

In order to improve access to more of the existing holdings of Western Archives copies of a number of preliminary finding aids are being made available. These preliminary finding aids, some of which were prepared many years ago, vary in degrees of completeness, detail and accuracy. Some provide only basic box listings of the contents of a fonds or a collection, while others provide additional background material. All are intended to be the starting point for access to the records and they should not be considered a definitive source of information on the full nature and contents of the fonds or collection. Questions about the information provided in the preliminary finding aids should be directed to archives.services@uwo.ca

[Honourable] Charles Steel MacNaughton Fonds

Date of Creation: 1959-1972

Physical Extent: 13 m. of textual records

ca. 200 photographs

Biographical Sketch: A native of Strasbourg, Saskatchewan with much of his early life spent in Brandon, Manitoba, Charles Steel MacNaughton moved to Exeter, Ontario in 1944 where he established a seed distribution business. He was active in community affairs in Exeter and area, serving on the local school board and as a founding director of South Huron Hospital. He was elected member of Provincial Parliament as a Progressive Conservative for the riding of Huron during a 1958 by-election. He was subsequently re-elected in 1959, 1963, 1967, and 1971. He held several senior cabinet posts, including Minister of Highways during the completion of Highway 401. He served two tenures as Treasurer of Ontario during the governments of John Robarts and William Davis. He also chaired Davis' successful leadership bid in 1971. He was a key member of the Progressive Conservative caucus during the party's reign that lasted more than forty years. Among his many honours, he received an honorary doctorate of laws from the University of Western Ontario in 1969. He died at Exeter in November 1987.

Scope and Content: The fonds consists of records pertaining to MacNaughton's duties as both Member of Provincial Parliament and cabinet minister, covering the full range of issues in both the capacities. This includes correspondence, memos and reports pertaining to Ontario government ministries, local institutions and constituents. A large portion of the fonds consists of central registry files from his Queen's Park office maintained in original order. These are arranged alphabetically on an annual basis according to subjects and/or institutional names. The fonds also include copies of his speeches and press releases as minister and "Riding Books" which are largely carbon copies of correspondence sent to his constituents. The photographs are either portrait shots or were taken during his many speaking engagements. The fonds is arranged in four series: 1. Central Registry Files, 1959-1972; 2. Ministerial Statements and Press Releases, 1967-1972; 3. Riding Books, 1968-1972; 4. Photographs, ca. 1968-1971.

Custodial Duty: Donated in 1977 by Charles Steel MacNaughton to the University of Western Ontario in consultation with the Government of Ontario. Fonds was transferred to the J.J. Talman Regional Collection in 1977 and was processed immediately.

Restriction: Partial restrictions apply to "Riding Books" due to identification of constituent names. Otherwise, there are no restrictions on access.

Finding Aid: Box list and custodial history file available.

McNaughton Papers – Contents of Boxes

B4837 – 1959 A-Z

B4838 – 1960-1961 A-G

B4839 – 1960-1961 G-M

B4840 – 1960-1961 M-Z

B4841 – 1962 A-M

B4842 – 1962 M-Z

B4843 – 1963 A-M

B4844 – 1963 M-Z

B4845 – 1964 A-H

B4846 – 1964 H-O

B4847 – 1964 O-Z

B4848 – 1965 A-H

B4849 – 1965 H-P

B4850 – 1965 P-Z

B4851 – Statements and Press Releases 1967-1968

B4852 – General and Riding Books 1968

B4853 – Riding Books 1969

B4854 – 1969 O-Z

B4855 – Riding Books 1970-1972

B4856 – Statements and Press Releases 1969-1972

B4857 – 1970 A-E

B4858 – 1970 E-L

B4859 – 1970 L-P

B4860 – 1970 P-Z

B4861 – 1971 A-C

B4862 – 1971 C-Cabinet Committees

B4863 – 1971 C-E

B4864 – 1971 E-H

B4865 – 1971 I-M

B4866 – 1971 O-P

B4867 – 1971 P-Z

B4868 – 1972 A-C

B4869 – 1972 C-E

B4870 – 1972 E-I

B4871 – 1972 I-N

B4872 – 1972 O-P

B4873 – 1972 P-Z

B4874, B875 – Various Addresses and Press Releases 1970-1972

B4876 – Miscellaneous, mainly photographs