

University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections

Finding Aid - Herbert Philip (H. P.) Crabb fonds (Mss 357, Pc 312)

Generated by Access to Memory (AtoM) 2.3.0 Printed: April 11, 2017

Language of description: English

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Herbert Philip (H. P.) Crabb fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections
Title:	Herbert Philip (H. P.) Crabb fonds
ID:	Mss 357, Pc 312
Date:	1913-2013 (date of creation)
Physical description:	0.72 m textual records 452 photographs 1 negative 4 DVDs (photographs)
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Herbert Philip Crabb was born in Donisthorpe, Leicestershire, England on January 8, 1889. He came to Canada in 1904 as a boy of fifteen and settled at Borden, Saskatchewan. In 1907, after a few years of farm work he joined the staff of the Bank of Commerce in Radisson, Saskatchewan. In 1912, he went to Winnipeg, Manitoba and worked for the real estate firm of Stephenson and Field. In April 1915, he enlisted in Winnipeg in the Canadian Remount Depot of Calgary. In May he went to France with Canadian 3rd Echelon Headquarters. In January 1917, Captain Crabb transferred to the Royal Flying Corps and received flying training in Christ Church, Oxford. He was then posted as a flight instructor and after qualifying for service in the R.A.F., he became wing examining officer with the 26th Wing, R.A.F. at Cambridge. Towards the end of the war (1918), he was training instructor at Fowlmere, Cambridge, on Handley Page bomber aircraft.

In July 1919, he returned to Winnipeg and became a member of Stephenson, Field, and Crabb. It was at Fowlmere that he met Doreen Simons, who was a transport driver with the W.R.A.F. She came to Canada in 1921 and they were married in Winnipeg when he was 32 years old. In 1923, Crabb formed his own firm, Crabb and Company Ltd., with himself as president. He later formed the Crabb Construction Company, which built many of the larger homes in Winnipeg. He was also president of Moss Products Ltd. and General Discounts Ltd. He eventually sold Crabb and Company in 1953 and was then self-employed in the investment business. During the Second World War, he became commanding officer of the 112th City of Winnipeg Squadron from 1937 to 1939. He mobilized the squadron for active service. Every officer and 95 percent of the men volunteered for active service. In December 1939, Crabb transferred to Air Force Headquarters in Ottawa with the rank of squadron leader, going to the Directorate of Manning. He was promoted to wing commander and deputy director of Manning in March 1940, and director in November 1941 with the rank of group captain. He was later second in command of No. 4 Air Training Command at Calgary and then commanding officer of No. 9 Bombing and Gunnery School at Mont Joli, Quebec.

In the summer of 1944, at the age of 55, he returned to Winnipeg. Crabb served for many years on the Assessment Board of the City of Winnipeg and was also regional director for the Dominion Department of Labor. One of his main interests was the development of Canadian aviation. He served as a commissioner of the St. James – Winnipeg Airport Commission. He was a founder-member of the Aviation League of Manitoba, the Aviation League of Canada, and the Winnipeg Flying Club. Along with Bill Straith and Air Vice Marshall John Sully, Group Captain Crabb located and founded the airport in Winnipeg. He was later chosen to investigate the death of young Frederick J. Stevenson (1896-1928) who was killed in a flying accident in Northern Manitoba. On his return he suggested using the name Stevenson Field which is now Winnipeg James Armstrong Richardson International Airport. He was a member of the Winnipeg Gyro Club since its organization in 1920 and the Wartime Pilots' and Observers' Association. He was President of the St. George's Snowshoe Club, and the Winnipeg Real Estate Board and a member of the Manitoba Club, St. Charles Country Club, Motor Country Club, and the Winnipeg Winter Club Group. Captain Crabb died in Winnipeg on May 5, 1966 after suffering from a series of strokes. He was survived by his wife, Doreen, and his son, John Philip Crabb.

Custodial history

The first accession (A12-17) of the fonds was donated to University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections by John Philip Crabb in 2012. The second accession (A14-56) was donated by John Philip Crabb in 2014.

Scope and content

The fonds consists of H.P. Crabb's documents, notebooks, training manuals, correspondences, digitized postcards, and photographs from his military service with the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) in World War I and Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) in World War II.

Notes

Title notes

Restrictions on access

There are no restrictions on access.

Finding aids

A finding aid can be generated from this description.

Other notes

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

- **Status description:** Final
- **Institution identifier:** UMASC

Access points

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Graphic material (documentary form)
- Records in Electronic Form (documentary form)

Series descriptions

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
Accession Mss 357, Pc 312-A2012-017: Herbert Philip (H.P.) Crabb Fonds				
<u>Creator:</u> Crabb, Herbert Philip				
<u>Date:</u> 1915-1974 (date of creation)				
<u>Scope and content:</u>				
The fonds consists of H.P. Crabb's documents, notebooks, training manuals, correspondence, and photographs from his military service with the RFC in World War I and the RCAF in World War II.				
<u>Physical description:</u> 0.50 m textual records; 410 photographs and other material				
<u>Language of the material:</u>				
<u>Arrangement:</u>				
This collection is arranged into three series and photograph collection.				
<u>Restrictions on access:</u>				
There are no restrictions on access.				
<u>Finding aids:</u>				
A description can be generated from the fonds-level description.				
File / item list				
Military Service				
<u>Date:</u> 1915-1974 (date of creation)				

File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
	File - World War One correspondence & documents re: enlistment, orders, transfer, discharge, repatriation 1915-1919	1915-1919		1 1
	File - Cadet Crabb's handwritten notebook 1917	1917		1 2
	File - Cadet Crabb's Loose Leaf Notebook with handwritten notes and diagrams 1917	1917		1 3
	File - Army Book 425, Pilot's Flying Log Book 1918-1919	1918-1919		1 4
	File - RAF Pilot's Flying Log Book 1934-1944	1934-1944		1 5
	File - Flying Training Manual "A" Flight No. 12 Squadron RCAF Part 1 Flying Instruction 1935	1935		1 6
	File - RAF Manual of Air navigation Vol. 1 1935	1935		2 1
	File - No. 112 (402) Squadron Winnipeg; lists of personnel, correspondence, evaluation, pamphlet, financial statements 1938, 1939, 1952			2 2
	File - No. 112 Squadron newspaper article 1939	1939		2 3
	File - Directorate of Manning, Ottawa; notes, speeches, correspondence, precis 1940-1942	1940-1942		2 4
	File - Instructions to manning officers; RCAF recruiting tests [ca. 1941]			2 5
	File - RCAF pamphlets 1941-1942, 1949-1950, 1967			2 6
	File - No. 9 Bombing and Gunnery School, Mont Jolie, Quebec; correspondence, newspaper article, pamphlets, date book 1943-1944	1943-1944		2 7
	File - Letter to Guy Gibson in reference to photographs 1944	1944		2 8
	File - RCAF Association Lakehead Memorial unveiling 1959	1959		2 9
	File - 402 Squadron newspaper articles 1959, 1974	1959, 1974		2 10
	File - Research Material - RCAF service badge, membership cards, newspaper articles, correspondence			2 11
Civil Aviation 1926-1966				
<u>Physical description:</u> {quantity}				
File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container

	File - Gyro Club rosters, membership cards, constitution, newsletters, correspondence 1926-1961	1926-1961	3 1
	File - Winnipeg Flying Club correspondence, newsletters, meeting minutes, rosters and other material 1928-1929,1945-1948	1945-1948 1928-1929	3 2
	File - Canadian Flying Clubs Association various documents 1933, 1936, 1966	1933, 1936, 1966	3 3
	File - St. James-Winnipeg Airport Commission minutes, correspondence, financial 1938-1941	1938-1941	3 4
	File - St. James-Winnipeg Airport Commission minutes, correspondence, financial 1942-1946	1942-1946	3 5
	File - St. James-Winnipeg Airport Commission minutes, correspondence, financial 1947-1956	1947-1956	3 6
	File - St. James-Winnipeg Airport Commission blueprints		3 7
	File - Clubs/Associations 1948		3 8
	File - Manitoba Club 1959-1961	1959-1961	3 9
	File - Research Material - private Air Pilot's Certificate (1928); membership cards	1928	3 10

Personal 1915-1966Physical description: {quantity}**File / item list**

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
	File - City of Winnipeg Assessment Office notes & correspondence [ca. 1936]			3 11
	File - St. Charles Country Club	1956-1966		3 12
	File - Letters of condolence, obituaries			3 13
	File - Research Material - greeting cards, travel journals, cards			3 14
	File - Music/songbooks 1915, 1916, 1940, 1943			3 15

Pc 312 (A.12-17) 1915-1944**File / item list**

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
	File - World War One planes [1915?]-1918			1 1
	File - World War One planes [1915?]-1918			1 2

	File - World War One - H.P. Crabb & misc. 1915-1919	1 3
	File - World War One misc. 1917-1918	1 4
	File - World War One aerial photos of planes [1918?]	1 5
	File - World War One aerial photos [ca. 1918]	1 6
	File - Photo book - personal-England and Canada; military-Fowlmere, England 1918-[ca. 1921]	1 7
	File - World War Two planes [194-?]	1 8
	File - World War Two misc. [194-?]	1 9
	File - Canadian Flying Clubs Association 1931	1 10
	File - Winnipeg Flying Club 1930-1933	1 11
	File - No. 112 Squadron 1938-1939	1 12
	File - No. 112 Squadron 1939	1939 1 13
	File - RCAF staff party, Ottawa 1942	1942 1 14
	File - Photo book - farewell tribute to H.P. Crabb, Ottawa 1942	1942 1 15
	File - No. 9 Bombing & Gunnery School, Mont Jolie, Quebec 1944	1944 1 16
	File - Miscellaneous	1 17
	File - Postcard Collection n.d.	1 18

Oversized Items 1939-1957

Physical description: 15 items

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
	File - Group photograph of 112 (A. C.) Squadron, RCAF, Winnipeg 1939			1
	File - Oversized Photographs and Posters			1
	File - Oversized Pictures, Posters and Certificates			1 Oversized Map Folder 1

Accession Mss 357, Pc 312-A2014-056: Herbert Philip (H.P.) Crabb fonds

Creator: Crabb, Herbert Philip

Date: 1913-2013; 1939-1945 predominant (date of creation)

Scope and content:

This accession consists of documents and photographs relating to H.P. Crabb's military service with the Royal Flying Corps (RFC), the Royal Air Force (RAF), and the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF).

Physical description: 0.22 m of textual records, 42 photographs, 1 negative

Language of the material:

Arrangement:

This collection is arranged into four series:

Restrictions on access:

There are no restrictions on this material

Finding aids:

A finding aid can be generated from the fonds-level description.

File / item list

Military Service

Date: 1917-2013; 1939-1945 predominant (date of creation)

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
	File - Air Force Instruction Manuals			1 1
	File - List of Cadets to be Temporary Lieutenants, 1917	1917		1 2
	File - General Instructions: Royal Air Force - Thetford, April 1, 1918	1918		1 3
	File - Pay Account Statements, Request for Per Diem Increase, Request for War Service Gratuity, 1918-1919	1918-1919		1 4
	File - Officers' Indoctrination Course Materials, [193?]			1 5
	File - H.P. Crabb represents Manitoba Premier John Bracken at reception of R-100 in Montreal - correspondence and news articles, 1930			1 6
	File - Instructions for the Non-Permanent Active Air Force - 2 copies, 1934	1934		1 7
	File - No. 12 (AC) Squadron, RCAF - Report of Annual Summer Training - Shilo, Manitoba, 1937	1937		1 8
	File - No. 112 (AC) Squadron Documents - training guides, routine orders, personnel lists, memos, notes, correspondence, 1938-1939	1938-1939		1 9
	File - Miscellaneous Documents re: H.P. Crabb and the RCAF, 1939-1942	1939-1942		1 10
	File - H.P. Crabb Appointed Director of Air Force Manning - correspondence and news articles, 1939-1942	1939-1942		1 11
	File - No. 4 Training Command - Calgary, Alberta - correspondence, news articles, daily routine orders, 1941-1943	1941-1943		1 12
	File - Correspondence, Clearance Certificate, News Articles, 1943	1943		1 13

	File - Mont Joli - Correspondence, Commanding Officer's Handing Over Certificates, Nominal Roll of Officers, 1943-1944	1943-1944	1 14
	File - Issues of the "Mont Joli Target: No. 9 Bombing and Gunnery School - 4 issues, 1944	1944	1 15
	File - Correspondence, 1944-1948	1944-1948	1 16
	File - RCAF Monthly Newsletter for Reserve, Retired, and Former Members of the RCAF, 1947-1950	1947-1950	1 17
	File - RFC-RNAS Anniversary Reunion - Roster of Warbirds, 1958	1958	1 18
	File - Correspondence and Documents of Major W.R.W. Henderson, 1958-1963	1958-1963	1 19
	File - Wartime Pilot's and Observers' Association - Blank Membership Application, Membership Roster, 1960	1960	1 20
	File - Air Force Officers Basic Course Materials - Significant Individuals, 2013	2013	1 21
	File - The Royal Canadian Air Force List, 1939	1939	2 1
	File - The Royal Canadian Air Force List, 1940	1940	2 2
	File - The Royal Canadian Air Force List, 1941	1941	2 3
	File - The Royal Canadian Air Force List and Index, 1942	1942	2 4
	File - Index to the Royal Canadian Air Force List, 1943	1943	2 5

Personal 1913-2005; 1939-1945 predominant

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
	File - H.P. Crabb's Sketchbook and Drawings			2 6
	File - Membership in the Winnipeg Canoe Club & Winnipeg Rowing Club, 1913	1913		2 7
	File - Notes on Stevenson Field - Talk on Aviation to St. James Board of Trade, 1931, 1937	1931,1937		2 8
	File - Personal Correspondence, 1936-1948	1936-1948		2 9
	File - Newsclippings re: H.P. Crabb and the Air Force, 1928-1945	1928-1945		2 10
	File - Collected Poetry and Humour, 1937-1945	1937-1945		2 11

Certificates 1918-2005

Physical description: 2 folders (1 oversize, see below)

File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
	File - Certificates, 1940, 2005	1940-2005		2 12
Photographs 1918-[1945?]				
<u>Physical description</u> : 42 photographs, 1 negative				
File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
	File - Untitled and Undated Photographs - 3 photographs, 1 negative			2 13
	File - Photograph taken at the Canadian Day Office in London, England - 1 photograph, 1918	1918		2 14
	File - RCAF and Wartime Service Photographs - 33 photographs, 1939- [1945?]			2 15
	File - Military Service Photographs - 3 photographs, 1931; [between 1930 and 1950]	1931		2 16
Oversized Material				
<u>Physical description</u> : 2 photographs, 3 certificates				
File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
	File - Military Service Photographs - 2 photographs			1 1
	File - Certificates, 1918, 1934, 1940			1 1