

The Law Society of Upper Canada Archives

Sydney Robins fonds

PF188

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Biographical Sketch

Sydney Lewis Robins was born in Toronto, Ontario, to Samuel Robins and Bessie Kamarner. He graduated from the University of Toronto in 1944, and was admitted to Osgoode Hall Law School that same year. He was called to the Bar of Ontario in September 1947. Robins received an LL.M. degree from Harvard University in 1948. Robins served as a special lecturer on torts at Osgoode Hall Law School from 1948 to 1960, and participated in many continuing legal education sessions for the Law Society. He was appointed a Queen's Counsel in 1962. Robins was first elected a bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada in 1961, and served as its Treasurer from 1971 to 1974. Robins was appointed to the Supreme Court of Ontario in 1976, and to the Court of Appeal for Ontario in 1981. Robins served on several Ontario provincial commissions, and arbitrated a Toronto Transit Commission labour dispute. Following his retirement from the bench in 1998, Robins joined the law firm of Goodmans LLP. He has served as Chair of the Law Foundation of Ontario, and has been active in the Canadian Bar Association.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The records in the fonds were donated to the Archives by Sydney Robins in September of 2009.

Scope and Content

1973-2006, [Photocopied 2009]

4.5 cm of textual records

14 photographs : b&w and col. ; 21.6 x 27.9 cm or smaller

Fonds consists of records relating to the legal career of Sydney Lewis Robins. Included in the fonds are press clippings, speeches, and photographs.

The fonds is arranged in three series.

Sydney Robins fonds**PF188****Press clippings****PF188-1**

[Photocopied 2009]

4.5 cm of textual records

Series consists of photocopies of press clippings relating to the legal career of Sydney Robins. The clippings largely pertain to the period Robins served as Treasurer of the Law Society, his appointment to the bench, and various matters he was involved with while on the bench, including the inquiry of Judge Harry Williams, legislation permitting full funding for Roman Catholic schools, and a Toronto Transit Commission labour arbitration.

The clippings have been arranged in chronological order. Clippings that are undated have been arranged at the beginning of the series.

| <u>Reference code</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Dates</u> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 2009031-001 | Press clippings – undated | [Photocopied 2009] |
| 2009031-002 | Press clippings – 1961 | [Photocopied 2009] |
| 2009031-003 | Press clippings – 1968 | [Photocopied 2009] |
| 2009031-004 | Press clippings – 1971 | [Photocopied 2009] |
| 2009031-005 | Press clippings – 1972 | [Photocopied 2009] |
| 2009031-006 | Press clippings – 1973 | [Photocopied 2009] |
| 2009031-007 | Press clippings – 1974 | [Photocopied 2009] |
| 2009031-008 | Press clippings – 1975 | [Photocopied 2009] |
| 2009031-009 | Press clippings – 1976 | [Photocopied 2009] |
| 2009031-010 | Press clippings – 1977 | [Photocopied 2009] |
| 2009031-011 | Press clippings – 1978 | [Photocopied 2009] |
| 2009031-012 | Press clippings – 1979 | [Photocopied 2009] |
| 2009031-013 | Press clippings – 1980 | [Photocopied 2009] |
| 2009031-014 | Press clippings – 1981 | [Photocopied 2009] |
| 2009031-015 | Press clippings – 1985 | [Photocopied 2009] |
| 2009031-016 | Press clippings – 1986 | [Photocopied 2009] |
| 2009031-017 | Press clippings – 1987 | [Photocopied 2009] |
| 2009031-018 | Press clippings – 1989 | [Photocopied 2009] |
| 2009031-019 | Press clippings – 1991 | [Photocopied 2009] |
| 2009031-020 | Press clippings – 1992 | [Photocopied 2009] |
| 2009031-021 | Press clippings – 1994 | [Photocopied 2009] |

Sydney Robins fonds

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Speeches

PF188-2

[Photocopied 2009]
12 p.

Series consists of two speeches maintained by Sydney Robins.

The speeches have been arranged in chronological order.

| <u>Reference code</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Dates</u> |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|
| 2009031-022 | Remarks of Sydney L. Robins, Q.C. Treasurer of the Law Society of Upper Canada <i>Item is a speech given by Sydney L. Robins, Treasurer of the Law Society, at the Opening of the Courts on January 10th, 1972.</i> | [Photocopied 2009] |
| 2009031-023 | Statement by the Honourable David Peterson, Premier of Ontario, on abolition and revocation of the Letters Patent of a Queen's Counsel to the Legislature <i>Item is a speech given by David Peterson, Premier of Ontario, on December 10th, 1985.</i> | [Photocopied 2009] |

Sydney Robins fonds**PF188****Photographs****PF188-3**

1973-2006

14 photographs : b&w and col. ; 21.6 x 27.9 cm or smaller

Series consists of photographs maintained by Sydney Robins. The photographs relate to various legal events attended by Robins, including class reunions and dinners. Several photographs relate to his status as a former Treasurer of the Law Society.

The photographs have been arranged in chronological order.

| <u>Reference code</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Dates</u> |
|-----------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 2009031-01P | Photograph of Sydney Robins, Bora Laskin and Samuel Freedman | 1973 |
| 2009031-02P | Photograph of dinner honouring G. Arthur Martin | 14 June 1974 |
| 2009031-03P | Photograph of David Griffiths, Sydney Robins and George Finlayson | May 1990 |
| 2009031-04P | Photograph of Peter Cory and Sydney Robins | 1991 |
| 2009031-05P | Griffiths retirement dinner, University Club – December 8, 1995 | 8 Dec. 1995 |
| 2009031-06P | Photograph of Law Society Medal recipients | 2000 |
| 2009031-07P | Photograph of Treasurer Robert Armstrong and former Treasurers | 24 May 2001 |
| 2009031-08P | A.C.J.O. Coulter Osborne retirement party, Court of Appeal for Ontario | 20 Sept. 2001 |
| 2009031-09P | Photograph of Osgoode Hall Law School class of 1947 reunion | 2002 |
| 2009031-10P | Photograph of Treasurer Frank Marrocco and benchers | 2005 |
| 2009031-11P | Class of 1956: 50 th reunion | 2006 |
| 2009031-12P | Photograph of Treasurer Gavin MacKenzie and former Treasurers | 2006 |
| 2009031-13P | Photograph of William G.C. Howland, Tom Callon, Sydney Robins, G. Arthur Martin and W.B. Common | [Repr. btwn 2000 and 2009] |
| 2009031-14P | Photograph of Sydney Robins | [between 2000 and 2009] |