



The Law Society
of Upper Canada

Barreau du
Haut-Canada

FINDING AID FOR

William E. Middleton fonds

PF228

Summary

The "William E. Middleton fonds" Fonds contains:

0 Subgroups or Sous-fonds

0 Series

0 Sub-series

0 Sub-sub-series

12 Files

0 File parts

21 Items

0 Components

Table of Contents

Biographical/Sketch/Administrative History.....	4
Scope and Content.....	4
Restrictions.....	4
Title Notes.....	4
2017003-001 Notes and lock of William Middleton's hair	5
2017003-01P Photograph of Augustin Noverre Middleton	5
2017003-002 Correspondence from Minnie Noverre	5
2017003-003 Correspondence from William Middleton	5
2017003-004 Cards and notes	5
2017003-005 Pupil's certificate of admission	6
2017003-006 Intermediate examination - passed candidate certificate	6
2017003-007 Certificate - university exam - W.E.M.	6
2017003-008 Certificate admitting William Edward Middleton as a solicitor of the High Court of Justice, Common Pleas Division	6
2017003-009 Commission in the High Court of Justice for County of York: William Edward Middleton	6
2017003-010 Pupil's certificate of admission	6
2017003-011 Wedding invitation	7
2017003-012 Certificate of the marriage of Isabella Brown and William Middleton	7
2017003-013 Letter to William Middleton on the occasion of his marriage	7
2017003-014 Wedding invitation	7
2017003-015 Letter to William Middleton	7
2017003-016 Notebook	8
2017003-017 Correspondence from Margaret McWilliams	8
2017003-018 Letter to Matthew H. McWilliams	8
2017003-019 Certificate of birth of Margaret Isabel Middleton	8
2017003-020 Baby book for David Gordon McWilliams	8
2017003-021 University of Toronto: Convocation for the conferring of honorary degrees	8
2017003-022 Newspaper clippings	9
2017023-001 Correspondence	9
2017023-002 Dinner menu: The Cataract House, Niagara Falls, N.Y.	9
2017023-003 Programme of entertainment in aid of the seamen's orphanage	9
2017023-004 In memoriam: Her Majesty Queen Victoria: died 22nd January, 1901	9
2017023-005 Letterhead and envelopes	9
2017023-006 Quotations	9
2017023-007 Business card: The Imperial Guarantee & Accident Insurance Company of Canada: M.H. McWilliams & Sons	10
2017023-008 Invitations	10
2017023-009 Condolence cards and letters	10
2017023-010 Correspondence sent to David McWilliams	10

PF228

**William E. Middleton fonds. -- 1862-1963. -- 21.2 cm of textual records
, 1 photograph : b&w ; 9.2 x 5.7 cm mounted on mat 10 x 6 cm**

Biographical/Sketch/Administrative History

William Edward Middleton was born in Toronto on March 2, 1860, the first of nine children born to father William Middleton, an accountant, and his wife, Mary Ann Noverre. Much of his early childhood was spent in Montreal until the age of 10, when he returned with his family to Toronto. Middleton attended Jarvis Collegiate Institute from 1876 to 1877 and the University of Toronto from 1878 to 1879. He was admitted by the Law Society of Upper Canada as a student-at-law in 1879, sworn-in as a solicitor in Nov. 1884 and called to the Bar in 1885. Middleton spent his career as a lawyer working for firm Maclaren, Macdonald, Merrill and Shepley, which later became Macdonald, Shepley, Middleton and Donald. He was made a King's Counsel in 1908. In 1910 he was appointed to the High Court of Justice of Ontario (Chancery Division) and then to the High Court Division in Jan. 1913 following the abolition of the Chancery Division, a position he retained until his appointment to the Supreme Court of Ontario's Court of Appeal on Nov. 15, 1928. He remained on the Court of Appeal until his retirement on Jan. 7, 1943.

Middleton married Isabella Brown (also known as Isabel or Belle) on May 13, 1891. They had three children, Guy Noverre Middleton, John Gowans Middleton and Margaret Isabel McWilliams. William Middleton died in Toronto on Feb. 18, 1948.

Scope and Content

Fonds consists of records pertaining to William E. Middleton's early life and education, his marriage to Isabella (Isabel) Brown, his family, his involvement with St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Toronto, and his retirement from the bench. Records accumulated by Middleton's daughter, Margaret McWilliams, are also part of this fonds, including letters of condolence she received after his death. These records are correspondence, certificates, letterhead and envelopes, invitations, a notebook, cards and notes, programs, a menu, sermons, a baby book and newspaper clippings.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the fonds.

2017003-001 Notes and lock of William Middleton's hair. -- 1862, 1897. -- 2 p.

Scope and Content

File consists of a note that reads, "W.E. Middleton's hair. Aged 2 yrs, 1 month. For Grandmamma. April 18/62", accompanied by a lock of brown hair tied with string. These items were housed in an envelope with the inscription, "For Mother's little guy. Feb. 28/97".

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the file.

2017003-01P Photograph of Augustin Noverre Middleton. -- [190-?]. -- 1 photograph : b&w ; 9.2 x 5.7 cm (oval) mounted on mat 10 x 6 cm



Scope and Content

Item is a studio portrait of lawyer Augustin Middleton, younger brother of William Middleton.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Photograph is in the public domain.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of image and annotation on verso.

2017003-002 Correspondence from Minnie Noverre. -- 1865-1870. -- 9 p.

Scope and Content

File consists of handwritten letters sent to William Middleton from his maternal aunt, Minnie Noverre, for his birthday, written during the period when he and his immediate family lived in Montreal and Minnie lived in Toronto.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the file.

2017003-003 Correspondence from William Middleton. -- 1870, 1872. -- 2 p.

Scope and Content

File consists of two handwritten letters sent to William E. Middleton from his father, William Middleton, on the occasion of his birthday.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the file.

2017003-004 Cards and notes. -- 1873-[193-?]. -- 7 p.

Scope and Content

File consists of cards and notes sent to and/or saved by William Middleton. Included is a handwritten ticket issued to "Willie Middleton" on 25 Apr. 1973, the calling card of Belle Brown, a note that reads "Dear Billy: 'Yes'. Lovingly, Belle", a note that reads "For my darling husband, wishing you many happy returns of March 2nd. From

your Sallie", a small birthday card with a pop-up illustration, and two notes from Middleton's daughter, Margaret, and son-in-law, Henry.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the file.

2017003-005 Pupil's certificate of admission. -- 14 Jan. 1876. -- 1 p.

Scope and Content

Item is a High Schools and Collegiate Institutes of Ontario certificate issued to William Middleton confirming his admission as a pupil in the classical course at the collegiate institute in Toronto, signed by members of a board of examiners.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

2017003-006 Intermediate examination - passed candidate certificate. -- 16 Jan. 1878. -- 1 p.

Scope and Content

Item is a High Schools and Collegiate Institutes of Ontario certificate issued to William Middleton after passing his intermediate examinations held in Toronto on 17-21 Dec. 1877.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

2017003-007 Certificate - university exam - W.E.M.. -- 10 Oct. 1879. -- 1 p.

Scope and Content

Item is a handwritten letter on University of Toronto registrar's office letterhead certifying that William Middleton passed the Faculty of Arts matriculation examination. Letter is signed by the registrar.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title taken from verso of item.

2017003-008 Certificate admitting William Edward Middleton as a solicitor of the High Court of Justice, Common Pleas Division. -- 18 Nov. 1884. -- 1 p.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the item.

2017003-009 Commission in the High Court of Justice for County of York: William Edward Middleton. -- 20 Nov. 1884. -- 1 p. ; 27.3 x 41.2 cm

Scope and Content

Item is a commission issued to William Middleton permitting him to appear in the High Court of Justice in York, Ontario.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title taken from verso of item.

2017003-010 Pupil's certificate of admission. -- 11 Aug. 1886. -- 1 p.

Scope and Content

Item is a Collegiate Institutes and High Schools of Ontario certificate of admission issued to Augustin Middleton, allowing him to attend a collegiate institute or high school in Ontario.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

2017003-011 Wedding invitation. -- 1891. -- 1 p.

Scope and Content

Item is an invitation to the wedding of Isabella (Belle) Brown and William Middleton on 13 May 1891 at 169 Spadina Avenue.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the item.

2017003-012 Certificate of the marriage of Isabella Brown and William Middleton. -- 13 May 1891. -- 1 p.

Scope and Content

Item is a document handwritten and signed by R.M Hamilton, a clergyman, and signed by witnesses F.H. Middleton and Grace Brown, certifying that Hamilton married William Middleton and Isabella Brown on 13 May 1891.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the item.

2017003-013 Letter to William Middleton on the occasion of his marriage. -- 15 May 1891. -- 1 p. : parchment ; 44.5 x 34.5 cm

Scope and Content

Item is a letter written on an oversized piece of parchment from the clerks and students of the law office of Maclaren, Macdonald, Merrill and Shepley, offering the gift of a salver and tea service on the occasion of Middleton's marriage. Item is signed by a list of clerks (J.L.H. Robertson, Thomas World, Arch. Struthers, Arthur E. Peglar, George B. Burns, Richard Bottomley, George E. Streeted (?), A. McIvoy, Thornton H. Summerhayes, William Bottomley, Percy R.B. Jones, Gerrard Noble) and a list of students (? Campbell, ? Bentley, A.N. Middleton, W. Carney, W.M. Whitehead, B.W.S. Thomson, James W. Mallon).

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the item.

2017003-014 Wedding invitation. -- 1892. -- 1 p.

Scope and Content

Item is an invitation to the wedding of Grace Brown to Gavin Dykes on 17 Feb. 1892 at 168 Spadina Avenue in Toronto, sent to William Middleton and his wife. The bride was the sister of William Middleton's wife, Isabella Brown.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the item.

2017003-015 Letter to William Middleton. -- 12 Oct. 1895. -- 1 p.

Scope and Content

Item is a letter written to William Middleton by the session clerk of St. Andrew's Church in Toronto regarding Middleton's resignation as a member of the church's session.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the item.

2017003-016 Notebook. -- 1909-1934, 1942. -- 2 cm of textual records (1 v.)

Scope and Content

Notebook consists of handwritten or pasted clippings of excerpts of poetry, prose, scripture and proverbs, as well as loose items tucked in the front and back of the notebook, including a Jan. 1942 magazine of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Toronto.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the item.

2017003-017 Correspondence from Margaret McWilliams. -- Jan.-June 1932. -- 2.5 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

File consists of handwritten letters to William Middleton by his daughter, Margaret. Included are two letters from Middleton's son-in-law and Margaret's husband, Henry McWilliams.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the file.

2017003-018 Letter to Matthew H. McWilliams. -- 14 Feb. 1933. -- 2 p.

Scope and Content

Item is a handwritten letter written by William Middleton to Matthew H. McWilliams, father of his son-in-law, Henry McWilliams, about the death of McWilliams' wife, Ada.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the item.

2017003-019 Certificate of birth of Margaret Isabel Middleton. -- 1 June 1904. -- 1 p.

Scope and Content

Item is a certificate of birth issued by the Province of Ontario pertaining to the birth of William Middleton and Isabel Brown's daughter, Margaret, on 19 June 1904 in Toronto.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the item.

2017003-020 Baby book for David Gordon McWilliams. -- 1940-1945. -- 0.5 cm of textual records (1 v.)

Scope and Content

Item is a baby book for David Gordon McWilliams, son of Margaret and Henry McWilliams, grandson of William Middleton. Entries in the book document details of his birth, christening, weight, and milestones. Also included in the book is a lock of hair and loose notes detailing his physical and developmental growth.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the item.

2017003-021 University of Toronto: Convocation for the conferring of honorary degrees. -- 15 Dec. 1941. -- 2 p.

Scope and Content

Item is a program for a convocation ceremony at which William Middleton received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

2017003-022 Newspaper clippings. -- 1943-1947. -- 8 p.

Scope and Content

File consists of newspaper clippings mostly pertaining to William Middleton's retirement from the bench in January 1943. Also included in the file is a clipping featuring the Winnipeg Sea Cadets marching to First Presbyterian Church in Winnipeg and a clipping about the marriage of Princess Elizabeth to Philip Mountbatten.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the file.

2017023-001 Correspondence . -- 1887-1912, 1935-1936. -- 1.7 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

File consists of postcards, letters, notices, invitations and envelopes sent to William E. Middleton and his law office. Many of these postcards are from businesses. Included is a handwritten postcard from Arthur J. Doherty, maker of microscopic slides, of Manchester, England.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the file.

2017023-002 Dinner menu: The Cataract House, Niagara Falls, N.Y.. -- 20 May 1891. -- 1 p.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the item.

2017023-003 Programme of entertainment in aid of the seamen's orphanage. -- 9 Apr. 1892. -- 2 p.

Scope and Content

Item is a program pertaining to a fundraising musical evening held on 9 April 1892 for the Liverpool Seamen's Orphan Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title taken from second page of item.

2017023-004 In memoriam: Her Majesty Queen Victoria: died 22nd January, 1901. -- 1901. -- 6 p.

Scope and Content

Item consists of a printed sermon (27 Jan. 1901) and address (2 Feb. 1901) by Dr. Armstrong Black from St. Andrew's Church in Toronto pertaining to the death of Queen Victoria. William Middleton was a member of this church.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

2017023-005 Letterhead and envelopes. -- [19--?]. -- 13 p.

Scope and Content

File consists of Court of Appeal for Ontario letterhead and envelopes, notecards embossed with an "M", and an envelope for law firm Maclaren, Macdonald, Shepley & Middleton.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the file.

2017023-006 Quotations. -- [19--?]. -- 2.5 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

File consists of handwritten and typescript literary, philosophical and religious quotations accumulated by William Middleton.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the file.

2017023-007 Business card: The Imperial Guarantee & Accident Insurance Company of Canada: M.H. McWilliams & Sons. -- [between 1930 and 1959]. -- 1 p.

Scope and Content

Item is a business card for Paul A. McWilliams and Henry D. McWilliams, William Middleton's son-in-law.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the item.

2017023-008 Invitations. -- 1936, 1943. -- 2 p.

Scope and Content

File consists of two invitations to Mrs. H.D. McWilliams, William Middleton's daughter, one to the annual general meeting of the Ontario Motor League in 1936 and the other to a Law Society dinner at Osgoode Hall on 22 Jan. 1943.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the file.

2017023-009 Condolence cards and letters. -- 1948. -- 7.5 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

File consists of letters, cards and telegrams sent to Margaret McWilliams on the death of her father, William E. Middleton. Also included in the file are newspaper obituaries.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the file.

2017023-010 Correspondence sent to David McWilliams. -- 1958, 1962-1963. -- 1 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

File consists of letters and postcards sent to David McWilliams, grandson of William E. Middleton. Correspondents include his father, Henry McWilliams, and his sister, Susan.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the file.