

# University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections

## Finding Aid - Donald John Birse fonds (MSS 052)

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# Donald John Birse fonds

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## Summary information

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| <b>Repository:</b>                                   | University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections  |
| <b>Title:</b>  | Donald John Birse fonds  |
| <b>ID:</b>   | MSS 052  |
| <b>Photograph Collection<br/>[alternative]:</b>      | PC 74  |
| <b>Date:</b>   | 1887-1969, predominant 1928-1969 (date of creation)  |
| <b>Physical description:</b>                         | 0.8 m of textual records and graphic materials. [Note: Includes 127 photographs. -- 14 postcards. -- 2 photographic plates. -- 1 album.] |
| <b>Language:</b>                                     | English  |
| <b>Dates of creation,<br/>revision and deletion:</b> |  |

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## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

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### Note

Donald Birse was born in Minnesota and moved to Canada early in life. He graduated from the University of Manitoba with a degree in geology. His work as a student assistant in the Canadian Geological Survey from 1924-1926 prepared him for an outdoor career, primarily in northern Manitoba. Birse worked for several geological companies over the course of his career. He also worked as a geological consultant. He conducted geological explorations for new mineral sites, and evaluated the economic viability of numerous mining and land claims.

### Custodial history

The Donald John Birse Collection was transferred to the Archives & Special Collections on September 10, 1981 by Mrs. Berythe Birse, Donald Birse's widow.

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## Scope and content

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The collection contains the files, reports, correspondence, printed maps and pamphlets gathered or created by Donald Birse during his career spanning the years 1928 to 1969. Of special interest are his diaries and work journals, mineral claims, company reports and approximately 150 photographs of various geological expeditions in northern Manitoba from 1924 to 1937.

## Notes

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### Title notes

### Arrangement

This collection is organized into 7 series.

### Conditions governing use

There are no restrictions on the use of this collection. The collection can be consulted and used only in the reading room of Archives & Special Collections, Elizabeth Dafoe Library.

### Finding aids

A finding aid can be generated from this description.

### Related material

One hundred and eighty-one photographs have been physically separated from the collection for conservation purposes. They have been assigned the number PC 74.

### Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

### Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
- **Level of detail:** Full

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## Series descriptions

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### Diaries and Work Journals

Date: 1887-1953 (date of creation)

Physical description: (7 folders)

Publication status:

published

| <b>File / item list</b> |  |           |               |                                     |
|-------------------------|--|-----------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Ref code                | Title  | Dates     | Access status | Container                           |
|                         | File - Events of 1928  | 1928      |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0001 File<br>0001 |
|                         | File - Ledger of Manitoba Mining<br>Companies - notes on their operation | 1887-1929 |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0001 File<br>0002 |
|                         | File - Events of 1933  | 1933      |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0001 File<br>0003 |
|                         | File - Events of 1934 & 1935   | 1934-35   |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0001 File<br>0004 |
|                         | File - Events of 1936  | 1936      |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0001 File<br>0005 |
|                         | File - Events of 1936 & 1937   | 1936-37   |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0001 File<br>0006 |
|                         | File - Cross-Section Book, 1948 & 1949                                   | 1948-49   |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0001 File<br>0007 |
|                         | File - Events of 1951  | 1951      |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0001 File<br>0007 |
|                         | File - Booklet from 1953   | 1953      |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0001 File<br>0007 |

### **Correspondence**

Date: 1945-1969 (date of creation)

Physical description: (11 folders)

Publication status:

published

| <b>File / item list</b> |                 |           |               |                                     |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Ref code                | Title           | Dates     | Access status | Container                           |
|                         | File - Outgoing | 1949-1962 |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0001 File<br>0008 |
|                         | File - Outgoing | 1945-1963 |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0001 File<br>0009 |
|                         | File - Outgoing | 1946-1961 |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0002 File<br>0001 |

|  |                 |             |                                     |
|--|-----------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|
|  | File - Incoming | 1945-1960   | A1981-013,<br>Box 0002 File<br>0002 |
|  | File - Incoming | 1947 - 1969 | A1981-013,<br>Box 0002 File<br>0003 |
|  | File - Incoming | 1936 - 1963 | A1981-013,<br>Box 0002 File<br>0004 |
|  | File - Incoming | 1945 - 1967 | A1981-013,<br>Box 0002 File<br>0005 |
|  | File - Incoming | 1948 - 1951 | A1981-013,<br>Box 0002 File<br>0006 |
|  | File - Incoming | 1955 - 1964 | A1981-013,<br>Box 0002 File<br>0007 |
|  | File - Incoming | 1947 - 1960 | A1981-013,<br>Box 0002 File<br>0008 |
|  | File - Incoming | 1930 - 1961 | A1981-013,<br>Box 0002 File<br>0009 |

### Published Essay, Financial Accounts, Assay Booklets, Notes on Stamp Collecting

Publication status:

published

#### File / item list

| Ref code | Title   | Dates | Access status | Container                           |
|----------|---|-------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
|          | File - Published Essay, Financial<br>Accounts, Assay Booklets, Notes on<br>Stamp Collecting |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0002 File<br>0010 |

### Legal Papers, Option Agreements, Notarized Letters

Date: [19-?] (date of creation)

Physical description: (5 folders)

Publication status:

published

#### File / item list

| Ref code | Title               | Dates | Access status | Container                           |
|----------|---------------------|-------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
|          | File - Apex - Elbow |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0002 File<br>0012 |

|  |                                |                                     |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|  | File - English Brook           | A1981-013,<br>Box 0002 File<br>0013 |
|  | File - Federated - Long Bear   | A1981-013,<br>Box 0002 File<br>0014 |
|  | File - Lucky Bay - North Star  | A1981-013,<br>Box 0003 File<br>0001 |
|  | File - Nugget - Winnipeg River | A1981-013,<br>Box 0003 File<br>0002 |

### Assay Reports, Diamond Drill Records, Maps, and Mineral Claims

Physical description: 20 folders

Publication status:

published

#### File / item list

| Ref code | Title                          | Dates | Access status | Container                           |
|----------|--------------------------------|-------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
|          | File - Alaska - Bird River     |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0003 File<br>0003 |
|          | File - Bluebird - Bruno        |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0003 File<br>0004 |
|          | File - East Braintree Lithium  |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0003 File<br>0005 |
|          | File - East Braintree Lithium  |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0003 File<br>0006 |
|          | File - East Braintree Lithium  |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0003 File<br>0007 |
|          | File - Edna - Estevan          |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0003 File<br>0008 |
|          | File - Gauthier - Halfway Lake |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0003 File<br>0009 |
|          | File - Hope - Lac du Bonnet    |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0004 File<br>0001 |
|          | File - Maskwa - Mount Haldane  |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0004 File<br>0002 |
|          | File - Neepawa - Neda          |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0004 File<br>0003 |

|  |                                 |                                     |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|  | File - North Star               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0004 File<br>0004 |
|  | File - Rice Lake                | A1981-013,<br>Box 0004 File<br>0005 |
|  | File - Scott - Split Lake       | A1981-013,<br>Box 0004 File<br>0006 |
|  | File - Sylvania Gold Mining Co. | A1981-013,<br>Box 0004 File<br>0007 |
|  | File - Sylvania Gold Mining Co. | A1981-013,<br>Box 0004 File<br>0008 |
|  | File - West Hawk - Willingdon   | A1981-013,<br>Box 0005 File<br>0001 |
|  | File - Yukon Territories        | A1981-013,<br>Box 0005 File<br>0002 |
|  | File - Miscellaneous File       | A1981-013,<br>Box 0005 File<br>0003 |

### **Rolled Maps and Claims**

Date: [19-?] (date of creation)

Physical description: (26 items)

Publication status:

published

#### **File / item list**

| Ref code | Title                         | Dates | Access status | Container              |
|----------|-------------------------------|-------|---------------|------------------------|
|          | File - Rolled Maps and Claims |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0006 |

### **Series MSS 052-PC 074: Photograph Collection**

Date: 1924-1937, [19-?] (date of creation)

Physical description: (9 folders)

Access points:

- Graphic material (documentary form)

Publication status:

published



| <b>File / item list</b> |   |       |               |  |
|-------------------------|---|-------|---------------|--|
| Ref code                | Title   | Dates | Access status | Container                              |
|                         | File - Photographs of D.J. Birse on the Canadian Geological Survey of 1924.   |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0001 PC<br>File 0001 |
|                         | File - Photographs of D.J. Birse on the Canadian Geological Survey of 1925.   |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0001 PC<br>File 0002 |
|                         | File - Photographs of D.J. Birse on the Canadian Geological Survey of 1926.   |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0001 File<br>0003    |
|                         | File - Photographs from 1933 to 1935.   |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0001 PC<br>File 0004 |
|                         | File - Photographs from 1935.   |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0001 PC<br>File 0005 |
|                         | File - Photographs of a geological expedition to Mink Lake in 1936-37.  |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0001 PC<br>File 0006 |
|                         | File - Photographs from various periods and locales, undated and/or unspecified.  |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0001 PC<br>File 0007 |
|                         | File - Post Cards: Souvenir Views from Manitoba mining areas. Includes Kitchener Mine and Selkirk Gold Mine.                |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0001 PC<br>File 0008 |
|                         | File - Two photographic plates of Tyndall Limestone and a Photo Album, illustrating features of Tyndall Manitoba Limestone. |       |               | A1981-013,<br>Box 0001 PC<br>File 0009 |