



THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

NAME OF COLLECTION	Samuel Dougan Bird & Frederic Dougan Bird (Bird Family)
ACCESSION NO	1976.0007
CATEGORY	University, individuals
ACTIVITY	Medical practitioners
DATE RANGE	1829-1928
SIZE OF COLLECTION	18 cm (1 box) Publication Photograph
HISTORICAL NOTE	<p>Samuel Bird was born in November 1832, England. After graduating in medicine he became resident physician at Brampton Hospital and served as a surgeon in the Crimean War. In 1861, he came to Melbourne due to ill health, where he specialised in lung diseases, and became President of the Victorian Medical Society in 1869. From 1870 to 1887, Bird was a lecturer in the Medical Faculty, University of Melbourne and for some years was a member of the Board of Examiners. For over thirty years he was chief Medical Officer in the A.M.P. Society of Victoria. He died in 1904.</p> <p>Frederic Dougan Bird was born at Richmond, England in March 1858, the son of Samuel Dougan Bird and his first wife. He was educated at Scotch College in Melbourne, Kings College and University College London, and the University of Melbourne. Frederic later demonstrated in Anatomy 1884 to 1887 and lectured in Surgery from 1896 to 1920. In 1914 he was consulting surgeon in Egypt and later the Mediterranean, Macedonia and England. He died on 29 May 1929.</p>
DATE OF TRANSFER	1966 & 76
ACCESS CONDITIONS	Access: Open
LISTED BY	Rosemary Arnold, February 28 th , 1966. First accession.
LISTED BY	Cecily Close, May 6 th , 1976. Second accession.

Collection: Samuel Dougan Bird & Frederic Dougan Bird (Bird Family) Accession: 1976.0007

Series No	Description	Date
1		
1/1	Correspondence Includes 5 photographs, memorial booklet on John Dougan.	1829 - 1886
1/2	History of the Bird family. Two accounts of the Bird family written by Samuel D. Bird and Frederick D. Bird respectively.	1909 - 1914
1/3	General correspondence	1895 - 1928
1/4	Medical correspondence Papers and letters Notes on various cases photographs	1880 - 1922
1/5	Degrees, testimonials and certificates	1856 - 1862
2	Photographs	
	Photographic album dedicated to Colonel F.D. Bird in remembrance of a happy voyage on Troopship. Envelopes of loose photographs Unlabelled loose photographs	1914 – 1917 Approx
3	Newspaper cuttings	
	News clippings, menu, copper bookplate, signatures.	1896 – 1923 Approx
4	Articles and Pamphlets	
	Collection of articles and pamphlets mostly relating to medical research.	1895 - 1910
	END	

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Series No	Description	Date
1	Correspondence	
1/1/1	Letter to Miss Clara Dougan, (S.D.B.'s mother) from C. Simeon, Kings College, Cambridge; religious discussion High Calvinism. 1 sheet.	21 st January, 1829
1/1/2	(S) Dougan Bird, to Ellen Dougan (his cousin) thanking him for his 12 th birthday present, lists gifts and their prices. 1 sheet.	November, 1844
1/1/3	(S) Dougan Bird (at Leamingon) to Ellen Dougan visits with his mother to Kenilworth Road. 1 Sheet.	4 th August, ?
1/1/4	(S) Dougan Bird, to Ellen Dougan illustrated letter. 1 sheet.	January, 1845
1/1/5	S.D. Bird to Dr. Walshe. Introducing Mr. Alexander Morrison, headmaster of Scotch College Melb., as patient; details of case. 2 sheets.	20 th February, 1875
1/1/6	"My dearest husband's account of himself": description of illness from 6 th February to August. (Possibly written by S.D.B.'s mother (?), re. death of his father.	1830's ?

1/1/7	Frederick D.B. to this father S.D.B. in Melbourne. 9 years old recounts his activities. 1 sheet.	5 th January, 1867
1/1/8	Frederick D.B. to Papa, about his mother's recent death. 1 sheet.	1857
1/1/9	Small booklet called <i>John Dougan</i> , "For Dr. and Mrs. F. Bird", printed by husband of J.D.'s grand-daughter (Emily Mackie). Dispatch from J.D. to Lord Bathurst, applying for position as Commissioner to enquire into state of certain Africans in the West Indies. Postscript by the printer. Famous correspondence chiefly connected with the Dougan family. Dates 1821-23 inclusive.	4 th January, 1821
1/1/10	Small blue envelope containing five early photographs. 1. Bearded gentleman in velvet waistcoat, labelled John Dougan, "the dad's great uncle", and "1866" in different inks. 2. Dark haired young lady, photographed by Mayell, 224 Regent Street, London. 3. Young man photographer by Robert Faulkner. 4. Man with son and daughter (S.D.B. & Fred and sister?). Photographed by Johnstone, Melbourne. 5. Lady photographed by J.Gaul, Melbourne, after 1886.	
1/2	History of the Bird Family in the form of letter	
1/2/1	Letter from Samuel D.B. to "my dear Claude" History of Dougan family how surname died out, but Clara Dougan married Samuel D.B.'s father. Detail of Dougan aunts and uncles, of their occupations, marriages, etc. S.D.B.'s three wives. 24 pages.	January, 1909
1/2/2	Outline of the life of Frederick Dougan Bird, written by himself after 1914. 1 sheet (blue).	1914+
1/3	General Correspondence – Inwards to Frederic D.B. (No. 8-10 are from father Samuel) (No. 50 Outwards from Fred. D.B. to Hamiltonio)	
1/3/1	Edith Margaret Allen (as child aged about 10) thanks for present. 1 sheet	Circa. 1900, 27 th March
1/3/2	Ditto (later than 1) thanking Bird for a book. 1 sheet	30 th December, 1930

- 3 Mary Cecil Allen (child)
thanking Bird for presents
1904, 27 Oct.
1 sheet
- 4 Harry Brooks Allen
re University 100 pounds credit for apparatus for lab.
1913, 5 Dec.
1 sheet
- 5 Edmund Barton
thanking Bird for "note of cheer"
1903, 25 Sept
1 sheet
- 6 Thomas A'Beckett
re University Council appointment
18 , Sunday
1 sheet
- 1/3/7 Thomas A'Beckett
re post-graduate classes; university affairs,
funds, governments part in these.
1903, 27 Sept.
1 sheet.
- 8 Samuel Dougan Bird to "my dear old Fred"
wishing his luck for exams - health of friends,
purchase of watercolour, etc.
1883, 16 July.
1 sheet
- 9 Samuel Dougan Bird to Fred and Clare
a general Meeting at the Club (Melb), an
"awful lot of building going on in town - Cathedral
Hotel, on Swanston & Flinders Lane"
undated
1 sheet
- 10 Samuel Dougan Bird - to Fred
about Europe and the Alps, ascents.
undated
1 sheet (beginning of letter missing, probably 2 sheets)
- 11 W.N.Birdwood - from Lincoln
proposed visit to Australia - he is in "The hands of
the Comth. Govt."; writes of Bird's son Dougan returning.
14 Sept. ?
1 sheet
- 12 Blake and Riggall -
re Berida Pastoral Co.; proposed exchange of lands approved.
1895, 14th Nov.
1 sheet

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- 13 British Medical Association (Vicn. Branch)
compliments Bird on devoting his "professional skill
.... to the well being of the nation" (signed A.L.Kenny)
1914, 21 Aug
1 sheet
- 14 Mary Gibson Carmichael (written from State Govt.House)
names acquaintance in Gottenburg, who would give B.
Introductions in Gottenburg and Stockholm
18th Jany. ?
1 sheet
- 15 T.P. Dunhill, thanking B. for letter; opinion on
College of Surgeons granting degrees without exams -
will lead to discredit.
1928, 15 May.
1 sheet
- 16 B. Gibson encloses cheque for fees L75 in appreciation
for his kindness and attention; services
1903, 12 Oct.
1 sheet
- 17 R.J. Goldie, from Royal College of Surgeons of England
awards Honourary Membership to B.
1913, 16 May
1 sheet
- 18 R.J. Goldie, from Royal College of Surgeons of England,
congratulates B. on his election to the Athenaeum club,
describes nature of Club and members.
1922, 22 Jan.
1 sheet
- 19 Archbishop Goe (F.F. Melbourne) - writes that B's fees
are too small, encloses cheque for L50, for tending
his wife's illness.
1898, 15 Dec.
1 sheet
- 20 M.A. Higgins - describes history of skull sent from
Solomon Islands to B. (head of a chieftain killed in a
head-hunting expedition.)
1921. 24 Nov.
1 sheet.
- 21 Victor Nelson Hood - re B's trip abroad. H's brother
Alex is Treasurer to H.M. "his chief use... in Sicily..
where he is Duca Di Bronte"
1913, June 30
1 sheet
- 22 Ditto - from Castello di Maniace Sicilia - about the
Club(Melb) committee organisation. Agrarian troubles in
Catalina - men demanding land.

- 1920, 21 Nov.
2 sheets
- 23 Ditto - from La Falconara, Taormina Sicilia.
possibility of F. Bird coming to Sicily in 1922,
mentions friends from Aust. staying with him
1921, 12 Feb.
1 sheet
- 24 Ditto - from Sicily, describes orange gardens.
Mussolini "is the man for Italy and no doubt about it"
expecting Winston Churchill the writer any day now.
1925, 30 Jan
1 sheet
- 25 Ditto - Details of garden - mentions 10 of 12
Australian water colours by Arthur Esam of old coaching
days, cattle scenes, camels in W.A. etc. Asks if Melb
Club would like them during B's presidency.
(1926 March - 1927 March, period of Bird's presidency)
1 sheet (pp3 & 4 others missing)
- 26 R.W. Homabrook - from Collins Street, Melb. re number
of deaths ;from anaesthetics, and attitude of most
surgeons towards this.
1913, 17 March
3 sheets
- 27 Home and Territories Department, Commonwealth of Aust.
asking permission for Dr. Bird to export 2 Papuan skulls
for the Museum of Royal College of Surgeons, London.
1921, 9 June
1 sheet
- 28 E.A. Jackson, - Bird's father's illness and death
letter of consolation (from Brisbane)
1904, 27 May
1 sheet
- 29 Alfred Keogh (Imperial College of Science,
Sth.Kensington) thanking F.D.B. for his services to the
Empire in the War - reflects on last 4 yrs. from Medical
point of view.
1913, 28 Nov.
2 sheets
- 30 R.E.Kelly, about an acquaintance 'B' the "most
complete blithering idiot in the Service" just returned
from the East. Discusses blood transfusions, and blood
groups.
1919, 10 Oct
2 sheets.
- 31 ? Lam
sent to the States, etc.

- 1 sheet
1903, 21 Dec.
- 32 John Madden promises support for Bird in succeeding in a certain position (not specified)
1894, 25 May
1 sheet
- 33 A.C. Maudsly; comments on Birds no longer being at Melb. Hospital; during 1st World War years, as speaks of Dougan on leave, and war conditions.
undated (1914-1918 ?)
1 sheet
- 34 Ditto - just lunched with Dougan; M's uncle has died, who had given 34,000(L) in his lifetime to Maudsly Hospital.
undated (1914-1913 ?)
2 sheets
- 35 Alexander Morrison - cheque for L15-15-0 enclosed thanks him for his care and his old and pleasant friendship
1899, 13 June
1 sheet
- 36 C. Munzloft - to J.H.W. Jones Esq. from Kiukang; writes of growing animosity to foreigners; "in (Jones') last letter"(wrote)... "when you left Dr. Bird you would try to get a position".
1921. 3 Aug.
2 sheets.
- 37 Royal College of Surgeons; letter from A. Keith. thanking B. for precious skulls and his confidence. Discussion of origin of malignant disease.
1920, 12 April
1 sheet
- 38 Ditto - from A. Keith. met B's friend Godlee at the Athenaeum - seeing Bird gets in as a member - thanking him for more Papuan and New British Skulls.
1921, 18 Aug.
1 sheet.
- 39 Charles Perry; note say that a token of appreciation for B's instructions and post-graduate work, is on its way.
- 40 (M?) Roberts; suggesting lunch at the Athenaeum,
1910, 14 Aug.
1 sheet, with envelope attached.
- 41 William Tate; from South Africa "to my dear nephew", who is wanting to visit England the following Spring, and the East Adriatic. W.T. names several islands, and describes his home, climate, and coastal waters in

- S. Africa.
1925, 7 March
2 sheets
- 42 M. Takahashi - re giving Dr Bird a photograph of Admiral Nishi - owing to pneumonia influenza the ship not calling at Adelaide or Melbourne. 1919, 30 April. 1 sheet.
- 43 E. Ullaire - (Canadian Military Hospital) - from Basingstoke, England (in French) writing since B. told him of ever in trouble to ask him for help. Ullaire is in Salonica - wishes to return to family in Canada etc. 1917, 8 October. 2 sheets.
- 44 Victorian Humane Society, Melbourne. to Rev W. Wood, Hawthorn - Secretary of V.H.S. writes saying W.W.'s son was saved from drowning by Mr Bird (F.D.) a son of Dr Bird - sends form of application for award. 1878, 6 December. 1 sheet.
- 45 Edward Wallington - written from Buckingham Palace. Thanks B. for letter; grieved to learn of his gout; pleased that B. is president of "the dear old Club" (Melb.) The dole is the greatest farce and mistake war made. 22 July 1926. 1 sheet.
- 46 A. Watson, regrets leaving Melbourne before reading B's latest suggestions on hydatids. Dr Poulton with appendicitis. Written from Adelaide University. 7 August 1904. 1 sheet.
- 47?..... (Signature removed). From Coombe Cottage, Coldstream Vic., thanking Dr. B for 'taking care of my dear boy'. Dr B going home soon. 1 sheet.
- 48 (Signature illegible) Written on P & O Line's 'S.S. China', 'Dear Professor Bird': thanks B. for his charming courtesies during his stay, and wrote a long article on medical affairs in Melbourne. 23 August 1904. 1 sheet.
- 49 Alfred ?, written from Marlborough. Writes of past misunderstanding; has bought 50% war bonds, is now Hon. Advisory Consultant in Radiography at local hospital in spare time tabulates flora (300 varieties). 1910 (or 1915 or 1918), 5 July. 1 sheet.
- 50 OUTWARDS from Frederic Dougan Bird to 'Hamiltonio mio'.
He recently had congestion of both lungs, 'I have been sitting in a chair for three solid years...', warns H. not to die before him. 19?, 22 May. 1 sheet.
- 1/4 Medical correspondence
- 1/4/1 Hydatids - paper delivered at Melbourne Hospital (typed)
1904, 24 June
12 pages
- 2 Retroperitoneal cysts. ms.
undated
11 pages

- 3 "Some Bullets in Civil Practice", clinical lecture delivered by Mr. Fred. Bird. ms. undated 6 pages
- 1/4/4/ Various notes on cases
- 4/1 Fracture of leg of C. Cole, 1897, Dec. 1 sheet
2 Lancet, 1880, Nov.
3 Sarcoma of Abdominal Parietes - Master Jennings
4 Ovarian Tumour, Mrs. W. 1898, July 2 sheets
5 "Note on the local treatment of accessible actinomycosis"
6 Trans. Path. Soc. 1889, p.17, written by A.C. Fryett, 1 sheet
7 Farabent at Seat of Election - amputation of tibia and fibula etc.
8 Mr. Cooper, Specific stomach... 1912, 23 Sep. 1 card
- 1/4/5 Points for Doctors and Pharmacists to Remember. Dangerous Drug Regulations, issued by Pharmacy Board of Victoria 1922 small booklet
- 1/4/6 Envelope (dark brown) labelled Dr. Bird, with 4 (four) x-ray photographs of joints.
- 1/4/7 Envelope labelled Mr. Bird - notes on case of visical calculus 1905, July-Sep. 3 sheets.
- 1/4/8 letter from Traralgon, from H.C. L(?)awson, concerning diagnosis of knee trouble 1911, 2 May 1 sheet
- 1/4/9 Photographs included in folder labelled 'Medical' v(9 photos)
- 1/4/9/1 Camping scene - tent, trees, dog etc.
2 Ditto
3 Country cottage, bridge, willows, etc.
4 Hills, trees, - fence
5 River, distant hills.
6 Lady in gown (academic?) glasses, - on back of photo 'M.B. Clarke, Warrigul, Main Rd. Newton.' from Hobart
7 small photo. high, aerial view of trees, clearing with several buildings.
- 1/5 Degrees, testimonials, certificates, etc.
- 1/5/1 Samuel Dougan Bird, admitted to Society of Apothecaries. for England and Wales. Certificate
- 1A Samuel Dougan Bird. Admitted to Royal college of Physicians, London. 22 October 1861.

- 2 Samuel Dougan Bird, University of Melbourne. Admitted to Degree of Doctor of Medicine. Degree 1862, 26 May.
- 3 Samuel Dougan Bird, Registration with Medical Board of Victoria as a Medical Practitioner. Registration Cert. 1862, 21 July
- 4 Samuel Dougan Bird. St.Andrew's University, Scotland. Certificate of Dr. of Medicine. (in Latin) 1860.
- 5 Samuel Dougan Bird, Book of testimonials.
1. Sir W. Fergusson. Pres. Royal Coll. of Surgeons, Eng.1861
 2. G.Budd, Prof. of Medicine, King's College. 1861
 3. A.Faquhar, late Inspector General of Hospitals 1856
 4. Dr.Hamilton Roe, Snr. Physicians to Hospital for Consumption, Brompton, 1861, Nov.
 5. W.Bowman, late Prof. of Physiology, 1861
 6. Dr.W.H.Walshe, Prof. of Medicine, University Coll. London, 1861
 7. George Lawson Surgeon to the Great Northern Hospital, 1861
 8. Arthur Facre, late Prof. of Obstetric Medicine in Kings
 9. John Erichson, Prof. of Surgery, University College, 1861
 10. C. Johnson, Physician to King's College Hospital, 1861
 11. Dr.Lionel Beale, Prof. of Physiology, King's College, 1861
 12. Dr.W.Brunton, Physician, Great Hospital London, 1861
 13. R.Partridge, Prof. of Anatomy, King's College London 1861
 14. Photograph, on back is pencilled 'Bird'
- 1/5/6 Frederic Dougan Bird University of Melbourne, Degree of Bachelor of Medicine. 1882, 4 Dec
1 sheet, and seal in tin container
- 7 Frederic Dougan Bird Medical Registration Board, Certificate 1883,11 Jan
1 sheet
- 8 Frederic Dougan Bird, Certificate of admittance to the Royal College of Surgeons England 1883, 16 July
1 sheet
- 9 Frederic Dougan Bird, University of Melbourne, Bachelor of Surgery 1884, 19 May
1 sheet, and seal in container

- 10 Frederic Dougan Bird, University of Melbourne,
Master of Surgery
1886 1 May
1 sheet and seal in container
- 11 A. Brownless - Acting Chancellor, University of Melbourne
Letter to Dr. Bird, with testimonial attached.
1886, 2 Dec
2 sheets.
- 12 ? Williams Sec. Melbourne Hospital. request to become
acting Hon. Surgeon.
1886, 28 June
1 sheet
- 13 H.B. Allen - recommends F.D.B. as qualified for post of
Demonstrator of Anatomy to Art Classes at National
Gallary, Victoria.
- 14 J.W. Fitzgerald recommends F.D.B. as co-examiner
in surgery
1888, 26 Oct
1 sheet
- 15 Ditto recommends F.D.B. as examiner in surgery.
1889, 29 June.
1 sheet
- 16 John Curnow - Prof. of Anatomy, Kings College, London.
F.D.B. passed in examination of Royal College of Surgeon
1 sheet
1837, 27 May.
- 17 Melbourne Hospital - official letter of introduction to
European Hospital Authorities, to give F.D.B. "every
facility" for visiting them. Signed by Samuel Gillott
Vice-President.
1903, 13 Jan
1 sheet
- 18 Earl of Dudley - Governor General of Australia
appointing F.D.B. an Officer of the Military(Reserve)
Forces - Honorary Major
1909, 5 April
1 sheet
- 19 1914 - 1918 World War. Royal Army Medical Corps
- 19/1 1915, 11 Dec. F.D.B. mentioned in a Dispatch.
- 19/2 1916, 16 March F.D.B. mentioned in a Dispatch.
- 19/3 1918, 29 March F.D.B. mentioned in a Dispatch.
(3 sheets, plus one of cardboard, in envelope
labelled "On His Majesty's Service")

- 20 The Secretary of the Athenaeum, Pall Mall. S.W.
notification of his election to the Club.
1922, 21 June.
1 sheet.
- GROUP 2. Photographs
- 2/1/1 Photographic Album dedicated to Colonel F.D. Bird
in remembrance of a happy voyage on Troopship
"Orvitto"
Oct.-Nov. 1914, from Norman Belcher Geelong
1917, 25 Oct.
1 vol. (approx. 11" x 6" x 2")
- 2/1/2 sheets of typed headings, referring to the volume of
photographs (2/1/1)
5 sheets
- 2/1/3 envelope of loose photos - war etc.
- 2/2 Photograph of F.D. Bird and Royal College of Surgeons
of England (3rd left, rear row)
- 2/3 Unlabelled loose photographs
- 2/3/1 Man in wheel chair, pushed by friend wearing spectacles.
2 Elderly man in hat, with wine glass in hand - in form
of a Christmas card.
3 Group of seven men (and one woman in background)
outside a wooden house, carrying a pannier, and poles
etc.
4 Ship "Lisitania" - First time at Stage - postcard.
- GROUP 3 Newspaper cuttings, signatures, Menu at Melb.Club.etc.
- 3/1 Newspaper cuttings
- 3/1/1 Medical Society of Victoria page 5, newspaper ?
1896 or 1897. F.D.B. the retiring president, a report
of his address on Cancer.
- 3/1/2 Captain W.O.Bird. who died 1903, 10 Oct
details of his will dated 1903, 3 July
small cutting.
- 3/1/3 Royal College of Surgeons of England report of general
meeting, and mentions thanks to Prof. F.D.Bird,
Melbourne for gift of radiographs and anatomical and
pathological specimens.
1920 or 1921
- 3/1/4 Envelope with sealed wool inside, and newspaper cutting
on outside, "Wool 69 years in Corio Bay" (1923 ?)

- 3/2/1 Signatures
- sheet of paper with thirteen signatures at top and lower edge (upside down) F.D.Bird is in centre others read John Nicolaysen, W.Girls, Dr. Sheppard, R.Bashianelli, N.J.Mayo, Henry Turner, ? ? ? ? Prof. A. Erast Fuchs, A.Eischly, ? .
2 copies.
- 3/2/2 Copper Book plate and envelope for Frederic Dougan Bird impression of dog head (impression and plate approx. 2 1/2" x 3 1/2")
- 3/2/3/1 Signatures Edmund Barton's letters.
2 Ditto
3 Ditto
- 3/3 Menu for Melbourne Club Dinner to celebrate Mafeking Victory
1900, 24 May
- 3/4 Henry Hopkins (1787 - 1870)
merchant and philanthropist; born at Deptford England
biographical article
11 pages (draft for A.D.B. article by Christine Walch.)

28 February 1966

Rosemary Arnold
Assistant Archivist

RECORDS OF FREDERIC DOUGAN BIRD

SECOND ACCESSION

TRANSFEROR: Prof. K.F. Russell, University of Melbourne.

DATE: 6 May 1976

- . Barton, Edmund, to Bird, Goatland, 7 May 1903. Gives account of incident four years previously, when he was diagnosed as having diabetes. 1 ms. sheet.
- . Memo headed 'Melbourne Hospital Elections'. Surgeons to in-patients and to out-patients. Number of votes for Bird and others, 1887, 1891, 1895. 1 ms. sheet.
- . Fred D. Bird: 'Notes on two cases of laparotomy for (a) ovarian abscess, (b) suppurating ovarian hydrocele'. Proof, n.d. Sentence leading in to paper 'The following paper was then read -'.
- . Fred D. Bird: 'Concerning anaesthetics'. Reprinted from A.M.J., 20 April 1910.

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- . Fred D. Bird: 'Remarks upon the radical cure of hernia'. Reprinted from the Lancet, 4 August 1900.
 - . F.D. Bird: Presidential address delivered before the Section of Surgery at the Australian Medical Congress, Adelaide, September 1905. Reprinted from Intercolonial Medical Journal of Australasia, 20 September 1905 (on syphilitic lesions in the abdomen).
 - . Fred Bird, C.B., Two addresses, n.d. 1. Presidential address delivered before the Victorian Branch of the Australia Forest League. 2. An address delivered before the Classical Association of Victoria, n.d. but post 1911. Printed by Crawford & Son.

Cecily Close
Senior Archivist