



## MG 81 – R.S. Ridgway fonds

**Dates:** 1938-2000 (inclusive) ; 1943-1985 (predominant)

**Extent:** 1.95 m of textual records, 69 photographs, memorabilia.

**Biography:** Ronald Sidney Ridgway was born on April 17, 1923 in Cannock, Staffordshire, England. He began studies at Sheffield University in 1941. He became a member of the University Air Squadron, enlisted and was mobilized in May 1942. Following initial training in England, Ridgway was posted for training as Observer to Canada. He was commissioned in 1943 and served in India, Burma (Myanmar), and Ceylon (Sri Lanka). He was promoted to Flight Lieutenant in July 1945 and released from active duty in August 1946. Following his return, Ridgway earned a BA from Sheffield University in 1948. He immigrated to Canada in 1951, where he earned an MA from the University of Manitoba (1953). He first joined the University of Saskatchewan as an instructor in French in July 1953. Ridgway earned a Docteur de l'Université from Université d'Aix-Marseille in 1958. He served as Head of the Department of French and Spanish from 1965 to 1976 and served as acting head of Germanic Languages in 1973. The high regard in which Ridgway was held by his peers is evident both in the reviews of his scholarly work and in the numerous university committees on which he was asked to serve. Ridgway was awarded Professor Emeritus status upon his early retirement from the University in 1985. Ridgway died in Saskatoon in December 2002.

**Scope and Content:** This fonds consists of material relating to Ridgway's military service, his scholarly research concerning the work of Voltaire and Chamfort particularly, his career with the University of Saskatchewan, and his work on internal university committees, professional associations, external agencies (such as CUSO and the Saskatoon Symphony Board), as well as materials relating to his classes and lectures.

**Arrangement:** The fonds has been arranged into three series: Personal, Research and Scholarly Writing, and University of Saskatchewan.

**Restrictions:** Personal information relating to faculty, staff, or students is restricted. Files marked **RESTRICTED** require vetting by the archivist before release. Use, publication, and/or reproduction of records are subject to the terms and conditions of the *Copyright Act*. Copyright on all published and unpublished manuscripts is retained by R.S. Ridgway under the terms of the *Copyright Act*.

**Notes:** Accn 1114-099. Additional material received in 2001 is unprocessed and not fully listed in this finding aid.

*Updated for formatting by Bonnie Dahl, 2020.*

**Box 1****I. Personal series. – 1938-2000. – 20 cm of textual records, 69 photographs, memorabilia.**

This series consists of material documenting Ridgway's early and post-secondary schooling, his career, and his pre- and post-war service with the RAF and RCAF.

**A. General. – 1938-1985, 1995-1999.**

1. Academic. – 1938-1958. – 2 photographs.  
Includes diplomas and certificates, correspondence concerning awards, transcripts.
2. Biographical. – 1955.
3. Brandon College Institute. – 1953.  
Copy of yearbook, *The New Era*. Ridgway taught at Brandon while working on his Master's degree.
4. Correspondence – Other Universities. – 1963-1976.  
Primarily offers of appointments.
5. Correspondence – Publications. – 1972-1984.  
See also Research and Scholarly Writing series for correspondence concerning publication of specific articles and manuscripts.
6. Correspondence – University of Saskatchewan. – 1955-1985.
7. Correspondence – Wolper, Ray. – 1968-1971.
8. Letters of Recommendation. – 1948-1949.
9. Memorabilia. – n.d.  
Convocation mortarboard and hood.
10. Public Lending Right. – 1995-1999.  
Records of Ridgway's earnings summaries.

**B. World War Two Service. – 1942-2000.**

1. *Battles Long Ago*. – 1987 – 2 folders.  
Cerlox-bound and hard-bound copies of Ridgway's memoirs of his service during World War Two.
2. Diary. – 1942-1943.
3. 5<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Wartime Aircrew Reunion. – 1986-1988.  
Includes newsletters and a programme.

4. Log Book. – 1943-1946.  
Original flying log book listing Ridgway's flying dates, times, aircraft, pilot, duty, action, and accumulated flying time.
5. *The Means of Victory*. – 1992.
6. Photographs, Documents, Maps. – n.d. – 62 photographs. – 2 folders.  
Scrapbook containing memorabilia, maps, photographs. A second folder contains photocopied duplicates.
7. RAF/RCAF. – 1956-1998.  
Includes certificate of appointment as an officer in the RCAF. Also, correspondence and clippings regarding the 108 University Squadron.
8. RAF/RCAF – Index Cards. – n.d.  
Data compiled for *Battles Long Ago*.
9. RAF/RCAF - 108 University Squadron. – 1964. – 5 photographs. – **RESTRICTED**.  
Includes group photographs with identified individuals. Personal information relating to individuals is restricted, all other material in the file is open.
10. *The Friendly Firm Remembers: Stories by the members of the 194 Squadron RAF in South East Asia*. – 2000.

## II. Research and Scholarly Writing series. – 1952-1992. – 40.64 cm of textual records.

This series contains articles, manuscripts, transcripts of talks and addresses as well as research notes and reference articles. This series also includes copies of Ridgway's graduate theses, both of which were published. See also file I.B.1 "Battles Long Ago" for a copy of Ridgway's book concerning his experiences while on active service during World War Two.

### A. Articles. – 1959-1992.

1. "Camus's Favourite Moralism". – 1979-1981.  
Offprint, correspondence, reviewer's report, drafts.
  2. "Chamfort: Enlightenment and Revolution." – n.d.  
Drafts.
- Box 2**
3. "Chamfort's *La Jeune Indienne*: The Moralism as Playwright." – n.d.  
Offprints, handwritten and typescript drafts.
  4. "Chamfort: Voltairean 'Child of Rousseau'." – 1984.  
Offprint, drafts, reference articles.

5. "Chamfort: Voltairean 'Child of Rousseau'" - Short. – n.d.  
Abridged version, draft.
  6. *New Grove Dictionary of Opera* - "Voltaire". – 1989-1992.  
Correspondence, reviews, photocopy of article.
  7. "A New Look at Voltaire." - n.d.  
Handwritten draft.
  8. "Voltaire and Tragedy." – 1959-1962.  
Offprint, draft, correspondence.
  9. "Voltaire as an Actor." - 1967-1968.  
Offprint, correspondence, handwritten and typescript drafts.
  10. "Voltaire's Operas." - 1979-1980.  
Offprint, draft.
  11. "Voltaire's Philosophische Tragdöien." – 1980.  
Offprint.
  12. "Voltaireian bel canto: operative adaptations of Voltaire's tragedies." – 1986.  
Offprint, draft.
- B. Books. – 1953-1977.
1. *La Propagande Philosophique dans les Tragedies de Voltaire.* – 1958. – 3 folders.  
Ridgway's PhD dissertation from the Université d'Aix-Marseille.
- Box 3**
2. *La Propagande Philosophique dans les Tragedies de Voltaire* - Correspondence. – 1959-1961.  
Correspondence.
  3. *Les Tragédies de Voltaire et sa Théorie Dramatique.* – 1953.  
Ridgway's MA thesis from the University of Manitoba.
  4. *Voltaire and Sensibility* - Binder's Set. – 1973.
  5. *Voltaire and Sensibility* - Correspondence. – 1970-1977.  
Reader's notes, publicity materials, correspondence.
  6. *Voltaire and Sensibility* - Definitive MSS. – n.d. – 2 folders.
  7. *Voltaire and Sensibility* - Handwritten Draft. – n.d.

8. *Voltaire and Sensibility* - "The Sentimental Iconoclast." – n.d.  
Early version of two chapters only. Includes reader's comments.
- C. Book Reviews. – 1960-1976.
1. Book Reviews. – [ca. 1960-1976].
  2. Book Reviews - Drafts. – n.d.
  3. Report on *The Idea of Art as Propaganda in France, 1750-99*. – 1961.
  4. Review of Besterman's *Voltaire*. – n.d.
  5. Reviews of R.S. Ridgway's Books. – 1962-1975.
- Box 4**
- D. Compilations. – 1987.
1. "Anthology." – 1987.  
Quotations from various authors (and others) on the individual, the sexes, society, knowledge, art, humour, and the human condition.
  2. "Howlers." – [198-?].  
Unfortunate translations and definitions given by students on exams.
- E. Radio Talks. – 1952-1979.
1. Radio Talks, Etc. – 1952-1974.  
Includes 'Wycherley, Congreve and Molière's "Misanthrope",' 'Voltaire as a Writer of Tragedies,' and 'A New Look at Voltaire.'
  2. 'What is a Classic?' – 1979.  
Copy of Ridgway's contribution to this radio series on *Candide*.
- F. Research. – n.d.
1. Chamfort. – n.d. – 2 folders.  
Various reference articles.
  2. Chamfort – Index Cards. – n.d.
  3. Voltaire. – n.d.  
Reference articles and notes.
  4. Voltaire - Index Cards. – n.d.

5. *Voltaire and Sensibility*. – n.d.  
Handwritten notes.
6. *Voltaire and Sensibility - Enlightenment and Sensibility*. – n.d.  
Three notebooks.
7. *Voltaire and Sensibility - Index Cards*. – n.d.
8. The Voltaire Operas. – n.d.  
Notes and articles.
9. Voltaire's Operas. – n.d. – 3 folders.  
Notes and articles.
10. Voltaire's Operas – Index Cards. – n.d.
11. Voltaire's Tragedies. – n.d. – 3 folders.

**Box 5****III. University of Saskatchewan series. – 1954-1994. – 113.6 cm of textual records.**

This series contains materials relating to Ridgway's career with the University of Saskatchewan, including his participation in University committees, his participation with specific conferences (particularly the Learned Societies Conference held at the University in 1979), his work with professional associations and external organizations, as well as his lecture materials. The student evaluation files found within this series are student assessments of Ridgway's teaching. The files relating to committee work may supplement but do not duplicate other holdings in the University Archives.

- A. Committees, Conferences, and Associations. – 1954-1994.
  1. Appointments Committee. – [ca. 1969]. – **RESTRICTED**.  
Recommendations concerning the Heads of History and English. See also file III.A.35. "Headship of the English Department."
  2. Arts and Science Policy Committee. – 1966.
  3. Association des Professeurs de Français des Universités Canadiens (APFUC). – 1962-1981.  
Newsletters and correspondence.
  4. Canadian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. – 1977-1981.  
Newsletters.
  5. Canada Council Reports. – 1969.  
Copies of "Growth and Characteristics of University Teaching Staff in the Social Sciences and Humanities, 1956-57 to 1967-68," and "The Canada Council Program of Research

Grants: An Analysis for 1965-66 to 1968-69.”

6. Canadian University Service Overseas (CUSO) - Local Committee Meetings. – 1964-1965. – **RESTRICTED**.  
Ridgway was named chairman of the first CUSO committee at the University in January 1962. CUSO was established in the summer of 1961.
  7. Ceremonial Functions Committee. – 1975-1976.
  8. College Planning Committee. – 1977-1981.
  9. College Review Committee. – 1973-1975. – 2 folders. – **RESTRICTED**.
  10. College Review of Department. – 1979.  
Preliminary review of the Department of French and Spanish along with comments.
  11. Committee for the Field House and Canada Summer Games. – 1979.
  12. Committee on Faculty Participation in University Government. – 1954-1962. – 2 folders.  
Includes Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) data on administrative practices among Canadian universities, copies of the *University Act* 1954 and 1961, “Who Should Determine University Policy?” by V.C. Fowke, “The Government of Canadian Universities” and “The Reform of University Government” by D.C. Rowat, and a copy of the report to the Faculty Association on faculty participation in university government. File also includes notes, minutes, correspondence, and material from other university faculty associations. See also file III.A.25 “Faculty Association – Committee [on Faculty Participation].”
  13. Committee on Off-Campus Courses. – 1967.
  14. Committee on Relations Between Education and Arts. – 1971-1974.  
Includes copy of the 1971 report “On the Proliferation of Degrees and Certificates.” See also file III.A.67 “Sub-committee on MA Teaching.”
  15. Committee on Studies - Sub Committee on Classes in which Translation is Used. – 1978-1981.
- Box 6**
16. Committee on Teaching Loads. – 1969-1972.
  17. Committee to Review Internal Operations of the Library. – 1968-1969. – 2 folders.  
Includes reports, comments from librarians, notes, and memoranda.
  18. Committee to Review the Berry Report. – 1979-1980.  
Memoranda and notes relating to the Report of the Rules and Regulations Committee of the College of Graduate Studies.

19. Company of Young Canadians. – 1966.
20. Conferences - 1<sup>st</sup> International Congress on the Enlightenment. – 1963.
21. Conferences - 18<sup>th</sup> Century Studies. – 1994.
22. Ethnic Studies Centre. – 1973-1974.
23. Faculty Association. – 1967-1983. – 7 folders.  
Minutes of AGMs, reports, memoranda, and bulletins. Includes materials relating to the question of certification.
- Folder 1 – 1967-1968.  
Folder 2 – 1969-1972.  
Folder 3 – 1974-1976.  
Folder 4 – 1977-1978.  
Folder 5 – 1980.  
Folder 6 – 1981.  
Folder 7 – 1982-1983.
24. Faculty Association – Collective Agreement. – 1978.
25. Faculty Association – Committee [on Faculty Participation]. – n.d.  
Includes copies of the *University Act* 1957 and 1958 and a copy of W.P. Thompson's address "The Job of a University President." See also file III.A.12 "Committee on Faculty Participation in University Government."
- Box 7**
26. Faculty Association – Faculty Insurance. – 1962-1980.
27. Faculty Club. – 1963-1975.
28. Finance and Personnel Committee. – 1974. – 3 folders.
29. General Promotions Committee. – 1969. – **RESTRICTED.**
30. Graduate Studies - Art Department. – 1973. – **RESTRICTED.**  
Primarily concerning a graduate program in studio art. Some material relating to the academic performance of one individual is restricted.
31. Graduate Studies - Committee on Humanities. – 1968-1982. – **RESTRICTED.**
32. Graduate Studies - Exam Review Committee. – 1974.
33. Graduate Studies - Shaw Case. – 1976. – **RESTRICTED.**
34. Great Books Program. – 1972-1973.



35. Headship of the English Department. – 1975. – **RESTRICTED.**  
See also file III.A.1 “Appointments Committee.”
  36. Hilda Neatby Scholarship Committee. – 1975-1976.
  37. Honorary Degree Committee. – 1970-1981. – 2 folders.
  38. IODE Selection Committee. – 1963-1967. – **RESTRICTED.**
  39. International Studies Committee. – 1973-1976.
  40. Joint Committee of Board, Senate and Councils on Organization and Structure of the University. – n.d.  
Report.
  41. Learned Societies Conference. – 1978-1979.  
See also fonds RG 2115, Committees Collection.
  42. Learned Societies Conference - Committee on Ancillary Services. – 1979.
- Box 8**
43. Learned Societies Conference - Committee on Entertainment and Tourism. – 1978-1979.
  44. Learned Societies Conference - Committee on Public Relations. – 1979.
  45. Learned Societies Conference - Committee on Registration, Accommodation, Space, Buildings and Grounds, Food and Drink, Parking and Security. – 1977-1979.
  46. Learned Societies Conference - Conference Package. – 1979.
  47. Learned Societies Conference - Co-ordinating Committee. – 1978-1979.
  48. Learned Societies Conference - Director’s Reports. – 1978.
  49. Learned Societies Conference - Local Representatives. – 1978.
  50. Learned Societies Conference - National Planning Meeting. – 1978.
  51. Learned Societies Conference - Personnel. – 1979.
  52. Learned Societies Conference - Signs. – 1979.
  53. Learned Societies Conference - Speakers. – 1979.
  54. Library Committee. – 1971-1972.

55. Library Building Committee. – 1969-1974.
56. Library Building Committee – Reports. – 1969-1971. – 2 folders.  
Includes the requirement study, preliminary report study, engineering report on preliminary acoustical design, report on structural systems, and report on design of mechanical services.
57. Margaret Cameron Fund. – 1963.
58. Notre Dame. – 1971. – **RESTRICTED.**  
Concerning accreditation of classes.
59. Opera Committee. – 1967.  
Concerning the possibility of encouraging lyric theatre productions on campus.
60. PhD Language. – 1957-1972. – **RESTRICTED.**  
Regarding language requirements for doctoral candidates.
61. President’s Fund for Humanities and Social Sciences. – 1971-1975.  
Applications.
62. Principal’s Publications Committee. – 1967-1968.
63. Promotion Appeals Committee. – 1981-1982. – **RESTRICTED.**
64. Review of Arts Curriculum. – 1966-1967.
65. St. Thomas More - Principal’s Report. – 1971.
66. Senior Committee on Studies. – 1970.
67. Sub-Committee on MA Teaching. – 1973-1974.  
See also file III.A.14 “Committee on Relations Between Education and Arts.”
68. Symphony Board. – 1968-1971.

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69. Task Force on Committees. – 1981-1982.
70. Task Force on Languages. – 1981.
71. Thatcher. – 1967.  
Memoranda between R.N.H. Haslam and Professors Neatby, Cherry, and Ridgway concerning Premier Ross Thatcher’s “Potashville” speech. Notice from the Faculty Association regarding the Advisory Committee on Public Information.

B. Lectures and Course Materials. – ca. 1961, 1979-1980.

1. Course Material - French 120. – n.d.
2. Course Material - French Vocabulary Cards. – n.d.
3. Lecture Notes - 1850-1900 [French 413]. – [ca. 1961].
4. Lecture Notes - Anouilh. – n.d.
5. Lecture Notes - Beaumarchais. – n.d.
6. Lecture Notes - Camus. – n.d.
7. Lecture Notes - Claudel. – n.d.
8. Lecture Notes - Diderot. – n.d.
9. Lecture Notes - French 101. – n.d.
10. Lecture Notes - French 318 (Introduction) [French Literature of the Enlightenment]. – n.d.
11. Lecture Notes - Gide. – n.d.
12. Lecture Notes - Giraudoux. – n.d.
13. Lecture Notes - Index Cards. – n.d.
14. Lecture Notes - Laclos. – n.d.
15. Lecture Notes - Malraux. – n.d.
16. Lecture Notes - Marivaux. – n.d.
17. Lecture Notes - Montesquieu. – n.d.
18. Lecture Notes - Péguy. – n.d.
19. Lecture Notes - Prévost. – n.d.
20. Lecture Notes - Proust. – n.d.
21. Lecture Notes - Rousseau. – n.d.

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22. Lecture Notes - Sartre. – n.d.
23. Lecture Notes - Surréalisme. – n.d.
24. Lecture Notes - Valéry. – n.d.
25. Lecture Notes - Voltaire. – n.d.
26. Student Evaluations - French 101 (05). – 1979-1980.
27. Student Evaluations - French 201. – 1979-1980.
28. Student Evaluations - French 201 (02). – n.d.
29. Student Evaluations - French 201 (03). – n.d.
30. Student Evaluations - French 201 (05). – n.d.
31. Student Evaluations - French 201 (08). – 1979-1980.

**MG 81 – R.S. Ridgway fonds (additional donations in February 2001)**

**Dates:** 1954-1976 (inclusive).

**Scope and Content:** These materials consist of additional student evaluations and lecture notes. The material also includes copies of examinations and Canada Council Assessments.

Updated for formatting by Bonnie Dahl, 2020.

Student Evaluations - French 102 (04). – 1971-1972.

Student Evaluations - French 312. – 1971-1972.

Lecture Notes - 312 Reading Course. – n.d.

French 102 (03) - Exam, Memoranda. – 1964, 1970-1971.

French 1A - Exam. – 1954-1955.

French 1B - Exam. – 1954-1956.

French 1C - Exam. – 1958-1959.

French 33 - Exam. – 1959.

French 201 - Exam. – 1975-1976.

French 312 - Exam, Reading List. – 1960-1961, 1963-1964, 1967, 1974.

French 413 - Exam, Reading List. – 1960-1965.

Summer School. – 1962.

French S91 (03) - Exam. – 1959.

French S102 - Exam. – 1962, 1966.

Canada Council Assessments.

Includes David Jory's "Le collège Royal en 1724 et le projet de l'Abbé Bignon," "Voltaire and the Greeks," Pierre Conlon's "Ouvrages français relatifs à Jean-Jacques Rousseau," and other offprints. Also includes correspondence concerning grant assessments.