

## **MG-050**

**George Whalley fonds.** - 1905-1948; predominant 1930's and 1940's. - 16 photographs. - 2 artefacts.

### **Biographical sketch:**

George Whalley (25 July 1915 - 27 May 1983) was a scholar, poet, naval officer and secret intelligence agent during World War II, CBC broadcaster, musician, biographer, and translator.[1] He taught English at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario (1950-80) and was twice the head of the department. He was elected to the Royal Society of Canada in 1959. He married Elizabeth Watts on July 25, 1944. His brother, Peter Whalley, was a famous artist and cartoonist.

Whalley completed his first B.A. at Bishop's University, in Lennoxville, Quebec, graduating in 1935. As a Rhodes Scholar, he completed his second B.A. at Oriel College, Oxford, in 1939. He received an M.A. from Oriel College, Oxford, in 1945. He completed his second M.A. degree at Bishop's University in 1948. His thesis was entitled "A Critique of Criticism." He received his Ph.D. from King's College, University of London, in 1950. Whalley was a leading expert on the writings of the poet and critic Samuel Taylor Coleridge.

Whalley served in the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve (1940-56) and was on active duty in the Royal Navy (1940-45). After the war, Whalley served as the Commander to HMCS Cataraqui in Kingston (1952-56). He retired with the rank of Commander in 1956. Whalley's wartime poetry has been praised as displaying a mature range and scope unique amongst second world war poets.

George Whalley died in Kingston, Ontario in 1983.

### **Scope and content:**

Photographs primarily from the 1930's showing life at Bishop's, the buildings, and events including Convocation. Of special interest is an interior view of Cecil Whalley's room while in residence at Bishop's, c.1905; Bronze and Gold Medals awarded to George Whalley for Classics.

**Physical description:** the 16 photographs are laser copies, and the originals were returned to the donor.

**Immediate source of acquisition:** Elizabeth Whalley, 1993.

**General note:** Mrs. Whalley's handwritten list is available, See Accession file.

See also: <http://georgewhalley.algomau.ca/drupal6/>.

**Location:** McGreer Old Library.

**Internal file number:** 93-031.