

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

WESTERN ARCHIVES



THE LIONEL RIDOUT FONDS

AFC 16

Inventory prepared by Claire James – February, 2006

WESTERN ARCHIVES
THE LIONEL RIDOUT FONDS
AFC 16

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THE LIONEL RIDOUT FONDS
AFC 16
FONDS DESCRIPTION

Dates

[ca.1840] – 1874, predominant 1858 – 1862

Extent and Material

20 cm of textual records

2 volumes

14 photographs

Biographical Sketch

Lionel Augustus Clark Ridout was born in Bristol, England in 1817, the son of George Chambury Ridout and Mary Ann Wright. The family immigrated to Canada in 1820 and settled in York in 1821.

Ridout was educated at Upper Canada College where he was one of its earliest students. In 1844, he established a hardware store in London as a branch of Ridout Brothers and Company, an iron and hardware firm established by his brothers George Percival Ridout and Joseph David Ridout in York. By 1847, Ridout's business was well established on Dundas Street. As his business prospered, Ridout invested in real estate in and around London. He also became a substantial shareholder in several companies, including the County of Middlesex Building Society, the City of London Building Society, the London and Port Stanley Railway Company, and the Proof Line Road Joint Stock Company. Ridout played a leading role in local business organizations, served as a trustee and officer of the London Savings Bank and as president of the County of Middlesex Building Society, and was active in the London Mercantile Library Association.

Between 1856 and 1858, Ridout spent nearly \$20,000 on the construction of a residence in Rough Park. Before the completion of the house, however, his business began to suffer from the commercial depression of the late 1850's. Heavily mortgaged, Rough Park, which became the original site of Huron College in 1863, was sold after Ridout's death.

His health in decline by early 1859, Ridout entrusted the management of his business to Hiram Chisholm, and spent much of his time in Toronto under the care of Dr. William Rawlins Beaumont.

In 1846, Ridout married Louisa Lawrason, the eldest daughter of Lawrence Lawrason, a prominent London businessman. They had four children: George, Louisa Jane, Julia (who died in infancy) and Phebe.

Lionel Ridout died in London on November 10, 1859.

Scope and Content

The fonds consists of materials related to the business activities, family and residence of Lionel Ridout. Included are records of real estate transactions, financial and insurance records, court proceedings, correspondence, photographs and miscellaneous documents.

Arrangement

The fonds is arranged into the following series:

- Series 1 Personal Papers
- Series 2 Photographs
- Series 3 Business Papers
- Series 4 Legal Papers
- Series 5 Miscellaneous
- Series 6 Restricted Originals

The fonds has been arranged by the archivist. A Restricted Originals Series has been created by the archivist to accommodate fragile records removed from the files for conservation purposes.

Finding Aids

File and item lists available.

Conditions Governing Access

Access restrictions apply to Series 6 Restricted Originals.

Related Material

Additional textual records relating to Lionel Ridout can be found in the Lawrence Lawrason Fonds.

Portraits of Lionel Ridout and Louisa Jane Ridout, painted by George Theodore Berthon, are displayed as part of the Historical Art Collection at Museum London in London, Ontario.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The exact date and means of the acquisition of these records by Western Archives is not known.

Notes

1. Information for the Biographical Sketch taken from *The Dictionary of Canadian Biography VIII 1851-1860*.
2. Fragile documents have been photocopied. Originals have been removed from files and placed in the Restricted Originals Series. Some originals have been duplex copied to conserve paper.

THE LIONEL RIDOUT FONDS
AFC 16
SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS

Series 1 Personal Papers

Dates

1856 – 1863

Extent and Material

1 cm textual records

Scope and Content

Series consists of records relating to the construction and sale of Rough Park. Included are an inventory of household items; auctioneer's sale log; an agreement of sale; various legal documents, including a synopsis of Ridout's will; and invoices.

Arrangement

Invoices are arranged by service provider and then chronologically by date.

Notes

1. The agreement for the sale of Rough Park was between Reverend Benjamin Cronyn, Bishop of the Diocese of Huron, Reverend Dr. Isaac Helmuth, and the executors of Ridout's estate. The estate became the original site of Huron College, founded by Bishop Cronyn in 1863. The Reverend Dr. Helmuth was the first principal at Huron College and went on to found, with the assistance of the Anglican Diocese of Huron, The University of Western Ontario in 1878.
2. Two invoices relate to Ridout's medical care in the months preceding his death.

File and Item List

Rough Park Estate	1856 - 1860	AFC 16 - 1 / 1
Building Contract [item]	1856	MC 25 – 1
Agreement for Sale [item]	1862	MC 25 – 1
Legal Documents	1857 - 1859	AFC 16 - 1 / 2
Indenture – St. Paul's Church [item]	1848	MC 25 – 1
Invoices	1860 - 1863	AFC 16 - 1 / 3

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SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS

Series 2 Photographs

Dates

[184- – 187-?]

Extent and Material

14 photographs - b&w and hand col.

Scope and Content

Series consists of photographs of members of the Ridout and Lawrason families, and photographs of unidentified persons assumed to be members of the families.

Notes

1. Photographs are daguerreotype, ambrotype and tintype. A detailed listing of the photographic process used for each image can be found in Appendix A.
2. Some of the images are difficult to see due to fading or silvering.
3. All photographs are housed in their original frames. Some frames have been damaged.

Item List

Louisa Lawrason Ridout	[ca. 1840]	AFC 16 - 3
Louisa Lawrason Ridout	[ca. 1840]	AFC 16 - 3
Unidentified Man	[ca. 1840]	AFC 16 - 3
Unidentified Woman	[ca. 1848]	AFC 16 - 3
Lionel Ridout	[ca. 1848]	AFC 16 - 3
Louisa Lawrason Ridout, Louisa Jane [Jania] and George Ridout	[ca. 1848]	AFC 16 - 3
Lawrence Lawrason	[ca. 1850]	AFC 16 - 3
Unidentified Boy	[ca. 1850]	AFC 16 - 3
Julia Ridout	[ca. 1854]	AFC 16 - 3
Unidentified Woman	[ca. 1855]	AFC 16 - 3
George Ridout	[ca. 1857]	AFC 16 - 3
Louisa Jane [Jania], George and Phebe Ridout	[ca. 1860]	AFC 16 - 3
Unidentified Woman	[ca. 1860]	AFC 16 - 3
George Ridout	[ca. 1870]	AFC 16 - 3

THE LIONEL RIDOUT FONDS
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SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS

Series 3 Business Papers

Dates

1846 – 1874

Extent and Material

11 cm textual records

2 volumes

Scope and Content

Series consists of records relating to the business activities of Lionel Ridout. Included are real estate transactions; mortgages; land registry abstracts; correspondence; hardware store accounts; invoices; promissory notes and protestations of non-payment; shareholder information for the City of London Building Society; fire insurance policies; executors' memoranda related to the Ridout estate; estate accounts; a voucher book; and a bank pass book.

Arrangement

Promissory notes and protestations for non-payment on promissory notes are arranged chronologically by date of the promissory note.

File and Item List

Real Estate Leases	1855 - 1862	AFC 16 - 1 / 4
Indenture of Lease [item]	1857	MC 25 – 1
Real Estate Purchases	1846 - 1858	AFC 16 - 1 / 5
Agreement for Sale [item]	1854	MC 25 – 1
Agreement of Sale [item]	1854	MC 25 – 1
Mortgages	1856 - 1859	AFC 16 - 1 / 6
Mortgages	1851 - 1858	MC 25 – 1
Land Registry Abstracts	1855 - 1861	AFC 16 - 1 / 7
Land Registry Abstracts	1860 - 1862	MC 25 – 1
City of London Building Society	1857 - 1860	AFC 16 - 1 / 8
Correspondence	1856 - 1872	AFC 16 - 1 / 9
Accounts	1849 - 1859	AFC 16 - 1 / 10
Loan Account Balance Sheet	1859	MC 25 – 1
Supplier Invoices	1856 - 1860	AFC 16 - 1 / 11
Thomas Turton & Sons [item]	1859	MC 25 – 1
Joseph Tarrat & Sons [item]	1859	MC 25 – 1
B.J. Eyre & Co. [item]	1859	MC 25 – 1
Promissory Notes	1856 - 1860	AFC 16 - 1 / 12

Assignment of Promissory Notes	1860	MC 25 – 1
List of Debts [item]	1860	MC 25 – 1
Fire Insurance Policies	1854, 1863	AFC 16 - 1 / 13
Equitable Fire Insurance Co. [item]	1853	MC 25 – 1
Unity Fire Insurance Association	1856 - 1861	MC 25 – 1
The Liverpool & London Fire Insurance Co. [item]	1864	MC 25 – 1
Executors' Memos	[1859 - 1860]	AFC 16 - 1 / 14
Statement of Affairs [item]	[1859]	MC 25 – 1
Report to Bank [item]	1863	MC 25 – 1
Estate Accounts	1859 - 1860	AFC 16 - 1 / 15
Estate Accounts	1861 - 1874	AFC 16 - 1 / 16
Estate Accounts	1860 - 1863	MC 25 – 1
Voucher Book [vol]	1860 - 1872	AFC 16 - 4 / 1
Bank Pass Book [vol]	1858 - 1862	AFC 16 - 4 / 2

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SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS

Series 4 Legal Papers

Dates

1858 – 1872

Extent and Material

6 cm textual records

Scope and Content

Series consists of legal documents relating to Lionel Ridout and Ridout's estate. Included are Chancery Court affidavits relating to a case of Lionel Ridout et. al. vs. Thomas Craig et. al., and Surrogate Court proceedings relating to the settlement of Ridout's estate.

Notes

1. The Surrogate Court papers contain a copy of the last will and testament of Lionel Ridout.

File and Item List

Chancery Court	1858 - 1859	AFC 16 - 2 / 1
Surrogate Court	1860 - 1872	AFC 16 - 2 / 2
[Surrogate Court] Schedule A - Receipts [item]	1872	AFC 16 - 5
[Surrogate Court] Schedule B - Disbursements [item]	1872	AFC 16 - 5
[Surrogate Court] Schedule C - Supplemental Account of Receipts and Disbursements [item]	1872	MC 25 – 1

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SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS

Series 5 Miscellaneous

Dates

1872

Extent and Material

1 cm textual records

Scope and Content

Series consists of the January 13, 1872 edition of the *Canada Gazette*, which includes a notice to the creditors of Ridout's estate.

File List

Canada Gazette

1872

AFC 16 - 2 / 3

THE LIONEL RIDOUT FONDS
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SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS

Series 6 Restricted Originals

Dates

1858 – 1859

Extent and Material

1 cm textual records

Scope and Content

Series consists of original documents removed from the files for conservation reasons.

Conditions Governing Access

Permission of the University Archivist required.

File List

Series 3 Chancery Court

1858 – 1859

AFC 16 - 2 / 4

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APPENDIX

Appendix A: Series 2 Photographs

Louisa Lawrason Ridout	daguerreotype	[ca. 1840]
Louisa Lawrason Ridout	daguerreotype	[ca. 1840]
[Unidentified man]	daguerreotype with applied colour	[ca. 1848]
[Unidentified woman]	daguerreotype	[ca. 1848]
Lionel Ridout	daguerreotype with applied colour	[ca. 1848]
Louisa Lawrason Ridout, Louisa Jane [Jania], George Ridout	daguerreotype	[ca. 1848]
Lawrence Lawrason	daguerreotype	[ca. 1850]
[Unidentified boy]	ambrotype	[ca. 1850]
Julia Ridout	daguerreotype	[ca. 1854]
[Unidentified woman]	tintype with applied colour	[ca. 1855]
George Ridout	tintype with applied colour	[ca. 1857]
Louisa Jane [Jania], George and Phebe Ridout	tintype with applied colour	[ca. 1860]
[Unidentified woman]	tintype with applied colour	[ca. 1860]
George Ridout	tintype with applied colour	[ca. 1870]