# York University Archives & Special Collections (CTASC)

# Finding Aid - Otto Friedman fonds (F0308)

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York University Archives & Special Collections (CTASC) 305 Scott Library, 4700 Keele Street, York University Toronto

Ontario Canada M3J 1P3

Telephone: 416-736-5442

Fax: 416-650-8039

Email: archives@yorku.ca

http://www.library.yorku.ca/ccm/ArchivesSpecialCollections/index.htm

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# **Otto Friedman fonds**

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# **Summary information**

**Repository:** York University Archives & Special Collections (CTASC)

**Title:** Otto Friedman fonds

**ID:** F0308

**Date:** 1936-1978 (date of creation)

**Physical description:** 5.0 m of textual records

4 posters : col. ; 60 x 76 cm or smaller

## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

#### Note

Otto Friedman (1905-1978), born and educated in Prague, emigrated to England in the 1930s where he served the Czechoslovak government-in-exile during the German occupation of his native country. He taught in English universities (London, Oxford, Reading) following graduation from the London School of Economics in 1947 and he worked as a management consultant in London prior to moving to Canada in 1968. In Canada he taught at the University of Western Ontario, the University of Waterloo and the University of Toronto, 1968-1971. In the latter year he joined the faculty of York University as a visiting professor in the Division of Social Science and the Faculty of Environmental Studies where he remained until his death in 1978. Friedman was the author of several books, articles, and lectures in the fields of sociology, organizational theory and practise, and psychology, and produced Czech translations of several works of Freud. His own titles included 'The dangers of fascism,' (1931), 'The break-up of Czech democracy,' (1950, 1971), as well as lectures on 'Productivity in retailing and staff management,' (1956), 'Management ideologies and organizational change,' (1967) and others. In addition he was an avid chess player and contributed newspaper articles, and television and radio programmes on the game while living in Toronto.

# **Custodial history**

Material was presented to the York University Archives by Professor Harry Girling, Department of English, York University in 1978 and 1979.

# Scope and content

The fonds consists of correspondence, notes and notebooks, index cards as well as a large volume of photocopied articles used by Otto Friedman in his teaching, research and writing activity. These include notes taken during his own education in England. In addition, there are typed lecture notes for courses he taught at York, as well as typescripts of articles and lectures by Friedman, and a typescript draft of his

'Masaryk's social philosophy and critique of Marxism,'. There are also course reading lists, some student materials (class lists, including some with student grades, student essays, and correspondence) and some correspondence and printed materials relating to York University, including calendars and handbooks. There is some material dating from Friedman's time as a management consultant in London, England, including studies of management styles in British firms. The posters are reproductions of paintings by masters (Picasso, Utrillo, etc.), that appear to have hung in his office.

#### **Notes**

#### Title notes

#### **Restrictions on access**

Some access restrictions apply. Consult the University Archives for details.

## Conditions governing use

Written permission to view these closed files must be obtained from the President of the University, or authorized delegate, and be directed to the Archivist, York University.

### Finding aids

File list available.

#### Accruals

The fonds comprises the following accession: 1978-008. Further accruals are expected.

#### Other notes

Publication status: Published

• Level of detail: Full

Status description: Final

# **Access points**

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Graphic material (documentary form)

# **Collection holdings**