

GLAMORGAN RECORD OFFICE/ARCHIFDY MORGANNWG

Reference code: GB 0214 DWAW/30

Title: Ursula Masson, Historian, Papers

Dates : 1970s-2008

Level of description: Fonds

Extent and medium: 0.68 cubic metres (34 boxes, 1 bundle)

Name of creator(s): Ursula Masson

Administrative/biographical history

Ursula Masson (nee O'Connor) (1946-2008) was born in Merthyr Tydfil, and was educated at Cyfartha Grammar School. After attending Cardiff University, Ursula then worked in Australia as a journalist on the Sydney Morning Herald from 1969 until 1972. Returning to the UK, she took an MA at the University of Keele, writing a dissertation on Irish immigration to Merthyr. After working in adult education in Swansea, Ursula joined the history department at the University of Glamorgan in the mid-1990s. Here she had a particular interest in women's history and feminism, and she co-founded the Centre for Gender Studies in Wales with Professor Jane Aaron. Her PhD thesis, submitted in May 2007, examined Welsh women's liberalism in the 19th century. Ursula was also co-editor of Llafur, the annual journal of the Welsh People's History Society, a founding member of the Women's Archive of Wales, and chairwoman of the West of England and South Wales Women's History Network.

Immediate source of acquisition

Deposited by Ursula Masson's former husband following her death in April 2008.

Scope and content

The collection consists of records from Ursula's home and from her office at the University of Glamorgan, primarily notes, papers and articles relating to her research and teaching activities in women's history and feminism. There is also material representing Ursula's position as co-editor of Llafur and her involvement with WAW and other women's heritage organisations. Notes from her studies at the University of Keele are also included, along with her completed MA dissertation and PhD thesis. Additionally, there are scrapbooks of articles written during her time as a journalist. The collection also includes oral history recordings on audio cassette/CD/DVD, as well as documents on floppy disk. Personal material is largely absent.

Appraisal, destruction and scheduling information

Pinted books were removed from the collection by WAW. Further appraisal is required.

Accruals

Accruals are not expected.

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System of arrangement

Order at time of deposit retained.

Conditions governing access

Items containing information on named individuals may be restricted in accordance with the Data Protection Act and Record Office policy.

Conditions governing reproduction

Normal Glamorgan Record Office conditions apply.

Language/scripts of material

English, Welsh

Physical characteristics and technical requirements

The collection is in a good condition generally. However, a PC with a floppy disk drive and/or CD/DVD drive is required to access some electronic records, whilst an audio cassette player will be required to access taped material.

Finding aids

A rough box list is available to give a feeling of the type of material included in the collection.

Existence and location of originals

There are copies of archival documents from various repositories in the collection - these may be removed during further appraisal.

Existence and location of copies

Not applicable

Related units of description

Additional material is held by the West Glamorgan Archive Service (title: Ursula Masson Collection), and includes newsletters, leaflets, correspondence, etc. relating to Swansea Women's Centre, the peace movement, feminist issues in education, and politics and history.

Publication note

Not applicable

Note

Archivist's note

Compiled by Geoff Edwards for the Glamorgan Record Office, with reference to obituary published in the South Wales Echo, 22 Apr 2008.

Rules or conventions

This description follows Glamorgan Record Office guidelines based on ISAD(G) compatible cataloguing guidelines for fonds level descriptions used by the Archives Network Wales.

Date of description

15 Jul 2008