

William A. McDill fonds

Compiled by Adrienne Lai (2008)

University of British Columbia Archives



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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



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Fonds Description

William A. McDill fonds. - 1936-1975

63.5 cm of textual records and published materials.

Biographical Sketch

William A. McDill was a school teacher, author, editor and a UBC graduate (B.A. 1947; B.Sc., MechEng 1948) who served in the Corps of Royal Canadian Engineers during World War II. McDill was born August 10, 1913 to William Alexander and Jean Duff (McLagan) McDill in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Raised and educated in Winnipeg, McDill studied at the University of Manitoba and the Manitoba Provincial Normal School. He worked as a schoolmaster in the Technical Branch of the Winnipeg Public School System from 1933 until 1939, receiving a B. Ed from Colorado A&M College in 1938. He married Dorothy Sarah Wilkinson, a schoolteacher, in 1939. McDill was commissioned into the Royal Canadian Engineers Corps on Sept 22, 1939 and served in England and France during World War II between 1940 and 1945. After the War, McDill was a student in the Faculty of Applied Science at UBC, and received a B.A. in 1947 and a B.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering in 1948. He went on to receive an M. Ed (Industrial Education) from Colorado A&M College. McDill also served in the Canadian Army from 1948 to 1965 (undertaking additional training at the Royal Military College of Science in England from 1951-1953), attaining the rank of Major. With Col. A.J. Kerry, MacDill co-wrote *The History of the Corps of Royal Canadian Engineers*, a two-volume work published in 1962 and 1966. In 1965, he became the Assistant General Secretary at the Engineering Institute of Canada where he served as manager of technical services before retiring in 1975. McDill died in July of 1989.

Scope and Content

Fonds consists of course notes, exams, assignments, lab reports and essays generated by William McDill during his studies at UBC and the Royal Military College of Science in England; textbooks; and material from his professional life. The fonds has been arranged into three series: Biographical Information, Coursework, and Published Materials.

Notes

File list available.

Fonds donated to the UBC Archives by Professor Moyra McDill in 2007.

Title based on the content of the fonds.

Series Descriptions

Biographical Information series. – 1975.

1 folder.

Series consists of McDill's CV from 1975.

Coursework series. – 1944-1953.

40.5 cm of textual records.

Series consists of notebooks, arranged by subject, containing lecture notes, lab reports, exams, assignments and essays generated by McDill during his studies in Mechanical Engineering at UBC and the Royal Military College of Science in England.

Series is arranged alphabetically.

Published Materials series. – 1936-1966.

23 cm of published materials.

Series consists of engineering books McDill received as a prize for Best Summer Thesis in 1947 from the Association of Professional Engineers, and *The History of the Corps of Royal Canadian Engineers*, which he co-wrote.

Series is arranged chronologically.

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File List

Box 1

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

1-1 Biographical Information

COURSEWORK

- 1-2 "The Colorado-Big Thompson Transmountain Diversion Project -- Book Prize Summer Essay '46" (1947)
- 1-3 "Electricity D. C. Machines & Theory" (1946-7, 1952)
- 1-4 "Geology I UBC 1945-6" (1945-6)
- 1-5 "Machine Design '2' 1947-48" (1947-1948)
- 1-6 "Mathematics Differential Equations & applications Etc. UBC & M.C.S." (1944-1947, 1952)
- 1-7 "ME 361 Kinematics of Machines Sept-Dec '46" (1946)
- 1-8 "ME 463 Design Problems 1947 1948 UBC" (1947-8)
- 1-9 "ME 465 Vibrations UBC 47-48" (1947-8)
- 1-10 "Mechanics UBC CE 31 Probs M.C. of Sc." (1944-6, 1951-2)
- 1-11 "Metallurgy UBC & RMCS" (1947-8, 1952-3)
- 1-12 "Strength of Materials UBC & MC of S" (1945-1947)
- 1-13 "Thermodynamics & Heat Engines Lab Practice UBC '47-'48 RMCS '51-'52" (1947-8; 1951-3)
- 1-14 "Thermodynamics & Heat Engines Problems UBC & RMCS" [1946, 1951-53]

Box 2

PUBLISHED MATERIALS

- 2-1 Kent's Mechanical Engineers' Handbook: Power / by Robert Thurston Kent. New York: John Wiley & Sons 1936.
- 2-2 Kent, Robert Thurston. Kent's Mechanical Engineers' Handbook: Design. Shop Practice / by Robert Thurston Kent. New York: John Wiley & Sons 1938.
- 2-3 Handbook of Engineering Fundamentals / edited by Ovide W. Eshbach. New York: John Wiley & Sons 1936.
- 2-4 The History of The Corps of Royal Canadian Engineers: Volume I 1749-1939 / by Colonel A.J. Kerry and Major W. A. McDill. Ottawa: The Military Engineers Association of Canada, 1962.
- 2-5 The History of The Corps of Royal Canadian Engineers: Volume II 1936-1946 / by Colonel A.J. Kerry and Major W. A. McDill. Ottawa: The Military Engineers Association of Canada, 1966.