Series SC135-1997-029: Artwork, Portrait

Date: 1973 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The accrual consists of a head and shoulder silk screen portrait of W.S. Graham by William Featherston.

Physical description: 1 OS folder.

Publication status:

Published

**File / item list**

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
SC135-1997-029-OS	Item - Silk screen portrait of W.S. Graham by William Featherston	1973		

**Series SC135-1997-040: Correspondence, Poetry, Notebooks, Artwork**

Date: 1949-1994 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The accrual consists of correspondence files, poetry worksheets, notebooks, and artworks.

Physical description: 1 box, 1 OS box.

Publication status:

Published

**File / item list**

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
SC135-1997-040-1.2	File - Correspondence to Crieff Williamson	1949-1994		
SC135-1997-040-1.3	File - Correspondence to Robin Skelton	1955-1994		
SC135-1997-040-1.4	File - Correspondence to Robin Skelton	1959		
SC135-1997-040-1.5	File - Correspondence to Robin Skelton	1967-1968		
SC135-1997-040-1.6	File - Correspondence to Robin Skelton	1970-1971		
SC135-1997-040-1.7	File - Correspondence to Robin Skelton	1972		
SC135-1997-040-1.8	File - Correspondence to Robin Skelton	1973		
SC135-1997-040-1.9	File - Correspondence to Robin Skelton	1974		
SC135-1997-040-1.10	File - Correspondence to Robin Skelton	1975-1978		
SC135-1997-040-1.11	File - Correspondence to Robin Skelton	1968-1975		
SC135-1997-040-1.12	File - Photographs of W.S. Graham			
SC135-1997-040-1.13	File - Unsorted	1970-1984		
SC135-1997-040-1.14	File - Correspondence to Robin Skelton	1992-1993		
SC135-1997-040-1.15	File - Correspondence from Robin Skelton	1992-1996		

SC135-1997-040-1.16	File - "Implements in Their Places", Poetry Worksheets	1970-1976
SC135-1997-040-1.17	File - "Implements in Their Places", Poetry Worksheets	1969-1971
SC135-1997-040-1.18	File - "Implements in Their Places", Poetry Worksheets	1958-1970
SC135-1997-040-1.19	File - Unpublished Poems, Worksheets	1955-1975
SC135-1997-040-1.20	File - "Malcolm Mooney's Land", Poetry Worksheets	1958-1970
SC135-1997-040-1.21	File - "Malcolm Mooney's Land", Poetry Worksheets	1960-1969
SC135-1997-040-1.22	File - "The Nightfishing", Poetry Worksheets	
SC135-1997-040-1.23	File - Correspondence re Submissions to "The Malahat Review"	1975-1980
SC135-1997-040-1.24	File - "DEOSIC/Dawnwind", Poetry Worksheets	1952
SC135-1997-040-1.25	File - "Aimed at Nobody", Poetry Worksheets	1991-1992
SC135-1997-040-1.26	File - "Aimed at Nobody", Poetry Worksheets	1977-1989
SC135-1997-040-1.27	File - "Aimed at Nobody", Poetry Worksheets	
SC135-1997-040-1.28	File - Miscellaneous Items	1957-1975
SC135-1997-040-1.29	Item - Notebook 1	1954
SC135-1997-040-1.30	Item - Notebook 2	1955
SC135-1997-040-1.31	Item - Notebook 3	1964-1967
SC135-1997-040-1.32	Item - Notebook 4	1967-1971
SC135-1997-040-1.33	File - Robin Skelton's Research Notes on W.S. Graham	1972-1973
SC135-1997-040-1.34	File - Folder of Miscellaneous Artwork	
SC135-1997-040-OS	File - Artwork	