

1978.0103 PAPERS OF SIR CLIVE HAMILTON FITTS 1937-1978

Creator	Fitts, Sir Clive Hamilton
Creator's Activity/Occupation	Medical practitioners
<p>Biography:</p> <p>Sir Clive Hamilton Fitts was born in 1900 and educated at Scotch College, Melbourne Grammar and the University of Melbourne (MB, 1926; MD, 1929; BS, 1931), entering Trinity College in 1919. Despite residencies at the Alfred and Children's hospitals, Fitts failed to gain further appointments before the Depression worsened his prospects. He was employed as a medical officer with the Commonwealth Department of Health, working successively at the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine at the University of Sydney (DTM, 1930), the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories, Melbourne, and the Quarantine Service, where he so enjoyed the hazards of boarding ships that in 1931 he became surgeon in a tramp-steamer, bound eventually for Europe. In London he secured appointment as house physician, surgeon and assistant-superintendent at the Brompton Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, and, after three months as acting-superintendent of the British Sanatorium in Switzerland, became medical superintendent (1933-34) at the National Heart Hospital, London, with (Sir) John Parkinson as mentor and later friend. In 1933 he was made a member of the Royal College of Physicians (fellow 1938). On his return to Melbourne Fitts persuaded the warden of Trinity College to create the post of resident medical tutor. He gained appointments as honorary physician to out-patients at St Vincent's Hospital (1935-40), to the thoracic department at the Austin Hospital (1939-66) and to out-patients (1939-47) and in-patients (1947-60) at the Royal Melbourne Hospital.</p> <p>Fitts had served with the Australian Army Medical Corps, Militia, from 1927 (major 1934), but was prevented by a stomach ulcer from joining the Australian Imperial Force. In June-November 1941 he carried out full-time service as staff officer to Major General Rupert Downes [q.v.8], accompanying him on his tour of inspection of medical facilities in North Africa, the Middle East and the Far East. Fitts championed cardiology as a separate discipline, guiding the creation of the Royal Melbourne's cardiac department. He also welcomed the establishment of clinical chairs in the faculty of medicine, although it ended the dominance of hospital honoraries over clinical training. In 1948 he held a Carnegie travelling fellowship in the USA, and in 1959 undertook a Colombo Plan assignment comparing medical conditions in Malaya, Thailand and Burma. He was also active in many medical organisations, including the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (foundation fellow 1938; councillor 1952-61; vice-president 1956-58) and the National Heart Foundation of Australia, which he helped to establish in 1961. On his retirement (1960) from the RMH he became an honorary consulting physician. He was knighted in 1963.</p> <p>An eloquent speaker, Fitts gave many public addresses, including the Sir Richard Stawell, the (Joseph) Bancroft and the (Lord) Lister orations, and the Tudor Edwards memorial lecture at the Royal College of Physicians, London). He conducted his large private practice from rooms in leafy Parliament Place, a pleasant walk from the Melbourne Club, of which he was an assiduous member (president 1965), as he was of the Savage Club and the less formal Beefsteak and Wallaby clubs and the Boobooks. He was also a member of the councils of the University of Melbourne (1951-53, 1955-71), MCEGS (1960-69) and St Hilda's College, and became a fellow of Trinity College in 1980.</p> <p>Fitts was also a passionate book lover, active on the board of Melbourne University Press and with the Friends of the Baillieu Library. His encounter in 1946 with a young patient, Margaret Stones, prompted him to recruit his friends (Sir) Russell Grimwade and (Sir) Daryl Lindsay to help launch her career as a botanical artist. In turn, Lindsay recruited him as founding president (1947) of the National Gallery Society, and in 1955 he joined the Felton Bequests Committee (chairman 1965-75), the functions of which he reformed by introducing selective grants for medical research and projects for social betterment, while defending its reliance on overseas advisers for art purchases for the gallery. Sir Clive Fitts died on 7 February 1984 in East Melbourne and was cremated.</p>	

Reference Number	1978.0103
Collection/Series Title	PAPERS OF SIR CLIVE HAMILTON FITTS
Date Range of Collection/Series	1937-1978

1978.0103 PAPERS OF SIR CLIVE HAMILTON FITTS 1937-1978

Size/Extent	1 box (0.13m)
Access Conditions	Access: Open
Scope and Content of Series Copies of speeches and addresses delivered by Sir Clive, mostly transcript, some printed; associated correspondence.	
Archival History Typescript list converted to item data by Christine Elias November 2019.	
This list created 8 January 2020	

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To request access to records on the list below via the University of Melbourne Archives Reading Room, quote the Unit/Box reference in full.				
Unit/Box	Item number	Title	Date range	Description
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00001	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Published	1937	The Influence of Greek Medicine upon Modern Medicine, IRIS (The News-sheet of the Classical Association of Victoria), XXIV, No.5, October 1937. Previous Control Number: 1/1/1
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00002	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Published	1940	The Citadel, offprint from Medical Journal of Australia, 7 September 1940, pp. 211-214. Previous Control Number: 1/1/2
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00003	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Published	1943	The Investigation of Disease - A Plea for the Clinical Approach, offprint from Royal Melbourne Hospital Clinical Reports, XIV, December 1943. Previous Control Number: 1/1/3
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00004	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Published	1944	The Almoner and the Out-patient, offprint from Royal Melbourne Hospital Clinical Reports, XV, December 1944. Previous Control Number: 1/1/4
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00005	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Published	1945	Notes on Rheumatic Heart Disease, offprint from Royal Melbourne Hospital Clinical Reports, XVI, December 1945 (4 copies). Previous Control Number: 1/1/5
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00006	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Published	1946	The Modern Treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, offprint from Medical Journal of Australia, 2 November 1946, pp. 622-625. Previous Control Number: 1/1/6
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00007	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Published	1948	The Scope and Function of Out-patient Medical Practice in a Teaching Hospital, offprint from Proceedings of Royal Australasian College of Physicians, III, No.1, January 1948, pp. 65-68 (6 copies). Previous Control Number: 1/1/7
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00008	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Published	1948	Congenital Heart Disease, offprint from Royal Melbourne Hospital Clinical Reports, August 1948 (2 copies). Previous Control Number: 1/1/8
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00009	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Published	1952	The Unity of Knowledge, offprint from Medical Journal of Australia, 27 December 1952, pp. 901-902. Previous Control Number: 1/1/9
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00010	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Published	1954	Lines of Communication, address to the Medico-Legal Society, 27 November 1954. Previous Control Number: 1/1/10

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1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00011	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Published	1955	Aspects of the Diagnosis and Treatment of the Chronic Cough, offprint from Postgraduate Medical Journal, 1955, XXXI, pp. 2-6 (5 copies). Previous Control Number: 1/1/11
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00012	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Published	1958	Chronic Pulmonary Failure, offprint from Postgraduate Medical Journal, 1958, XXXIV, pp. 184-189. Previous Control Number: 1/1/12
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00013	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Published	1958	Serendipity, Sir Richard Stawell Oration, 1958, offprint from Medical Journal of Australia, 22 November 1958, pp. 685-689. Previous Control Number: 1/1/13
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00014	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Published	1961	The Scientist and the Poet, offprint from Australasian Annals of Medicine, X, No.2, May 1961, pp. 83-85. Previous Control Number: 1/1/14
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00015	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Published	1961	A Study of Histories: A Commentary on Cardiac Pain of Short Duration Based on the Records of Four Hundred Patients, Listerian Oratorion 1961, offprint from Medical Journal of Australia, 11 November 1961, pp. 773- 788 (2 copies). Previous Control Number: 1/1/15
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00016	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Published	1963	The House of Medicine, Melbourne University Press, 1963. Previous Control Number: 1/1/16
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00017	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Published	1967	High Tracheotomy Low Tracheostomy, Tudor Edwards Memorial Lecture 1967, 1967. Previous Control Number: 1/1/17
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00018	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Published	1969	Man and His Science, offprint from Australasian Annals of Medicine, XVIII, No.4, November 1969. Previous Control Number: 1/1/18
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00019	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Published	1972	What's become of Waring?, response at the Trinity College Centenary Banquet, 1972. Previous Control Number: 1/1/19
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00020	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1939	The Balanced Life, inscribed: At the Chapter House St Paul's One Sunday afternoon to young people? 1939. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/1
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00021	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1942	Hospital Sunday, October 1942. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/2
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00022	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1949	Rehabilitation, address to Australian Association of Social Workers, 27 August 1949. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/3

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1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00023	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1953	A Talk at the Beefsteak Club, August 1953. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/4
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00024	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1955	Hospital Sunday - October 23rd, 1955, Trinity College, inscribed: Dr David Embelton. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/5
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00025	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1956	A Sense of History, Legacy, 30 October 1956. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/6
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00026	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1959	A Physician's Pilgrimage with appended correspondence, March - April 1959, inscribed: At the request of Archbishop Woods to a study group of young clergy on the subject - Another Way of Life. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/7
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00027	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1961	Box Hill and District Hospital, Third Nurses Graduation Ceremony, 30 May 1961. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/8
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00028	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1962	The Guests, toast proposed at Medical School Centenary Banquet, 16 August 1962. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/9
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00029	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1962	Pomp and Circumstance Protocol and Ceremony, (December 1962), inscribed: Beefsteak Club December 1962. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/10
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00030	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1963	The Physician and His Environment, November 1963, inscribed: 9/xi/63 at Lewisham Hospital N.S.W. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/11
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00031	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1965	The Use of Quinidine in Cardiac Arrhythmias, address to Royal Australasian College of Physicians, 7 May 1965. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/12
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00032	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1965	The Three Rs, address at Royal Children's Hospital, 29 September 1965, inscribed: Mr. Smith again. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/13
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00033	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1968	Untitled talk at the Melbourne Club, 19 June 1968. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/14
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00034	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1968	Health and Illness in Modern Living (1968), inscribed: R.M.H. Quarterly Spring Issue 1968. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/15

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1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00035	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1969	Untitled address at Royal Children's Hospital, and appended letter, 23 September 1969. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/16
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00036	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1970	Old Scotch Collegians, 29 May 1970. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/17
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00037	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1971	Round the World of Tuberculosis in Forty Years, address to Thoracic Society, 19 March 1971. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/18
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00038	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1974	Remarks at the National Gallery Meeting in Honour of Dr Mary Woodall, 15 September 1974. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/19
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00039	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1975	Untitled address to Austin Hospital Thoracic Group, 6 June 1975, inscribed: Mr. Smith again. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/20
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00040	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1976	The Proper Study of Mankind (1976), inscribed: At the request of Professor Bryan Lewis (Psychiatrist) at St. V's Hospital 1976 to a mixed group of students etc. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/21
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00041	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1978	Obituary address for Walter Bassett, 22 March 1978 (or 1977?), inscribed: At University of Melbourne. At a service of remembrance etc. for Walter Bassett. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/22
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00042	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1978	Lamentations 1-12, (1978), inscribed: To Legacy 27/v/78. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/23
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00043	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	1978	Opening Address, The Northern Territory Art Award, 10th Anniversary Exhibition, 25 August 1978. Previous Control Number: 1/2/1/24
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00044	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	Undated	Archbishop Frank Woods. Previous Control Number: 1/2/2/1
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00045	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	Undated	At Sea by A Doctor. Previous Control Number: 1/2/2/2
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00046	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	Undated	Cultivating One's Own Garden. Previous Control Number: 1/2/2/3
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00047	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	Undated	A Few (?) Words after Dinner as the Guest at the Reunion of 1936 Graduates. Previous Control Number: 1/2/2/4

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1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00048	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	Undated	Flinders Art Show. Previous Control Number: 1/2/2/5
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00049	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	Undated	High Tracheotomy, by A Physician. Previous Control Number: 1/2/2/6
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00050	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	Undated	Medical Backcloth. Previous Control Number: 1/2/2/7
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00051	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	Undated	Personal View. Previous Control Number: 1/2/2/8
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00052	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	Undated	The Pleasures of Professional Life. Previous Control Number: 1/2/2/9
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00053	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	Undated	Pride and Prejudice. Previous Control Number: 1/2/2/10
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00054	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	Undated	Remarks in Concluding a Seminar The Underachieving Child. Previous Control Number: 1/2/2/11
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00055	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	Undated	The Solitary Reaper. Previous Control Number: 1/2/2/12
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00056	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	Undated	Sound, Sense and Silence. Previous Control Number: 1/2/2/13
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00057	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	Undated	Walking. Previous Control Number: 1/2/2/14
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00058	Addresses and articles by Fitts: Unpublished	Undated	Untitled address, inscribed: Legacy; Mr. Smith's story again. Previous Control Number: 1/2/2/15
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00059	Addresses and articles by other authors	1947	Gordon-Taylor, Sir Gordon, The Debt of Surgical Science to Australasia, The George Adlington Syme Oration 1947, offprint from The Australian and New Zealand Journal of Surgery, XVII, No.2, October 1947, pp. 75-111. Note: ms cover inscription: To my friend Dr. Clive Hamilton Fitts with the compliments of the writer, January 1948. Previous Control Number: 2/1
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00060	Miscellaneous	Undated	Key to the painting by Tom Roberts of the opening of the first Parliament of Australia - 9th May 1901. Previous Control Number: 1
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00061	Miscellaneous	Undated	Envelope containing mounted lithographic prints of nine famous medical scientists. Previous Control Number: 2

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1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00062	Miscellaneous	1969	The Children's Hospital Medical Center (Boston, Massachusetts), Annual Report, 1969. Previous Control Number: 3/1
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00063	Miscellaneous	1969	Letter, Dr Colin Officer (Seymour) to Fitts, 28 December 1969 (interleaved with item 3/1). Previous Control Number: 3/2
1978.0103 Unit 1	1978.0103.00064	Miscellaneous	1970	Letter, Patricia Casson (on board ship) to Fitts, 6 January 1970 (interleaved with item 3/1). Previous Control Number: 3/3

End of list