



ARCHIVES

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TRINITY COLLEGE

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IN THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

***Description and Finding Aid***  
**DAVID W. NICHOLLS FONDS**  
**F2018**

Prepared by Caese Levo March 2010

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## DAVID W. NICHOLLS FONDS

### Dates of creation:

1954-1995

### Extent:

40 cm of textual records

ca.17, 500 photographs

### Biographical sketch:

David Wight Nicholls was born in Toronto in 1934 and studied at the University of Toronto Schools before coming to Trinity College. He graduated with a BA in 1958.. Nicholls worked for the Royal, Montreal, and Canada Trust companies in Montreal, Saint John, and Toronto before retiring in 1987. In 1959 he married Hilary V. Warren, a fellow graduate of Trinity College.

In retirement Nicholls devoted much of his time to photography, a long-time interest. He became a member of the Photographic Society of America in 1983 and was active in the National Association of Photographic Art, the Toronto Guild for Colour Photography, and the Toronto Camera Club, which he guided through its centennial year as president. He also served as president of the Greater Toronto Council of Camera Clubs. In 1990 he became a Licentiate of the Royal Photographic Society in Great Britain and had two one-man shows in Canada. He also had work published in *The Photography Yearbook, 1993*. He photographed many parts of Trinity College and at the time of his death had almost completed a series of photographs of St James Cemetery taken as part of the celebration of the 150th anniversary of its consecration by Bishop Strachan.

Nicholls served on the Corporation of Trinity College, was a member of the Executive Committee of Convocation, and was especially generous with the Friends of the Library serving on its executive for several years and as treasurer. Mr and Mrs Nicholls were also strong supporters of the Thomas Fisher Library and the Osborne Collection of Early Children's' Books. He died at Toronto on 4 April 1995.

### Scope and content:

The fonds consists of files and photographs documenting his involvement with Trinity College, including the Friends of the Library and Corporation. His extensive collection of photographs, both slides and prints, is included in the fonds.

### Contains series

1. Trinity College subject files
2. Photography subject files
3. General photography
4. Competitions and slide shows

### Notes

*Acquisition history:* Fonds was donated by Hilary V. Nicholls in 1995.

*Arrangement:* Material has been organized by the archivist. Slides have been maintained in the cabinet in which they arrived.

*Restrictions on access:* None.

*Terms governing use and reproduction / publication:* It is the researcher's responsibility to obtain permission to publish any part of the fonds. Reproduction and publication restrictions apply to graphic materials.

**Provenance access points**

Nicholls, David W., 1934-1995

**SERIES 1: TRINITY COLLEGE SUBJECT FILES**

**Dates of creation:**

1989-1995

**Extent:**

4 cm of textual records

**Scope and content:**

The series consists of correspondence, minutes, and other materials relating to the participation of David and Hilary Nicholls in the Friends of the Library, Trinity College, and in the Corporation of Trinity College.

**Box/file listing**

FOLDER/UNIT TITLE	START DATE	END DATE	CONTENTS	BOX/ FILE #
Friends of the Library - Executive Committee	1990	1995	Minutes and correspondence, Executive Committee meetings, May 1990 to January 1995.	1-1
Friends of the Library - Treasurer's records	1989	1993	Accounts from Friends of the Library.	1-2
Friends of the Library - working group	1990	1994	Minutes from the meetings, Friends Working Group.	1-3
Friends of the Library and Trinity College Steering Committee	1991	1992	Discussions about the future of Trinity College held in 1992. Copy of "Farewell Address Given by Dr. Elizabeth Rowlinson, June 1, 1991".	1-4
Trinity College Corporation	1991	1993	Correspondence sent to David and Hilary Nicholls.	1-5
Poem "The Faerie Queene"	1973	1973	Broadside printed by Linda Corman	Box 8 (oversize)

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**SERIES 2: GENERAL PHOTOGRAPHY FILES**
**Dates of creation:**

1963-1995

**Extent:**

23 cm of textual records

1 photograph : col. ; 10 x 15 cm

**Scope and content:**

Series consists of correspondence, record books, indexes, lists and other records relating to Nicholls' photography activities and includes awards; records of activities in Canadian and international competitions; dark room records; inventories of equipment, print sales, and prints; correspondence with the Royal Photographic Society; scripts for slide shows; and materials for a book project.

**Box/file listing**

FOLDER/UNIT TITLE	START DATE	END DATE	CONTENTS	BOX/ FILE #
Awards – NAPA	1983	1985	Ribbons from the National Association for Photographic Art competitions.	1-6
Awards - Toronto Camera Club	1979	1995	Ribbons from the Toronto Camera Club competitions.	1-7
Awards - Toronto Camera Club - Nature B	1983	1985	Ribbons and certificate.	1-8
Awards - Toronto Guild for Colour Photography	1983	1993	Ribbons and certificates.	1-9
Competitions	1978	1995	Lists of national and international competitions Nicholls entered: submissions arranged by date and then by competition.	1-10
Dark room records	1988	1992	Record book with notes of details used in the developing of his photographs.	1-11
Equipment	1979	1991	One-page list of cameras and other equipment Nicholls owned with costs.	1-12
Index - print sales and inventory	1980	1993	Handwritten lists of prints he sold or gave as gifts. Flyer "Light, Time and the Lens" - printed list of prints Nicholls had available for sale to benefit Library Development Fund, University of Toronto.	1-13
International exhibitions acceptances	1984	1989	Notices of acceptance of his submitted photographs to international exhibitions.	1-14

International exhibitions acceptances	1990	1994	Notices of acceptance of his submitted photographs to international exhibitions.	1-15
David Nicholls - personal	1990	1993	Photograph of Nicholls. Artist's statement with listing of his professional qualifications. Announcement of his licentiateship of the Royal Photographic Society. See also file 2-6. Letter of permission from Trinity College to photograph the College dated 17 October 1990.	2-1
Photography - correspondence	1988	1994	Correspondence with other photographers including Noel Stuart and Stuart Freedman. Correspondence with Sydney Shep regarding a commission to photograph Soldiers' Tower Carillon, University of Toronto.	2-2
Photo judging	1992	1995	Correspondence regarding Nicholls judging for local camera clubs.	2-3
Photography - Print shows and sales	1990	1993	Correspondence from shows at Trinity College as well as the exhibit "Light, Time and the Lens" held at Robarts Library, University of Toronto.	2-4
Photographic Society of America	1989	1993	Correspondence regarding membership and exhibitions.	2-5
Royal Photographic Society - Licentiate	1991	1991	Certificate of membership in the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain. See also file 2-1.	2-6
Royal Photographic Society - Correspondence	1989	1995	Correspondence regarding membership and exhibitions	2-7
Royal Photographic Society Exhibitions	1990	1994	Works submitted and exhibited.	2-8
Royal Photographic Society - Canadian members correspondence	1992	1994	Correspondence, much of it related to the Canadian members' exhibition for Bath.	2-9
Royal Photographic Society - Canadian members' exhibition	1992	1994	Correspondence regarding Canadian members' exhibition held in Bath February 1994. Actual entry forms from members. Computer printout of Canadian members	2-10
Royal Photographic Society - Central and Eastern Canada chapter	1993	1994	Correspondence plus 4 newsletters.	2-11

Slide shows - correspondence	1983	1995	Scripts for three slide show presentations titled "Desert Country", "Aegean Lands", and "Bath, England". Correspondence regarding where the slides were shown locally.	2-12
Slide show scripts	1963	1992	Scripts and slide lists for 13 slide shows, many entered into competition.	2-13
Time, light and the lens book project	1991	[199-]	Handwritten notes outline for a book.	2-14
Toronto Camera Club	1992	1995	Handwritten chronology of Nicholls' relationship with the Toronto Camera Club 1979-1992. Certificate of appreciation from the Club for Nicholls' volunteer efforts dated 24 April 1995.	2-15
Toronto Camera Club competitions	1979	1995	Handwritten lists of photographs entered into the monthly competitions of the Toronto Camera Club and results.	2-16
Trinity College photos	1990	1992	Correspondence regarding Nicholls photographing Trinity College: includes letter from Provost Robert Painter and card from Chaplain Robert Black.	2-17

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### SERIES 3: PHOTOGRAPHY – SUBJECT FILES

#### Dates of creation:

1954-1994

#### Extent:

13 cm of textual records

13,471 photographs : b&w/col. slides ; 6 x 6 cm

**Scope and content:** Series consists of slides organized into a number of general subjects and indices to these subject areas. Each slide has been numbered, beginning with two digits providing the year the item was created (except for early slides in the Bermuda and Great Britain subseries and other early slides that begin with xx), followed by up to three letters of the alphabet for the topic, and the last three or four numbers representing the number of the item in that group. An index to these materials provides the key for the topics and also gives information on individual items. However, it must be noted that many items are listed in the index which are not found with these records; some are missing, others have found their way into the other series of materials. The slides in the slide cabinet are listed by drawer and row. The slides are filed starting at the back of each row and moving towards the front.

**Box/file listing**

<b>FOLDER/UNIT TITLE</b>	<b>START DATE</b>	<b>END DATE</b>	<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>BOX/ FILE #</b>
Indexes, A-Z and superseded index	1978	1994	23 file folders containing handwritten indexes to slides in special slide cabinet.	Box 3
Arizona - California	1980	1992	1574 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawers 1 & 2
Abstracts, Patterns and Reflections	1978	1993	204 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 2
Abstracts and Patterns in Nature	1985	1994	90 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 2
Autumn colours	1987	1991	174 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 2
Alaska	1988	1988	257 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 2
Works of Art, etc.	1979	1980	103 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 2
Domestic animals & pets	1975	1994	28 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 2
Bermuda	1958	1959	45 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 2
Birds	1978	1994	238 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 2
British Columbia & Canadian Rockies	1967	1994	447 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawers 2 & 3
California	1980	1983	105 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 3
Christmas (decorations, cards, etc.)	1956	1991	172 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 3
County Fairs, Canadian National Exhibition, CNE Air Show	1978	1986	147 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 3
Colorado	1992	1992	132 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 3
Cars - racing & antique	1980	1989	36 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 3
Europe	1963	1963	144 slides	Slide Cabinet

				Drawer 3
Wildflowers	1978	1994	1,062 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawers 3 & 4
Flowers (cultivated)	1975	1992	361 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 4
Fungi & mushrooms	1978	1994	199 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 4
Family & friends	1953	1992	124 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 5
Florida	1988	1988	94 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 5
Fireworks	1983	1992	39 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 5
Greece	1990	1990	209 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 5
Great Britain	1963	1994	761 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 5
Glacier National Park	1985	1985	170 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 5
Grand Teton National Park	1985	1985	84 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 6
Houses	1968	1992	16 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 6
Hot air balloons	1983	1994	31 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 6
Italy	1990	1990	46 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 6
Kenya – ROM trip	1984	1984	505 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 6
Montreal, Quebec City & the Gaspé	1965	1979	92 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 6
Maritime provinces	1961	1975	103 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 6
Hamilton, Niagara Escarpment, Bruce Trail	1962	1993	214 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 6
New England	1981	1991	643 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawers 6 & 7



Nature - zoology & general	1980	1994	467 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 7
New Mexico	1992	1992	168 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 7
New York	1958	1981	95 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 7
Ontario	1955	1993	417 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 7
Parks (mainly Algonquin Park)	1979	1994	244 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawers 7 & 8
Pioneer villages	1978	1994	518 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 8
Pacific Coast	1980	1980	169 slides approx.	Slide Cabinet Drawer 8
Regina & Saskatchewan	1981	1981	19 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 8
Royal Wedding (via TV) and Royal Family	1976	1987	35 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 8
Ships, boats & lighthouses	1957	1993	73 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 8
San Francisco	1980	1980	136 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 8
Signs	1979	1992	52 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 8
Sunrise & sunset	1978	1993	62 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 8
Toronto	1954	1993	526 slides of Toronto scenes and events including Caribana 1984 and Tall Ships 1986.	Slide Cabinet Drawers 8 & 9
Tabletops	1985	1990	32 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 9
Turkey	1990	1990	250 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 9
Utah	1991	1992	518 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 9
Winter	1967	1993	131 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 9

Washington DC & Virginia	1989	1989	229 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 9
Washington state	1994	1994	229 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawers 9 & 10
Yellowstone National Park	1985	1985	218 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 10
Zoos	1979	1992	234 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 10
Card index - superseded	1963	1994	Index cards providing access to slides when they were in trays	Box 3

#### **SERIES 4: COMPETITIONS AND SLIDE SHOWS**

**Dates of creation:**

1977-1994

**Extent:**

1 cm of textual records

1,428 photographs : b&w/col. slides : 6 cm x 6 cm

320 photographs : b&w/col. ; 28 cm x 35.5 cm or smaller

2334 photographs : b&w/col. negatives ; 6.5 cm x 6.5 cm or smaller

**Scope and content:**

Series consists of slides and photographs organized into a number of general categories, subjects or groups including some that were for display and sale. The slides are stored in the slide cabinet and are grouped within each drawer.

**Box/file listing:**

<b>FOLDER/UNIT TITLE</b>	<b>START DATE</b>	<b>END DATE</b>	<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>BOX/ FILE #</b>
Competition Pictorial A	[198-]	[199-]	List of slides entered in competition 57 slides	Box 3 & Slide Cabinet Drawer 10
Competition Nature A	[198-]	[199-]	Photocopy of list of slides entered in competition & actual slides	Box 3 Slide Cabinet Drawer 10
Slides: Palouse series (prepared for Royal Photographic Society application for associateship)	[1990]	[1990]	15 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 10

Slides: Royal Photographic Society submission for the International Competition	1995	1995	38 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 10
Slides: Trinity College	1990	[199-]	348 slides Substantial collection of interior and exterior images of Trinity College: includes architectural details, portraits, library sale, chapel, etc. Detailed list in 1995 Finding Aid which is in the administrative file for the Fonds.	Slide Cabinet Drawer 10
Slides: Ice cube essay	[198-]	[199-]	35 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 10
Slides: Saguaro Nature Exhibition, Phoenix, Arizona	1986	1990	4 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 10
Slides: Minneapolis International Exhibition of Photography	1995	1995	4 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 10
Slides: Ice cube essays and others (forest, river scenes, flowers)	[198-]	[199-]	32 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 10
Slides: Pictorial A (Palouse)	1990	1990	6 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 10
Slides: Duplicates	[198-]	[199-]	25 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 10
Slides: Nature Slides A (for competition)	[198-]	[199-]	4 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 10
Slides: Color Camera Club of Westchester	1987	1992	8 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 10
Slides: Desert Country slide show	1983	1990	320 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 11
Slides: Aegean Lands slide show	1990	1990	298 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 11
Slides: Bath slide show	1987	1994	75 slides	Slide Cabinet Drawer 11
Slides: Competition Nature A	[198-]	[199-]	38 slides list in Box 3	Slide Cabinet Drawer 11

Slides: Competition	[198-]	[199-]	30 slides	4-1
Trinity College	[198-]	[199-]	41 photonegatives : b&w ; 5.5 x 5.5 cm or smaller. 167 photonegatives : col., ; 6 x 6 cm. or smaller. These images are not included in the slide collection. Includes 1987 & 1991 FOL book sales.	4-2
Black & white negatives	[198-]	[199-]	476 photonegatives : b&w ; 2.5 x 3.5 cm. 8 contact sheets. Mostly travels in North America and Toronto area.	4-3
Black & white negatives	[198-]	[199-]	71 photonegatives : b&w ; 6 x 6 cm. 1 contact sheet. Pioneer villages and Arizona.	4-4
Halifax Focus	1977	1979	13 photographs : b&w ; 9 x 13 cm. Photographs from Nova Scotia each inscribed on back with camera settings, copies of negatives in 4-3.	4-5
Zion National Park (Utah), Toronto, Algonquin Park	1983	1983	33 photographs : b&w ; 9 x 13 cm., copies from negatives in 4-3	4-6
Colour negatives	[198-]	[199-]	392 photonegatives : col., ; 2.5 x 3.5 cm. 3 contact sheets. Mostly nature.	4-7
Nova Scotia, pioneer village, Yosemite	[198-]	[199-]	16 photographs : b&w ; 20 x 25.5 cm.	4-8
Slide show titles etc.	[198-]	[199-]	79 slides with titles etc. for his slide shows.	4-9
Colour negatives nature	1986	1990	234 photonegatives : col. ; 2.5 x 3.5 cm. 3 contact sheets.	4-10
Colour negatives	1986	1990	396 photonegatives : col., ; 6.5 x 6.5 cm. Some contact sheets. Toronto, Vermont, Algonquin Park, Nova Scotia	4-11
Lampspoon	1994	1994	212 photonegatives : col. ; 6.5 x 6.5 cm. Mostly Arts & Letters Club production, <i>Lampspoon</i> .	4-12

Lampspoon prints	1994	1994	53 photographs : col. ; 10 x 15 cm. Arts & Letters Club production, <i>Lampspoon</i> .	4-13
Colour prints	1988	1989	56 photographs : col. ; 20 x 25 cm from negatives, nature and travel.	5-1
Exhibit of David Nicholls at Toronto Camera Club			36 photographs : col. ; 10 x 15 cm.: photographs of the exhibit	5-2
Algonquin Park, Church of the Redeemer	1989	1990	23 photographs : col. ; 10 x 15 cm. or smaller.	5-3
Colour negatives unidentified	[198- ?]	[199- ?]	100 colour negatives from what appears to be a 50th birthday celebration perhaps at the Toronto Camera Club.	5-4
Miscellaneous colour negatives, unidentified	[198-]	[199-]	245 colour negatives from travels in United States.	5-5
Trinity College contact sheets	[199-]	[199-]	Two contact sheets for b&w photographs.	5-6
Trinity College contact sheet	1994	1994	One contact sheet for colour photographs.	5-7
Slides: mushrooms	[199-]	[199-]	8 slides of mushrooms. Note on file: "Received from Joyce Sowby in April 2000".	5-8
Miscellaneous oversize colour prints	[198-]	1992	27 photographs : col. 28 x 35.5 cm: Trinity College, boats, trees, forests	Box 6 (oversize)
Miscellaneous oversize colour prints	1988	1993	51 photographs : col. 28 x 35.5 cm: buildings, hot springs, Southern United States, mountains, flowers.	Box 7 (oversize)
Miscellaneous colour prints for sale or exhibition	1989	1994	12 photographs : col. ; 28 x 35.5 cm or smaller (some matted).	Box 8 (oversize)