

University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections

Finding Aid - Denbei Kobayashi fonds (RBSC- ARC-1308)

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Denbei Kobayashi fonds

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Summary information

Repository: University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections

Title: Denbei Kobayashi fonds

ID: RBSC-ARC-1308

Date: 1913-1915, 1917-1935, 1938-1940 (date of creation)

Physical description: 42 cm of textual records and other material

**Dates of creation,
revision and deletion:**

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Denbei Kobayashi was born on September, 10, 1878 in Nagano-ken, Japan. He grew up working on his familys silk worm farm, and later briefly became a gold miner on the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido. Kobayashi emigrated to Canada in 1906, where he initially made his living by fishing. After working construction for the Canadian Pacific Railway, he found employment at the Coldstream Ranch in the Okanagan, before moving to Okanagan Centre to work at the Grandview Hotel. Kobayashi also worked at the Rainbow Ranch in the same area, as well as for Mr. Goulding in Oyama. He was then awarded a contract by the Okanagan Valley Land Co. in Winfield to plant 800 acres of fruit trees. In 1913 he temporarily returned to Japan to marry Hiro Yanagisawa, and in 1914 they bought orchard property in the Okanagan. Kobayashi concentrated on fruit growing for the rest of his career. His family home became a social centre in the area, playing host to everyone from Japanese consuls to ordinary folk. After being converted by Methodist missionaries in Japan, Kobayashi became a devoted member of the United Church in the Okanagan. He was also a writer and supporter of the ancient Japanese literature and poetry known as haiku, and judged entries from across Canada in addition to organizing a local group of such writers in 1921.

In 1966 Kobayashi was bestowed with a citation and a silver medal by the Prince Takamatsu, brother to the Japanese emperor, for his work regarding agricultural development. Kobayashi died on January 4, 1968, leaving behind three sons and four daughters. He was predeceased by his wife in 1960.

Scope and content

The fonds consists of diaries (1913-1915, 1917-1935, 1938-1940), letters, newspaper clippings, photographs and negatives, receipts, postcards, hand drawn plans, mathematical notations, personal notations, medical inspection notices, church publications and other miscellaneous documentation.

Notes

Title notes

Finding aids

Inventory available.

Accruals

No further accruals expected.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** published

Series descriptions

Denbei Kobayashi Diaries

Date: 1913-1915, 1917-1935, 1938-1940 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of Denbei Kobayashi's personal diaries from the years 1913-1915, 1917-1935, and 1938-1940. Other records were found within the pages of these diaries, including letters, newspaper clippings, photographs and negatives, receipts, postcards, hand drawn plans, mathematical notations, personal notations, medical inspection notices, church publications and other miscellaneous items.

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1308-1-01	File - 1913 Diary	1913		
RBSC-ARC-1308-1-02	File - 1914 Diary	1914		
RBSC-ARC-1308-1-02-1-02-01	Item - 2 small cards	1914		

RBSC-ARC-1308-1-02-1-02-02	Item - 1 letter	1914
RBSC-ARC-1308-1-02-1-02-03	Item - 1 photograph/postcard	1914
RBSC-ARC-1308-1-03	File - 1915 Diary	1915
RBSC-ARC-1308-1-04	File - 1917 Diary	1917
RBSC-ARC-1308-1-04-1-04-01	Item - 4 negatives	1917
RBSC-ARC-1308-1-05	File - 1918 Diary	1918
RBSC-ARC-1308-1-05-1-05-01	Item - Notations on scrap paper	1918
RBSC-ARC-1308-1-06	File - 1919 Diary	1919
RBSC-ARC-1308-1-07	File - 1920 Diary	1920
RBSC-ARC-1308-1-07-1-07-01	Item - Postal note	1920
RBSC-ARC-1308-1-07-1-07-02	Item - 1 letter	1920
RBSC-ARC-1308-1-08	File - 1921 Diary	1921
RBSC-ARC-1308-1-08-1-08-01	Item - 3 pages of mathematical notations and lists	1921
RBSC-ARC-1308-2-01	File - 1922 Diary	1922
RBSC-ARC-1308-2-01-2-01-01	Item - Card with Japanese characters	1922
RBSC-ARC-1308-2-01-2-01-02	Item - 1 letter	1922
RBSC-ARC-1308-2-01-2-01-03	Item - Lists and mathematical notations	1922
RBSC-ARC-1308-2-01-2-01-04	Item - Postal receipts	1922
RBSC-ARC-1308-2-02	File - 1923 Diary	1923
RBSC-ARC-1308-2-03	File - 1924 Diary	1924
RBSC-ARC-1308-2-04	File - 1925 Diary	1925
RBSC-ARC-1308-2-04-2-04-01	Item - Medical notices	1925
RBSC-ARC-1308-2-05	File - 1926 Diary	1926
RBSC-ARC-1308-2-05-2-05-01	Item - Hand drawn plans	1926
RBSC-ARC-1308-2-05-2-05-02	Item - Receipts	1926
RBSC-ARC-1308-2-05-2-05-03	Item - Paper with Japanese characters	1926
RBSC-ARC-1308-2-06	File - 1927 Diary	1927
RBSC-ARC-1308-2-06-2-06-01	Item - Receipts	1927
RBSC-ARC-1308-2-06-2-06-02	Item - Newspaper clippings	1927
RBSC-ARC-1308-2-06-2-06-03	Item - Paper with Japanese characters	1927
RBSC-ARC-1308-2-07	File - 1928 Diary	1928
RBSC-ARC-1308-2-08	File - 1929 Diary	1929
RBSC-ARC-1308-2-08-2-08-01	Item - Letters	1929
RBSC-ARC-1308-2-08-2-08-02	Item - Postcard	1929

RBSC- ARC-1308-2-08-2-08-03	Item - Small paper with Japanese characters	1929
RBSC-ARC-1308-3-01	File - 1930 Diary	1930
RBSC- ARC-1308-3-01-3-01-01	Item - Piece of card with Japanese characters	1930
RBSC-ARC-1308-3-02	File - 1931 Diary	1931
RBSC- ARC-1308-3-02-3-02-01	Item - Church publication	1931
RBSC-ARC-1308-3-03	File - 1932 Diary	1932
RBSC- ARC-1308-3-03-3-03-01	Item - Scrap paper with notations	1932
RBSC-ARC-1308-3-04	File - 1933 Diary	1933
RBSC- ARC-1308-3-04-3-04-01	Item - List of names with meanings	1933
RBSC-ARC-1308-3-05	File - 1934 Diary	1934
RBSC-ARC-1308-3-06	File - 1935 Diary	1935
RBSC-ARC-1308-3-07	File - 1938 Diary	1938
RBSC-ARC-1308-3-08	File - 1939 Diary	1939
RBSC-ARC-1308-3-09	File - 1940 Diary	1940
RBSC- ARC-1308-3-09-3-09-01	Item - Newspaper clipping	1940