

**The Osler Library of the History of Medicine  
McGill University, Montreal Canada**

**Osler Library Archive Collections**

**P198**

**ISADORE B. HIRSHBERG FONDS**

**FINDING AID AND INVENTORY LIST**

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McGill University.

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**P198:** Isadore B. Hirshberg Fonds

**Dates:** 1909-1914

**Extent:** 1 cm of textual records (in album). – 60 photographs (in album). – 1 framed photograph.

**Biographical Sketch:** Isadore Benjamin Hirshberg (1890-1965) was born in Bay City, Michigan. He began his medical studies at McGill in 1909 and graduated in 1914. In 1913 he trained at the Alexandra Hospital for Infectious Diseases when John McCrae was on staff. In 1914 Hirshberg interned at the Montreal General Hospital. During the First World War he served at the Canadian Explosives plant at Beloeil Quebec and on his return to Montreal served on the staff of the Jewish Maternity Hospital, the forerunner of the Jewish General Hospital and was one of the latter hospital's founders.

**Scope and Content:** Fonds consists of photographs and other items that document the early career of Isadore Hirshberg while studying medicine at McGill University from 1909-1914, including 60 album-sized photographs, a framed group photograph of Hirshberg and Montreal General Hospital residents, Hirshberg's framed provincial medical certificate, and two certificates of residency. Subjects include Hirshberg and classmates; campus and student life; photographs of staff, doctors, and nurses in hospital settings, including two photographs of John McCrae at the Alexandra Hospital; and various views of McGill medical buildings and hospitals, including the new medical building at the time of construction in 1910, the Royal Victoria Hospital around 1910, and the Western Hospital in 1913. Two photographs features the medical school janitor James "King" Cook, a fixture of the school and a favorite with the students from the late 19<sup>th</sup> through the early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. His wife was Frank Buller's housekeeper during Osler's time. Fonds also includes a large framed group photograph, *Resident Medical Staff/Montreal General Hospital/1914-1915* by Wm. Notman & Son. (34 x 44 cm in frame 37 ½ x 48 cm) and Hirshberg's Quebec medical license issued by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Quebec and dated July 1914 (44 x 34 ½ cm in 47 x 37 ½ frame). Descriptions of the photographs where present are in Hirshberg's hand except in cases in which there were additional descriptions in the album. These were copied in pencil on the verso of the related photograph.

**Custodial History:** Purchased for the Osler Library from Robert Campbell in 2008. Photographs were removed from an original album that was in poor condition and disintegrating. On verso side of most of the photographs are traces of the original album leaves.

**Source of supplied title:** Title based on the documents in the fonds.

**Language:** The documents are in English.

**Finding Aids:** Complete inventory list available.

**Binder includes 60 photographs, 2 residency certificates:**

Item 1.1 – *No title*. Hirshberg in his rooms with skulls and bones. Circa 1909. 7 x 7 cm.

Item 1.2 – *Mustard Hirshberg*. Hirshberg in his rooms with book. Circa 1909. 7 x 7 ½ cm.

Item 1.3 – *Hirshberg 1909*. Hirshberg in rooms with chemistry equipment and books. 1909. 8 ½ x 8 ½ cm.

Item 1.4 – *No title*. Unidentified in Hirshberg's rooms with chemistry equipment and books. 1909. 8 ½ x 8 ½ cm.

Item 1.5 – Burrows at 20 / Hutchinson St. Burrows with skull. Circa 1909. 8 ½ x 8 ½ cm.

Item 1.6 – Burrow's room Feb. 1911. Hirshberg with skull. 5 ½ x 4 cm.

Item 2.1 – *Hirshberg 1909*. Hirshberg in dissecting room. Circa 1909. 8 ½ x 8 ½ cm.

Item 2.2 – *Mustard Hirshberg 1909*. Mustard and Hirshberg and unidentified in the dissecting room. 7x8cm.

Item 2.3 – *Untitled*. Unidentified in dissecting room. Circa 1909. 7x8cm.

Item 2.4 – *Old Dissection Room McGill 1909 L to R Fillmore, Ruddick, Mendel, Scott*. Group around a dissecting table. 8 ½ x 8 ½ cm.

Item 2.5 – *No title*. Group around a dissecting table. Likely (from description of 2-4) from left to right: Ruddick, Mendel, Fillmore. Circa 1909. 8 ½ x 8 ½ cm.

Item 2.6 – *Pathological Laboratory Mar. 1911 McGill College (New Building)*. Hirshberg standing behind lab bench. 8 ½ x 8 ½ cm.

Item 3.1 – *Old Cook June 1911 in front of Old Medical Building*. 8 ½ x 5 ½ cm.

Item 3.2 – *King Cook [recto]. His Majesty "King Cook" of the tribe called the medicos [verso]*. Additional title from album: *King Cook of "Old McGill" "1910."* 8 ½ x 5 ½ cm. Appears to be same photograph as Item 3.1 but dated 1911.

Item 3.3 – *Carl Masser 1914*. 10 ¾ x 6 ½ cm.

Item 4.1 – *1910 McGill Medical Building under construction*. Hirshberg [?] in foreground. 8 ½ x 8 ½ cm.

Item 4.2 – *1910 Medical Building*. 8 ½ x 8 ½ cm.

- Item 4.3 – *1910 Medical Building*. Hirshberg in foreground. 8 ½ x 8 ½ cm.
- Item 4.4 – *1910 – H. Dover – Medical Building*. 8 ½ x 8 ½ cm.
- Item 4.5 – *McGill Medical Building. 1910 A. Muhlstock. H. Dover*. 7 x 7 ½ cm.
- Item 4.6 – *McGill Medical Building. 1910. Hirshberg. Muhlstock*. 8 x 8 ½ cm.
- Item 4.7 – *On steps of new Medical building. “1910”*. 6 ½ x 7 cm (in form of shield).
- Item 4.8 – *Medical Building McGill [recto] McGill Medical Building Winter 1913 [verso]*. 8 ½ x 8 ½ cm.
- Item 4.9 – *Royal Victoria Hospital*. Circa 1910. 8 ¼ x 8 ¼ cm.
- Item 4.10 – *Royal Victoria Hospital 1910*. 8 ¼ x 8 ¼ cm.
- Item 4.11 – *The Western Hospital 1913 Montreal Quebec*. 8 ¼ x 8 ½ cm.
- Item 5.1 – *General Hospital Feb. 1914. Dr. Blackader*. Montreal General Hospital Children’s Ward 1914. 8 ¾ x 9 ½ cm.
- Item 5.2 – *Operating Room M.G.H. 1914. Dr. Birchard, Dr. Hartin, Dr. Bazin, Dr. Waterson [?]*. Group of doctors and nurses in M.G.H. operating room. 7 ¾ x 10 ½ cm.
- Item 5.3 – *Operating Room M.G.H. 1914*. Group of doctors and nurses in M.G.H. operating room. Unidentified but appear to be the same group as in Item 5.2 above. 7 ¾ x 10 ½ cm.
- Item 5.4 – *Operating Room M.G.H. 1914 Montreal Quebec 1914*. Group of doctors and nurses in M.G.H. operating room. Unidentified but appear to be the same group as in Item 5.2 above. 7 ¾ x 10 ½ cm.
- Item 5.6 – *M.G.H. D. Waterson – G. Feur [?] 1914*. With patient on table. 8 ¾ x 11 cm.
- Item 6.1 – *Alexandra Hospital [recto] Winter 1913 [verso]*. 9x9cm.
- Item 6.2 – Untitled but Alexandria Hospital. Same view as Item 6.1. 8 ½ x 9 cm.
- Item 6.3 – *The Immortal Dr. John McCrae – at Alexandra Hospital 1913*. With members of the class of 1914 (see following photograph Item 6.4). 8 ½ x 14 cm.
- Item 6.4 – *Dr. John McCrae author of “In Flanders Fields” and members of the class of 1914 [from label on verso]*. At Alexandra Hospital with nurse and group of children. 8 ½ x 14 cm.
- Item 6.5 – *Aigire [?], Atkinson, Phelps, Bayne, Dover, Illievitz at Alexandra Hospital*. 9x9cm.

Item 6.6 – *Classmates at the Alexandra Hospital for Infectious Diseases 1912-1913 Montreal Quebec*. Hirshberg's classmates in protective clothing. 9x8cm.

Item 6.7 – *The boys are seated on a huge furnace boiler, winter 1913*. Hirshberg's classmates in protective clothing at Alexandra Hospital. 9x9cm.

Item 6.8 – *Winter 1913*. Hirshberg's classmates in protective clothing at Alexandria Hospital. 9x9cm.

Item 7.1 – *Women's Hospital June 1913*. Hirshberg with a baby. Same photograph as Item 7.2. 8 x 8 ¾ cm.

Item 7.2 – *At the Women's Hospital June 1913*. Hirshberg with a baby. Same photograph as Item 7.1. 8 x 8 ¾ cm.

Item 8.1 – *I.B. Hirshberg, Phil Coy, Billie Moore, Top of Strathcona Hall – 1914*. One figure unidentified. 9 ½ x 9 ½ cm.

Item 8.2 – *Isadore B. Hirshberg Beloeil Station Quebec*. Hirshberg on top of Strathcona Hall 1914. Oval shaped photograph 8 ½ x 3 ¼ cm.

Item 8.3 – *Roof. Strathcona Hall 1914*. Same group as in Item 8.1 but unidentified. 9 ½ x 9 cm.

Item 9.1 – *Untitled*. Group playing cricket on McGill field. 8 x 10 ½ cm.

Item 10.1 – *Montreal General Hospital Interns 1914-1915*. 8 ¼ x 13 ½ cm.

Item 10.2 – *Doctors Palmer, Scott, Hartin, Fleet, Lang, Convery, Gallagher, Ross, Hirshberg, Kirkland, Dickson, Birchard, Mustard, Smith, Waterson, Shohl, McCaffery, McCrady, Garretson, Walters*. Identifies the Montreal General Hospital interns 1914-15. 8 ¼ x 13 ½ cm.

Item 10.3 – *1914-1915 M.G.H. Interns*. Group of Montreal General Hospital Interns as unidentified in Item 10.2. 8 ½ x 14 cm.

Item 10.4 – *Untitled*. Group of Montreal General Hospital interns 1914-1915 as identified in Item 10.2. 8 ¼ x 14 cm.

Item 10.5 – *M.G.H. Interns 1914*. Same group as in above. 6 x 8 ½ cm.

Item 10.6 – *1914-1915 M.G.H. Interns*. 6 x 8 ½ cm.

Item 10.7 – *M.G.H. 1914-1915*. Same group as in above. 5 ½ x 8 ½ cm.

Item 10.8 – *Interns M.G.H. 1914*. Same group as in above. 6 x 8 ½ cm.

Item 10.9 – *M.G.H. Interns 1914-1915*. Same group as in above. 6 x 8 ½ cm.

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Item 10.10 – *M.G.H. Interns 1914-1915*. Same group as in above. 6 x 8 ½ cm.

Item 10.11 – Untitled. Group of Montreal General Hospital 1914-1915 interns as identified in Item 10.2. 6x9cm.

Item 10.12 – Untitled. Group of Montreal General Hospital 1914-1915 interns as identified in Item 10.2. 6 x 8 ½ cm.

Item 10.13 – *On roof of MGH 1915*. Group of Montreal General Hospital 1914-1915 interns as identified in above. 6 x 8 ½ cm.

Item 11.1 – Hirshberg, Isadore B. – Residency Certificate from Montreal Maternity Hospital – 2 June 1919.

Certificate issued upon successful completion of residency, and signed by Francis Shepherd. 27 x 21cm.

Item 11.2 – Hirshberg, Isadore B. – Residency Certificate from Montreal General Hospital – 1 Dec. 1919.

Certificate issued upon successful completion of residency. 27 x 21cm.