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**FREDERICK ATTENBOROUGH**

**DIARY**

**MF-389**

**Arranged and Described**

**by**

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## SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection consists of a travel diary written by Frederick Attenborough in the summer of 1935. Attenborough records this journey, which starts on Monday, July 29, at Barrow-in-Furness, England in great detail. His first destinations are Edinburgh and Liverpool. His holiday then takes him by ship to parts of Newfoundland and Canada. He remained in St. John's, Newfoundland from August 8 to 11, and returned on August 23 for 2 days. While in Canada, he takes a Canadian National Railway train from Halifax to Quebec City, Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto. The trip, in its entirety, lasts until Saturday, August 31, with his last stop at Manxland (Isle of Man).

Upon arriving in St. John's, Attenborough declares the city to be the "messiest place" he has ever seen. He does, however, find the hospitality in St. John's to be some of the best and warmest he has ever encountered. He is welcomed by Judge Frank Morris (COLL-103), George N. Barr, Major General Sir Hugh Tudor (MF-366), Max Shears, and a Mr. and Mrs. Rendell.

Through his new acquaintances, Attenborough gets to experience the Newfoundland countryside. He records his day trips to Bowring Park, which he refers to as "an oasis in a desert of ugliness," and Torbay, which reminds him of the "delectable county" of Devon, England. He also visits Cabot Tower, Government House and Water Street.

## RESTRICTIONS

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## CUSTODIAL HISTORY

This diary was acquired on October 13, 1995 from John W. Doull, bookseller in Halifax.

## EXTENT

2 centimetres

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Frederick Attenborough's residence was 43 Milton Street, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire, England at the time the travel diary was written. He was a schoolmaster at Burton Grammar School and in July and August of 1935, he took his annual summer holiday abroad. He had no travel companions, but he did make several acquaintances on board the *S.S. Nova Scotia*.

During the first days of his holiday, Attenborough traveled to Edinburgh to be present at the wedding of Clement and Molly, who seemed to be close friends of his. He was asked by the bride-to-be to play at the reception, which was to be held at Roxburghe Hotel, Charlotte Square.

## ARRANGEMENT AND DESCRIPTION

### **1.0 Diary, 1935**

#### 1.01 Travel diary, 1935