

Guide to the Custance-Douglas Correspondence, 1902-1913

Descriptive Summary

Title : Custance-Douglas Correspondence
Creator: University of South Florida
Dates : 1902-1913
ID Number : C52
Size: 1 box
Abstract: Lord Alfred Bruce Douglas (1870-1945) eloped with Olive Custance (1874-1944), the daughter of Colonel Frederic Hambleton Custance, (1844-1925) in 1902. They had their first and only child, Raymond, in the same year. Colonel Custance did not approve of their relationship, perhaps because of Lord Alfred's association with Oscar Wilde (1854-1900).
Language(s): English
Repository: Special Collections
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Administrative Summary

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Preferred Citation: *Custance-Douglas Collection, Special Collections Department, Tampa Library, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida.*
Related Material: Miscellaneous manuscript collection, Special Collections Department, Tampa Library, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida.

Biographical Note

The University of South Florida was founded in 1956 as the first public university established specifically to address the needs of Florida's rapidly emerging urban regions. Today, the University of South Florida System is comprised of two separately accredited institutions, USF and USF St. Petersburg. USF consists of the main research campus in Tampa, which includes USF Health, and two regional campuses -- USF Sarasota-Manatee and USF Polytechnic in Lakeland. At the University of South Florida, federal funds for academic research and development increased 213 percent from 2000 to 2007. According to The Chronicle of Higher Education, that makes USF the fastest growing research university in the United States. In the academic year 2008-09, USF reached a new high with \$380.4 million in research grants and contracts. As of 2010, USF serves more than 39,000 students and offers 228 degree programs at the undergraduate, graduate, specialist and doctoral levels, including the doctor of medicine, through its 11 colleges. USF is a member of the Big East Athletic Conference.

Scope Note

This collection contains typescript copies of letters consisting primarily of correspondence between Colonel Custance and Lord Alfred. These materials appear to be evidence in a child custody case for Raymond.

Arrangement Note: Materials relating to the legal proceedings are located in Folder 1. The second folder contains miscellaneous photographs and documents.

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Subject Headings

Personal Names: Custance, Frederic Hambleton, 1844-1925
Douglas, Alfred Bruce, 1870-1945
Subject Terms: Correspondence.
Custody of children
Photographs
Genre/Form Terms: Legal records (Law office records)

COLLECTION CONTENTS

BOX 1

FOLDER 1 : Rex v. Douglas—Correspondence, 1902-1913

Scope/Content: Correspondence referred to in the Evidence of Colonel Custance.

FOLDER 2 : Misc. Documents & Photographs

FOLDER 2 ITEM : Postcard—Weston House

Scope/Content: Sepia postcard. 14 x 9 cm. The R.A.P. Co. Ltd., London. E. C. 4. Home of Colonel Custance.

FOLDER 2 ITEM : Copy of Entry in Register of Motor Cars, 1903-1904

Scope/Content: County of Norfolk. Motor Car Act, 1903. Vehicle registration for Colonel Custance.

FOLDER 2 ITEM : Photograph—Col. Custance Automobile, 1903

Scope/Content: Black and white photograph. 21.5 x 16.5 cm.

FOLDER 2 ITEM : Photograph—Raymond Douglas

Scope/Content: Black and white photograph. 10.5 x 14.5 cm. Mounted on 18.5 x 25 cardboard.

Last modified on February 19th, 2018

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