

York University Archives & Special Collections (CTASC)

Finding Aid - Aplin family fonds (F0151)

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Aplin family fonds

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Summary information

Repository: York University Archives & Special Collections (CTASC)

Title: Aplin family fonds

ID: F0151

Date: 1916-2002 (date of creation)

Physical description: 0.16 m of textual records
13 photographs

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Edwin Miller (Ted) Aplin was born on 1 April 1909 at Teignmouth, Devon, England and died on 2 June 1973 in Scarborough, Ontario. He immigrated to Canada in 1930 where he met his future wife Elinor Grave Leef. They married on 4 July 1931. They had four children: Nick, Frank, Dave and Jacqueline born in 1933, 1935, 1939 and 1945, respectively. Aplin worked in numerous jobs including positions in banks, an insurance company, a stock brokerage and in sales. He was active in the years before the Second World War in the League for Social Reconstruction, the Canadian Civil Liberties Union and the Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy, and was a member of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation.

On 1 May 1942 he enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force and was stationed in Toronto, Camp Borden, Trenton and Belleville. In December 1944, he left Canada for England and, after the Nazi surrender, was stationed at Celle, Germany as part of Royal Air Force 84 Group Disarmament HQ Unit which was responsible for ensuring that the Luftwaffe was incapacitated in northwest Germany. Being stationed near the Bergen-Belsen Concentration Camp, Aplin became interested in the welfare of the camp victims, many of whom were interned at Bergen-Belsen long after its liberation. To aid the survivors, he organized a system using the Armed Forces Postal System to put internees in contact with their families and friends, and collected goods from Canadian families for distribution at the camp. His work at Bergen-Belsen led many survivors to refer to him as "The Angel of Belsen".

Following his return to Canada, Aplin continued to work in sales and operated several small businesses including Ted Aplin and Company. He became involved in the Scarborough community and was active in a number of local associations. He served as a Scarborough school trustee in 1946 and ran for reeve, unsuccessfully, in 1950. He worked passionately for peace upon his return to Canada up until the time of his death in 1973.

His life and work has continued to be commemorated by his sons Nick and Frank who have collected documentation on his military service including testimonies and reminiscences from colleagues and survivors of Bergen-Belsen. They were both actively involved in the commemorative ceremony for the 50th Anniversary of its liberation in 1995.

Scope and content

Fonds consists of letters written by Ted Aplin to his wife Elinor during his years of service with the R.C.A.F. including letters written while conducting relief work at the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp. It also contains copies of his birth certificate and passport, photographs of Aplin and his family, material that documents his political career in Scarborough, Ontario, a copy of his military service record, copies of articles written about Aplin before and after his death including obituaries and a transcript of his memorial service. It also contains material created and/or accumulated by his sons Nick and Frank in preparation for the 50th anniversary celebration of the liberation of Bergen-Belsen.

Notes

Title notes

Immediate source of acquisition

Donated by Nick Aplin in 1997 and 2004.

Restrictions on access

No restrictions on access.

Accruals

The fonds comprises the following accessions: 1997-044, 2004-049. Further accruals may be expected.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
-

Access points

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Graphic material (documentary form)
- World War, 1939-1945 (subject)

Collection holdings

Accession: F0151-1997-044 - Accession 1997-044

Title: Accession 1997-044

ID: F0151-1997-044

Publication status:

Published

Accession: F0151-2004-049 - Accession 2004-049

Title: Accession 2004-049

ID: F0151-2004-049

Publication status:

Published

File: F0151-1997-044/001(01) - Correspondence, Ted Aplin to Elinor Aplin

Title: Correspondence, Ted Aplin to Elinor Aplin

ID: F0151-1997-044/001(01)

Date: Dec. 1944 - May 1945 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: F0151-1997-044/001(02) - Correspondence, Ted Aplin to Elinor Aplin

Title: Correspondence, Ted Aplin to Elinor Aplin

ID: F0151-1997-044/001(02)

Date: May - Dec. 1945 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Item: F0151-2004-049/001(01) - Certified copy of an entry of birth for Edwin Aplin (Born 1 April 1909), issued by Superintendent Register, Newton Abbey

Title: Certified copy of an entry of birth for Edwin Aplin (Born 1 April 1909), issued by Superintendent Register, Newton Abbey

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(01)

Date: 30 May 1930 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: F0151-2004-049/001(02) - Passport (United Kingdom) and immigration card of Edwin Aplin

Title: Passport (United Kingdom) and immigration card of Edwin Aplin

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(02)

Date: May 1930 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Item: F0151-2004-049/001(03) - Telegram to Ted and Elinor Aplin

Title: Telegram to Ted and Elinor Aplin

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(03)

Date: 10 July 1931 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Item: F0151-2004-049/001(04) - Letter, Ted Aplin to Elinor

Title: Letter, Ted Aplin to Elinor

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(04)

Date: 25 Aug. [1936] (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Item: F0151-2004-049/001(05) - Mortgage agreement

Title: Mortgage agreement

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(05)

Date: 27 Sept. 1943 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Item: F0151-2004-049/001(06) - Letter, Ted Aplin to Elinor

Title: Letter, Ted Aplin to Elinor

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(06)

Date: 9 Apr. 1945 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Item: F0151-2004-049/001(07) - Belsen Uncovered / Derrick Sington, Bristol: Burleigh Press

Title: Belsen Uncovered / Derrick Sington, Bristol: Burleigh Press

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(07)

Date: 1946 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Note [generalNote]:

Photocopy

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Item: F0151-2004-049/001(08) - Telegram, Elinor Aplin to Ted

Title: Telegram, Elinor Aplin to Ted

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(08)

Date: 10 Apr. 1948 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: F0151-2004-049/001(09) - Clippings, photocopies of documents re. Aplin's political career in Scarborough

Title: Clippings, photocopies of documents re. Aplin's political career in Scarborough

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(09)

Date: 1946-1952 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: F0151-2004-049/001(10) - Photographs of Ted Aplin and Family

Title: Photographs of Ted Aplin and Family

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(10)

Date: 1946-1953 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of graphic material

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Graphic material (documentary form)
-

Item: F0151-2004-049/001(11) - Memo from Ted Aplin to Nick Aplin

Title: Memo from Ted Aplin to Nick Aplin

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(11)

Date: 16 Dec. 1969 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Item: F0151-2004-049/001(12) - Ted Aplin memorial, transcript of proceedings

Title: Ted Aplin memorial, transcript of proceedings

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(12)

Date: 9 June 1973 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: F0151-2004-049/001(13) - Aplin obituaries

Title: Aplin obituaries

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(13)

Date: 1973 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Item: F0151-2004-049/001(14) - Toronto Star article re. "Angel of Mercy"

Title: Toronto Star article re. "Angel of Mercy"

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(14)

Date: 20 July 1985 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: F0151-2004-049/001(15) - Statement of service in the Canadian Armed Forces from Personnel Records Centre, National Archives of Canada

Title: Statement of service in the Canadian Armed Forces from Personnel Records Centre, National Archives of Canada

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(15)

Date: 1987-1988 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Item: F0151-2004-049/001(16) - Letter to Elinor Aplin from Bob Collins, Reader's Digest

Title: Letter to Elinor Aplin from Bob Collins, Reader's Digest

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(16)

Date: 24 Mar. 1991 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: F0151-2004-049/001(17) - Forty Years of Teaching in Scarborough, paper by Helen Hillier Given at the October 1979 Meeting of the Scarborough Historical Society

Title: Forty Years of Teaching in Scarborough, paper by Helen Hillier Given at the October 1979 Meeting of the Scarborough Historical Society

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(17)

Date: [ca. 1979] (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: F0151-2004-049/001(18) - Bergen-Belsen Memorial: An Overview

Title: Bergen-Belsen Memorial: An Overview

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(18)

Date: [199-?] (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: F0151-2004-049/001(19) - Correspondence, notes and related material re: the 50th anniversary commemoration of the liberation of Bergen-Belsen concentration camp

Title: Correspondence, notes and related material re: the 50th anniversary commemoration of the liberation of Bergen-Belsen concentration camp

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(19)

Date: 1994-1995 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Item: F0151-2004-049/001(20) - Photograph of Frank and Nick Aplin taken at Bergen-Belsen

Title: Photograph of Frank and Nick Aplin taken at Bergen-Belsen

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(20)

Date: 1995 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 photograph

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Graphic material (documentary form)
-

File: F0151-2004-049/001(21) - Correspondence, speeches and related material collected by Nick Aplin for the commemorative ceremony of the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Bergen-Belsen

Title: Correspondence, speeches and related material collected by Nick Aplin for the commemorative ceremony of the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Bergen-Belsen

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(21)

Date: 1995 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: F0151-2004-049/001(22) - Reflections on the Holocaust: The Art of Aba Bayefsky, invitation to opening and review of show at the Canadian War Museum

Title: Reflections on the Holocaust: The Art of Aba Bayefsky, invitation to opening and review of show at the Canadian War Museum

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(22)

Date: Jan. 1998 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

File: F0151-2004-049/001(23) - Outline biography of Ted Aplin, 1909-1973, prepared by E.N. Aplin

Title: Outline biography of Ted Aplin, 1909-1973, prepared by E.N. Aplin

ID: F0151-2004-049/001(23)

Date: June 2002 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 folder of textual records

Publication status:

Published
