

Hilda Gorham Gifford



Hilda Gifford BA portrait. Credit Old McGill yearbook 1937.

b. Sept. 23, 1915, Montreal, QC; d. Nov. 11, 2002, Ottawa, ON

Education:

1937 BA McGill University
1938 BLS McGill University

Positions:

1938-1943 Cataloguer, Dalhousie University Library
1943-1945 Post Office Censor, Canada Post
1945-1947 International Labour Office
1947-1948 Cataloguer, Harvard Law Library as well as working at Dartmouth College
1948-1969 Head Librarian, Carleton College (later Carleton University)
1969-1981 Collections Librarian, Carleton University

Publications:

Gifford, Hilda (1959). "Function and the Library Building." *Journal of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada* 36, no. 4 (April): 104-105.

Gifford, Hilda G (1960). "The Carleton University library building." *ALA Bulletin*, 54 (6): 478-480.

Giford, Hilda G. (1963). "The MacOdrum Library of Carleton University." *College and University Libraries* (Jan.): 43-46.

Gifford, Hilda G. (1967). *Study of cataloguing in fourteen universities in Ontario*. Ottawa: Carleton

University.

Associations/Committees:

Association internationale des études françaises, Canadian Political Science Association, Humanities Association of Canada, Canadian Library Association, American Library Association, Canadian Association of University Teachers, Ontario Library Association, International Federation of Library Associations

Carleton University Committees: Library Committee, Committee on Curriculum (1949-1950), Faculty Club, Building Advisory Committee

Honours:

1982 D.Litt Carleton University

2004 A plaque and memorial photograph were unveiled in her honour in the MacOdrum Library, Carleton University

Accomplishments:

First university librarian of Carleton University. When she started, the library consisted of 5000 volumes and by 1968 the collection had grown to 300,000 volumes housed in the newly constructed MacOdrum Library building and with a staff of 120 full-time employees.

Other areas of activity:

She was a renowned Scottish country dancer.

Sources:

"Carleton librarian runs big business." The Ottawa Citizen, May 27, 1968.

"Class acts: online exclusive: Hilda Gifford 1915-2002." Carleton University Magazine Online, Winter 2003.

Death notice. The Ottawa Citizen, November 19, 2002.

[Hilda Gifford, Archives and Research Collections, Carleton University](#). Accessed August 8, 2013.

"Giving to Carleton: Tribute to library founder and donors." Carleton University Magazine Online, Fall 2004.

ELA biography compiled by Carrol Lunau.

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