



Dalhousie University Archives

Finding Aid - Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson fonds (MS-2-707)

Generated by the Archives Catalogue and Online Collections on March 11, 2020

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Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	Dalhousie University Archives
Title:	Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson fonds
Reference code:	MS-2-707
Date:	1920 - 1989 (date of creation)
Language:	English
Physical description:	25 volumes ; 19 x 22 x 3 cm and smaller 1 photograph : b&w ; 20.5 x 25.5 cm
Note [generalNote]:	Preferred citation: [Identification of item], Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson fonds, MS-2-707, Box [box number], Folder [folder number], Dalhousie University Archives, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Edith "Polly" Archibald Dobson was born in Halifax on 17 November 1897, the youngest of three daughters of Edith MacMechan and Dalhousie professor Archibald MacMechan. Educated at Wakefield Girls' High School in Yorkshire, England, and then Halifax Ladies' College, she became the social secretary to Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell, at times living with the Bell family at Beinn Bhreagh, their Cape Breton estate. It was there that she met her husband, Commander C.C. (Tommy) Dobson, a member of the Admiralty Commission sent to evaluate Bell's hydrodrome invention. The couple married in 1920 in England and had twin daughters. They traveled extensively, following Dobson's posts. After his death in 1940, Edith returned to Canada and served in the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service. In 1947, she settled in Nova Scotia and founded the Red Cross Lodge at Camp Hill Hospital, which she ran until her retirement in 1972. She died in 1990 following a short illness.

Custodial history

Records were donated to Dalhousie University Archives by Dr. Cathy Cervin, granddaughter of Edith Dobson, in accession (15-97) on June 3, 1997.

Scope and content

Fonds contains 23 volumes of Edith Dobson's personal diaries, written between 1948-1989, as well as two volumes of her travel diaries and a photograph of her at the time of her engagement in 1920.

Notes

Title notes

Restrictions on access

There are no restrictions on these materials. All materials are open for research.

Conditions governing use

Materials do not circulate and must be used in the Archives and Special Collections Reading Room. Materials may be under copyright. Contact departmental staff for guidance on reproduction.

Accruals

Further accruals are not expected.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
-

Access points

- MacMechan, Archibald McKellar (subject)
- Textual record (documentary form)
- Graphic material (documentary form)
- Diaries (documentary form)
- Photographs (documentary form)
- Personal archives (subject)
- Travel (subject)

Collection holdings

File: MS-2-707, Box 1, Folder 1 - Photograph of Edith Archibald MacMechan at the time of her engagement to Commander C.C. (Tommy) Dobson

Title: Photograph of Edith Archibald MacMechan at the time of her engagement to Commander C.C. (Tommy) Dobson

Reference code: MS-2-707, Box 1, Folder 1

Date: 1920 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 photograph : b&w ; 20.5 x 25.5 cm

Physical location: Killam - 5th Floor - Archives - Range A81 C

Publication status:

Published

Series: MS-2-707 - Personal diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson

Title: Personal diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson

Reference code: MS-2-707

Date: 1948 - 1989 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series contains 23 volumes of personal diaries written by Edith Archibald Dobson between 1948-1989.

Physical description: 23 volumes ; 19 x 22 x 3 cm and smaller

Publication status:

Published

File: MS-2-707, Box 1, Folder 2 - Personal diary of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1948

Title: Personal diary of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1948

Reference code: MS-2-707, Box 1, Folder 2

Date: 1948 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 volume ; 14 x 21 x 1.5 cm

Physical location: Killam - 5th Floor - Archives - Range A81 C

Publication status:

Published

File: MS-2-707, Box 1, Folder 3 - Personal diary of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1963

Title: Personal diary of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1963

Reference code: MS-2-707, Box 1, Folder 3

Date: 1963 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 volume ; 19 x 22 x 1 cm

Physical location: Killam - 5th Floor - Archives - Range A81 C

Publication status:

Published

File: MS-2-707, Box 1, Folder 4 - Personal diary of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1964

Title: Personal diary of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1964

Reference code: MS-2-707, Box 1, Folder 4

Date: 1964 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 volume ; 19 x 22 x 1 cm

Physical location: Killam - 5th Floor - Archives - Range A81 C

Publication status:

Published

File: MS-2-707, Box 1, Folder 5 - Personal diary of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1965

Title: Personal diary of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1965

Reference code: MS-2-707, Box 1, Folder 5

Date: 1965 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 volume ; 19 x 22 x 1 cm

Physical location: Killam - 5th Floor - Archives - Range A81 C

Publication status:

Published

File: MS-2-707, Box 1, Folder 6 - Personal diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1967-1972

Title: Personal diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1967-1972

Reference code: MS-2-707, Box 1, Folder 6

Date: 1967 - 1972 (date of creation)

Physical description: 2 volumes ; 11 x 19 x 2.5 cm and smaller

Physical location: Killam - 5th Floor - Archives - Range A81 C

Publication status:

Published

File: MS-2-707, Box 1, Folder 7 - Personal diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1973-1974

Title: Personal diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1973-1974

Reference code: MS-2-707, Box 1, Folder 7

Date: 1973 - 1974 (date of creation)

Physical description: 2 volumes ; 14 x 21 x 2.5 cm and smaller

Physical location: Killam - 5th Floor - Archives - Range A81 C

Publication status:

Published

File: MS-2-707, Box 1, Folder 8 - Personal diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1975-1976

Title: Personal diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1975-1976

Reference code: MS-2-707, Box 1, Folder 8

Date: 1975 - 1976 (date of creation)

Physical description: 2 volumes ; 14 x 20.5 x 2 cm

Physical location: Killam - 5th Floor - Archives - Range A81 C

Publication status:

Published

File: MS-2-707, Box 2, Folder 1 - Personal diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1977-1978

Title: Personal diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1977-1978

Reference code: MS-2-707, Box 2, Folder 1

Date: 1977 - 1978 (date of creation)

Physical description: 2 volumes ; 14 x 21 x 3 cm

Physical location: Killam - 5th Floor - Archives - Range A81 C

Publication status:

Published

File: MS-2-707, Box 2, Folder 2 - Personal diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1979-1980

Title: Personal diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1979-1980

Reference code: MS-2-707, Box 2, Folder 2

Date: 1979 - 1980 (date of creation)

Physical description: 2 volumes ; 14 x 21 x 3 cm

Physical location: Killam - 5th Floor - Archives - Range A81 C

Publication status:

Published

File: MS-2-707, Box 2, Folder 3 - Personal diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1981-1982

Title: Personal diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1981-1982

Reference code: MS-2-707, Box 2, Folder 3

Date: 1981 - 1982 (date of creation)

Physical description: 2 volumes ; 14 x 21 x 3 cm

Physical location: Killam - 5th Floor - Archives - Range A81 C

Publication status:

Published

File: MS-2-707, Box 2, Folder 4 - Personal diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1983-1984

Title: Personal diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1983-1984

Reference code: MS-2-707, Box 2, Folder 4

Date: 1983 - 1984 (date of creation)

Physical description: 2 volumes ; 14 x 21 x 3 cm

Physical location: Killam - 5th Floor - Archives - Range A81 C

Publication status:

Published

File: MS-2-707, Box 3, Folder 1 - Personal diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1985-1986

Title: Personal diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1985-1986

Reference code: MS-2-707, Box 3, Folder 1

Date: 1985 - 1986 (date of creation)

Physical description: 2 volumes ; 14 x 21 x 3 cm

Physical location: Killam - 5th Floor - Archives - Range A81 C

Publication status:

Published

File: MS-2-707, Box 3, Folder 2 - Personal diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1987-1988

Title: Personal diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1987-1988

Reference code: MS-2-707, Box 3, Folder 2

Date: 1987 - 1988 (date of creation)

Physical description: 2 volumes ; 15.5 x 21.5 x 3.5 cm

Physical location: Killam - 5th Floor - Archives - Range A81 C

Publication status:

Published

File: MS-2-707, Box 3, Folder 3 - Personal diary of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1989

Title: Personal diary of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1989

Reference code: MS-2-707, Box 3, Folder 3

Date: 1989 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 volume ; 14 x 21 x 3 cm

Physical location: Killam - 5th Floor - Archives - Range A81 C

Publication status:

Published

Series: MS-2-707 - Travel diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson

Title: Travel diaries of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson

Reference code: MS-2-707

Date: 1941 - 1978 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series contains two travel diaries written by Edith Archibald Dobson between 1941-1978.

Physical description: 2 volumes ; 11.5 x 16.5 x 1 cm and smaller

Publication status:

Published

File: MS-2-707, Box 3, Folder 4 - Travel diary of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1970-1973

Title: Travel diary of Edith Archibald (MacMechan) Dobson, 1970-1973

Reference code: MS-2-707, Box 3, Folder 4

Date: 1970 - 1973 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 volume ; 11.5 x 16 x 1 cm

Physical location: Killam - 5th Floor - Archives - Range A81 C

Publication status:

Published

File: MS-2-707, Box 3, Folder 5 - Edith Archibald Dobson's travel diary written during a Nova Scotia motoring trip in 1941 and a trip to the United Kingdom in 1978

Title: Edith Archibald Dobson's travel diary written during a Nova Scotia motoring trip in 1941 and a trip to the United Kingdom in 1978

Reference code: MS-2-707, Box 3, Folder 5

Date: 1941 - 1978 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 volume ; 10 x 16.5 x 0.5 cm

Physical location: Killam - 5th Floor - Archives - Range A81 C

Publication status:

Published
