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October 2010



Inventory

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**Eustace G. Willis MP, Labour politician and Minister of
State for Scotland**

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Personal and political papers, memorabilia and photographs, 1911–1976, of Labour politician Eustace George Willis (1903–1987). Willis was educated at City of Norwich Secondary School. He served in the Royal Navy from 1919 until 1930. He was a bookseller and lecturer for the National Council of Labour Colleges from 1932 until 1964. Willis was elected as Member of Parliament for Edinburgh North in the 1945 General Election but was defeated in 1950. He contested again Edinburgh North at the 1951 General Election but was unsuccessful. He was returned to the House of Commons as MP for Edinburgh East in a 1954 by-election and served until his retirement in 1970. Willis was Minister of State for Scotland from October 1964 until January 1967, and Chairman of the Scottish Labour Party from 1954 until 1955.

The personal papers (1911–1953) mostly relate to his school education and his service in the Royal Navy. There are also some family letters, mostly from his wife. The political correspondence (1936–1976) reflects his nomination as Labour parliamentary candidate for various Scottish constituencies and his connections with fellow Labour politicians such as Emrys Hughes, George Mathers and Ernest Bevin. The collection also includes some interesting photographs and memorabilia.

The papers have been arranged as follows:

1–2	Personal papers
3–5	Political papers and correspondence
6	Literary papers
7–10	Photographs
11–12	Memorabilia
13–15	Miscellaneous papers and printed items

Presented 2010

1–2 Personal papers

1. Personal papers mostly consisting of school reports, certificates of qualification as engine room artificer, certificates of service and discharge from the Royal Navy, 1911–1930.
2. Personal correspondence and postcards, c.1940s–1953.

3–5 Political papers and correspondence

3. Political correspondence chiefly related to Eustace G. Willis's election as prospective parliamentary candidate for various Scottish constituencies, 1952–1953.
4. Political correspondence including letters from Labour MPs Emrys Hughes and George Mathers, Ernest Bevin, Foreign Secretary in Clement Attlee's government, Lord Robert Gibson, Labour MP for Greenock until 1941, and Douglas Young, Scottish nationalist and translator, 1936–1976.

5. Speech on 'Women and children under Socialism', n.d.

6 Literary papers

6. Bound volume containing typescript essays and articles, mostly by Eustace George Willis. Some essays are annotated and some contain photographic views of Mediterranean ports and cities, c.1930s.

7–10 Photographs

7. Photographs of Eustace G. Willis, c. 1960s – 1967.
8. Photographs showing opening of Scotland's first length of motorway at Harthill, 20 November 1964.
9. Photographic album of official opening of the Leith Ocean Terminal, 6 May 1966.
10. Miscellaneous photographs, including a photograph of James Ramsay MacDonald, c. 1930s.

11–12 Memorabilia

11. Memorabilia, invitations, menus and orders of service, 1960s-1970s.
12. Scrapbook containing memorabilia and press cuttings relating to Eustace G. Willis' political career, 1966 – 1983.

13–14 Miscellaneous papers and printed items

13. Papers relating to Mineral Development Committee, Scottish Sub-Committee, 1947–1948.
14. Miscellaneous news cuttings with an issue of 'The Fleet', the Journal of the British Navy, 1930–1950.
15. Three issues of 'Labour Woman', 1953–1954 with a Report of the Thirtieth National Conference of Labour Women, Edinburgh 1953, and a souvenir booklet of Las Palmas, n.d.