

Finding Aid - Earle Clare Shelley fonds (RG-102.1)

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Earle Clare Shelley fonds

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Summary information

Repository:**Title:** Earle Clare Shelley fonds**ID:** RG-102.1**Date:** 1920-1981 (date of creation)**Physical description:** 33 cm of textual records**Dates of creation,
revision and deletion:**

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Born in Bridgeport (now part of Waterloo), Earle Clare Shelley (1905-1990) attended high school at Waterloo College School from 1920 to 1924, and then continued in post-secondary studies at Waterloo College (now Wilfrid Laurier University), graduating in 1928. While at Waterloo College, Shelley was the founding assistant editor and advertising manager of *The College Cord*, the school newspaper, and was heavily involved in the French, English, and German Literary Societies. In 1927 he joined the North Waterloo Regiment, which was later redesignated as the Scots Fusiliers of Canada. After teaching French and English courses at the College from 1928 to 1931, Shelley then attended the Ontario College of Education at the University of Toronto to become a secondary school teacher.

In 1932, Shelley began teaching languages at the Stratford Collegiate Institute. He was also transferred to the local Perth Regiment, rising to the rank of Major by 1939. When the regiment mobilized in September 1939, Shelley was granted a leave of absence from the school to serve with the Canadian Army. After the war, Shelley helped to organize the Student Militia Summer Training Programme and continued to lead various cadet units. In 1945, Shelley left Stratford and began teaching French at the Rehabilitation School for Returning Veterans at Knollwood Park Camp in Kitchener. In 1947, he became vice-principle at the Thamesford Continuation School where he also taught languages, history, and physical education. When the school in Thamesford was absorbed into the Ingersoll District Collegiate Institute in 1953, Shelley continued to teach there until his retirement in 1965.

Throughout his career, Shelley also became very involved municipally. While in Thamesford, Shelley helped to organize the Chamber of Commerce, Recreational Centre, Tennis Club, and the Boy Scout Association. He also served as Chairman of the Village Council, Library Board, and Lawn Bowling Club, and became an active member of the Thamesford Royal Canadian Legion, also serving as District B Commander from 1969 to 1971.

In his retirement, Shelley became heavily involved at Waterloo Lutheran/Wilfrid Laurier University. He served on the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association, also representing the Association in the university's Board of Governors and Senate. In 1977, he was recognized as Laurier's Alumnus of the Century and was the Lifetime Vice-President of the Alumni Association.

Shelley also wrote poetry and numerous essays during his life, including a book of poems called “Fallen Petals” (1931). He also compiled the histories of both the Scots Fusiliers of Canada (Kitchener) and the Perth Regiment (Stratford), and wrote extensively on occult experiences and UFOs.

Scope and content

The Earle Clare Shelley fonds contains personal papers, photographs, publications and newspaper clippings created and accumulated by Earle Clare Shelley. The collection includes his biographical information on Shelley’s educational, teaching, military, municipal, and retirement careers, teaching certificates, and notebooks from before and during the Second World War, as well as unpublished poetry, sermons, essays, and a French grammar dictionary written by Shelley. Included is an essay he wrote in 1986 entitled “The Twilight Country: An Out-of-Body Experience.”

Notes

Title notes

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
- **Accompanying material:** The following items were transferred to Special Collections: Onward Christian soldiers : a little book of prayers and hymns for men on active service Fallen petals / Earle Clare Shelley, with a pref. by N. Willison ; designed by Woldemar Neufeld. Kitchener, Ont. : Moyer Press, c1931 Ol' rockin' Joe : (a philosophical poem) / Earle Clare Shelley, 1984

Access points

- Shelley, Earle Clare (subject)
- Waterloo Lutheran University
- Wilfrid Laurier University
- Waterloo College
- Textual record (documentary form)
- History of Kitchener-Waterloo (subject)

Series descriptions

Series 1: Personal

<u>Physical description</u> : 10 cm of textual records				
File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
1.1	File - Biographical information : vitae sheets			RG-102.1 Box 1
1.2.1	File - Certificate - Ontario Dept. of Education requirements for admission to a collegiate institute, high school or continuation school. 1920	1920		RG-102.1 Box 1
1.2.2	File - Certificate - Faculty of the Evangelical Lutheran Seminary of Canada and Waterloo College requirements for admission to Form Four. 1924	1924		RG-102.1 Box 1
1.2.3	File - University of Western Ontario, Bachelor of Arts degree. 1928 Includes baccalaureate service of Waterloo College in affiliation with the University of Western Ontario			
1.4	File - Newspaper clippings			RG-102.1 Box 1
1.5.1	File - Notebooks - 1928, 1929	1928-1929		RG-102.1 Box 1
1.5.2	File - Notebook - 1941-1956	1941-1956		RG-102.1 Box 1
1.6	File - Music book - The excell hymnal			RG-102.1 Box 3
1.7	File - Music book - The most popular love songs	1906		RG-102.1 Box 3
Series 2: Writing by Earle Clare Shelley				
<u>Scope and content</u> :				
This series contains published and unpublished poetry, essays, and other writing by Earle Clare Shelley.				
<u>Physical description</u> : 23 cm of textual record				
File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
2.1.1	File - Fallen petals / Earle Clare Shelley	1931		
2.1.2	File - Ol' Rockin' Joe / Earle Clare Shelley	1981		
2.2	File - Essays on poets and poetry written by Earle Shelley	1926-1927		RG-102.1 Box 1
2.3	File - King George VI			RG-102.1 Box 1
2.4	File - Unpublished - French grammar dictionary, vol. 1	1926		RG-102.1 Box 2

2.5	File - Unpublished - French grammar dictionary, vol. 2	1926-1931	RG-102.1 Box 2
2.6	File - Sermon : I die daily		RG-102.1 Box 2
2.7	File - The twilight country : an out-of-body experience / Earle Clare Shelley. [Waterloo, Ontario : Earle Clare Shelley], 1986.	1986	RG-102.1 Box 2

Series 3: Unpublished manuscript - The Quest : in search of a definition of poetry

Scope and content:

This series contains a manuscript of an unpublished poetry textbook written by Earle Shelley.

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
3.1	File - Notes, table of contents, research			RG-102.1 Box 2
3.2	File - Part 1 - volume 1-2 : Its nature and elements			RG-102.1 Box 2
3.3	File - Part 1, vol. 2-4 : The nature and elements of poetry			RG-102.1 Box 2
3.4	File - Part 2 : The material of poetry	1979		RG-102.1 Box 2
3.5	File - Part 3 : The making of poetry	1979		RG-102.1 Box 2
3.6	File - Part 4 : Poetic devices and embellishments	1979		RG-102.1 Box 2
3.7	File - Part 5 : Pigments and the poet's clay	1980		RG-102.1 Box 3
3.8	File - Part 5 : Pigments and the poet's clay	1980		RG-102.1 Box 3
3.9	File - Part 5 : Pigments and the poet's clay	1980		RG-102.1 Box 3
3.10	File - Part 5 : Pigments and the poet's clay	1980		RG-102.1 Box 3