

**Ms Coll**  
**323**

**Martin, Ruth**

Papers, [1868-1975?]

3 boxes (2 albums, 4 binders)

Collection of typed transcripts from printed texts, private papers, notes, interviews, and photographs and post cards that give the social history of the Lake of Bays area.

### Biographical Sketch

Ruth Martin (née Campbell) was born in 1908 in Toronto where she taught at Eastern High School of Commerce. For many years she spent her summers near Norway Point in the Lake of Bays area and became interested in the history of the area. In preparation for writing its history she began collecting material in the early 1950s; she interviewed the descendants of the first settlers in the Lake of Bays Township, and collected and transcribed local histories, diaries and memoirs as well as getting photographs, prints and post cards. In the mid 1970s ill health forced her to give up her project. She died in Toronto on 10 December 1996.

Settlement around Lake of Bays began after the Free Land Grant Act of 1868 made land available, but little of it was arable. During the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries some people there worked in the lumber industry. With the arrival of summer cottagers at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century the economy improved. The Ruth Martin Papers describe this period.

Box 1 (flat)

Books 1 and 2

Book 1: Typed transcripts and summaries from printed texts and unpublished texts, archival records, government publications, with holograph annotations.

Book 2: Typed transcripts and summaries from printed texts, television programmes, private scrapbooks, interviews with descendents of early settlers, diaries, with extensive holograph annotations, and newspaper cuttings

Box 2 (flat)

Books 3 and 4

Book 3: Typed transcripts and summaries from printed texts, private scrapbooks, interviews with descendents of early settlers, store ledgers, diaries, holograph map of area, correspondence, log book of hunting club, papers of local clubs, minute book of school board, with holograph annotations

Book 4: Photocopy of land grant records, 1881-1961, typed transcripts and summaries from printed texts, interviews with descendents of early settlers, family papers, correspondence, private scrapbooks, minute book of school board, account book for school (holograph transcription), manuscript notes  
Page 4-72 has interesting note about Sir Edmund Walker

Box 3

Albums of Prints, Photographs, and Post Cards

Album 1: Prints, photographs, and cards arranged according to place preceded by those entitled "General". With captions

Album 2: Prints, photographs, and cards . With captions