

Beaton Institute Archives

Finding Aid - Katharine McLennan fonds (MG 12.189)

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Katharine McLennan fonds

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Summary information

Repository: Beaton Institute Archives
Title: Katharine McLennan fonds
ID: MG 12.189
Date: 1880-1983 (date of creation)

Physical description: 4 cm of textual records

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Katharine McLennan was born in 1892, the daughter of Senator and Mrs. J.S. MacLennan. She served as a nursing assistant with the French Red Cross during World War 1, and upon her return was appointed Honorary Curator of the Louisbourg Museum. Katharine received the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from St. Francis Xavier University in 1971 and in 1972 was made an Officer of the Order of Canada. She died in December 1975.

Scope and content

Fonds consists of textual records, scrapbooks, and photographs relating to McLennan family events and personal correspondence, including records related to Katharine McLennan's time spent serving overseas during World War 1. Also included are medals and awards received by Katharine as well as a hand-painted Christmas card of the bomb proofs at Louisbourg for a friend Anne Cameron Cook.

Notes

Title notes

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published

Access points

- Textual record (documentary form)
 - Graphic material (documentary form)
 - World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
 - World War 1, Manuscript Groups (subject)
-

Collection holdings

File: MG 12.189.6 - Correspondence

Creator: McLennan, Katharine Sophia

Title: Correspondence

ID: MG 12.189.6

Date: 1915-1918 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File contains letters from Katharine McLennan that were written to various family members while she was serving as a nursing assistant in France during World War 1.

Physical description: 1 cm of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
 - World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
 - World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
 - World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)
-

Item: MG 12.189.6 A - Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

Title: Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

ID: MG 12.189.6 A

Date: 24 September, 1915 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley, dated 24 September 1915. In the letter, Katharine mentions numerous family members, including her father J.S., her sister Margaret, and her step-mother Grace. In addition, she describes the Cataraqui Estate, where she was staying with her friend Catherine (Rhodes) Tudor-Hart who was nicknamed Gogo, and details a desire to obtain some financial freedom.

Physical description: 3 p. of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Farley, Isabel (subject)
 - Tudor-Hart, Catherine (Rhodes) (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
 - World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
 - World War 1, Nursing (subject)
 - World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)
-

Item: MG 12.189.6 B - Letter from Katharine McLennan to her father, J.S. McLennan

Title: Letter from Katharine McLennan to her father, J.S. McLennan

ID: MG 12.189.6 B

Date: 4 June, 1916 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from Katharine McLennan to her father, J.S. McLennan, dated 4 June 1916. The letter, written a month into her time as a World War I Red Cross volunteer at the Hôpital de l'Alliance in Yvetot, France, describes her duties while working on night shift, and the activities that she would partake in during her free time. Katharine mentions the arrival of Helen Homans, a friend who would work alongside her for almost the entirety of the war, and talks of the suffering that she has seen so far in her work.

Physical description: 3 p. of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- McLennan, John Stewart (subject)

- Homans, Helen (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
 - World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
 - World War 1, Nursing (subject)
 - World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)
-

Item: MG 12.189.6 C - Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

Title: Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

ID: MG 12.189.6 C

Date: 13 July, 1916 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley dated 13 July 1916. Katharine, serving as a WW1 Red Cross Volunteer, writes in the letter about day- to-day events the Hôpital de l'Alliance, including eating strawberries and cream and dealing with nurses leaving to tend to soldiers at other hospitals. Katharine also mentions the names of several men that she and her sister know that were lost during the war, and speaks of a trip to the train station where she saw many wounded men and received a button from a soldier.

Physical description: 2 p. of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Farley, Isabel (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
 - World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
 - World War 1, Nursing (subject)
 - World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)
-

Item: MG 12.189.6 D - Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

Creator: McLennan, Katharine Sophia

Title: Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

ID: MG 12.189.6 D

Date: 19 July, 1916 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley dated 29 July 1916. Katharine writes of her recent illness and discloses that it was related to an appendix infection, and that she should be undergoing a removal operation before long. She also mentions having heard that her uncle, Bart McLennan, had been wounded.

Physical description: 2 p. of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Farley, Isabel (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
 - World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
 - World War 1, Nursing (subject)
 - World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)
-

Item: MG 12.189.6 E - Letter from Helen Homans to Isabel Farley

Title: Letter from Helen Homans to Isabel Farley

ID: MG 12.189.6 E

Date: 19 July, 1916 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from Helen Homans to Isabel Farley dated 19 July 1916. Helen was Katharine's close friend, and sent the letter to Isabel to let her know what the doctor had said about Katharine's appendicitis attack and to reassure her that Katharine was recovering from her illness and was in good hands.

Physical description: 3 p. of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Homans, Helen (subject)
- Farley, Isabel (subject)
- Textual record (documentary form)
- World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
- World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
- World War 1, Nursing (subject)

- World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)
-

Item: MG 12.189.6 F - Letter from Katharine McLennan to her father, J.S. McLennan

Title: Letter from Katharine McLennan to her father, J.S. McLennan

ID: MG 12.189.6 F

Date: 6 October, 1916 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from Katharine McLennan to her father, J.S. McLennan, dated 6 October 1916. In the letter, Katharine tells her father about some of the patients that she has been tending to at the Hôpital de l'Alliance in Yvetot, France, and offers a description of some of her coworkers and the hospital. In addition, Katharine indicates that they are awaiting the imminent arrival of Edith Parkman - a woman who would spend a great deal of time with Katharine both during and after the War.

Physical description: 3 p. of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- McLennan, John Stewart (subject)
 - Parkman, Edith (subject)
 - Homans, Helen (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
 - World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
 - World War 1, Nursing (subject)
 - World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)
-

Item: MG 12.189.6 G - Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

Title: Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

ID: MG 12.189.6 G

Date: 8 October, 1916 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley, dated 8 October 1916. In the letter, Katharine describes recent events at the hospital where she is volunteering in Yvetot, France, including several wounded men who had been there a year leaving, holiday scheduling, and a joke

that her friend Edith Parkman was pulling on Helen Homans. She also mentions a trip that she made to a deserted Chateau, "Beauvoir."

Physical description: 3 p. of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Homans, Helen (subject)
 - Parkman, Edith (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
 - World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
 - World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)
 - World War 1, Nursing (subject)
-

Item: MG 12.189.6 H - Letter from Katharine McLennan to her father, J.S. McLennan

Title: Letter from Katharine McLennan to her father, J.S. McLennan

ID: MG 12.189.6 H

Date: 19 October, 1916 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from Katharine McLennan to her father, J.S. McLennan, dated 19 October 1916. In the letter, Katharine describes a day trip that she and Helen Homans took on their half day to the Chateau Salle Verte at Lassay, and notes two small accidents that occurred while Helen was riding her bicycle.

Physical description: 3 p. of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- McLennan, John Stewart (subject)
- Homans, Helen (subject)
- Textual record (documentary form)
- World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
- World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
- World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)

- World War 1, Nursing (subject)
-

Item: MG 12.189.6 I - Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

Title: Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

ID: MG 12.189.6 I

Date: 1 November, 1916 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley, dated 1 November 1916. In the letter, Katharine describes her hatred for night duty, especially in cold, windy weather, and day-to-day operations at the hospital. She also writes about how excited she is to have received a casque with two bullet holes in it from one of the men that was leaving the hospital, and how she will be switching houses when she comes off night duty.

Physical description: 3 p. of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Farley, Isabel (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
 - World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
 - World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)
 - World War 1, Nursing (subject)
-

Item: MG 12.189.6 J - WW1 MG 12.189.6 J

Title: WW1 MG 12.189.6 J

ID: MG 12.189.6 J

Date: 8 November, 1916 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from Letter from Ronard Adrieu to an unknown recipient, dated 12 November 1916. The letter, written in broken French, describes the conditions at another hospital and asks the recipient to say hello to Harnois, a patient at the Hôpital de l'Alliance in Yvetot, France.

Physical description: 4 p. of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Adrieu, Ronard (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
 - World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
 - World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)
 - World War 1, Nursing (subject)
-

Item: MG 12.189.6 K - Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

Title: Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

ID: MG 12.189.6 K

Date: 12 November, 1916 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley, dated 12 November 1916. In the letter, Katharine describes her hatred of night duty and the schedule that night duty nurses must follow. She also mentions a concert held at the hospital, featuring a song that she describes as "perfectly disgusting," and the arrival of a new doctor from London, Major Robson.

Physical description: 2 p. of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Farley, Isabel (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
 - World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
 - World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)
 - World War 1, Nursing (subject)
-

Item: MG 12.189.6 L - Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

Title: Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

ID: MG 12.189.6 L

Date: 7 June, 1917 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley, dated 7 June 1917. In the letter, Katharine describes a picnic that she and Helen went on with some English officers, a trip that they took to [Roneu], and some day-to-day events at the hospital.

Physical description: 3 p. of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Farley, Isabel (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
 - World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)
 - World War 1, Nursing (subject)
 - World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
-

Item: MG 12.189.6 M - Letter from Katharine McLennan to Grace McLennan

Title: Letter from Katharine McLennan to Grace McLennan

ID: MG 12.189.6 M

Date: 31 December, 1917 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from Katharine McLennan to Grace McLennan, dated 31 December 1917. Katharine writes about what events took place during the time around the Christmas and New Year holidays at the H.O.E. 18. She also mentions some of the staff at the hospital, and the duties that she and they must perform during their shifts.

Physical description: 3 p. of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- McLennan, Grace (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
 - World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)
 - World War 1, Nursing (subject)
 - World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
-

Item: MG 12.189.6 N - Letter from Katharine McLennan to her father, J.S. McLennan

Title: Letter from Katharine McLennan to her father, J.S. McLennan

ID: MG 12.189.6 N

Date: 4 July, 1918 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from Katharine McLennan to her father, J.S. McLennan, dated 4 July 1918. The letter, which Katharine wrote during her voyage back to France on the steamer Chicago, features a timeline of the events that took place up to Katharine's departure. This included trips to Boston and New York and meeting with friends and family, including Isabel (McLennan) Farley and Grace McLennan.

Physical description: 2 p. of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- McLennan, John Stewart (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
 - World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
 - World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)
 - World War 1, Nursing (subject)
-

Item: MG 12.189.6 O - Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

Title: Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

ID: MG 12.189.6 O

Date: 14 July, 1918 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley dated 14 July 1918. The letter, written by Katharine upon her arrival back in France, describes the new hospital that she will be stationed at in Pontoise and her time spent in Paris, watching parades and having lunch with friends.

Physical description: 2 p. of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Farley, Isabel (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
 - World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
 - World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)
 - World War 1, Nursing (subject)
-

Item: MG 12.189.6 Q - Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

Title: Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

ID: MG 12.189.6 Q

Date: 30 July, 1918 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley, dated 30 July 1918. In the letter, Katharine describes how busy she has been at the hospital in Pontoise, and gives of a description of the physical hospital space. She also makes note of a serum that is now being used with the patients, discusses new staff members, and describes the work schedule that she and the other nurses must follow.

Physical description: 2 p. of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Farley, Isabel (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
 - World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)
 - World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
 - World War 1, Nursing (subject)
-

Item: MG 12.189.6 P - Letter from Katharine McLennan to Mike Farley

Title: Letter from Katharine McLennan to Mike Farley

ID: MG 12.189.6 P

Date: 18 July, 1918 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from Katharine McLennan to Mike Farley, dated 18 July 1918. The letter offers Katharine's description of the hospital at Pontoise and asks Mike, who has just been deployed, to visit her if possible.

Physical description: 3 p. of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Farley, Michael (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
 - World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
 - World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)
 - World War 1, Nursing (subject)
-

Item: MG 12.189.6 R - Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

Title: Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

ID: MG 12.189.6 R

Date: 8 September, 1918 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley, dated 8 September, 1918. In the letter, Katharine tells her sister about day-to-day life at the hospital in Pontoise, and a visit by a Mr. Martin that she was familiar with. Katharine also tells her sister that she purchased a German automatic pistol.

Physical description: 2 p. of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Farley, Isabel (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
 - World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)
 - World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
 - World War 1, Nursing (subject)
-

Item: MG 12.189.6 S - Letter from Katharine McLennan to Mike Farley

Title: Letter from Katharine McLennan to Mike Farley

ID: MG 12.189.6 S

Date: 10 September, 1918 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from Katharine McLennan to Mike Farley, dated 10 September 1918. In the letter, Katharine asks Mike to come and visit her if he is able, and describes the hospital space and staff at Pontoise. She also mentions the death of her uncle Bartlett.

Physical description: 4 p. of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Farley, Michael (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
 - World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
 - World War 1, Nursing (subject)
 - World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)
-

Item: MG 12.189.6 T - Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

Title: Letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley

ID: MG 12.189.6 T

Date: 2 October, 1918 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from Katharine McLennan to Isabel Farley, dated 2 October, 1918. In the letter, Katharine describes a visit from Mike and mentions a number of patients at the hospital. Katharine also mentions her continued dislike for night duty and an argument that she and her father were having.

Physical description: 2 p. of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Farley, Isabel (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
 - World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
 - World War 1, Nursing (subject)
 - World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)
-

Item: MG 12.189.6 U - Letter from Katharine McLennan to Grace McLennan

Title: Letter from Katharine McLennan to Grace McLennan

ID: MG 12.189.6 U

Date: 4 December, 1918 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a letter from Katharine McLennan to Grace McLennan, dated 4 December, 1918. In the letter, Katharine describes the loss that she and Edith Parkman have been feeling since the death of their friend, Helen Homans. Katharine and Edith, now without work, were in Paris at the time looking for positions, and Katharine describes what the capital was like at the end of the war.

Physical description: 4 p. of textual records

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Homans, Helen (subject)
 - McLennan, Grace (subject)
 - Parkman, Edith (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
 - World War 1, 1914-1918 (subject)
 - World War 1, Women and the War Effort (subject)
 - World War 1, Nursing (subject)
 - World War 1, Letters and Correspondence (subject)
-