

Trent University Archives

Finding Aid - George Mellis Douglas fonds. 1990 additions (90-008)

Generated by Trent University Archives on August 23, 2024

Language of description: English

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George Mellis Douglas fonds. 1990 additions

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Summary information

Repository:	Trent University Archives
Title:	George Mellis Douglas fonds. 1990 additions
Reference code:	90-008
Date:	1920-1925 (creation)
Physical description:	ca. 141 photographs : ca. 135 b&w and 6 b&w negatives ; 20.5 X 25.5 cm or smaller

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

George Mellis Douglas was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia in 1875. He moved with his family in 1883 to Northcote Farm on the shore of Katchiwano Lake north of Lakefield, Ontario. In 1900 George went to work for his cousin, James Douglas, who was president of the American Institute of Mining Engineers. In 1911, at the suggestion of his cousin James, an expedition to the Coppermine River and Arctic Sea was planned, and George Douglas along with his brother Lionel and Dr. August Sandberg made the trip. The purpose of the expedition was to search for minerals in the watershed of the Coppermine above the Arctic Circle. What George and his associates discovered were huge copper deposits. Although it was known that the deposits existed since the 18th century, they were much larger than was suspected. George was also one of the first Barren Land explorers to extensively photograph the North-West Territories and the Inuit who lived in the region. Over the following thirty years, Douglas led copper explorations to the shores of the Arctic Sea and around the edges of the Great Bear and Great Slave Lakes. George also wrote about his explorations in the Arctic. He published articles in several professional journals and in 1914 he wrote "Lands Forlorn", an account of the 1911-12 expedition. George Mellis Douglas died at his home near Lakefield, Ontario in 1963.

Custodial history

This fonds was created by George Mellis Douglas and in the custody of Francis Douglas. It was donated to the Trent University Archives via Kathy Hooke.

Scope and content

This addition to the fonds consists of photographs (approximately 141) taken by George Douglas on his many canoe trips [ca. 1920] in the Chandos, Burleigh, and Anstruther townships area and encompassing such towns and waterways as Lakefield, Stoney Lake, Loon Lake, Eel's Creek and Apsley. There is also a photocopy of an article entitled "George Douglas - Trip to Loon Lake 1925".

Folders are arranged as such:

1. Photographs (approximately 100 5"x7"s) taken by George Douglas on canoe trips in the Chandos, Burleigh, and Anstruther townships area [c:1920]
 2. Photographs (approximately 35 8"x10"s) taken by George Douglas on canoe trips in the Chandos, Burleigh, and Anstruther townships area [c:1920]
 3. Photocopy of an article entitled "George Douglas - Trip to Loon Lake 1925"
 4. loose in box: small envelope containing 6 negatives and 4 photographs re: George Douglas canoe trips in the Chandos, Burleigh, and Anstruther townships area [c:1920]
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Notes

Title notes

- **Source of title proper:** Title based on creator of fonds

Immediate source of acquisition

This fonds was donated by Francis Douglas via Kathy Hooke

Restrictions on access

None

Related material

For related records see the Helen Marryat fonds (69-001), Edwin C. Guillet fonds (74-003), Prentic G. Downes fonds (80-004), Katchewanooka Herald fonds (83-004) and Kenneth Kidd Native Studies photographic collection (95-024).

Accruals

This fonds is an addition to 79-002

Note [General]

The photographs in this collection were processed from glass negatives by Bernadine Dodge, Archivist, Trent University.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
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Access points

- Photographs (documentary form)
- Pioneers and Early Settlers (subject)