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Received : 26 January 1970

Source : Midland Bank Executor and Trustee Company Ltd.,

This collection comprises a series of notebooks kept by Byron Penn, the father of Maude Penn, on whose death the collection was donated. The books are concerned chiefly with the history of the members of his own family during the first half of the twentieth century.

According to notes made under 1 September in notebook 6111/6, he was a descendant of William Penn, the Quaker, who founded Pennsylvania. Byron's grandfather, Joseph Penn, was educated at Christ Church, Oxford. His father, Henry Penn, was paralysed and blind as a result of the Indian Mutiny and died, aged 47, in 1889. Byron's wife, Blanche, (née Inwood) was a descendant of William Inwood the Architect (1771? - 1843).

The contents of the notebooks, however, are not concerned with either the Penn or Inwood ancestors, but with the daily life of a Hendon family.

6111/1

Card recording the burial of Henry Alexander Penn, who died 1 Jan. 1889.

Buried in Finchley Cemetery.

6111/2

Diary of Byron Penn.

1 Jan. - 28 Dec. 1945.

6111/3

"The history of Blanche Maerchant Penn, born 17 Dec. 1897, 10.30 a.m."

The notebook is divided into sections for each day of the year. Under each day are entered events which have happened on that date, in different years, during the life of Blanche Maerchant Penn. The last entries are for 1946.

Handwriting as in 6111/2

At back, record of some of Blanche's sayings and shorthand notes.

6111/4

Notebook. Continuation of 6111/3.

Dates : 1 January to 27 June, 1940 - 1946.

At back of book, literature notes by Byron Penn.

6111/5

Notebook. Continuation of 6111/3.

Dates : 28 June to 30 December, late 1930s - 1946.

At beginning of book, notes, mostly in shorthand.

At end of book, notes on "Books".

6111/6

"History of Maude Hester Penn. Born Sunday, Aug. 31st. 1902, 4.25 a.m."

This notebook is divided as 6111/3 and is written by the same hand.

The last entries are for 1946, except for an entry made by Maude, recording the death of Blanche on 1 September 1958 and a brief family history.

At back of book, record of some of Maude's sayings.

6111/7

Notebook. Continuation of 6111/6.

Dates : 18 December to 10 June, 1944 - 1946.

At beginning and end of book, mathematical notes.

6111/8

Notebook. Continuation of 6111/6.

Dates : 11 June to 31 August, 1944 - 1946.

At beginning of book, notes from lectures by Professor Halliburton.

6111/9

Ration book of Byron G.S. Penn.

1953 - 4.

6111/10

Ration book of Maude H. Penn.

1953 - 4.

6111/11

Photograph.

"Ma and Pa April 1954 aged 86 years. 59th wedding anniversary".

6111/12

Photograph.

372 Watford Way, Hendon.