

# Royal Ontario Museum

## Finding Aid - O.C. Elliott fonds (SC9)

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<https://archeion.ca/o-c-elliott-fonds>

# O.C. Elliott fonds

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## Summary information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Royal Ontario Museum
<b>Title:</b>	O.C. Elliott fonds
<b>Reference code:</b>	SC9
<b>Date:</b>	1936-1957 (creation)
<b>Physical description:</b>	19 cm of textual material
<b>Dates of creation, revision and deletion:</b>	08/18/2023 E. Thomas. Creation.

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## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

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### Note

Otho Christopher (O.C.) Elliott was a teacher at Kingston Collegiate Vocational Institute and avid researcher of the Beardsmore Relic hoax.

Elliott was born in 1898 in Peterborough, Ontario. His family lived in Belleville and St. Thomas before settling in Toronto. Elliott studied theology at McMaster University and trained at the Ontario College of Education. Between 1918 and 1919 Elliott served in the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force and the Canadian Siberian Expeditionary Force. Elliott's first teaching position Fort Arthur High School. In 1928 he married Cathrine (Kate) Jarvis, a nurse. They had one daughter, Susan, born in 1942. Between 1936-1941 Elliott worked as the director of the commercial department at the Kingston Collegiate and Vocational Institute. In 1941, Elliott began work as a veterans welfare officer at was then called the Department of Pensions and National Health. Elliott worked in Veterans Affairs for the remainder of his career.

Between 1934 and 1941 Elliott researched the authenticity of the Beardsmore relics alongside Dr. T.L. Tanton. Much of their knowledge and research went ignored.

Elliott died on March 3 1958 in Ottawa, Ontario.

### Custodial history

The materials were donated Susan (Elliott) MacLatchie and her husband Jim MacLatchie between 1972-1973.

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## Scope and content

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Fonds consists of correspondence, photographs, news clippings, and manuscripts related to the Beardmore Relics which were believed to be Viking in origin.

The Beardmore Relics were supposedly discovered by James Edward Dodd, an amateur prospector who on an expedition southwest of Beardmore, Ontario in May 1931. The relics were purchased by the ROM in 1936 where they stayed on display until 1956-1957 after a public inquiry when Walter Dodd, son of James, claimed that his father found the relics in a basement in Port Arthur and planted them at the site of discovery. The Beardmore relics are authentically Norse and estimated to have been created between 850 and 1025.

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## Notes

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### Note [Sources]

Hunter, D. (2018). Beardmore#: the Viking hoax that rewrote history. McGill-Queen's University Press.

### Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
  - **Level of detail:** Full
  - **Status description:** Final
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## Access points

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- Textual record (documentary form)
- 

## Collection holdings

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### File: SC9-1 - Correspondence, clippings, notes

Title: Correspondence, clippings, notes

Reference code: SC9-1

Box number [alternative]: 1

Date: 1936-1938 (date of creation)

Scope and content: File consists of correspondence, clippings, and notes related to O.C. Elliott's research into the Beardmore relics.

Physical description: 1 folder of textual material

Publication status:

published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
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**File: SC9-2 - Clippings, correspondence**

Title: Clippings, correspondence

Reference code: SC9-2

Box number [alternative]: 1

Date: January - May 1939 (date of creation)

Scope and content: File consists of correspondence and clippings related to O.C. Elliott's research into the Beardmore relics.

Physical description: 1 folder of textual material

Publication status:

published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
- 

**File: SC9-3 - Clippings, correspondence**

Title: Clippings, correspondence

Reference code: SC9-3

Box number [alternative]: 1

Date: June - December 1939 (date of creation)

Scope and content: File consists of correspondence and clippings related to O.C. Elliott's research into the Beardmore relics.

Physical description: 1 folder of textual material

Publication status:

published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
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**File: SC9-4 - Correspondence**

Title: Correspondence

Reference code: SC9-4

Box number [alternative]: 1

Date: January - May 1940 (date of creation)

Scope and content: File consists of correspondence related to O.C. Elliott's research into the Beardmore relics.

Physical description: 1 folder of textual material

Publication status:

published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
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### **File: SC9-5 - Correspondence**

Title: Correspondence

Reference code: SC9-5

Box number [alternative]: 1

Date: June - December 1940 (date of creation)

Scope and content: File consists of correspondence related to O.C. Elliott's research into the Beardmore relics.

Physical description: 1 folder of textual material

Publication status:

published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
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### **File: SC9-6 - Articles, research and notes**

Title: Articles, research and notes

Reference code: SC9-6

Box number [alternative]: 2

Date: 1936-1957 (date of creation)

Scope and content: File consists of manuscript articles written by O.C. Elliott during his research into the Beardsmore Relics: "Comments on the Nine Affidavits in 'Here Was Vineland' by J.W. Curran re the Viking Relics of Beardsmore" (1939); Were The Vikings in Northern Ontario (1936); The Viking Relics of Peadmre - Fact or Hoax? (1939); I Watched a Hoax Grow (ca. 1957); The Vikings of Beardsmore (1939).

Physical description: 1 folder of textual material

Publication status:

published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
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**File: SC9-7 - Article clippings**

Title: Article clippings

Reference code: SC9-7

Box number [alternative]: 2

Date: 1938-1939 (date of creation)

Scope and content: File consists of clippings of magazine articles and journals related to the Beardmore relics.

Physical description: 1 folder of textual material

Publication status:

published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
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**File: SC9-8 - Correspondence**

Title: Correspondence

Reference code: SC9-8

Box number [alternative]: 2

Date: 1939-1941 (date of creation)

Scope and content: File consists of correspondence related to O.C. Elliott's research into the Beardmore relics. The majority of the correspondence is between O.C. Elliott and T.L. Tanton.

Physical description: 1 folder of textual material

Publication status:

published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
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