

Mary M. White fonds. -1762 - 1784, 1858 - 1922, 1962 - 1983. - 16.5cm

Biographical Note

Born at St. John's on October 6, 1903, she was the only daughter of William White of Trinity and Lavinia Hopkins Taylor of Bay Roberts who were married at Whitbourne on December 28, 1897. Her elder brothers were Raymond Mayers Taylor White (1899-1937) and Walter George Cornwall White (October 27, 1901 - June 21, 1976). She was descended from two of the oldest Trinity families, the Clothiers and Hurdles, and was an eighth generation Newfoundlander. When she was very young the family returned to Trinity from St. John's and there she spent her early girlhood years except for several months each year which she spent at Bonne Bay. She died at St. Luke's Home, St. John's, on August 31, 1995 and is buried next to her father and mother at the Anglican Cemetery, Forest Road, St. John's.

Her elementary education was taken at Trinity, followed by High School at Bishop Spencer College, St. John's (1919-1924), where she completed her Senior Associate or Senior Matriculation. This was followed during September through December, 1924 by Teacher Training at the Normal School, St. John's.

Miss. White taught at White Rock, Trinity Bay from January through June, 1925; at Kelligrews from September, 1925 to June 1926, Petty Harbour from September 1926 through December 1927; and was appointed to the staff of Bishop Spencer College commencing in January, 1927. She remained at Spencer as a staff member, Vice-Principal and Principal until 1963. Miss White was the Lady Superintendent of Bishop Jones Memorial Hostel, a residence for girls attending Bishop Spencer College and Memorial University College, from 1939 to 1950. She was the incumbent Principal at Spencer from 1957 to 1963. In September, 1964 Miss White was appointed Lecturer in French at Memorial University of Newfoundland and Assistant Professor in September 1968, but was obliged to retire from this position because of ill health in October, 1972.

In 1927, she attended summer school at Lycee Victor Duruy, Paris, and spent the full year of 1930-31 in Paris earning the Certificate of Civilization Francaise and the Certificate of Phonetics at the Sorbonne. In 1950, she spent the summer in Brittany, Paris and England and in 1951 at summer school at the Language School, Middlebury College, Vermont. This was followed by summer school at Teachers College, Columbia University, New York from 1951 to 1955 and full-time attendance at Columbia in 1955/56, thus completing a B.S.C. and M.A. in Education from that institution. The summers of 1959 and 1960 were spent in Paris attending lectures at the Sorbonne attending lectures in Civilization Francaise.

The summers of 1965 through 1970 were also spent in Paris researching the French in Newfoundland in the 18th and 19th centuries, this was an area of high interest for Miss White. A year of sabbatical leave from MUN in 1970/71 was again spent in Paris continuing this research.

Custodial History

This collection was gathered by Miss. White over the years and mostly consists of material in relation to the invasion of Trinity by the French and the establishment of the Fort at Admiral's Point. Upon Miss. White's death in 1995 the material was past over to her nephew David White, who donated it to the archives in 2004.

Scope and Content

The fonds consists of material related to the invasion of Trinity by the French; Correspondence and information concerning Bishop Spencer College; and information concerning the archaeology work at Fort Point in 1969. The fonds has been arranged into five Series; Series 1- French Related Material; Series 2 - Bishop Spencer College; Series 3 -Archaeology; Series 4 - Mary M White and; Series 5 - Miscellaneous

Notes

Supplied title based on description and contents of the fonds.

Series 1: French Related Material.- 1762 - 1784, 1858 - 1886, 1978 - 1989. - 8cm

Series consists of a biography of Marc Antoine Sicre de Cinq-Mars, Admiral de Ternay, Charles Jolliot de la Morandiere, an extract from the Naval Illustrated Dictionary, plans of the fortification in Trinity, the french account when they occupied Trinity in 1762, photocopies of newspaper clippings from the 1960s containing information when the French occupied some parts of Newfoundland and a book on the recapture of St. John's, Newfoundland by the French.

Series 2: Bishop Spencer College. - 1920 - 1972. - 2.5cm

Series consists of a report on Bishop Spencer College 1922 - 1951, The Spencerian the schools own yearbook, the Speech Day papers in 1962 at Bishop Spencer College, and reports for the school years 1956 - 57, 1957 - 58, 1958 - 59, 1959 - 60 and 1960 - 61.

Series 3: Archaeology. - 1762, 1969 - 1974. - 4cm

Series consists of a report of the 1969 Archaeological Excavation at Admiral's Point, Trinity, photocopies of newspaper clippings talking about various archaeological excavations, etc.

Series 4: Mary Manston White.- 1922, 1962 - 1983. - 1cm

Series consists of correspondence to Miss White from Rev. M Halliwell, a Christmas Card to Miss White from Gordon Hancock, a biography of Mary Manston White, a certificate to Miss White for her 87th birthday, a teacher`s Certificate, a copy of Memories of Notre - Dame de Paris 1927 - 1977 written by Mary M. White, and two cards to Miss White, etc.

Series 5: Miscellaneous. - 1916, 1968. - 1cm

Series consists of a biography of Myra Louise Taylor, a biography of Mary Meager Southcott and correspondence to the International Grenfell Association from Walter White

Location

Mary M White fonds