



TRENT UNIVERSITY
ARCHIVES NEWS

Number 22, June 2007



CREATING THE FABRIC OF A UNIVERSITY

A university is a privileged place in so many ways. People who love to learn and to help further goals and aspirations in the name of education are drawn to such institutions. Trent University is no exception; we too have benefited in an untold number of ways from the activities of committed people who believe in what we do and who have found important ways to support our mission. Two such people are Mary Northway and Michael Treadwell and we have recognized their contribution by naming two areas in our department in their honour.

The Michael Treadwell Special Collections and Rare Book Room

Michael Treadwell (1942-1999) was known at Trent for his love of rare books. A professor, administrator, and bibliophile, Michael supported the library's efforts to acquire rare and valuable books related to the teaching programs of the University. In conjunction with the move of Special Collections and Rare Books to an area in the Library adjacent to the Archives, the newly acquired room was named in 2007 in honour of the man who was so closely associated with the creation of the collection. This room is equipped with environmental controls and is used exclusively by scholars researching the University's published rare or special print materials.



The Northway Reading Room

Named in honour of Mary Northway (1909-1987) and her father, Garfield Northway (1881-1960), the Northway Reading Room provides a quiet supervised study space for the examination of archival documents. The room was named in 1994 at a ceremony held in the Bata Library. A friend of the Archives, Mary died in 1987, leaving to Trent University a major bequest which provides permanent support for a number of areas in the University, including the Archives.

Mary Northway

“One day Alan [Wilson] called at our house in the city and told us (after swearing us to secrecy) that he was going to join the staff at the new Trent University. Would we come down to see it? So, we have known Trent since it was a field of mud.”

Mary Northway in *Echoes and Reflections of Flora M. Morrison, 1912-1981*, 1984.

As the above quotation establishes, Dr. Mary Northway was associated with Trent before it even existed! Mary received a Ph.D. from the University of Toronto in 1938 and taught psychology there until 1968. She earned international recognition as a pioneer in the field of Sociometry, and along with a friend, Flora Morrison, co-directed a girls' camp, Windy Pine Point, which is a beautiful property now owned by Trent and which Mary envisioned being used for gatherings of students and faculty involved in Canadian Studies. Mary was active in the Ontario Camping Association and donated her papers reflecting this involvement to the Archives. The Archives also received the papers of the family business, Northway Company Limited, of which Mary was president from 1950 to 1963. Mary was the recipient of many honours including Fellow of the Canadian Psychological Association, honorary Life Member of the Ontario Camping Association, and honorary Doctor of Letters from Trent University.

In 1970, Mary Northway presented Trent University Archives with the Northway papers. Mary is pictured here with her friend, Flora Morrison, and University Librarian, Jack Martin.



Pictured on the right is the Northway Reading Room, named in honour of Mary and her father in 1994.



Mary Northway received an honorary Doctor of Letters at Trent University's spring convocation in 1979. Pictured below with Mary is University Registrar A.O.C. Cole.



Michael Treadwell



“Whether it was taking on the position of Chief Librarian at short notice or assisting in a book sale for the Friends of the Bata Library, as he did on his last afternoon, Michael was always willing to roll up his sleeves and join in the work that needed to be done.”

Fred Tromly in *Michael Treadwell: Tributes*, 2000.

Men and oversaw Trent’s athletic program. He became a don at Peter Robinson College in 1966, and held several administrative positions at Trent throughout his career: English Department Chair (1976-1985), JBC Director and Associate Dean of Arts and Science (1985-1988), and Acting Vice-President, University Services (1989-1990).

Michael Treadwell held many positions at Trent University. He arrived at the newly opened institution in 1964 and taught in the English department. He was soon appointed Assistant to the Dean of



Michael Treadwell at a meeting in the Senior Common Room, Rubidge Hall, 26 June 1964

Left to right:

R.H. Sadleir (Dean of Men)

E.J. Schonleber (Philosophy Professor)

S.G.D. Smith (Assistant to the President)

J.D.P. Martin (Librarian)

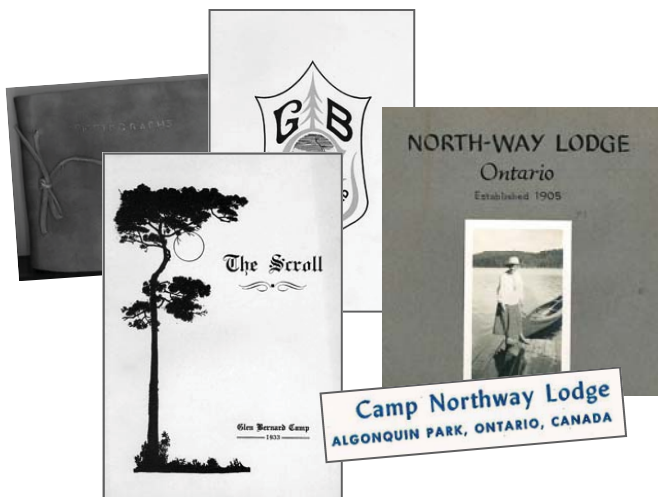
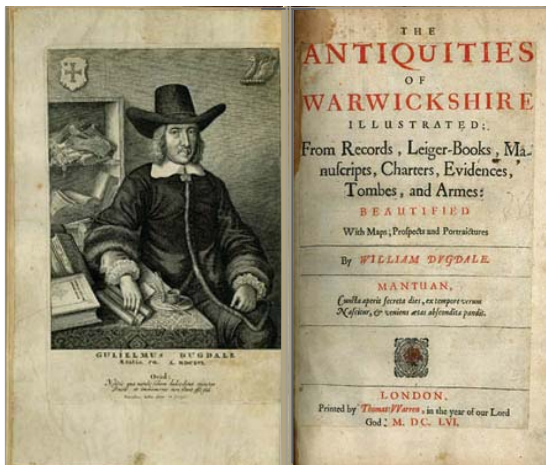
J. Anderson (Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds)

J.M. Treadwell (Assistant to the Dean of Men)

J.I. Lodge (Physics Professor)



As an active member of the Friends of the Bata Library, **Michael Treadwell** was always looking for rare editions to add to Trent's Special Collections. He would occasionally return from his trips to England with a newly acquired 17th century antiquities volume in hand, such as the 1656 volume of *Dugdale's Warwickshire*, pictured on the right. He was especially interested in the history of the printed book, and Special Collections houses many fine examples of books predating 1800 that Michael was instrumental in acquiring.



Mary Northway was involved in arranging for Trent University Archives to become the official depository for records of the Ontario Camping Association. She supported the deposit of materials herself by donating photographs, letters and brochures relating to Camps Northway and Glen Bernard, and Windy Pine Point. Mary believed in the value of Canadian summer camping and tripping and served on several camping committees at both the provincial and national levels.

Newsletter Editor: Jodi Aoki, M.A.

Hours of Operation:

Monday to Friday - 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Please make an appointment to ensure access. We are located on the first floor of Bata Library.

TRENT UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES THOMAS J. BATA LIBRARY PETERBOROUGH, ON CANADA K9J 7B8
 Telephone: (705)748-1011x1413 fax: (705)748-1126 email: archives@trentu.ca
 Visit our web site: <http://www.trentu.ca/library/archives>