

DATES: 1832 - 1966

VOLUME: 93 metres

RESTRICTIONS: Records must be used on microfilm where applicable.

INDEX: Nominal index follows

BACKGROUND:

This series contains the official records which document the petitioning for Crown Lands in the Province. The administrative context of the records can be outlined as follows: an individual or corporate body wishing to acquire a grant of Crown Land would submit a petition (see also RS108) detailing what land was being requested. The Council's Committee on Land (see RS568) or the Crown Land Office staff would approve or disallow the request. For the successful applicant, an Order or Warrant to survey the land (see RS687A) would be issued to a Deputy Surveyor. While making the survey, the Deputy Surveyor kept field notes (still held by Lands Branch, Department of Natural Resources and Energy), which recorded data necessary to the production of the return of survey. The returns of survey (see RS687B) were the final plans of the Deputy Surveyors and show in detail the location, size and other survey related facts concerning the land to be granted. Correspondence between the Deputy Surveyors and their superiors can be located within the Surveyor General's records (see RS637). Once received in the Crown Land Office, the returns of survey were numbered and pasted into books according to the county where the land was located. Concurrently, the Crown Lands staff kept a series of over-size, flat books (see RS656) for grants issued to railways, towns, Indians, and within counties.

The returns of surveys were also used to draw up the Land Grants (see RS686), which are the final authority and official record of granted Crown Land. A copy of the land grant was issued to the grantee and became his proof of ownership. All subsequent transactions such as selling, leasing or mortgaging were private (i.e. from individual to individual, or from individual back to the Crown) and are registered in the county Registry

Offices (see RS84 to RS98). However, in the case where the Crown escheated the land for non-compliance with granting regulations, the original grant was cancelled and the land re-granted. Records of escheatment are found in RS686F.

The Archives has two separate and distinct series of Land Petitions: RS108 and RS272. The Record Series 108 (RS108) which was arranged and indexed separately contains both approved and denied land petitions for the years, 1783-1918 (the bulk cover the period 1783 to 1866). The second series of petitions, Record Series 272 (RS272) contains the approved land petitions between 1832 and 1966. It is called the "Current Series" because it is still in use within the Department. Petitions after 1966 are still held by the Department of Natural Resources and Energy. Researchers are encouraged to use both RS108 and RS272 to do a complete search.

ARRANGEMENT:

The system of organizing these petitions altered over the years. Initially, from 1830 to 1867, the petitions were grouped by "Volume" and then numbered. This sub-series begins with Volume 16, Number 1 and ends with Volume 50, Number 70. It seems that, at some point in the nineteenth century, the first fifteen "volumes" were dispersed and these petitions are probably now found in RS108. In 1868, a new numbering system was begun which is still used today. It denotes the petitions as 1/68 (i.e. petition number 1 in 1868) etc.

Up to 1925, all the names found in the petition and actually involved with the case (i.e. the present petitioner and others who may have had an earlier claim to the piece of land) were indexed. From 1926 to 1966 only the name of the petitioner was indexed. As much as possible, the spelling of the names as found in the petitions has been retained. Where necessary, some slight standardization has been employed in the index. In some instances, several variations of the same name may be found in a single petition. WE WOULD RECOMMEND, THEREFORE, THAT RESEARCHERS CHECK ALL POSSIBLE VARIATIONS OF A SURNAME. The following samples of similar surnames indicate many of those variations:

Ache, Hache, Hachey
 Arsenault, Arseneau, Arsinau, Arsono, Arseno
 Babineau, Babino, Babinot
 Bask, Basque
 Bourk, Bourke, Bourque
 Boutot, Boutote, Boutotte
 Burgoin, Burgoine, Burgoyne
 Caissie, Caissy, Casey, Cassey
 Chaisson, Chiassen, Chiasson
 Christey, Christie, Christy
 Colet, Colette, Collet, Collett, Collette
 Comeau, Commeau, Commeaux, Como
 Dechene, Dechine, Deschenes
 Dickison, Dickson
 Donahoe, Donahue, Donohoe
 Doucet, Doucett, Doucette
 Elliot, Elliott
 Gauthaeu, Gauthreau, Gautreau, Gautro
 Gillmor, Gillmore, Gilmor, Gilmore
 Gueret, Guerette, Guerrette
 Hansen, Hanson
 Irvin, Irvine, Irving
 Johnson, Johnston, Johnstone
 Kenney, Kennie, Kenny
 Lagace, Lagacy, Lagasse, Lagassy, Lagassie
 Legace, Legacy, Legasse, Legassy, Legassie
 Losier, Lossier, Lousier
 MacDonald, McDonald
 MacDougal, McDougal, McDugald, McDougall
 MacFarland, McFarland, MacFarlane, McFarlane
 MacNichol, McNichol, McNichols
 Masrolle, Mauzrolle, Mauzroll, Mazerall, Mazerole,
 Mazeroll, Mazerolle, Mersereau, Merzeroll,
 Muzerall, Muzeroll, Muzrol, Muzzerall, Muzzroll.
 McCloskey, McCluskey, McLoskey, McLuskey
 Moffat, Moffatt, Moffitt.
 Morneau, Morneault
 O'Donald, O'Donell, O'Donnell
 O'Neal, O'Neil, O'Neill
 Ouelette, Ouellet, Ouellett, Ouellette, Ouillet
 Ouillette, Oulette, Oullette
 Ploude, Ploudre, Plourd, Plourde
 Poirier, Poirrier
 Reed, Reid
 Robichau, Robichaud, Robicheau, Robicheaux, Robisheau
 Roussel, Roussell, Rousselle, Roussiau Russel, Russell,
 Russelle

Savoie, Savoy
Souci, Soucie, Soucy, Sousey, Sousi, Sousie.
Thebeau, Thebeault, Thibault, Thibeeau, Thibeault,
Thibideau, Thibodeau
Theriau, Theriault, Therieau, Therriault
Vautour, Votour, Voutour
Veneau, Veno, Vieneau, Vienneau

The county in which the land is located is included in the Index. The following abbreviations are used for these counties:

AL= ALBERT
CA= CARLETON
CH= CHARLOTTE
GL= GLOUCESTER
KE= KENT
KI= KINGS
MA= MADAWASKA
NO= NORTHUMBERLAND
QU= QUEENS
RE= RESTIGOUCHE
SJ= ST. JOHN
SU= SUNBURY
VI= VICTORIA
WE= WESTMORLAND
YO= YORK«

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MICROFILM GUIDE:

Many of these land petitions have been microfilmed, but the project is not complete. The following is a guide to the petitions on film:

The following microfilms have been included in the index under "Film #"

1832 Volume 16/1	1833 Volume 18/48	F9035
1833 Volume 18/49	1837 Volume 19/281	F9036
1837 Volume 19/282	1837 Volume 20/20	F9041
1837 Volume 20/21	1838 Volume 21/341	F9043
1839 Volume 21/342	1840 Volume 22/351	F9044
1841 Volume 22/352	1845»Volume 24/13	F9045
1845 Volume 24/14	1845»Volume 25/207	F9046
1845 Volume 25/208	1845»Volume 27/61	F9047
1845 Volume 27/62	1852»Volume 28/198	F9048
1852 Volume 28/199	1853»Volume 30/92	F9049
1853 Volume 30/93	1853»Volume 30/321	F9060
1853 Volume 30/322	1854»Volume 31/129	F10824
1854 Volume 31/130	1854»Volume 31/242	F10838
1854 Volume 31/243	1854»Volume 32/159	F10839
1854 Volume 32/160	1855»Volume 33/60	F10840
1855 Volume 33/61	1856»Volume 34/35	F10841
1856 Volume 34/36	1856 Volume 36/75	F12390
1856 Volume 36/76	1857 Volume 37/250	F12391
1857 Volume 37/251	1858 Volume 39/60	F12392
1858 Volume 39/61	1860 Volume 41/65	F12393
1860 Volume 41/66	1861 Volume 42/190	F12394
1861 Volume 42/191	1862 Volume 43/220	F12395
1862 Volume 43/221	1864 Volume 45/189	F12396
1864 Volume 45/190	1866 Volume 47/100	F12397
1866 Volume 47/101	1867 Volume 48/249	F12398
1867 Volume 49/1	1867 Volume 49/151	F12399
1867 Volume 49/152	1868 Volume 50/27	F13300
1868 Volume 50/28	1868/97	F13301

The following have not yet been added to the Index:

1868/98 through To → 1869/149 F13302