

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

WESTERN ARCHIVES



CLARE BICE FAMILY FONDS

AFC 139

Inventory prepared by Alison Mitchell-Reid, based on student finding aid project(s) undertaken in partial fulfilment of archives course requirements – February 2010

**WESTERN ARCHIVES
AFC 139
CLARE BICE FAMILY FONDS**

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CLARE BICE FAMILY FONDS
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FONDS DESCRIPTION

Dates

1928-1994

Extent

30 cm of textual records
1 photograph
1 U.W.O. athletics patch

Biographical Sketch

Albert Clare Bice was born on January 24, 1909 in Durham, Ontario to Reverend A.A. and Elizabeth (née McKay) Bice. Moving to London with his family in 1910, Clare Bice graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Western Ontario in 1928. After studying under Eva Bradshaw in London, Ontario, Bice attended the Art Students' League and the Grand Central School of Art, both in New York City, between 1930 and 1932.

While working for an advertising agency and as a commercial artist, Bice began writing in the 1930's. His first of five children's books, *Jory's Cove*, was published in 1941. Bice joined the Western Art League in 1932, and acted as its secretary from 1934 to 1940.

Aside from his three years of war-time service, between 1942 and 1945, Bice was curator of the London Art Gallery from 1940 to 1972. He also held part time teaching positions at numerous schools of art throughout Southern Ontario. Clare Bice was a member of the Ontario Society of Artists, the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts, and the Arts and Letters Club of Toronto.

Bice was the recipient of the Canadian Government Fellowship (1952), the Canada Arts Council Senior Fellowship (1962 for art and 1972 for writing), and the Canadian Centennial Medal (1967). He received an honorary Doctor of Laws from the University of Western Ontario in 1962, and was made a Member of the Order of Canada in 1973.

Clare Bice married Marion Reid (b. 1916) in November, 1943. The couple had two children: Kevin Bice (b. 1946) and Megan Bice (b. 1949).

Clare Bice died on May 18, 1976 while on a sketching trip in Newfoundland. Marion Bice died in 1998. Clare Bice is interred at Woodland Cemetery in London, Ontario.

Scope and Content

This fonds contains the business and personal papers of Clare Bice. Personal and business correspondence, records relating to Bice's art and writing, and other documents are included. Letters and other documents kept by Marion Bice after Clare Bice's death are also included.

Arrangement

The fonds is arranged into the following series:

- Series 1: Journals
- Series 2: Notebooks
- Series 3: Athletics newspaper clippings
- Series 4: Personal correspondence
- Series 5: Miscellaneous personal documents
- Series 6: Art documents
- Series 7: Writing documents
- Series 8: Financial records
- Series 9: London public library and art museum report

Finding Aids

File and item lists are available.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Donated by Marion Bice in 1994.

Related Material

Western Archives has many records from the Western Art League that cover Clare Bice's time with the organization. Records can be found in boxes B4352, X1533, and X1534.

Associated Material

Library and Archives Canada has the Clare Bice fonds (reference number LMS-0070). This fonds includes many original sketches, drafts of books, watercolour paintings, and research notes.

Conditions Governing Access

No restrictions on access.

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SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS

Series 1 Journals

Dates

1929-1942

Extent

4 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains journals kept by Clare Bice. Entries on personal and business topics are included.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Journals	1929-1932	B1521-1
Journals	1933-1940	B1521-2
Journals	1940-1942	B1521-3

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Series 2 Notebooks

Dates

[ca. 1930], 1936-1975

Extent

2 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains small notebooks kept by Clare Bice. Addresses, Christmas card lists, and general notes are included.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Notebooks	1936-1975	B1521-4
Notebook – notes for novel	[ca. 1940]	B1521-5
Notebooks	[ca. 1930]	B1521-6

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Series 3 Athletics newspaper clippings

Dates

1928

Extent

1 folder of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains newspaper clippings of teams of which Clare Bice was a member. Clippings of the University of Western Ontario's 1928 rugby and basketball teams are included.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
U.W.O. rugby and basketball clippings	1928	B1521-8

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Series 4 Personal correspondence

Dates

1930-1994

Extent

5 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains personal correspondence written to Clare and Marion Bice. Letters from friends and associates, as well as letters of condolences and correspondence related to Clare Bice's artistic legacy, are included.

Arrangement

This series is arranged in the following sub-series:

Sub-series 4.1: Clare Bice personal correspondence

Sub-series 4.2: Marion Bice personal correspondence and other documents

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Sub-series 4.1 Clare Bice personal correspondence

Dates

1930-1975

Extent

3 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

This sub-series contains personal correspondence written to Clare Bice. Letters from friends S. Stansfield Sargent and Albert Fowler predominate.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
S. Stansfield Sargent correspondence	1930-1947	B1521-10
Albert Fowler correspondence	1934-1939	B1521-11
Miscellaneous personal correspondence	1936-1975	B1521-9
Albert Fowler correspondence	1939-1942, 1967	B1521-12

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Series 4.2 **Marion Bice correspondence and other documents**

Dates

1976-1994

Extent

2 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

This sub-series contains letters and other documents sent to Marion Bice after her husband's death. Letters of condolence, memorial service programmes, and other documents are included. Documents detailing art exhibits produced after Clare Bice's death and letters regarding his literary works, are also included.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Condolences to Marion Bice	1976-1979	B1521-14
Clare Bice's death	1976-1980	B1521-15
Marion Bice – writing correspondence	1976-1983	B1521-24
Marion Bice correspondence – art	1976-1994	B1521-13

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Series 5 Miscellaneous personal documents

Dates

1926-1933, 1939-1940, 1945, 1962, 1976

Extent

2 cm of textual records
 1 U.W.O. athletics patch : embroidered felt

Scope and Content

This series contains various personal items retained by Clare Bice. Dance cards, souvenir papers from vacations, a patch from Bice's university athletics experiences, a guest book, and other documents are included.

File/Item List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Dance cards	1926-1933	B1521-7
Miscellaneous personal documents [includes U.W.O. patch]	[ca. 1930], 1962, 1976	B1521-16
England and France souvenirs	1933, 1945	B1521-22
Canadian Authors' Association trip souvenirs	1933	B1521-21
Guest book	1939-1940	B1521-31

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Series 6 Art documents

Dates

1936-1976

Extent

6 cm of textual records

1 photograph : b&w ; 11x9 cm

Scope and Content

This series contains documents relating to Clare Bice's career as an artist. Correspondence, exhibit programs, legal documents, a photograph of one of Bice's paintings, and other documents are included.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Miscellaneous documents – art	1936-1972	B1521-20
Exhibit programs and materials [includes photograph]	1936-1976	B1521-17
Legal and administrative documents	1936-1976	B1521-18
Art correspondence	1936-1976	B1521-19

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Series 7 Writing documents

Dates

1931-1976

Extent

5 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains documents relating to Clare Bice's writing career. Correspondence, a copy of a book draft, and other documents are included. Correspondence dealing with Clare Bice's works, sent to Marion Bice after Clare's death, is also included.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Writing correspondence	1931-1976	B1521-23
Miscellaneous writing documents	1949-1974	B1521-25
Draft of book – Mister Lamb the Hermit	[photocopied ca. 1980, (original material ca. 1950)]	B1521-32

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Series 8 Financial records

Dates

1933-1975

Extent

4 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains financial records relating to Clare Bice's writing and artistic endeavours. Records of income, travel expenses, and lists of painting prices and sales are included.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Receipts and invoices – travel expenses	1933-1960	B1521-29
Financial ledger – paintings	1935-1937	B1521-26
Financial ledgers – income and expenses	1946-1969	B1521-27
Financial ledger – income and expenses	1970-1975	B1521-28

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Series 9 London public library and art museum report

Dates

1972

Extent

1 folder of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains a report outlining the origins, purposes, and accomplishments of London, Ontario's art gallery and affiliate organizations. The art gallery itself, the London Art Gallery Association, the Women's Committee to the Art Gallery, and the Junior Women's Committee are discussed.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
The art gallery and associated organizations report	1972	B1521-30