

Gertrude Dyke fonds

1920-1973

6.5 cm if textual records

Biographical Sketch

Gertrude Dyke was a prominent citizen of Port Arthur (where she was born) and had a great interest in local history. She published three historic booklets: "Historic Lakehead", "Historic Silver Islet", and "Historic Stories". She was the wife of John A. Dyke and daughter of Thomas A. Woodside.

Scope and Content

The Gertrude Dyke fonds includes speeches, addresses, manuscripts, correspondences and notes regarding the history of Northwestern Ontario including pioneer women, local churches, Silver Islet, and the Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society. All documents were produced in Thunder Bay and Fort William.

Series A 60/1/1 - Speeches and Addresses - .5 cm. - 1920-1960

Speeches and addresses given by Gertrude Dyke to Lakehead groups dealing with local history.

- 1) "Review of Papers Given at Meetings of the Thunder Bay Historical Society 1910 to 1926" at the Prince Arthur Hotel on local history between 1641 and 1740.
- 2) "Pioneer Women of Port Arthur" given to the Port Arthur Semi-Centennial (1956) dinner at the Prince Arthur Hotel.

Series A 60/2/1-13 - Manuscripts - 1.5 cm. - 1930-1973

Thirteen typewritten manuscripts by Gertrude Dyke all about local history, some of which became part of books "Historic Lakehead", and "Historic Silver Islet".

- 1) "You Remember When". 20 encapsulated events between 1890 and 1900.
- 2) "A History of Silver Islet". 14-page account of the Silver Islet story.
- 3) "A Glimpse in History". Notes from old records of School Section #1 Shuniah (1874-1884).
- 4) "Lake Superior District United Church History". An 8-page synopsis of the history of Lakehead and its churches from 1641 to 1952.
- 5) "Copper Mining on Isle Royale". This covers the prehistoric mining and use of copper.
- 6) "The History of the United Church W.A. Nipigon". The history from 1893 to 1955.
- 7) An untitled manuscript dated 2 Mar. 1965, which deals with the local history from the Fur Trade to the first high school.
- 8) "Some History of Silver Islet". 8 more pages on this subject.
- 9) "History of the Women's Association of the United Church, Kakabeka Falls, Ontario, 1936-1956".
- 10) An untitled 5-page manuscript on the early history of Lakehead.
- 11) "A History of the First Church Woman's Association". 1 page about the history of the association between 1869 and 1945.
- 12) An untitled story of impromptu service on Silver Islet.
- 13) "The Story of Wayside-1912-1973". By R.Earl Buckley. The history of the East End Salvation Army-type operations by Wesley Church.

Series A 60/3/1-3 - Correspondence - .5 cm. - 1943-1968

General correspondence by Gertrude Dyke.

- 1) Letters concerning Women's rights.

- 2) Letters concerning Women's Association history.
- 3) Miscellaneous.

Series A 60/4/1-5 - Notes - 4 cm. - 1920-1960

Handwritten notes concerning local history that would eventually be used in "Historic Silver Islet" and "Historic Lakehead".

- 1) General local history.
- 2) History of local churches.
- 3) Typewritten and handwritten notes and agenda of various Women's Association in which Gertrude Dyke was involved.
- 5) Original notes of data used in compiling "Historic Lakehead".