

University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections

Finding Aid - Janet (Campbell) Grushon collection (Mss 481 (A2010-81))

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Janet (Campbell) Grushon collection

Table of contents

Summary information	3
Administrative history / Biographical sketch	3
Scope and content	4
Notes	4
Access points	5

Summary information

Repository: University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections

Title: Janet (Campbell) Grushon collection

ID: Mss 481 (A2010-81)

Date: 2008-2010 (date of creation)

Date: [1925?]-1927 (date of creation)

Physical description: 6 photographs : b&w
1 CD : 53 digitized images (.jpeg files)

**Dates of creation,
revision and deletion:**

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

The Survival Research Institute of Canada was founded in 1991. The institute aimed to pursue and promote studies in the field of survival research, which is investigation into whether some part of the human consciousness or personality, commonly referred to as spirit, survives physical death and whether that spirit is able to communicate with the living. Based in Victoria, BC, its representatives carry out the following activities: undertaking research into the history of Spiritualism and psychical research in Canada (including study of the work of Canadian psychical researcher, Dr. Thomas Glendenning Hamilton, and the relationship of Spiritualist table-tilting phenomena documented by Hamilton and others to theories about psychokinesis); taking part in experiments connected to evidence of spirit survival brought through mediumship; sponsoring public education on subjects relevant to survival research through workshops, lectures, and demonstrations of mediumship; participating in media interviews; presenting academic lectures in Canada, the United States and Europe; and directing relevant records of Canadian organizations and individuals to appropriate archival repositories. On May 24, 2000, the institute was federally incorporated and became a registered charity. The founding members were: Walter Meyer zu Erpen and Debra Barr, two noted Canadian archivists, Walter Keoki Quan, Claus Michael Thomsen, Janice Irene Stromgren, Paul Dennis Biscop, and Lolita Nevon Wilson.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Dr. T.G. (Thomas Glendenning) Hamilton was born in Agincourt, Ontario in 1873. In 1883, his family moved west to Saskatchewan and was among the first pioneer families to settle in Saskatoon. After his father died in 1891, his mother moved the family to Winnipeg where young T.G. Hamilton attended

Manitoba College. He graduated from medical school in 1903, completed his internship at the Winnipeg General Hospital in 1904, and commenced practice in the district of Elmwood within Winnipeg in 1905. In 1915, he was President of the Manitoba Medical Association. Hamilton also served on the Public School Board for nine years, one year as chairman. He was also elected a member of the provincial legislature in 1914-1915. In 1918, Hamilton investigated paranormal activity briefly, but began in earnest in 1920 after the death of his three year old twin son Arthur. His aim was the investigation of paranormal phenomena such as rappings, psychokinesis, ectoplasms, and materializations under scientific conditions that would minimize any possibility of error. His work became known in the United Kingdom, Europe, and the United States. Between 1926 and 1935, he presented eighty-six lectures and wrote numerous articles that were published in Canada and abroad. Dr. Hamilton's wife, Lillian, carried on his paranormal experimentations following his death in 1935.

Custodial history

The photographs were taken from album sheets of 38 photographs that belonged to Janet (Campbell) Grushon, the granddaughter of Dr. Thomas Glendenning (T.G.) and Lillian Hamilton. The album sheets were entrusted to Walter Meyer zu Erpen (President, Survival Research Institute of Canada (SRIC)) for research purposes in 2007 by Alison (Campbell) Hermon, Grushon's sister, via Janet Benjamin, Hermon's daughter and Grushon's niece. From 2008-2010, all 38 photographs were digitized at the behest of SRIC, and burned onto a CD. The 6 photographs unique to this collection and the CD of all the scanned images were then donated to the University of Manitoba Archives and Special Collections in 2010, with Meyer zu Erpen acting as transferring agent.

Scope and content

This collection contains 6 unique photographs that complement the Hamilton Family fonds photograph collection (Folder 1), including 5 séance photographs from the late 1920s (3 annotated) and 1 stereoscopic group family photograph (annotated) of the Hamiltons in front of T.G. Hamilton's childhood home at Agincourt, Ontario in 1927. This collection also contains a CD of scanned images of the 38 photographs from the original album sheets and any reverse sides with annotations (Folder 2).

Notes

Title notes

Location of originals

The remaining 32 photographs, digitized on the CD in this collection, were donated to the Archives of the Institut für Grenzgebiete der Psychologie und Psychohygiene in Freiburg, Germany in 2010. They are duplicates of existing photographs in MSS 14 (Hamilton Family fonds).

Restrictions on access

There are no restrictions on access.

Related material

This fonds is closely related to and provides complementary information for the Hamilton Family fonds.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
- **Level of detail:** Full
- **Status description:** Final
- **Description identifier:** A10-81
- **Institution identifier:** UMASC

Access points

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