

Acc.13629
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Inventory

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Papers of Alice G Vines

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Correspondence, research papers, photographs and audio tapes, 1904-1994, of Dr. Alice Gilmore Vines (1923-2009) relating to her biographical work on Margaret Ethel Gladstone MacDonald (1870-1911) and Ishbel Peterkin (nee MacDonald) (1903-1982), James Ramsay MacDonald's wife and eldest daughter.

Dr Vines collected this material in the course of her research for an intended biography of the two women. Over a number of summers she visited Ishbel in Lossiemouth and corresponded with her. Unfortunately, she had not finished the text when Ishbel died in 1982 and thereafter failed to find a publisher for it. Dr Vines lectured in British history at the University of Dayton, Ohio, in the USA. A great enthusiast for Britain, she spent almost every summer in the UK and retired to St. Andrews, Fife, where she lived for twenty years.

The collection includes letters from Ishbel to Dr Vines and also from other members of the MacDonald family. Of particular significance are the manuscript notes of Ishbel MacDonald containing many recollections about her life and relationship with her parents. In addition, the 15 audio tapes are also significant as they contain interviews with Ishbel and read out extracts from her personal journals held at the National Archives in London. The collection also includes some photographs and transparencies.

The collection has been arranged into the following series:

- 1-3 Correspondence, 1976-1994**
- 4-11 Research notes and papers, c. 1970s-1982**
- 12 Audiotapes, c. 1970s-1980s**
- 13-16 Photographs and slides, 1904-1980**
- 17 Newspaper cuttings, 1961-1977**
- 18-21 Miscellaneous**

Presented, May 2015

1-3 Correspondence, 1976-1994

1. Letters of Ishbel MacDonald to Alice G. Vines, 1976-1982.
2. Letter of Ishbel MacDonald to Alice G. Vines, 26 April 1982.
3. Letters of Sheila Lochhead, Ishbel MacDonald's younger sister, to Alice G. Vines, June 1982-November 1986. Includes an obituary of Sheila Lochhead, 26 July 1994.

4-11 Research notes and papers, c. 1970s-1982

4. Manuscript notes of Ishbel MacDonald, mostly undated with some dated April 1980.
5. Miscellaneous manuscript notes, c. 1970s-1980s.
6. Copies of notes of Ishbel MacDonald, undated. Includes some negatives.
7. Miscellaneous notes relating to Ishbel MacDonald, undated.
8. Typescript copy of table of contents and introductory chapter to Alice G. Vines' book 'The MacDonald Women: Margaret and Ishbel', undated.
9. Typescript of Alice G. Vines' book 'The MacDonald Women: Margaret and Ishbel', undated.
10. Comments relating to Alice G. Vines' book from an unknown source, undated.
11. Background letter for prospective publishers and CV of Alice G. Vines, c. 1982.

12 Audiotapes, c. 1970s-1980s

12. 15 audiotapes containing recordings of interviews with Ishbel MacDonald and readings of her diaries held at the National Archives in London, 1970s-1980s.

13-16 Photographs and slides, 1904-c. 1980

13. Photographs of Ishbel and her mother Margaret E. Gladstone MacDonald, 1937-1980s and undated, with a postcard addressed to Miss Gladstone showing a picture of two young children, possibly Malcolm and Ishbel MacDonald, 25 November 1904.
14. Photographs of Margaret MacDonald's memorial and of 3 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, the MacDonalds' residence, c. 1980.
15. Transparencies showing Pembridge Square, London, birthplace of Margaret E. Gladstone MacDonald and her memorial outside 3 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, c. 1980.

16. Transparencies showing the Ishbel MacDonald and the family home at Lossiemouth, c. 1980.

17 Newspaper cuttings, 1961-1977

17. Newspaper cuttings, 1961-1977.

18-21 Miscellaneous

18. Six-Point Group publications, undated.

19. Photocopy of entry on James Ramsay MacDonald by Alice G. Vines published in the 'Biographical Dictionary of Modern British Radicals', undated, with a postcard of James Ramsay MacDonald.

20. Ishbel MacDonald's own copy of 'Before the Bluestockings' by Ada Wallas.

21. Alice G. Vines's own copy of 'Margaret Ethel MacDonald' by James Ramsay MacDonald.