

# **INVENTORY DESCRIPTION**

**Great Britain. Colonial Office.**

**Entry Books : Nova Scotia and Cape Breton  
(CO 218) : 1710-1867.**

C.O. 218. NOVA SCOTIA AND CAPE BRETON, ENTRY BOOKS

Photostats, 1768-1864, 11 inches. Microfilm, 1710-1867, 8 reels.  
Finding Aids: Nos. 90 and 636; Public Archives of Canada *Report* for 1948.

Colonial Office 218 follows the usual system of arrangement for "colony" classes (see the MG 11 Introduction under Arrangement). The organization throughout most of the class is basically chronological within certain divisions which reflect to some degree the geo-political development of Nova Scotia.

The entire class is available on microfilm. Volumes 1-8 (1710-1783) include the correspondence, commissions, instructions and so forth, of the Board of Trade. Volumes 1, 6 and 7 have internal indexes located at the end of the volumes. Volume 9 (1782-1783) provides instructions for John Parr (1725-1791), Governor of Nova Scotia. Volume 10 (1786) includes an incomplete text of instructions for Guy Carleton, First Baron Dorchester (1724-1808). More complete copies of Carleton's various instructions may be found in C.O. 189, volume 2. The communications from the Secretary of State relating to Cape Breton Island during its brief period of separation from Nova Scotia compose volumes 11-13 (1784-1820). Volumes 14-16 (1789-1807) are précis books for the island.

Volumes 17-19 are entry books of correspondence to the Secretary of State for the period 1766-1782; the original items may frequently be found in the appropriate section of C.O. 217 (q.v.). The précis books for Nova Scotia, 1788 to 1807, are located in volumes 20-24. Note that "Cape Breton" appears frequently as the title to these and other volumes although the contents concern Nova Scotia for the most part. Many of the précis books include both in and out-letters. Often the inward communications will appear on the left-hand page, and the out-letters on the right-hand facing page.

Despatches from the Secretary of State and his office to the governors or administrators of Nova Scotia are provided in volumes 25 to 37 (1758-1867). Internal indexes for volumes 28 to 37 (1801-1867) appear at the end of each of these volumes, giving the names of recipients, date of despatch, despatch number, a brief statement of subject and manuscript pagination. The "Public Offices," and "Miscellaneous" or "Individuals" categories, the so-called "Domestic Correspondence" for Nova Scotia for the period 1810-1872 appear in C.O. 43, volumes 49-141. Additional material of a similar or supplementary nature may be found in C.O. 381, Colonies, General, Entry Books, Series II, volumes 62 and 63 (1816-1866).

Finding Aid 90, British Records on Microfilm, includes a list of all material available on film. Finding Aid 636 consists of a manuscript calendar of volume 13 of the photostatic selections. The remainder of the photostats have been calendared in the Public Archives of Canada *Report* for 1948.

C.O. 219. NOVA SCOTIA AND CAPE BRETON, ACTS

Microfilm, 1749-1819, 6 reels, B-1369 to B-1374.

Colonial Office 219 is the class which may include governors' ordinances and proclamations as well as bills and acts of the colonial legislature.

Volumes 1-5 (1749-1809) and 8-21 (1759-1819) were copied to supplement the holdings of the Public Archives Library. Volumes 1 and 2 (1785-1809) relate to Cape Breton and the remaining volumes predominantly to Nova Scotia. The acts are provided in either manuscript or printed form.

Colonial Office 383, Registers, Acts (q.v.), volume 69 may be used as a finding aid for Nova Scotia Acts, 1782-1826.