

# Effie Constance Astbury



Effie Astbury BA graduate portrait. Credit Old McGill Yearbook 1938

b. Dec. 9, 1916, Montreal, QC; d. May 22, 2008, Montreal, QC

## Education:

1938 BA (McGill University, Classics)  
1939 BLS 1939 (McGill University)  
1956 MLS 1956 (University of Toronto)

## Positions:

1939-1949 Reference Librarian, McGill University Medical Library  
1949-1950 Teaching Assistant, McGill University Library School  
1950-1953 Lecturer, McGill University Library School  
1953-1965 Assistant Professor, McGill University, Graduate School of Library Science  
1965-1969 Associate Professor  
1968-1979 Professor  
1972-1976 Director, Graduate School of Library Science, McGill University  
1982-2008 Professor Emerita

## Associations, Committees:

1971-1974 Member of the Senate, McGill University  
CLA, CACUL, QLA, Member of Councils and Committees of these associations  
Corporation of Professional Librarians of Quebec, Committee member

## Publications:

Astbury, Effie C. (1944). "Congenital cardiac disease: bibliography of the 1000 cases analyzed in Maud Abbott's atlas." *American Heart Journal*, v. 27: 688-732.

Astbury, Effie C. (1961). "The Canadian Library Inquiry: a partial report on the 16th Annual Canadian Library Association Conference." *Bulletin of the American Library Association* 55, no. 9: 818-820.

Astbury, Effie C. (1962). "Implications for the reference librarian [catalogue code revision]." *Wilson Library Bulletin* 36, no. 6: 450-455.

Astbury, Effie C. (1969). "Library technicians and the reference service." *Canadian Library Journal* 26, no. 1: 54-57.

Astbury, Effie C. (1981). Casey A. Wood (1856-1942); ophthalmologist, bookman, ornithologist: a bio-bibliography. Montreal: Graduate School of Library Science (Occasional paper 7).

Astbury, Effie C. (1984). "Polite, cautious but determined." In *A fair shake: autobiographical essays by McGill women*, edited by Margaret Gillett and Kay Sibbald, pp. 261-267. Montréal: Eden Press.

Astbury, Effie C. (1991). *Canada and the Second World War: the home front and war aims: a bibliography*. Montreal: Graduate School of Library and Information Studies, McGill University. (Occasional paper 11)

## Honours:

Beta Phi Mu (International Library Science Honor Society) 1958-1982 Emeritus Professor

## Accomplishments:

1934 Graduation from Outremont's Strathcona Academy with 4 medals  
BA magna cum laude, McGill University

## Other areas of activity:

In her retirement, at the Griffith McConnell Home, Cote St. Luc, she served as President of the Residents' Association and sat on the Residence's Board of Governors

## Comments:

Her specialties were library science education, reference service, and bibliography. "For Effie's many students, her greatest contribution was as a dedicated and inspirational teacher. Her shyness was balanced by a warm smile, infectious enthusiasm, quiet humour, and thorough professionalism. Her

high standards and superbly organized courses with their up-to-date material made her a role model for generations of librarians. She possessed grace, dignity, integrity, and moral authority." (McNally)

## Sources:

Obit. The Gazette (Montreal), May 30, 2008

McNally, Peter F. "Effie Constance Astbury, December 9, 1916 - May 22, 2008." (Composed with the support and agreement of the Astbury-Smith Family)

Directory of library & information professionals. (1988). Chicago: American Library Association.

McGill University Library catalogue

A Fair Shake: Autobiographical Essays by McGill Women. Edited by Margaret Gillett and Kay Sibbald. Montreal, Eden Press, 1984, pp. 261-267.

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