



MG 678 – Lillian A. Williamson fonds

Dates: 1912-1922, nd.

Extent: 2 photograph albums; 184 black and white photographs, 7 postcards.

Biographical note: Lillian Alexandrina Williamson was born on April 10, 1898 in Aberdeenshire, Scotland. In 1914 she came to Grenfell, SK and reenrolled in the University of Saskatchewan by 1918. Lillian received a B.A. from the University of Saskatchewan in 1921, with high honours in English and French. She is also listed as having taken a summer school class for Teacher's courses at the U of S. Her name was listed as a graduate student in the UBC 1926-1927 Calendar, also in English and French. She died in 1985 at the age 87 in Vancouver, B.C. Her death certificate lists her profession as school teacher. [<http://search-collections.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/Image/Genealogy/6eb1dbd3-882c-4614-984b-f7485c8a2258>]

From the 1921 yearbook, "Lil still bears the stamp of her home land, Bonnie Scotland, whose hardy spirit first infused in her the ambition to excel. She came to Grenfell, Sask, in 1914, and joined class '21 in its sophomore year. Her willing spirit, novel and ingenious ideas, and wide spread interests have placed her on the roll of Executive workers. Between meetings she finds a little spare time to study, but she prefers doing this in the wee sma' hours."

Scope and Content: This fonds contains two black and white photo albums which hold ~100 photographs, of which about 30 are of U of S student life in the 1918-1920 era. The rest are of White Rock area in BC as well as one full album of photographs from travel in Europe.

Custodial note: These albums were found in the office of a retired employee of Langer College. They had no record of the albums and since they contained images of the U of S as well as White Rock offered them both to the U of S and White Rock Archives. They went first to White Rock Museum and Archives where they were examined, digitized for their records, and then sent on to the U of S Archives and Special Collections for permanent retention. As there was no known provenance the images and few names within were compared to the yearbooks and it was determined that the likely creator of the albums was Lillian Williamson.

Restrictions: There are no restrictions on access, however the books are very delicate and beginning to crumble, so please use caution.

Title inferred from content of the collection based on comparisons to the University of Saskatchewan yearbooks.

Finding aid by Amy Putnam, 2020.

Album 1 “Snapshots”. – 1912-1922, nd. – 109 b&w photographs.

Photographs listed by caption and [description].

Page 1:

Pannanich, Scotland – 1912 [two women sit on a bench, a dog lays at their feet]

Koctenay Lake [lake with mountains in distance and one boat on the water] – 2 photographs.

Page 2:

My Three Sisters - [three photographs each with two women] – 3 photographs.

Page 3:

Trenton School, 1921 – [three children on a horse while another holds the reigns]

Me & my family – [five children and one woman pose on and near a swing]

U of S. Main Building, 1918 – [Administration building / College Building / Peter McKinley Building]

Qu’appelle Building. U of S.

Page 4:

Saskatchewan Hall – in Winter

The Student - [girl stands in snow bank holding books]

Nellie – [girl in coat and hat stands on the path that circles the bowl on the U of S campus, snow on the ground]

Davidson Masquerade – [large group of people dressed in costume]

Page 5:

The Quintette – [seven girls stand in front of the outside wall of one of the residences]

The Tower Dwellers, 1918 – [eight girls pose on what appears to be the roof of one of the residences]

My Spring Coat – [girl assumed to be Nellie Williamson poses on the steps of Saskatchewan Hall with her coat and hat.]

[loose in envelope, photo taken at same time as “The Quintette” but with only 5 people in it. A small copy of this photo can be seen on page 95 of the 1921 yearbook]

Page 6:

U of S Dining Hall. – [dining hall in Saskatchewan Hall]

Mrs. Logan – [woman stands in a Saskatchewan Hall residence room holding a book. The British and French[?] flags are on the wall. Possibly Annie Logan who received a certificate in Pharmacy in 1919.

Page 7:

Spring on the Sask River

More Tower-ists – [group photo of 8 women standing on a roof, a building, possibly the powerhouse, can be seen in the distance]

Room-Mates, 1919 - [Lillian Williamson and another girl pose on the same roof top]

Page 8:

Regina fair – [Lillian Williamson(?) stands near a tree]

The Little Minister, Saskatoon – [man stands on rocks on the riverbank with Knox United Church and St. John's Anglican Church in the backround]

We Three – [three girls pose in front of the door of Saskatchewan Hall]

Page 8:

Hand-some Feet-ures – [two girls sit on the steps of Saskatchewan Hall holding out their hands and feet]

Spring Styles, 1920 – [three girls, including Lillian(?) sit on the steps in front of Saskatchewan Hall]

The Proposal – [one girl is going down on one knee, as if to propose, and a second girl holds her hands over her heart]

Page 9:

Siwash Rock

Stanley Park Pelican

Kaslo

Page 10:

Studying with Buttermilk – [two girls studying in a Saskatchewan Hall dorm room at a central table, hunched over their books with drinking glasses at their elbows]

Without! – [almost same scene as above, but no drinking glasses, and their feet are propped up on the table as they read]

Page 11:

Ida Boyd at Banff, Sept 1921

Devil's Canyon

Fish Hatcheries, Banff – [girl sits in front of a pool of water with a fountain in the middle]

Page 12:

Ida and [...] – [two girls pose in front of a waterfall]

Sulphur Baths, Banff

Kaslo Enirons – [lake and surrounding trees]

Page 13:

Craigielea – [house]

Pastoral Scene – [sheep]

The Pets – [woman feeding two sheep with bottles]

Page 14:

Under the Greenwood tree – [Lillian Williamson(?) standing with book under a tree]

Chums – [girl leans over the shoulder of an older woman who is sitting at a desk reading a book]

Mrs. Campbell, Ellisboro' – [a woman peels potatoes in front of a porch with three children]

At Grenfell Chautauqua – [woman standing in front of trees]

Page 15:

Dilke, 1918 – [group of children standing in front of a small building]

Long Lake

The Gang – [large group children posed outside of a building – possibly same building from Dilke photo]

Page 16:

Hughie's Home – [large house with two children in front]

The Nordrette's Garden – [a woman, man, and two children stand among tall plants]

Page 17:

Picnicing at Long Lake – [group of men, women, and children picnicking under some trees]

Alec Saidi – a real Turk – [man sitting in a horse drawn buggy, another man stands near the horse]

Page 18:

End of a Perfect Day! – [Lillian Williamson with a bicycle outside of a house]

The Anderson Family – [a man, a dog, and two girls sit on the railing of a front porch]

Bird-nesting – [a woman stands at the top of a ladder which is leaning against a tall log pile structure]

Page 19:

Red Cross tea – Aberdeen – [group of girls in dresses and hats pose in front of a large tent]. – 2 photographs.

Page 20:

Marjorie and Jean – [two young girls sit on steps outdoors]

Trenton – [two young boys sit on a horse while a girl stands by its head]

More Trenton – [two young boys sitting on a horse with a buggy in the background.]

Page 21:

Dinnet – Scotland – [four woman and a young boy, outdoors]

Miss Findlay – [two women in a garden both wearing hats, one sitting in a chair, the other behind]

Daisy and Dodo [Dada?] – [two women]

Muchalls 1919 – [one woman stands nearer the camera, a group of three people in the distance, outdoors]

Girl's High Reunion 1919 – [group of eight girls in hats, one holding an umbrella]

Page 22 :

Page labelled "The Craig Family"

Theo – [portrait of a young man in uniform]

Mam – [portrait of an older lady]

Mamie – [portrait of a young woman]

Kalkre[?] - [portrait of a young woman]

Nora – [portrait of a young girl]

[Unlabeled – portrait of a young woman]

Page 23:

Camping at White Rock 1922 – [group of six girls posing outside, in front of a post that says "14" with a cabin in the distance]

Antics at Ike Station – [two photographs, girls lined up, in one photo holding each other's shoulders, in the other holding each other's shoulders and ankles.] – 2 photographs.

Page 24:

The Silk Umbrella! – [Lillian Williamson posing in front of the same #14 cabin as previous holding an umbrella]

The Peaceful campers! – [four girls pose together, two holding handbags]

At the Peace Arch – [four girls pose at the base of the arch]

Page 25:

Peace Arch, Blaine – [four girls, including Lillian(?) pose at the base of the arch]

Beaconhill Park – [lake with swans in it]

Pendray Gardens, Victoria – [garden with topiary]

Ladner Prelims – [group of young girls]

Page 26:

Woodman's Arch, Vancouver – [scenic]

Siwash Rock – [scenic]

Lake Minnewanka – [scenic]

Beaconhill Park – [scenic]

Page 27:

Chateau, Lake Louise – [group of people walking along the lake shore towards a large house/building]

Banff – [two women pose in front of a lake with a fountain]

Chateau Gardens – [sculpture in courtyard of large house]

Page 28:

U of S Summer School – [two young women and two young men holding tennis racquets on U of S tennis court]

Let'er Swing – [Lillian(?) and a man standing on a swing]

Tennis a la Mode – [two young men carrying a young woman who is holding a tennis racquet and tennis ball, another young man crouches behind them]

Page 29:

The Strawberry Party U of S – [group of five girls sitting on the lawn with picnic items]. – 2 photographs.

Hoop-er – [Lillian(?) sitting on a swing with a young man standing beside her]

Page 30:

The Interval – [two young women and one young man standing in the U of S tennis courts holding tennis racquets.]

Leap Frog – [two men in the field in front of the physics building, one about the jump over the back of the other]

Puzzle Find / Ruby's Partner – [Lillian(?) and another young woman stand near a bush holding tennis racquets, and a young man stands behind the bush]

Page 31:

Raspberry Party Ou est Professeur Muller? – [five people, four young women, one young man, sitting on the grass]

Love me, love my dog! / Jazz – [six women posing together, Lillian has a dog on her lap]

Mam – [older woman stands outside]

Page 32:

After the Party! – [two young women stand in front of trees holding a tray above their heads, pillows at their feet]

How to use a Lawn Roller! – [two young women sitting on a piece of equipment, one holding a tennis racquet, the other a camera]

Close-up – [image of a young man's face]

Page 33:

Ida and Ethel / Kitsilano Beach – [two young women leaning on a fallen log, one of them possibly Ethel Marion Brown, see page 27 of the 1927 Greystone]

Banff – [young woman standing in front of pond with a fountain]

White Rock [White Rock?] – [four young women pose on the beach]

Page 34:

Archer family – [man sitting in a rocking chair outside, a woman stands beside him and a dog is jumping into his lap]

London Hill, Kaslo – [four people sit on a very steep incline]

Sutherland Cottage – [a house with a person on the porch – possibly referring to her mother maiden name, Sutherland, rather than the Saskatoon district]

Album 2 "Photographs" – nd. – 75 photographs, 7 postcards.

Page 1:

Cunard White Star Line "Ascania".

Page 2:

Somerville College; Inner Court; My Room (open window)

Page 3 "Oxford":

Gargoyles at Magdalen; Deer Park; Christ's Quad

Page 4:

Magdalen College, Oxford; Deer Park, Magdalen; Evesham

Page 5:

King's Chapel; The Cam River; Cambridge

Page 6:

King's Chapel; The Backs, Cambridge

Page 7:

Broadway in the Cotswolds; Statford on Avon; Open-Air Pulpit, Oxford

Page 8:

The Greenwich Clock; Guard at St. James' Palace

Page 9:

English Gardens; Margaret! And Gen. Wolfe

Page 10 "London":

Tower Bridge (from river boat); Trafalgar Square; Big Ben (leaning!)

Page 11:

Hampton Court; Windsor Castle; Windsor

Page 12:

Windsor Gardens; The Thames; Sunken Gdns, Hampton Court

Page 13:

Luxembourg, Gardens – Paris

Page 14:

Barbison – Artists Atelier

Page 15 "Paris":

Sacre-Coeur; Louvre; Tour Eiffel; Tuileries

Page 16 "Paris":

Opera; Place Vendome; Invalides; Luxembourg, Palais

Page 17:

La Madeleine

Page 18:

Arc de Triomphe; Notre Dame; Bastille

Page 19:

Le Pantheon

Page 20:

Le Grande Palais; La Concorde; Hotel de Ville

Page 21 "Aberdeen":

Beach; Duthie Park; Harbour; St. Nicholas Church

Page 22:

Union Terrace; Viaduct (checker games); Aberdeen University

Page 23:

Chateau Frontenac; Kent House

Page 24:

Lake Louise

Page 25:

Harrison Hot Springs; Apple Tree in Spring; at Deer Lodge

Page 26:

Mt. Cheam, [lake]; [man sitting in chair]

Page 27:

At Harrison Hot Springs; Fraser River (near Harrison); The Sundial Says: -"Face the sunshine and the shadows will fall behind you" [woman standing near a sundial]

Page 28:

The Beach; The Mill; Frenchie's House

Page 29:

Aboard the "Trevone"; Bowdens at Home; April 1924

Page 30

Illustrated cards, "The Chapel, Trinity College, Oxford"; "Magdalen College, Oxford"

Page 31:

Illustrated cards, "Brasenose College, Oxford", "The Open-Air Pulpit, Madgalden College, Oxford"

Page 32:

Illustrated card, "Entrance to the Bodlein Library, Oxford"

Page 33:

Illustrated card, "Brasenose College, Oxford"