Correspondence with naturalists; a dictionary of naturalists; drafts for a life of Charles Fothergill; bird-watching journals kept by Baillie from 1920-1970; Baillie’s weekly columns in The Toronto Evening Telegram, 1931-70 (on microfilm); some material by other naturalists.

Extent: 11 metres; 130 boxes and items

Note: Collection is located at **Downsvew Offsite Storage**.

Acquired from Baillie’s estate in 1971.

Inquiries about copyright may be referred to:

Debra Dearlove  
David Mason Books  
416-598-1015  
366 Adelaide St W,  
Toronto, ON M5V 1R7
BAILLIE (JAMES LITTLE) PAPERS

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

James L. Baillie was born in Toronto, July 4, 1904, and educated at King Edward School and Harbord Collegiate which he attended at night. He joined the staff of the Royal Ontario Museum in 1922 and served in the Department of Ornithology as Technical Assistant, Research Assistant and Assistant Curator successively, until his death.

Beginning in 1955 he conducted a series of lectures for the University of Toronto Extension entitled An introduction to the Study of birds.

His long association with The Toronto Evening Telegram began in 1931 when he started his weekly column on birds. This column ran for 39 years. He undertook many special assignments for The Telegram, writing many feature articles and guiding nature tours for them.

His writing output over the years was phenomenal. Besides writing two chapters of a book on the Saunders family, he was the author of over 300 articles, almost all on birds, but some on the broader concerns of conservation. He wrote scripts for radio and assisted with the preparation of educational films.

Much in demand as a speaker, he lectured all over Ontario. However, his P.R. work for the Museum is what his true disciples remember best. No budding naturalist was ever turned away from the ornithology department, and many of the best known names in natural history to-day are "graduates" of his patient explanations in the bird room & in the field.

He belonged to many organizations. Among them were: The American Ornithologists' Union, the Toronto Field Naturalists, The Federation of Ontario Naturalists, The Canadian Audubon Society, the Toronto Ornithological Club, the Toronto Field Biologists' Club, and the Brodie Club. Of the latter three groups he was a founding member. He held offices in all the Canadian organizations on the list. He corresponded with naturalists all over the world and collected books avidly.

He died on May 28, 1970, one month before what would have been the date of his official retirement from the R.O.M. In the last years of his
BAILLIE (JAMES LITTLE) PAPERS

Life he had received some official recognition for his great work, and his name is commemorated in the Jim Baillie Nature Reserve near Uxbridge and in the yearly Baillie Birdathon at Long Point, the proceeds of which go to the Long Point Bird Observatory.
BAILLIE (JAMES LITTLE) PAPERS

Container Listing

Boxes 1 - 21  Correspondence
              Arranged alphabetically.

Boxes 22, 23  Photographs of birds and mammals

Boxes 24 - 36  Biographical dictionary of naturalists.
                Material from many sources collected by Baillie.
                Arranged alphabetically by person.

Boxes 37 - 38  Charles Fothergill material, collected by Baillie.
                Contains notes, photos and drafts of finished
                portions of the typescript.

Box 39  Material organized by Baillie for a book to be
        called Ornithological Work in Ontario. Typescript,
        photos.

Box 40  Articles and speeches by Baillie. Includes a
        bibliography of Baillie's articles, and a list of his
        speeches.

Box 41  Biographical material on Baillie. Includes his
        curriculum vitae, certificates, his life-list, correspondence
        received by his family at the time of his death, tributes to
        Baillie, the setting up of the Baillie Nature Reserve near
        Uxbridge, and establishment of the Baillie Birdathon at Long
        Point.

Box 42  Baillie's columns which appeared in the Toronto
        Telegram, 1931 - 1970. On microfilm. (Originals owned by
        Mrs. Florence Wilson)

Box 43  Bird-watching notes made by Jim Baillie (samples only)
        Now transcribed into his bird-watching journals by
        Gerry Bennett


Box 45  Bird-watching journals, 20-37. July 8, 1934 - March 29, 1945

Box 46  Bird-watching journals, 38-56. March 30, 1945 - Nov. 28, 1953

Box 47  Bird-watching journals, 57-73. Nov. 28, 1953 - May 20, 1960

Box 47 (a)  Bird-watching journals, 74 - 87. May 20, 1960 - May 3, 1970

Box 48 (a)  Breeding records of bird species kept by Baillie, 1920-1960.3

Box 48 (b)  Personal diaries, 1920-1964. 39 v.

Boxes 49 - 58  Files on bird species - arranged by family

Boxes 59 - 63  Regional files of Ornithology in Ontario
Container Listing (Cont’d)

Box 64-1043

Miscellaneous notes, record cards etc.

Partially sorted newspaper clippings, correspondence, notes

Box 105

Birdwatching notes by:

G. Bennett - Prescott County
Northern Ontario
Franklin Cook - Lambton County
Hagar - James Bay
Knecht - Waterloo
J. Satterly - Cochrane Area
R.H. Smith - Western James Bay
Twoney - Camrose district
Adam Watson - Baffinland

P.A. Taverner - Preliminary list of Birds of Ontario - prepublication copy - 1938

W.E. Saunders - Birdwatching columns in London Ontario newspapers.

Box 106

J.K. Reynolds - Bird-watching columns in London Ontario newspaper
W.W. Judd's Bibliography of Saunders' and Reynolds' columns

Box 107

James Baillie: Note book My first observations in the Toronto area of mammals, reptiles, wild flowers etc.

Box 108

Toner, George C. Scrapbooks of newspaper columns on the Bruce. Typescripts of columns or perhaps chapters for a projected book on the Bruce Peninsula

Box 109

Canadian Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Society. Letters re its inception Scattered issues, and a few newsletters.

Box 110

Kortright, Frank H. Album of photos etc. relating to Kortright's career, the game reserve etc.

Box 111

Baillie's life lists; statistics for his Point Pelee trips; his Toronto census statistics. 1 vol. Statistics for area within 30 miles of the R.O.M. Passerine birds, 1 vol. Non-passerine, 1 vol.

Box 112

Manuscript catalogue of Jim Baillie's library. 2 vols.

Box 113

Baillie Birdathon - T-shirt

Box 114

Restricted

Mapcase material

Jack Miner poster.

Olin S. Pettingill poster.


Manuscript text with various documents and receipts pasted in the last 13 pages. One document is the lease for the land, with the signatures of the original lessees: James L. Baillie, Hubert H. Brown, E.B. Shelley Logier, J.H. Fleming, L.L. Snyder, W.P. Young.

Sept. 1988

Item 116 Baillie bookplates

Box 117 Notes and correspondence for biography file

Box 118 offprints on Birds, articles by others
A collection of albums containing clippings of column, “In Birdland” by James L. Baillie, Jr. Column later changed to “Wildlife” and “Birdlife.” Other articles by Baillie are included in chronological order.

Item 119  June 20, 1931 - May 26, 1934.
Item 120  June 2, 1934 – May 8, 1937.
Item 121  May 15, 1937 – March 6, 1940.
Item 124  Nov. 6, 1948 - August 14, 1954.
Item 129  Wedding album of James and Helen Baillie.

Miscellaneous personal material.

Folders 1-11  Correspondence (ALS).
Martha Jessie Scadding to James L. Baillie, July 9, 1927-July 29, 1931.
Martha Scadding married Baillie in 1930. Some correspondence signed “Pat” seems to be from Martha.

Folder 12  Correspondence (ALS).
James Baillie to Helen Kleon, February 26, 1943. (The date after his proposal.)

Folder 13  Correspondence (TLS).
James Baillie open letter, May 19, 1970. (Carbon copy.)
Regarding the curatorship at the ROM.

Folder 14  Correspondence (TLS).
Two pieces (one carbon copy) regarding Baillie’s death and the ROM.

Folder 15  Misc. correspondence.
Box 130 (cont)

Folder 16  Correspondence.  
Various pieces regarding the Baillie library.

Folder 17  Correspondence.  
Rachael Grover to Florence Wilson, 1981.  
Re: Fisher exhibition of Baillie papers. With four b/w photos of exhibit.

Folder 18  Correspondence.  

Folders 19-23  Ryerson Press Book on Ornithology.  
Drafts. Typescripts and carbon copies, with notes.

Folder 24  Ryerson Press Book on Ornithology.  
Correspondence.

Folder 25  Ephemera, personal.  
Marriage certificate, birth certificate, etc.

Folder 26  Ephemera, naturalists.  
Clippings and photos.  


Prepared for presentation at the centennial gathering, Ottawa / Manotick, July 5-7, 1974. Copy no. 20, presented to Mr. & Mrs. Bob Wilson.
