

# Nova Scotia Archives

## **Finding Aid - Clara Dennis fonds (MG 1 volumes 2865-2869; Graphic: 1981-541, 1983-468.)**

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Nova Scotia Archives

6016 University Ave.

Halifax

Nova Scotia

B3H 1W4

Telephone: (902) 424-6060

Fax: (902) 424-0628

[Email: archives@novascotia.ca](mailto:archives@novascotia.ca)

<http://archives.novascotia.ca/>

<https://memoryns.ca/index.php/clara-dennis-fonds>

# Clara Dennis fonds

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## Summary information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Nova Scotia Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Clara Dennis fonds
<b>ID:</b>	MG 1 volumes 2865-2869; Graphic: 1981-541, 1983-468.
<b>Date:</b>	1905-1957, predominant 1923-[194-?] (date of creation)
<b>Physical description:</b>	* 0.8 m of textual records * ca. 2800 photographs
<b>Dates of creation, revision and deletion:</b>	Revised 2015-08-06 Paul (linked image and website)
<b>Note [sourcesDescription]:</b>	Women of Nova Scotia

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## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

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### Note

Clarissa Archibald Dennis was born 24 November 1881 in Truro, N.S. After attending Mount Allison College, Dalhousie University, and Halifax Business College, she worked for her father, Senator William Dennis, at the Halifax Herald office. As a reporter and author, she published numerous newspaper and magazine articles on topics including Nova Scotia history, prominent citizens, and Mi'kmaq folklore and customs. Her books include *Down in Nova Scotia* (1934), *More about Nova Scotia* (1937), and *Cape Breton Over* (1942). Clara Dennis died in Halifax on 26 February 1958.

### Custodial history

The estate of Clara Dennis was dispersed following her death and much of her material was lost or destroyed. The photograph albums were donated by Christina Shaw of Halifax in 1981 and 1983. Textual records were found in a vault of Atlantic Trust in Halifax when they were preparing to relocate in 1989, and were subsequently donated to the archives.

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## Scope and content

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Fonds consists of documenting Clara Dennis' career as a reporter and author. Includes notebooks relating to her research of the Mi'kmaq, mainland Nova Scotia, Cape Breton and other subjects, 1923-1940s; business and personal correspondence, 1905-1942; newspaper clippings pertaining to Halifax and Dalhousie College and medical school, 1924-1947; research notes; addresses; published and unpublished

articles; and booklets. Also includes photographs taken on her travels through Nova Scotia, as well as Sable Island, New Brunswick, and the Gaspé Peninsula between 1930 and 1940.

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## Notes

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### Title notes

### Physical condition

Some albums in 1983 donation water damaged prior to acquisition. Many photographs removed from albums for conservation reasons.

### Finding aids

Item list of photographs available.

[Website exhibit available.](<https://archives.novascotia.ca/dennis>)

### Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published