

Trent University Archives

Finding Aid - John Reid fonds (77-012)

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John Reid fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	Trent University Archives
Title:	John Reid fonds
Reference code:	77-012
Date:	1837-1881 (creation)
Physical description:	30 cm of textual records

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

John Reid (d. 1882), the son of Maria Stewart (sister of Thomas Alexander Stewart) and Robert Reid, was born in Ireland and emigrated to Upper Canada in 1822 with his parents and siblings. He married Frances Hilton (1812-1878) and together they had 6 children. He settled in Douro Township and became a land surveyor in Peterborough County. Reid Street in the City of Peterborough was named after John Reid.

Custodial history

This fonds was owned by the Cameron sisters of Peterborough, Ontario, before it was donated to the Trent University Archives.

Scope and content

The fonds consists of field notes, reports, descriptions and certificates relating to surveys conducted by John Reid. The areas surveyed included Cavan Township, Monaghan Township, Smith Township and Otonabee Township which are in the County of Peterborough. There are also some records pertaining to John Reid's service in the militia.

Notes

Title notes

- **Source of title proper:** Title based on contents of fonds.

Immediate source of acquisition

The fonds was donated by the Misses Cameron.

Restrictions on access

None

Related material

For related records see: Frances Stewart fonds.

Note [General]

The John Reid fonds was originally series two in the Cameron Collection.

Note [General]

Box 1

Folder

1: Diaries and field notes 1837-1866 - field notes, New Line of road from Bobcaygeon to Somerville n.d. Diary and field notes, Harvey and Verulam, 1837; also notes in: Ops Township, 1848 Otonabee Township, 1852 Fenelon Township, 1853 (surveyed for James Wallis) Ennismore Township, 1866

2: Descriptions, certificates and wage receipts 1844-1866 - includes material relating to the following townships etc:

Alnwick Township 1854

Asphodel Township 1852, 1853 (includes account of Timber cut and removed from Lot 5 Concession 7 winter 1852-52)

Bridgenorth 1856

Brockville 1854

Cavan Township 1844

Douro Township 1853

Dummer Township 1850-1861

Emily Township 1849

Ennismore Township 1851

Fenelon Township 1853 (for James Wallis and for Robert Dennistoun)

Hamilton Township 1854

Keene Village 1849

Monaghan Township 1849-1866

Ops Township 1848

Otonabee Township 1852

Smith Township 1851

Somerville Township n.d.

Also lists for work done on the road from Bobcaygeon to Somerville.

3: Instructions and copies of reports 1837-1880 includes a letter relating to Reid's survey of the Town plot at Bobcaygeon Rapids, 1837 and material relating to work done in Harvey Township, 1855.

4: Militia, subpoenas and printed matter 1865-1872; Subpoenas requiring Reid to appear as a witness in various cases. (probably involving disputes over land). Information regarding schools for militia officers, 1865 (Reid was a Captain in Peterborough Battalion No. 2) An Act to amend acts relative to land Surveyors, June 1857.

5: Letter, Peter Ayleen to A.H. Sims, 3 Oct 1853 regarding Ayleen's exploration of the land drained by the Madawaska River and its tributaries (including the York Branch) in what is now Algonquin Park.

Loose in box

- Cavan and Monaghan Book, 1848-53

- Field notes concerning a new line of road in Cavan Township, 1852 (also includes undated notes and a draft of a letter which were probably made by Alfred J. Cameron, who bought Reid out)
- field note Book, Otonabee and Smith Townships, 1850- 1860
- Field notes, with index
- accounts of George Daintry, Peterborough, with Reid, 1860 (notes relating to a park lot in Monaghan Township, 30 April 1894, probably named by Alfred Cameron)

Loose on shelf

Account book No. 1, 1838-1852

The accounts in this early book show Reid surveying in Peterborough County. His clients included Samuel Strickland, James Hall, Edward Brown, Andrew Dunlop, John Boyd, John Langton, Thomas Traill, Stafford Kirkpatrick, Charles Perry, Charles Rubidge, Henry Ruttan and Eli Ward. Within the Town of Peterborough, Reid was surveying Hunter, George and Dalhousie streets. He also surveyed in Lakefield (Selby), the Village of Keene and the Village of Warsaw. There is a full index of names in the front of the book.

Account book No. 2, 1852-1881

The accounts in the second book show Reid surveying in every township in Peterborough County. In 1852, he measured the stonework for a new building in market square, Peterborough. This same year, he surveyed the Blythe Mill property for John Langton. In 1870 he surveyed and mapped the Hamilton Co. foundry properties in Peterborough and in 1873, the Hazelbank [Hazelbrae?] property. His clients included: James Wallis, the Canada Company; Robert Dennistoun; William Cluxton; Charles Perry; James Stevenson; Samuel Strickland-re the new Free Church in Lakefield; Wilson Conger - re laying out the Roman Catholic section of Little Lake Cemetery in 1854; George B. Hall; Vincent Clementi- re 1854-1857 the apprenticeship of Theodore Clementi; Stafford Kirkpatrick re a large-scale map of his property Lot 12, Con. 13 Monaghan which he was having lithographed; Charles Rubidge; Mossom Boyd - re the Boyd property in Peterborough on Smith's hill (Edinburgh St.); Robert Nicholls; Charles Dunlop; George A. Cox; Samuel Dixon; Auburn Mills; Robert Strickland; James Stratton; George Hilliard; Edward Calcutt; Ashburnham Village and James Reid. There is a full index of names in the front of the book.

Both account books give details of the type of work Reid did, for whom, the location and his fees, which were frequently paid in goods and services rather than cash.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published

Access points

- Textual records (documentary form)
- Settlement and Surveys (subject)
- Genealogical resource (subject)