



## MG 619 - Phillips Family fonds

**Dates:** 1925-2019 (inclusive); 1952-1994 (predominant).

**Extant:** 80.26 cm of textual records, 309 b&w photographs, 110 colour photographs, ephemera, published material, and oversize.

**Scope and content:** This fonds relates to the lives of siblings or descendants of RHD Phillips and Tanyss (Bell) Phillips. Robert Howard Daniel ("Bob") Phillips (1921-2006) was a journalist. He joined the staff of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool as a research analyst, and later became the editor and publisher of the Western Producer. He married Tanyss Bell in 1951. Tanyss (1926-2016) was an economist who worked in the research department of the Bank of Canada, with the Saskatchewan Royal Commission on Agriculture and Rural Life, as a lecturer at the University of Regina, and as a contract editor. Both were alumni of the University of Saskatchewan.

### **Arrangement:**

This fonds has been organized into two series:

1. FE ("Betty") Ball nee Bell (1924-2019) – Tanyss (Bell) Phillips' sister and only sibling.
2. RAB ("Sandy") Phillips (1955-2013) – RHD and Tanyss Phillips' oldest son.

This guide combines accessions 2017-166 and 2020-006.

**Restrictions:** Files marked as RESTRICTED require vetting by an archivist prior to release. All restrictions are applied as per privacy legislation.

**Series 1: FE (“Betty”) Ball.** – 1925-2019 (inclusive); 1952-1994 (predominant). – 60.26 cm of textual records, 309 b&w photographs, 110 colour photographs, ephemera, published material, and oversize.

Florence Elizabeth (“Betty”) Bell was born on 17 September 1924 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and grew up on the family farm near Chelan, Saskatchewan. Betty completed her high school education at Nutana Collegiate, Saskatoon (1942), and went on to study home economics at the University of Saskatchewan. Following her graduation in 1946, she interned at Vancouver General Hospital, then accepted a position in Ontario prior to moving to England, where she worked at the Sheffield Royal Infirmary. Betty returned to Canada in 1951, and joined the RCAF in 1952 and retired with the rank of Major in 1973. She served with CUSO in Ghana before returning to Victoria, BC, where she worked with the BC provincial health ministry. She married Robert Ball on 27 March 1976; and “nominally retired” in 1987. She died in 2019.

This series documents the education and military career of Betty Bell, and her work as a dietitian. It is particularly valuable in providing images and information relating to the role of food services in the armed services: specifically, through “behind the scenes” images, memoranda and other documentation that help provide evidence of this little-known aspect of military work. Additionally, the changing role of women between the immediate post-war period through the following six decades is well documented. In particular, it provides an interesting example of the life of an independent, active and community-minded woman throughout her life and career.

There are two minor restrictions on access.

Related material: MG 223 – RHD Phillips fonds; and MG 671 – Queenie Haddow fonds.

Donated to the University Archives & Special Collections by Peter Phillips, 2020.

Guide to this series prepared by C. Avery, January 2020.

**Autobiography / Eulogy.** – nd, 2009, 2019.

“A Food Service Officer’s Reminiscences”; “Life Story Project” – notes from an interview by Lori Hudson-Fish; and Peter Phillips’ remembrance.

**British Columbia Dietetic Association – *History of Dietetics in British Columbia, 1926-1980.*** – 1981-2004.

Book by CM Willick, autographed by past presidents/members; together with other material relating to the history of the association.

**British Columbia Dietetic Association – Newsletter.** – October-November 1980.

**Canadian Armed Forces – Addresses and Lectures.** – 1966- 1968.

Includes talk given to the Protestant Guild, Metz, France; graduation address at CFB Clinton, including drafts, reference material, and correspondence; presentation to recruiting officers; material relating to a panel discussion on careers at the University of Saskatchewan; a career talk at the University of Manitoba; notes for address on placement of crest and brief history of Food Services Station Clinton; address to senior NCOs qualifying course.

**Canadian Armed Forces – Correspondence and Memoranda.** – 1963-1968.

Includes material relating to outside training; policies on training; notes on activities; minutes; correspondence from Tanzania regarding placement opportunity; aides-memoire regarding various exercises and studies; notes on food service management courses; briefing notes; newsletter; etc.

**Canadian Armed Forces – RCAF – Scrapbooks.** – see **box 2 (oversize).**

Betty Bell joined the RCAF in November 1952, and was posted at: Clinton (SFS); Metz, France; Winnipeg (TCHQ); Borden (CFSAW); Ottawa (CF HQ) before retiring in June 1973.

Scrapbook 1 – 1952-1958. – 84 b&w photographs, telegrams, clippings, correspondence, ephemera.

Predominantly professional photographs, together with some personal snapshots of colleagues, staff and friends.

Scrapbook 2 – 1952-1958. – 135 b&w, 3 colour photographs; postcards, newspaper clippings, and ephemera.

Includes period from 1952-1958, when Bell was stationed at:

1952-1955: RCAF Station Trenton

1955-1957: RCAF (F) Wing, France

1957-1958: RCAF Rockcliffe

Images include trips to Spain; Switzerland; Luxembourg; Netherlands; etc., The photographs are primarily informal snapshots of colleagues and friends, both at work and on holiday.

Scrapbook 3 – 1950-2009. – 90 b&w, 107 colour photographs; postcards; clippings; correspondence; ephemera.

Includes an outline of RCAF Messing Branch, WWII; newsletters; obituaries;

materials relating to reunions; Handbook of Ration Scales for Army and RCAF; School of Food Services Student Information; etc.

In addition to various RCAF stations, images include trips to Mexico; Scotland; France; Bermuda; etc,

**Certificates.** – 1925, 1947, 1974, 1976, 2016.

Includes certificates of birth; baptism; citizenship; marriage certificate; various related to dietetics; and “super-seniors study” (relating to cancer research and healthy aging; clipping included).

**Certificates – Oversize.** – 1946, 1953. – see O/S Q10.

Includes: University of Saskatchewan degree (BHsc); Certificate of Service, issued by the Canadian Armed Forces; and appointment to rank of Pilot Officer in the RCAF.

**Correspondence – From Betty.** – 1949-1973. – 5 folders.

Folder 1: 1949-1951.

Folder 2: 1955-1957.

Folder 3: 1963-1964.

Folder 4: 1965-1966.

Folder 5: 1973.

**Education.** – 1941-1946, 1962. – **RESTRICTED.**

Grade XII diploma; grades; courses and standing in University classes.

**Education – *Courage to Start New Ventures.*** – 2003, 2015.

By RHD Phillips, on “The life and times of 19 girls from a class of 1946.” Includes clippings, correspondence (obituaries).

**Education – Essays.** – 1942, 1945. – **RESTRICTED.**

Includes “My Life and Education;” “Gainfully Employed Married Women;” “The History of the University Household Science Degree Course, 1929-1945;” “Experimental Work on the Cooking Qualities of Six Varieties of Potatoes.”

**Estate – SEAWA – Bob Phillips Scholarship.** – 2019.

Letter from Medicine Hat College with a receipt for Betty’s final donation to this fund.

**Family.** – nd, 1952-1953.

Letters to Betty from her father, Peter Bell; material relating to her Aunt Lil’s will.

**Honours and Awards – Governor General’s Caring Canadian Award.** – 2007-2007.

Correspondence, citation, invitation, newspaper clipping; etc. See also below, Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers.

**Honours and Awards – Heart of Gold Award. – 1988.**

Correspondence, clippings. The award was co-sponsored by Air Canada and the Gulf Islands Driftwood newspaper (through the Canadian Community Newspapers Association). It recognized the contributions made “in helping others and improving the quality of life in their community.” Nominations were sought over the course of a month; out of over 5,600 nominees, 30 received the award. Includes lyrics to “The Good Old Board Bids Betty Bell Ball Goodbye.”

**Honours and Awards – Special Service Medal. – 1994.**

Correspondence from National Defence.

**Honours and Awards - Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers. – 2016.**

**Reference – *Canadian Dieticians: Making a Difference.* – 1993**

Book edited by Eleanor Brownridge and Elizabeth Upton. Folder includes material relating to the book launch; correspondence and clippings relating to colleagues; and copy of “The Work of the Dietitian in the Canadian Military Hospitals” by Violet Ryley; etc.

**Reference – *The Dietetic Profession in Canada.* – 1973.**

Edited by Margaret Lang and Elizabeth Upton.

**Reference – *Home Economics in Canada.* – [ca. 1964]-1984.**

By Edith Rowles Simpson; autographed. Clippings and additional material found in the book are included in the file. Items include notes on the BCDNA; Rowles Simpson's “Response to the Challenge” presentation at the Canadian Dietetic Association convention; etc.

**Series 2: RAB Phillips.** - 1984-2010. - .20 m. of textual records and photographs.

**Biographical Note - Robert A. B. Phillips.**

Robert AB (“Sandy”) Phillips was born in 1955 to RHD and Tanyss Phillips. An entrepreneur, Robert operated Canadian Wilderness Adventure on Lac La Ronge, initially as an outfitter and tour company and then as a houseboat operation, for which he won the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce ABEX Award for the best entrepreneurial venture in 1985. Part of his venture was an attempt to build a four-season destination resort on McGibbon Bay, which would have been the first in the north. Other plans for developments near Craven were left uncompleted when Robert died suddenly in 2013.

**Scope and Content:** Studies done by the Canadian Wilderness Adventure group relating to a planned resort at Lac La Ronge, Craven – Last Mountain Lake and Land for Nature, British Columbia. Files include the technical reports, prospectuses and EIAs. With a failure to raise the necessary capital, CWA became insolvent and the venture was not built. The only visible legacy is a rudimentary road and a large wooden deck that cascades to the water for a floating dock to attach to it. Eagle Point Resort is located at the beginning of what was the road to the planned resort. Files also include papers and pictures of a block of land the Regina entrepreneur Dave Ash assembled overlooking the Craven marshes and eventually sold mostly to the Nature Conservancy. Robert acquired 21 acres of that block and had plans to develop it that were highly developed but not executed on his death.

**Restrictions:** One file has been restricted.

Guide to this series prepared by P. Hayes, UASC, 2020.

Proposal for a Feasibility Study for a Destination Resort at Lac La Ronge, Saskatchewan. – 1984.

Proposed Marina-Houseboat Complex: McGibbon Bay, Lac La Ronge, Northern Saskatchewan. – 1984

Communications and Marketing Program for the Proposed Lac La Ronge Resort. – 1985.

A Communications Plan for a Wilderness Resort at Lac La Ronge, Saskatchewan. – 1985.

A Feasibility Study for a Wilderness Resort at Lac La Ronge, Saskatchewan. – 1985.

A Feasibility Study for a Wilderness Destination Resort at Lac La Ronge, Saskatchewan (Part I: Market Analysis). – 1984.

Submission to the Government of Saskatchewan Department of Tourism and Small Business for Approval for Construction and Operation of a Wilderness Destination Resort, Lac La Ronge. – 1985.

Marina-Houseboat Facilities and Operations: McGibbon Bay, Lac La Ronge, Northern Saskatchewan.

Geotechnical Investigation and Topographic Survey Wilderness Destination Resort McGibbon Bay, Saskatchewan. - 1986.

Mark, Lawson and Associates INC. Market Study. – 1984.

McGibbon Bay Resort Miscellaneous. – 1986-1987.

Craven – Last Mountain Lake. – 2007-2010. – 2 folders.

Land For Nature. – 1996.

Cransley. – 2017-2019. – **RESTRICTED.**