## Parkwood National Historic Site The McLaughlin Daughters

Over the course of their lifetime together Sam and Adelaide had the pleasure and good fortune to raise five daughters. Please meet their children – Eileen, Mildred, Isabel, Hilda and Eleanor (affectionately called Billie)



Eileen (born Mary Eileen) was born in 1898 and was an avid golfer, equestrian champion and dog lover. Her horse equestrian skills saw Eileen compete throughout Canada and the United States, including at the Chicago World's Fair. Between 1924 and 1933, Eileen participated in sixty-five exhibitions and competitions. During her first marriage (1918 to 1945) Eileen and her family resided at Adelaide House, now used as the YWCA Durham, in Oshawa.

During and after her second marriage, Eileen spent most of the year at her home in British Columbia, raising "Scottie dogs".



Mildred was born in 1900 and through her late teens and early twenties, Mildred attended many teas, dances, art exhibitions, theatre performances, etc. Mildred also enjoyed throwing lavish parties and performances at Parkwood. Together with her first husband, Cord Taylor they moved to the United States in the mid -1920s. Raising her family in America, Mildred returned to Parkwood for numerous visits, especially with her young children. After her second marriage, Mildred, spent her final days in Coral Gables, Florida.

## Parkwood National Historic Site The McLaughlin Daughters



Isabel studied art at the Ontario College of Art from 1926–1930 under Group of 7 member, Arthur Lismer and Yvonne McKague Housser. With a strong love of art, she studied in Paris 1929, Vienna in 1930 and with Hans Hofmann ca. 1947-52. Isabel become lifelong friends with McKague Housser and the two went on painting excursions together often. In 1948 McKague Housser painted a watercolour depicting McLaughlin in it titled: "Isabel the Archaeologist, Cap Chat River"

She became an executive member of the Heliconian Club in Toronto, and in 1933 she was a founding member of the Canadian Group of Painters and served as its first woman president in 1939.

On December 1, 1987 Isavel made a substantial donation of art work from her own personal collection of works by other artists to The Robert McLaughlin Gallery. Some of these artists included Prudence Heward, Louis Archambault, B. C. Binning, Andre Bieler, Emil Bistram, Emily Carr, Parekseva Clark, Lyonel Feininger, Lawren Harris, A. Y. Jackson, Alexandra Luke, Peter Haworth, Bobs Cogill Haworth, J. E. H. MacDonald, Anne Savage, Irene Kindness, Arthur Lismer, Sarah Robertson among others.

She was the recipient of the Order of Ontario in 1993 and the Order of Canada in 1997



Hilda was the fourth daughter of Sam and Adelaide, born in 1905. After her marriage, Hilda ended up spending most of her years living in Montreal.

Hilda loved nature and was passionate about its conservation and environmental protection. In the 1990s, Hilda purchased 1500 acres, the Pangman Conservation Reserve, helping to further develop

## Parkwood National Historic Site The McLaughlin Daughters

the Queens University Biological Station, the largest inland field station in Canada. The acreage is comprised of forests, wetlands six lakes, all for the purpose of study.



**Eleanor,** otherwise known as "Billie" was an avid horse woman, and active in the equestrian community her entire life. Along with her eldest sister, Eileen, the two were prominent figures in the show horse community in their younger days. Billie and her husband created their estate – "Jokers Hill" when they returned to Canada after being posted to the UK with her military husband in WWII. In the 1950s, Major

General Clarence Churchill Mann and his wife Billie McLaughlin Mann consolidated the original farms on the Jokers Hill property and developed the area as a horse farm and estate; a race track, barns, pastures, and other equestrian delights.

From 1983 until her death in 1993, Eleanor served as the Honorary Colonel of the Ontario Regiment.

