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## **LG MS 029 Margaret Cruikshank Papers Finding Aid**

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MARGARET CRUIKSHANK PAPERS  
LG MS 29

Total Boxes: 2  
Linear Feet: 0.75

By  
Christina E. Walker  
January 2014

Additional Processing by  
Anthony Marvullo  
June 2017

Portland, Maine  
January 2014 and June 2017

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## Administrative Information

Provenance: Most of the materials were donated by Margaret “Peg” Cruikshank in 2002 and 2005. In 2007, student papers were added to the collection. In 2017, Margaret donated more materials containing her writings in the early 2000s, and annotated bibliographies of women writers and publications.

Ownership and Literary Rights: The Margaret Cruikshank Papers are the physical property of the University of Southern Maine Libraries. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the creator or her legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the Head of Special Collections.

Cite as: Margaret Cruikshank Papers, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer+ Collection, Jean Byers Sampson Center for Diversity in Maine, University of Southern Maine Libraries.

Restrictions on Access: The collection is open for research.

## Biographical Note

Margaret Cruikshank was born in Duluth, Minnesota in 1940 and has led a distinguished career in academic. After earning her Ph.D. in Victorian Literature from Loyola University in Chicago in 1969, Cruikshank began teaching English at colleges and universities throughout the Midwest. In 1975, Margaret moved back to Minnesota where she continued to teach at Mankato State University, now called Minnesota State University—Mankato. While there she helped establish the University’s first women’s studies department, serving as director of the department from 1975 to 1977. In 1977, Cruikshank moved to San Francisco to work at the City College of San Francisco where she taught both English as a Second Language and gay and lesbian studies. In addition to these courses she later taught units on women and aging (1992–97) before moving to Maine in 1997. During that same year, Cruikshank became a lecturer in the women’s studies department at the University of Maine in Orono (UM). In 2001, Cruikshank taught an Introduction to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies course at UM—which may have been the first LGBT course taught in Maine. Cruikshank continues to work at UM as a lecturer and faculty associate at the University’s Center on Aging.

Earliest writings include reviews, essays, and articles in a variety of periodicals including *The Advocate*, *Radical Teacher*, and *Motherroot*. Other publications include *The Lesbian Path* (1980), *The Gay and Lesbian Liberation Movement* (1992), and *Learning to be Old: Gender, Culture, and Aging* (2003). Cruikshank edited an anthology of writing on aging called *Fierce with Reality* (2007). Common themes in her work include lesbianism, feminism, lesbians working in academia, and ageism.

Cruikshank's literary papers are housed at the Gay and Lesbian Collections of the San Francisco Public Library.

### **Description of the Papers**

The Papers contain material related to the academic career and writings of the lesbian scholar Margaret Cruikshank. The papers span from the 1970s to 2007. They include items related to an Introduction to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies course that Cruikshank taught at the University of Maine in the fall semesters of 2001 and 2004. Additionally, the Papers contain materials related to the personal and scholarly/professional activities of Cruikshank. For example, Box 1, Folder 11 contains a sign Cruikshank carried in Bangor, Maine's second annual pride parade, and Box 2, Folder 12 contains materials related to the 10th Annual University of Rhode Island Conference on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning Issues, at which Cruikshank presented.

The Papers have been divided into eighteen folders.

The first seven folders relate to an Introduction to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Studies course (WST 201) that Cruikshank taught at the University of Maine. Folders 1 through 3 cover the fall 2001 course, believed to be the first LGBT course taught in Maine. Folders 4 and 5 include materials from the fall 2004 semester. The types of material in these folders include draft syllabi, class handouts, flyers advertising the class, pamphlets, newspaper clippings, suggested reading lists, and final exams. Folder 6 includes final papers for the WST 201: Introduction to LGBT Studies course for the years 2001, 2004, and 2007. Folder seven contains photographs of the 2001 WST 201 class participants.

Folders 8, 9, and 10 contain Cruikshank's writing, both published and unpublished pieces, from the 1970s through the early 2000s. Folder 8 spans 1974–79 and includes examples of Cruikshank's earliest work. Also included in folder 8 is a complete list of Cruikshank's publications as of 2005. Folder 9 contains Cruikshank's writings from the 1980s, while folder 10 contains writings from the 1990s and early 2000s.

Folder 11 contains materials related to Margaret Cruikshank's personal activities, including a sign she carried in Bangor's second annual Pride Parade and a ticket to a Holly Near concert in 2003.

Folder 12 contains materials relating to Cruikshank's scholarly activities, including a conference schedule for the 2004 10th Annual University of Rhode Island Conference on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning Issues where Margaret Cruikshank presented "The Disappeared: Lesbian Feminism in Queer Theory."

Folder 13 includes photographs of a wedding Cruikshank attended, taken at San Francisco City Hall in February 2004.

Folders 14 and 15 contain a collection of clippings and publications not written by Cruikshank. Topics covered include lesbian, gay and queer issues, gay marriage, and aging.

Folders 16 and 17 contain annotated bibliographies and book catalogues from 1971 to 1976. These include *Sisterhood is Serious: An Annotated Bibliography* by Pat Schuman and Gay Detlefsen (1971); Greenwood Press's *Women: A Collection of Reprint, Original, and Microform Publications* (1976); and *A Bibliography of Books By, Of, and About Women* by Sybil H. Pike (1973).

Folder 18 contains the book *Lesbian Studies: Present and Future*, an anthology of academic essays edited by Margaret Cruikshank. Also included: a photograph of a display at UMaine of previously banned books, one of which is *Lesbian Studies*.

### **Keywords:**

Margaret Cruikshank, Peg Cruikshank (Margaret went by Peg sometimes), University of Maine, UMaine, UM, University of Minnesota, City College of San Francisco, Maine, Minnesota, San Francisco, University of Rhode Island Conference on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning Issues, *The Lesbian Path*, *Lesbian Studies*, *New Lesbian Writing*, *Learning to be Old*, Downeast Coastal Press, Greenwood Press, AMS Press, Women in Distribution, The Advocate, Motherroot, The Radical Teacher, Gay Community News, Aging Today, AARP, Aging, Women's Studies, LGBT Studies

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
1	1	Course Preparation and Materials	Fall 2001
1	2	Course Preparation and Materials	Fall 2001
1	3	Course Preparation and Materials	Fall 2001
1	4	Course Preparation and Materials	2003, Fall 2004
1	5	Course Preparation and Materials	Fall 2004
1	6	Final Papers for WST 201	2001, 2004, 2007
1	7	Photographs of WST 201 Class	Fall 2001
1	8	Writings	1977–79
1	9	Writings	1980–89
1	10	Writings	1990–92, 1994–98, 2003
1	11	Personal Activities	1994, 1996, 2003
2	12	Scholarly Activities	1998, 2003–04
2	13	Photographs from wedding in San Francisco	2004
2	14	Publications and Clippings	1995, 1998, 2000–01
2	15	Publications and Clippings	2002–04
2	16	Bibliographies and Book Catalogs	1971–76
2	17	A Bibliography of Books By, Of, And About Women	1973
2	18	Book: "Lesbian Studies: Present and Future," edited by Margaret Cruikshank; Photograph of a display of previously banned books, including "Lesbian Studies"	1982, 2003