



## Edward Oliver Wheeler fonds

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions410>

Part Of: Edward Oliver Wheeler fonds

Description Level: 1 / Fonds

Fonds Number: M 169

Sous-Fonds: M 169

Accession Number: 6262, 7440, 7773

Reference Code: M169

GMD: Textual record

Private record

Diary

Scrapbook

Date Range: 1902-1963

Physical Description: 46 v. + 4 items of textual records

History /

Biographical:

E. O. (Edward Oliver) Wheeler, 1890-1962, was a Canadian surveyor, soldier and mountaineer. Wheeler was born in Ottawa, the son of A. O. (Arthur Oliver) Wheeler, Dominion Land Surveyor and founder of the Alpine Club of Canada. E. O. Wheeler served in the Royal Engineers in World War I and received the Military Cross in 1916 and the Legion of Honour (France). In 1941 he was appointed Surveyor-General of India and in 1943 was knighted by King George VI. During World War II, he served as Director of the Frontier Circle of the Survey of India. Wheeler retired to Lavington, British Columbia in 1947. Throughout his life, Wheeler was involved in world mountaineering. He worked on the mapping of the 1922 expedition of Mount Everest and was active in the Alpine Club of Canada, serving as its President from 1950 to 1954.

Scope & Content:

Fonds consists of three series : I. Diaries, 1902-1963, 44 v of textual records; II. Scrapbooks, 1910-1933, 2 v. of textual records; III. Other material, [1946-1947], 4 items. Diaries pertain to early life in Ontario and Alberta, service as a surveyor in India, service with the Royal Engineers in France and Mesopotamia, 1915-1918, trips on leave from India to Canada, U.S.A., England, South Africa, Asia, south Pacific, and New Zealand. Diaries also detail ACC camp preparations and activities, travel to and from Banff, clubhouse work; travel details, daily activities and accounts of climbs in France and Scotland; trans-Atlantic and trans-Canada voyage; Alpine Club of Canada Vermilion Camp activities; Strathcona, Vancouver Island reconnaissance trip and climbs; travels to California, Hawaii and Japan: travel from Los Angeles to Canada, through British Columbia to Banff; ACC camp at Glacier, B.C.; trip from India to Canada; life in Banff; trips and ACC camps in the Rockies, Selkirks and Kootenay district; ACC activities and operations; travels in the Okanagan, Kootenays and Columbia Valley, BC. Also included in this series are two diaries of his wife Dorothea. Scrapbooks pertain to school life, military training, surveyor's training; Alpine Club of Canada activities and lecture activities; military career, 1910-1919; surveying and mountaineering activities; Mount Everest expedition of 1921. Other material consists of items found loose in the 1946-1948 diaries, including letter written on board ship from Asia to the United States, 1947; photographs of unidentified women, 2 items; and postcard of Vancouver City Hall

Name Access: Wheeler, Edward Oliver

Subject Access:	Exploration, discovery and travel
	Family and personal life
	Military
	Sports, recreation and leisure
Access Restrictions:	No restrictions on access
	Copyright, privacy, commercial use and other restrictions may apply
Language:	Language is English
Creator:	Wheeler, Edward Oliver
Category:	Exploration, discovery and travel
	Family and personal life
	Military
	Sports, recreation and leisure
Biographical Source	Custody information was provided by John Wheeler, son of E. O.
Notes:	Wheeler
Title Source:	Title based on contents of fonds
Processing Status:	Processed

This material is presented as originally created; it may contain outdated cultural descriptions and potentially offensive content. [Read more.](#)



## 1912- 1913 Chatham - Calcutta 30.9.12 (Nagasaki) to 6.11.12 (XB), Shikar KOTRI 12.4.13-30.4.13 XI

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions22858>

Part Of: Edward Oliver Wheeler fonds

Description Level: 6 / Item

Accession Number: 7773

Reference Code: M169 / 6

Date Range: 1912-1913

Physical Description: 1 vol. textual record

### Scope & Content:

Label supplied by Provincial Archives of British Columbia: 314 Wheeler, Oliver, Vol. 6, Sept. 1912-Apr. 1913 India

Personal diary accounting boat trip to Shanghai, rickshaw trip , travels within Shanghai and interactions and observations with locals, weather, homesickness, boat trip to Singapore, leisure, Calcutta, train travel

Lists of expenses Glasgow to Calcutta

Two week long Kotdwara exploration, elephants, tigers, various other animals, shooting; list of expenses, packing list, Xmas 1913 expenses list

Subject Access: Travel  
Shooting  
Leisure

Title Source: Title taken from source

Processing Status: Processed

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## 1914 Gangotri 14.4.14 - 28.5.14. Diary No XII

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions22859>

Part Of: Edward Oliver Wheeler fonds

Description Level: 6 / Item

Accession Number: 7773

Reference Code: M169 / 7

Date Range: 1914

Physical Description: 1 vol. textual record

### Scope & Content:

Label supplied by Provincial Archives of British Columbia: 314 Wheeler, Oliver, Vol. 7, Apr. - May 1914 India

Personal diary containing kit list, travel, extensive discussion of "coolies", hiking, mountaineering, dehydration, discussion of altitudes, several sketches of mountains, descriptions of numbered photos not present

Peaks include: NagTibba ridge, Dharassu, Dounda, Kedarganga, Glacier No.1, Batwari

Several pages stuck together throughout

Summary and notes including weather, routes, kit, food, topography, costs, wages, remarks

Subject Access: Travel  
Mountaineering  
India

Title Source: Title taken from source

Processing Status: Processed

This material is presented as originally created; it may contain outdated cultural descriptions and potentially offensive content. [Read more.](#)



## 1915 - 1916 WAR. 11.11.15 -7.5.16 DIARY No XV

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions22861>

Part Of: Edward Oliver Wheeler fonds

Description Level: 6 / Item

Accession Number: 7773

Reference Code: M169 / 9

Date Range: 1915-1916

Physical Description: 1 vol. textual record

### Scope & Content:

Label supplied by Provincial Archives of British Columbia: 314 Wheeler, Oliver, Vol. 9, Nov. 1915-May 1916 Mesopotamia

Personal diary. Front cover indicates it should be mailed to Mrs. A. O. Wheeler in Sidney, BC, book is a Field Message Book, with graph paper and tear out pages, written in pencil

Weather descriptions, drills, Auchy-au-Boris, Marseilles, canal trip, Red Sea, first Christmas at sea, Magil, man shot himself in shoulder during march, Qalat Saleh, digging "Corps Trench", 'Orah, monitoring trench digging

Page with drawings of boats pinned to page near middle, drawing of skyline, drawings of mahaila and ballam, diagrams of mullah, map Persia and Turkey in Asia, diagram of British trench, main camp, Turk Line, drawing of British flag on back inside cover

Subject Access: WWI

Trenches

Title Source: Title taken from source

Processing Status: Processed

This material is presented as originally created; it may contain outdated cultural descriptions and potentially offensive content. [Read more.](#)



## 1915 WAR. 1.4.15 -10.11.15 DIARY No XIV

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions22860>

Part Of: Edward Oliver Wheeler fonds

Description Level: 6 / Item

Accession Number: 7773

Reference Code: M169 / 8

Date Range: 1915

Physical Description: 1 vol. textual record

### Scope & Content:

Label supplied by Provincial Archives of British Columbia: 314 Wheeler, Oliver, Vol. 8, Jan.-Oct. 1915 war diary: France

Personal diary. Front cover indicates it should be mailed to Mrs. A. O. Wheeler in Sidney, BC, book is a Field Message Book, with graph paper and tear out pages, written in pencil

Opens with discussion of leave, making shelters in front trench, daily routines of leave, trench maintenance, weather changes, discussion of orders for attacks, specific tasks if successful, postponing of attacks, "gave some water and chocolate to one wounded German", description of attacks, "yarn" about Canadian Div man regarding spies, second leave description, leisure, diagrams of dugouts, Dead Man's Trench

Diagrams at back of sick, wounded, killed- significant casualties on March 14.

Subject Access: WWI

Title Source: Title taken from source

Processing Status: Processed

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1916 - 1917 - 1918 No XVI A WAR 8.5.16 - 6.8.16 No XVI B  
Sick Leave OOTY 7.8.16 - 19.10.16 XVII Shikar (Benaik)  
22.5.17 - 20.6.17 XVIII WAR 18.10.17 - 23.3.18

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions22862>

Part Of: Edward Oliver Wheeler fonds

Description Level: 6 / Item

Accession Number: 7773

Reference Code: M169 / 10

Date Range: 1916-1918

Physical Description: 1 vol. textual record

Scope & Content:

Label supplied by Provincial Archives of British Columbia: 314 Wheeler, Oliver, Vol. 10, 1916, 1917, 1918 Mesopotamia & India

Personal diary. Front cover indicates it should be mailed to Mrs. A. O. Wheeler in Sidney, BC, book is a Field Message Book, with graph paper and tear out pages, written in pencil.

Diagrams for trench digging, platform diagram

Weather conditions, daily routines, Sannaujuah, mentions of cholera, typhoid, diarrhea, fever, documentation of gradual onset of illness, sick leave in Amara, discussion of day to day illness and diet, leisure: golf, hockey, and dances, visit to St Mary's (1680) oldest British church in India

Leave in May 1917 for 30 days, leisure, travel, mountaineering, hunting,

Insert of list of the days in June and July with numbers, and average calculated. Temperature?

Expenses Travelling list, Wages, Food

Return to Mesopotamia 1917, travel, boat trip, preparation for leaving Busra, Amara, Kur, One Tree Camp Amara, thieves in Amara, Bagdad right bank, description of Kadhimain mosque, last pages at Fufa regarding a murder, pages following are ripped out.

Subject Access: WWI

Travel

India

Mesopotamia

Title Source: Title taken from source

Processing Status: Processed

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## 1937-38 I

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions22873>

Part Of: Edward Oliver Wheeler fonds

Description Level: 6 / Item

Accession Number: 7773

Reference Code: M169 / 21

Date Range: 1937-38

Physical Description: 1 vol. textual record

### Scope & Content:

Label supplied by Provincial Archives of British Columbia: 314 Wheeler, Oliver, Vol. 21, Leave: S.E. Asia, Pacific & New Zealand 1937

Personal diary pertaining to trip to Killarng Lodge, description of car shopping, list of packed items for travel, Calcutta, leisure activities, boat to Batavia, boat trip, Sydney, New Delhi, Melbourne, travel details, Wellington, listing of speedometer readings, Waiko Gorge, Christchurch. List of expenses and destinations in back.

Loose annotated map of Bali in page 20. Map of New Zealand Te Anau Lake to Milford Sound, and colour fold out map "Hume Weir" in page 38.

Subject Access: Daily routines

Travel

Leisure

Calcutta

Singapore

Sydney

Wellington

New Zealand

Title Source: Title taken from source

Processing Status: Processed

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## 1937-38 II

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions22874>

Part Of: Edward Oliver Wheeler fonds

Description Level: 6 / Item

Accession Number: 7773

Reference Code: M169 / 22

Date Range: 1937-1938

Physical Description: 1 vol. textual record

Scope & Content:

Label supplied by Provincial Archives of British Columbia: 314 Wheeler, Oliver, Vol. 22, 1937 New Zealand, Fiji, Victoria, B.C.

Personal diary pertaining to trips around Wanaka, Te Anau, weather descriptions, hotel and road condition descriptions, Dunedin, extensive discussion of food and meals, Wakaia, Christchurch, Nelson, Wellington, Napier, Taupo, Huka Lodge, scenery descriptions, New Plymouth, fishing, Auckland, Juan de Fuca, Victoria.

Expenses lists Auckland - Victoria, Costs in New Zealand, Cost of running car in N.Z., Receipts list.

Subject Access: Daily routines

Travel

Leisure

New Zealand

Title Source: Title taken from source

Processing Status: Processed

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## 1937-38 III

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions22875>

Part Of: Edward Oliver Wheeler fonds

Description Level: 6 / Item

Accession Number: 7773

Reference Code: M169 / 23

Date Range: 1937-1938

Physical Description: 1 vol. textual record

### Scope & Content:

Label supplied by Provincial Archives of British Columbia: 314 Wheeler, Oliver, Vol. 23, 1937 Canada, U.S.A.

Personal diary pertaining to trips in Victoria, Vancouver, Kamloops, Squilax, Revelstoke, travel details, Yoho Camp, Emerald Lake, sightseeing, Moraine Lake, Banff, ACC Camp, Little Yoho, Takakkaw camp, bathing at the Cave and Basin, leisure activities, Lake Louise, fishing, Bas Lake, poor weather in Banff, Cranbrook, Fraser's Landing, Sheep Creek, Penticton, Shuswap Lake, Grand Forks, Spokane, Thompson Falls, Glacier National Park, Avalanche Camp Ground, Two-Medicine Lake, weather descriptions, Old Faithfull Yellowstone, Yellowstone Upper, Middle, Lower Basins, Reno, San Francisco, Yosemite, Stockton, Redding, Portland, Vancouver.

Interaction with May Vaux Valcott in Banff.

Several maps drawn on facing pages, several maps glued to facing pages near end of diary, advertisement for Oakland Bridge.

Financial and distance details for trip from Sidney to Banff, Old Faithful to Sidney, General Costs.

Subject Access:

- Daily routines
- Travel
- Leisure
- Banff
- Lake Louise
- Cave and Basin
- Cranbrook
- Canada
- Yellowstone National Park
- San Francisco

Title Source: Title taken from source

Processing Status: Processed

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## 1937-38 IV

<https://archives.whyte.org/en/permalink/descriptions22876>

Part Of: Edward Oliver Wheeler fonds

Description Level: 6 / Item

Accession Number: 7773

Reference Code: M169 / 24

Date Range: 1937-1938

Physical Description: 1 vol. textual record

### Scope & Content:

Label supplied by Provincial Archives of British Columbia: 314 Wheeler, Oliver, Vol. 24, 1938

Personal diary containing descriptions of weather, Sidney, Christmas, hockey, Vancouver, fishing, South Tacoma, Portland, Crescent City, San Francisco, Santa Barbara, North Hollywood, Furnace Creek, Pacific Grove, Santa Rosa, Gold Beach, Port Angeles, Sidney, discussion of Scott radio, boat trip to Hong Kong, description of passengers and boat stops, Singapore, Rangoon, Calcutta.

Map glued in of Victoria, Bellingham areas, map of Portland, map of coast with Santa Barbara, map featuring Los Angeles, postcard of Line Pine, California, map of Death Valley, Death Valley pamphlet.

List of costs, distances for trips, loose page at back with destinations.

Subject Access: Daily routines

Travel

Leisure

San Francisco

Santa Rosa

Hong Kong

Calcutta

Title Source: Title taken from source

Processing Status: Processed

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