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Biographical Sketch/Administrative History

Vidal Family: The Vidal family descends from Spanish and French origins. The family settled in London England in 1685. Emeric Vidal, a British Royal Navy Captain, lived from 1751-1811 and resided in Bracknell, Berkshire England for the entirety of his life. He married in 1783 to Jane Essex and they had 4 children together named Emma Vidal (1783-1844), Captain Richard Emeric Vidal (1789-1854), Emeric Essex Vidal (1791-1861) and Vice-Admiral Alexander Thomas Emeric Vidal (1792-1863). Like their father, all three brothers entered the Royal Navy and became officers in active service.

Captain Richard Emeric Vidal was a Naval Officer who voyaged around the world and kept detailed and thorough diaries throughout his years at sea. After retiring from the navy in the 1830’s, he emigrated from Bracknell, England to Sarnia, Ontario (then called ‘Les Chutes’ or ‘The Rapids’) in 1834. With him he brought his wife, Charlotte Penrose Mitton (1789-1873) and four children, including son Alexander Vidal (1819-1906). However, there was a fifth child who died before the family immigrated. They had one more child after moving to Canada. Captain Richard Emeric Vidal was among the first pioneers of Sarnia and was active in changing the name of the town from The Rapids to Port Sarnia.

Alexander Vidal was 15 when he moved to Sarnia with his father Richard Emeric Vidal and family. He went on to be an important figurehead in the Sarnia community, having experience being a surveyor, a banker, and a politician. Alexander Vidal eventually became a conservative member of the Senate of Canada for the Sarnia division from 1873-1906. He married Catherine Wright (daughter of Captain William Wright) and they had seven children together.

One of those was Charlotte Vidal Nisbet (1855-1948), or ‘Chattie’ as her friends and relatives often called her, who would become a local Sarnia historian and author. Her husband, Thomas Nisbet was the originator of the Boy’s Brigade in Sarnia. Charlotte Nisbet provided weekly contributions to "The Sarnia Canadian Observer" starting in 1935. Her columns were based on daily happenings for the corresponding days one hundred years before which she extracted from her grandfather’s and other family member’s diaries and letters.

Scope and Content

This collection contains archival material related to the Vidal and Nisbet families of Sarnia. Graphic material (photographs, photographic plates, silhouettes, albums, artwork), newspaper materials, correspondence (letters, letter books, postcards), personal records (military, legal, marriage, wills, financial), diaries and biographical histories are included. Family members with a prominent presence in the collection include Charlotte Vidal Nisbet, Alexander Vidal, and Richard Emeric Vidal.
Custodial History
The contents of this collection were donated by multiple individuals in multiple accessions. Charlotte Vidal Nisbet (1855-1948), granddaughter of Richard Emeric Vidal, was the primary collector and keeper of family documents. Her father, Alexander Vidal, designated to her the rights to all of his belongings in his last will and testament, which included diaries, letters, and other family records. One of the earliest items donated to the Western University Regional Collection for this fonds was a photostat copy of an Alexander Vidal Diary (1835) given by Charlotte Vidal Nisbet in 1935. Charlotte Vidal Nisbet was also the original creator of a large portion of the collection, including biographical histories on family members, newspaper columns, and other writings, which all remained in her possession until her death.
Some of the material was acquired by George L. Smith, Sarnia historian, who collected material on the Vidal Family. He donated letters and journals from Richard Emeric and Alexander Vidal on multiple occasions between the years 1969-1983. Another primary donor to the Vidal Family fonds was Edward Phelps, Special Collections Librarian at Western University. In 1973, Phelps donated a personal collection of materials on the Vidal family including material contained in the Charlotte Vidal Nisbet series, and other diaries, letters, and personal records of the Vidals.
Series Descriptions

AFC 457-S1 Graphic Material.
[18--] - [1930].
2 albums : b&w, 70 photographs : b&w and col., 2 silhouettes , 9 objects, 3 paintings : col., 4 photographs: portrait prints, b&w, 4 photographs:ambrotype, 1 photograph: tintype

Scope and Content
This series contains graphic materials in various formats including photo albums, loose photographs, framed silhouettes, photographic printing plates, hand painted miniature portraits, publisher's prints, and miniature ambrotype portraits in leather frames. Content includes family members (Vidal, Nisbet, Wright families), portraits, houses, scenery, and the Sarnia Boy's Brigade.

AFC 457-S1-SS1 Albums.
[1864] - [ca. 1920].
2 albums : b&w

Scope and Content
This sub-series contains photograph albums featuring members of the Vidal, Nisbet, and Wright families. This sub-series contains two leather bound albums, 30cm x 25cm x 6.5cm or smaller, as well as two paper snapshot albums, 14cm x 17.5cm x 1.5cm or smaller. Prominent family members featured in the albums include Charlotte Vidal Nisbet, Henry Nisbet, Edith Nisbet, Kate Nisbet, William Vidal, and Captain Wright.

AFC 457-S1-SS2 Photographs.
[1832]-[1930].
70 photographs : b&w and col., 4 photographs : ambrotype, 20 photocopies: b&w, 1 photograph: tintype

Scope and Content
This sub-series contains photographs of individuals, scenery and the Sarnia Boy's Brigade in a variety of formats including loose photographs (b&w and col), cabinet cards, photographs mounted on cardstock, ambrotypes in miniature cases, a tintype photograph in a frame, and also photocopies on photographs.

AFC 457 S1-SS2-F3 The [Sarnia] Boy's Brigade. -- [189?-][19--]. -- 8 photographs : b&w. -- Box Number AFC 457-4

Scope and Content
This file contains eight photographs of the Boy's Brigade. All of the photographs are mounted on cardstock.

AFC 457-S1-SS2-F1 Individuals and Family Members. -- [1878]-[19-?]. -- 37 photographs : b&w. -- Box Number AFC 457-4

AFC 457-8

Scope and Content
This file contains 37 photographs (including 23 cabinet cards and one framed tintype) of individuals and family members from the Vidal and Nisbet families. Subjects include Charlotte Vidal Nisbet, Edith Nisbet, Whilman, Keith Vidal Garcheed, Catherine Vidal Garcheed, Maria Essex, Maud Henderson, A.E Wilson, Daisy Fearrell, Lil Fearrell, and Ethel Fearrell.

AFC 457-S1-SS2-F2 Scenery. -- 1832-1930. -- 26 photographs : b&w. -- Box Number AFC 457-4

Scope and Content
This file contains 26 scenic photographs taken by members of the Vidal or Nisbet families. Subjects include the Sarnia Tunnel, the Sarnia Public Library, Richard Emeric Vidal's
original log house, the Chudleigh house, Colorado scenery, a cottage lakehouse, and D. Nisbet's grave.

AFC 457-S1-SS2-F4 Ambrotypes in Cases. — [183?]-[186?]. — 4 photographs : ambrotype. -
- Box Number AFC 457-7

Scope and Content
This file contains 4 ambrotype photographs contained in foldable leather cases. Exact dates and names of those in the photographs are not provided.

AFC 457-S1-SS2-F5 Photocopies of photographs. — [Photocopied 198-?]. — 20 photocopies : b&w. — Box Number AFC 457-4

Scope and Content
This file contains photocopies of photographs from the Vidal, Nisbet and Wright Families. Subjects of the photocopied photographs include mainly people, with the exception of two photographs of buildings (the Salter house and the Sarnia Grammar School). Subjects include are Alexander Vidal, Richard Emeric Vidal, Lizzie Wright, Clara Wright, Eliza Wright, Charlotte Penrose Mitton (Mrs. R.E. Vidal), Catherine Wright (Mrs. A. Vidal), Thomas William Nisbet, Rev. George Salter, and Maria (Vidal) Salter.

AFC 457-S1-SS3 Framed Silhouettes.
[18.--].
2 silhouettes

Scope and Content
This sub-series contains two black silhouettes in frames. One silhouette is in an oval frame, and the other silhouette is in a rectangle frame. The subjects of the silhouettes are both unidentified females.

AFC 457-S1-SS4 Photographic Printing Plates.
[18--].
8 objects

Scope and Content
This sub-series contains eight photographic printing plates. The printing plates range in subject from Alexander Vidal, Captain Wright, Mrs. Wright, Richard Emeric Vidal and Charlotte Penrose Vidal. There are two unidentified printing plates; one female and one male. The photographic printing plates range in size from 9.5cm x 6.5cm x 2.5cm to 18.5cm x 12cm x 2.5cm.

AFC 457-S1-SS5 Hand-Painted Miniatures.
[18--].
3 paintings : col.

Scope and Content
This sub-series contains three hand painted portraits of people. Two of the portraits are housed in small oval frames one is loose. The subject of the first portrait in a frame is a woman, unknown. The subject of the second portrait in a frame is a male, dressed in uniform, unknown. The third painting is of a man facing backwards wearing a santa claus hat smoking a pipe.

AFC 457-S1-SS6 Publisher's Prints.
[18--].
4 portrait prints : b&w

Scope and Content
This sub-series contains publisher's prints of portraits of Vidal and Wright family members. Subjects include Jane (Leech) Wright, Admiral Alexander Thomas Emeric Vidal, Captain William Elliot Wright, Richard Emeric Vidal and Charlotte Penrose Mitton Vidal (Mrs. R.E. Vidal).
AFC 457-S1-SS7 Pressed plants.  
1864.  
1 object : 13.5x13x1cm  

Scope and Content  
This sub-series contains one object which is a foldable booklet that expands and contains 12 pressed plants/specimens. Each specimen is labelled. On the front of the booklet there is a quote about flowers and the date.
AFC 457-S2 Charlotte Vidal Nisbet.
1875-1948.
69 cm of textual records

Scope and Content
This series contains textual records created by Charlotte Vidal Nisbet. The textual records range in format from newspaper clippings, typewritten drafts of newspaper columns, photocopies of newspaper columns, indexes to her newspaper columns, poetry, biographical histories on family members and herself.

AFC 457-S2-SS1 Newspaper Material.
1934-1948.
59.5 cm of textual records

Scope and Content
This sub-series contains all of the newspaper related material written by Charlotte Vidal Nisbet. Included in this sub-series are newspaper clippings (pasted on paper), typewritten newspaper column drafts, newspaper clipping photocopies (with annotations), and newspaper column indexes that list the titles of columns and the year they were published.

AFC 457-S2-SS1-F1 Newspaper Clippings. -- 1935-1948. -- Box Number AFC 457-1
AFC 457-S2-SS1-F2 Newspaper Column Drafts. -- 1935-1947. -- Box Number AFC 457-2
AFC 457-S2-SS1-F3 Newspaper Clipping Photocopies. -- 1935-1946. -- Box Number AFC 457-1
AFC 457-S2-SS1-F4 Newspaper Column Indexes. -- 1934-1947. -- Box Number AFC 457-1

AFC 457-S2-SS2 Biographical Histories.
1906-[194?].
3 cm of textual records

Scope and Content
This sub-series contains biographical histories written by Charlotte Vidal Nisbet. Included in this sub-series is Charlotte Vidal Nisbet's autobiography entitled "Memories of a Long Life in Sarnia, Ontario", Vidal family biographical history, Wright Family biographical history, and Anna Louisa Walker Coghill biographical history.

AFC 457-S2-SS2-F1 Autobiography "Memories of a Long Life in Sarnia, Ontario". -- 1936
AFC 457-S2-SS2-F2 Vidal Family. -- 1906-194?
AFC 457-S2-SS2-F3 Wright Family. -- 1940
AFC 457-S2-SS2-F4 Anna Louisa Walker Coghill. -- 1925-1938

AFC 457-S2-SS3 Poetry.
1906-1941.
0.5 cm of textual records

Scope and Content
This sub-series contains poetry written by Charlotte Vidal Nisbet.

ARC 457-S2-SS4 Other Writings.
1875-1944.
6 cm of textual records

Scope and Content
This sub-series contains non-biographical writings by Charlotte Vidal Nisbet.
AFC 457-S3 Correspondence.  
1805-1961.  
30 cm of textual records  
Scope and Content  
This series contains textual records in the format of correspondence created and received by members of the Vidal and Nisbet families. This series contains letters, letterbooks and postcards. Prominent recipients/senders are Richard Emeric Vidal, Alexander Vidal, Charlotte Penrose Mitton Vidal, William Penrose Vidal, Catherine Vidal (Wright), Charlotte Vidal Nisbet, Thomas Nisbet, Edith Nisbet, and Kate Nisbet.

AFC 457-S3-F1 Vidal Family. -- 1805-1946. -- 2 letterbooks  
Scope and Content  
This file contains correspondence sent or received by members of the Vidal family. Prominent recipients/senders include Emeric Vidal, Charlotte Penrose Mitton Vidal, Anne Marie Penrose Mitton, Richard Emeric Vidal, Alexander Vidal (business and personal correspondence), Catherine (Wright) Vidal, Rev. James H. Vidal, and William Vidal. This file also contains two bound letter books from Alexander Vidal (1885-1887) and William Penrose Vidal (1853).

AFC 457-S3-F2 Nisbet Family. -- 1875-1960  
Scope and Content  
This file contains correspondence sent or received by members of the Nisbet family. Prominent recipients/senders include Charlotte Vidal Nisbet, Thomas Nisbet, Edith Nisbet and Kate Nisbet.

AFC 457-S3-F3 Postcards. -- 1908-1936  
Scope and Content  
This file contains correspondence in the format of postcards received by members of the Nisbet family. Primary recipients include Kate Nisbet, Edith Nisbet, and Charlotte Vidal Nisbet.

AFC 457-S3-F4 Other Correspondence. -- 1819-1961  
Scope and Content  
This file contains correspondence sent or received from people outside of the Vidal or Nisbet families. Recipients/senders include Miss Rye, Mrs. Cameron and others unnamed.
AFC 457-S4 Personal Records.
1806-1960.
4.7 cm of textual records

Scope and Content
This series contains textual records from a range of people from the Nisbet, Vidal, and Wright families. The documents range in content from letters, certificates, receipts, and newspaper clippings.

AFC 457-S4-F1 James Flintoff. -- 1860-1875
Scope and Content
This file contains personal documents from James Flintoff, ranging in content from letters, cheques, rent and other receipts.

AFC 457-S4-F2 Charlotte Vidal Nisbet. -- 1863-1939
Scope and Content
This file contains personal documents from Charlotte Vidal Nisbet, ranging in content from a miniature account book, letters, receipts, newspaper clippings and certificates.

AFC 457-S4-F3 Edith Nisbet. -- 1892-1936
Scope and Content
This file contains personal documents from Edith Nisbet, ranging in content from letters, receipts, and certificates.

AFC 457-S4-F4 Kate Nisbet. -- 1925
Scope and Content
This file contains personal documents from Kate Nisbet, containing one receipt.

AFC 457-S4-F5 Henry Nisbet. -- 1894-1952
Scope and Content
This file contains personal documents from Henry (Harry) Nisbet, ranging in content from letters, newspaper clippings, a Boy's Brigade pamphlet, and a Boy's Brigade certificate.

AFC 457-S4-F6 Thomas Nisbet. -- 1884-1947
Scope and Content
This file contains personal documents from Thomas Nisbet, ranging in content from letters, newspaper clippings, a deed of land, and a Boy's Brigade pamphlet.

AFC 457-S4-F7 James Henry Vidal. -- 1951-1960
Scope and Content
This file contains personal documents from James Henry Vidal, ranging in content from letters, obituaries, newspaper clippings, and a greeting card.

AFC 457-S4-F8 Wright Family. -- 1808-1939
Scope and Content
This file contains personal documents from the Wright family, ranging in content from letters, receipts, newspaper clippings, a wedding invitation, an estate record, and a booklet on the genealogy of the Wright family.

AFC 457-S4-F9 William Malcom Vidal. -- 1806
Scope and Content
This file contains personal documents pertaining to William Malcom Vidal, which includes the Sarnia Council Resolution regarding his drowning.
This series contains diaries created by members of the Vidal and Wright families. This series contains two bound diaries from Richard Emeric Vidal; one bound diary from Alexander Vidal; multiple transcripts of diaries from Richard Emeric Vidal and Alexander Vidal; and also loose sheets from diaries of Catherine Vidal (Wright) and Captain Wright.

**AFC 457-S5-F1 Richard Emeric Vidal. -- 1802-1853. -- Box Number AFC 457-3**
- **AFC 457-12**
- **AFC 457-13**

*Scope and Content*
This file contains diaries, excerpts from diaries, and transcripts from diaries written by Richard Emeric Vidal. Within this file there are two bound diaries. The larger of the two bound diaries is entitled "The Log of the Proceedings of His Majesty's Ship Glatton during a Voyage around the World" (1802-1803) and measures 37cm x 25cm x 5cm. The second bound diary is entitled "Narrative of a Voyage to the Moluccas" (1809-1810) and measures 18.5cm x 12.5cm x 3.5cm. Included in the excerpts/transcripts are "log from New York to Toronto", and "Visit to England".

**AFC 457-S5-F2 Alexander Vidal. -- 1834-1849. -- Box Number AFC 457-3**
- **AFC 457-12**
- **AFC 457-13**

*Scope and Content*
This file contains diaries, excerpts from diaries, and transcripts of diaries written by Alexander Vidal. Included in this file is one bound diary entitled "Proceedings of my Mission to the Indians" (1849) and measures 16cm x 20.5cm x 2cm. Included in this file is also a transcript of this bound diary composed by George Smith in 1974. This file also includes two binders of transcripts from Alexander Vidal's diaries from 1835-1843 which contain proceedings of his daily life.

**AFC 457-S5-F3 Catherine Vidal "Visit to England". -- [18--]. -- Box Number AFC 457-3**
- **AFC 457-12**
- **AFC 457-13**

*Scope and Content*
This file contains loose diary excerpts written by Catherine (Wright) Vidal, wife of Alexander Vidal. The excerpts are titled "Visit to England" and are undated. However, Alexander Vidal has diary excerpts also titled "Visit to England" and are dated 1853 which suggests they could have been written at the same time.

**AFC 457-S5-F4 Captain Wright. -- 1835. -- Box Number AFC 457-3**
- **AFC 457-12**
- **AFC 457-13**

*Scope and Content*
This file contains three loose sheets that are excerpts from a diary written by Captain Wright.

**AFC 457-S5-F5 Other Diaries. -- 1841-1913. -- Box Number AFC 457-3**
- **AFC 457-12**
- **AFC 457-13**

*Scope and Content*
This file contains diary excerpts from unknown sources.
AFC 457-S6 Family Records.
1746-1957.
17.8 cm of textual records, 12 architectural drawings

Scope and Content
This series contains textual records including land records, financial records, estate records, legal records, wills, marriage records, military records, baptismal records, shipping documents and weather charts. The land records also contain architectural drawings. These records pertain to various members from the Vidal, Nisbet, Wright, and Mitton Families.

AFC 457-S6-SS1 Land Records.
1839-1939.
1 cm of textual records, 12 architectural drawings

Scope and Content
This sub-series contains textual records and architectural drawings relating to land ownership such as land grants and land plans. These records pertain to the land plans, grants and other related matters of Alexander Vidal, Richard Emeric Vidal, Malcolm Cameron and Walter Adams.

AFC 457-S6-SS1-F1 Land Grants. -- 1839-1847
Scope and Content
This file contains the land grants for Malcolm Cameron and Walter Adams. Malcolm Cameron's land grant is dated 1847 and Walter Adam's land grant is dated 1839.

AFC 457-S6-SS1-F2 Land Plans. -- 1840-1939. -- 12 architectural drawings
Scope and Content
This file contains textual records and architectural drawings relating to land plans. Most of the documents are credited to either Richard Emeric Vidal or Alexander Vidal, however some documents are unnamed. Many of the land plans are for 273 Christina Street, Sarnia (Vidal home).

AFC 457-S6-SS2 Financial Records.
1816-1866.
4 cm of textual records

Scope and Content
This sub-series contains the financial records such as annuities, accounts and receipts from members of the Vidal and Nisbet families.

AFC 457-S6-SS2-F1 Annuities. -- 1816-1852
Scope and Content
This file contains textual records in the format of annuities. The annuities are credited to Richard Emeric Vidal, William Mitton, Timothy Essex, and Alexander Thomas Emeric Vidal.

AFC 457-S6-SS2-F2 Accounts & Receipts. -- 1835-1961
Scope and Content
This file contains textual records in the format of accounts and receipts. The financial accounts and receipts belong to members of the Vidal family, primarily Alexander Vidal.

AFC 457-S6-SS2-F3 Bank of Upper Canada. -- 1844-1866
Scope and Content
This file contains financial records relating to the Bank of Upper Canada. Alexander Vidal was the manager at this bank from 1852-1866. Within this file there are cheques, statements, receipts, and ALS pertaining to the Sarnia branch of the Bank of Upper Canada. This file also contains a historical sketch about the bank.
AFC 457-S6-SS3 Estate Records.  
1850-1901.  
4.5 cm of textual records  
Scope and Content  
This sub-series contains textual records pertaining to the estates of members of the Vidal, Wright, and Baby families. This sub-series contains records such as letters, insurance documents, value appraisals, indentures, and a Crown Sale Grant. Family members included in these documents are Richard Emeric Vidal, Alexander Vidal, Christine Cameron (insurance correspondence), Emma Harriet Fearrell, James Baby, William Baby and the Wright Family.

AFC 457-S6-SS4 Legal Records.  
1840-1957.  
5.5 cm of textual records  
Scope and Content  
This sub-series contains textual records in the format of legal records of Vidal, Nisbet, and Baby families. Family members who these records pertain to are William Baby, Edith Nisbet, Alexander Vidal, Richard Emeric Vidal and Townsend G. Vidal. Alexander Vidal has significant legal records pertaining to the Town of Sarnia and the Church Society.

AFC 457-S6-SS5 Wills.  
1834-1904.  
1 cm of textual records  
Scope and Content  
This sub-series contains textual records in the format of wills. This series contains the last will and testaments from Richard Emeric Vidal, Alexander Vidal, Emeric Alexander Vidal, Emeric Essex Vidal Esquire, Anna Maria Penrose Mitton, Mr. Mitton, Charlotte Vidal Nisbet, James Baby, and Mrs. D.B Gardner.

AFC 457-S6-SS6 Marriage Records.  
1816-1847.  
0.5 cm of textual records  
Scope and Content  
This sub-series contains marriage records for Vidal family members such as Richard Emeric Vidal, married to Charlotte Penrose Mitton and Alexander Vidal, married to Catherine Wright. The marriage record between Richard Emeric Vidal and Charlotte Penrose Mitton is likely to contain the only example of her signature.

AFC 457-S6-SS7 Military Records.  
1830-1906.  
1 cm of textual records  
Scope and Content  
This sub-series contains 7 original military documents for Thomas Nisbet, Richard Emeric Vidal and Alexander Vidal. This sub-series also contains 8 photocopies of military documents belonging to Richard Emeric Vidal and Alexander Vidal. Further, this sub-series contains two militia general orders.

AFC 457-S6-SS8 Baptismal Records.  
1746-1819.  
0.1 cm of textual records  
Scope and Content  
This sub-series contains the baptismal records for William Mitton and Charlotte Penrose Mitton. Further, there are two hand-written documents recording the dates of Richard Emeric and Alexander Vidal’s baptism.
This sub-series contains textual records in the format of shipping documents and weather charts from Richard Emeric Vidal. The shipping documents are the official records which designate Richard Emeric Vidal as the commander of the ship he was voyaging on. This sub-series also contains a "memorandum of the services of Richard Emeric Vidal" which lists the dates of his service, the names of the ships he sailed, and the stations where the ship was chiefly employed.
AFC 457-S7 Obituaries & Announcements.
1842-1959.
3 cm of textual records

Scope and Content
This series contains textual records, specifically obituaries and announcements, in the format of newspaper clippings, funeral cards, eulogies, birth announcements, wedding invitations, graduation and other invitations.

AFC 457-S7-F1 Obituaries. -- 1842-1959
Scope and Content
This file contains obituaries and other post-death related write-ups such as eulogies and a newspaper report on the drowning of Aymeric Vidal. This file contains newspaper clippings, funeral cards, and death registrars, for people such as Whilhelmine Vidal, Alexander Vidal, Herbert Valdemar Vidal, Charlotte Penrose Vidal, Fred Salter, and Dr. H. P. Wright.

AFC 457-S7-F2 Announcements. -- 1904-1959
Scope and Content
This file contains textual records in the format of various announcements and invitations. In content, the materials range from newspaper clippings of announcements (engagement, marriage), graduation ceremony invitations and programmes, birth announcements, a sunday school invitation, and wedding invitations (Daphne Nisbet, Keith Vidal Gardner, Amy Haley, Dorothy Vidal, Lynne Louise Vidal).
AFC 457-S8 Sarnia History.
1834-1961.
11.2 cm of textual records, 2 photographs : b&w

Scope and Content
This series contains primarily textual records, but two photographs are included as well. This series ranges in content from an inventory of the Vidal Museum in Sarnia, the Sarnia Foundry, Sarnia history, Sarnia churches (mainly St. Andrews Presbyterian), and Sarnia clubs & societies (ladies benevolent society, Sackville cricket club, literary society, women's historical society, and historical societies).

AFC 457-S8-SS1 Sarnia History.
1846-1955.
4.7 cm of textual records

Scope and Content
This sub-series contains material relating to Sarnia's history. Included are newspaper clippings, material on the Sarnia Foundry, owned by W. Vidal (a letter and an inventory list), and a notebook that contains an inventory of the Vidal Museum that was located at the Harry A. Nisbet property in Sarnia.

AFC 457-S8-SS1-F1 Newspaper Clippings. -- 1908 -1955
AFC 457-S8-SS1-F2 Sarnia Foundry. -- [1846-18--]
AFC 457-S8-SS1-F3 Inventory of Vidal Museum, Sarnia. -- [19--]

AFC 457-S8-SS2 Churches.
3.5 cm of textual records

Scope and Content
This sub-series contains textual records pertaining to churches in Sarnia, Ontario. Included is material on St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (programmes, letters, greeting cards, and annual reports), records on church history in Sarnia (letters, historical write-ups, and pamphlets), and newspaper clippings relating to churches in Sarnia which range in content from history, events and promotion.

AFC 457-S8-SS2-F1 St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. -- 1888-1961. -- 1 photograph
AFC 457-S8-SS2-F2 Church History. -- 1904-1959
AFC 457-S8-SS2-F3 Newspaper Clippings. -- 1922-1961

AFC 457-S8-SS3 Clubs & Societies.
1834-1946.
3 cm of textual records, 1 photograph

Scope and Content
This sub-series contains records pertaining to clubs & societies in Sarnia Ontario. Included are records on the Ladies Benevolent Society of Sarnia, the Sackville Cricket Club Literary Society, the Women's Historical Society, and Historical Societies.

AFC 457-S8-SS3-F1 Ladies Benevolent Society of Sarnia. -- 1877-1896
Scope and Content
This file contains textual records pertaining to the Ladies Benevolent Society of Sarnia. Within this file, there is a declaration for the club to become incorporated, a letter, and a membership list.

AFC 457-S8-SS3-F2 Sackville Cricket Club Literary Society. -- 1845-1868
This file contains textual records in the format of syllabus cards for Sackville Cricket Club Literary Society sessions. Content of the syllabi range from poetry, essays and debates. This file also contains an envelope addressed to Thomas Nisbet.

AFC 457-S8-SS3-F3 Women's Historical Society. -- 1834-1946

Scope and Content
This file contains textual records collected by Charlotte Vidal Nisbet pertaining to the Women's Historical Society in Sarnia which she was the President of. This file contains programmes, overviews of the past year's events, letters, historical write-ups, newspaper clippings, and a daily planner where Charlotte Vidal Nisbet tracked the events of her ancestors on the corresponding day many years before.

AFC 457-S8-SS3-F4 Historical Societies. -- 1906-1945

Scope and Content
This file contains textual records pertaining to Historical Societies in Sarnia and one photograph. This file contains a letter from the Dominion Archives in Ottawa requesting publications from the Historical Societies to be preserved, programmes, a photograph of multiple men in military uniform, a booklet highlighting many local historical societies (including Sarnia), and newspaper clippings.
AFC 457-S9 Artwork.
1807-1909.
1 scrapbook, 19 paintings

Scope and Content
This series contains graphic materials in the format of sketches and artwork. This series contains loose sketches/artwork and an artwork scrapbook created by members of the Vidal and Nisbet families. Content of the artwork includes scenery, houses, and boats. Mediums of the artwork includes watercolor painting, pencil, and pen sketches. Credited contributors (signed artwork) include Kate Nisbet, Richard Emeric Vidal, Alexander Vidal, and Charlotte Vidal Nisbet.

AFC 457-S9-F1 Scrapbook. -- [19--?]. -- Box Number AFC 457-15

AFC 457-S9-F2 Houses. -- [1862?-1882]. -- Box Number AFC 457-6
Scope and Content
This file contains graphic material in the format of artwork ranging in medium from water colour, pencil sketch and ink sketch. This file contains artwork that primarily features house portraits with some landscape in the background. The water colour house portrait is titled "Mr Nisbet's home, Sarnia Ont 1882". One of the pencil sketches is labeled "from Chattie", signifying that Charlotte Vidal Nisbet is the artist. Another pencil sketch is labeled "K. Vidal 1869". One of the ink sketches is labeled "unfinished sketch by F.A. Starin". Other pieces are not identified.

AFC 457-S9-F3 Scenery. -- [18-?] - [192-?]. -- Box Number AFC 457-6
Scope and Content
This file contains graphic materials in the format of artwork. The artwork depicts images of scenery and ranges in medium from pencil sketch to watercolour painting. One of the watercolour paintings is titled "The Narrows, Stankley Park Vancouver B.C" by WJB., undated. Another is titled "Kate Nisbet Original", undated. Another is labelled E.J.G Vidal, undated. One of the pencil sketches is labelled "for Aunt Cam with Sophie Salter's love" 1867. Other pieces of artwork are unidentified and undated.

AFC 457-S9-F4 Boats. -- 1824 -1833. -- Box Number AFC 457-6
Scope and Content
This file contains graphic materials in the format of artwork that ranges in medium from pencil sketch, ink sketch and watercolour painting. This file contains artwork that depicts boats. The watercolour paining is titled "H.M Revenue-Cutter The Eagle" by Richard Emeric Vidal in 1824. The three pencil sketches are labeled A. Vidal (Alexander Vidal) and one is dated 1833, the other two undated. The ink sketch is untitled and undated.
AFC 457-S10 Other Related Materials.
12 cm of textual records, 1 object, 1 scrapbook

Scope and Content
This series contains printed materials (brochures, pamphlets, programmes), newspaper clippings, religious tracts, notebooks, school attendance records, other Vidal history, documents on Lambton County M.P's, and an envelope containing several layers of gold leaf.

AFC 457-S10-F1 Printed material. -- 1835 -1955. -- 1 object ; ribbon
Scope and Content
This file contains textual records in the format of promotional or public materials and one object which is a ribbon for the "union prohibition convention 1893". These printed materials range from pamphlets, programmes, a newsletter, greeting cards, a stock share list, a livestock/poultry survey, a hymn book (Spanish), and an award ribbon.

AFC 457-S10-F2 Newspaper Clippings. -- 1868 -1959
Scope and Content
This file contains newspaper clippings, which range in content from Vidal family deaths, Vidal family marriages, the Bank of Upper Canada, the settler history of Richard Emeric Vidal, other Vidal history, and miscellaneous articles collected by Charlotte Vidal Nisbet.

AFC 457-S10-F3 Religious Tracts. -- [189-] - [194-]
Scope and Content
This file contains religious tracts that range in size from 10.5cm x 6.5cm to 17.5cm x 10cm.

AFC 457-S10-F4 Notebooks. -- [18--] - 1932
Scope and Content
This file contains notebooks including one notebook containing mathematical information, a second notebook (1932) belonging to Charlotte Vidal Nisbet, titled "memo book", a third notebook (undated) belonging to Jack Kerrigan, titled "geography".

AFC 457-S10-F5 School Attendance Records. -- 1916 -1917
Scope and Content
This file contains unidentified school attendance records ranging in date from 1916-1917. There is a report card inside one of the attendance records and is credited to "Billy F".

AFC 457-S10-F6 Other Vidal History. -- 1827-1980. -- 1 scrapbook ; 3.5 cm
Scope and Content
This file contains textual records that pertain to general Vidal family history as well as a scrapbook that contains newspaper clippings on Vidal family history. This file primarily contains research/notes that Charlotte Vidal Nisbet has done on her family history. Further, there is a death certificate, letters, a Vidal family tree/biographical history written by Ken Yates in 1980, and various envelope letterheads. The scrapbook was not assembled by Charlotte Vidal Nisbet as it contains newspaper clippings on her death.

AFC 457-S10-F7 Lambton County M.P.s. -- [1890?] - [1940?]
Scope and Content
This file contains textual records in the format of handwritten notes pertaining to Lambton County Members of Parliament.

AFC 457-S10-F8 Gold Leaf. -- [190-] - [195-]
Scope and Content
This file contains an unidentified / undated envelope containing several layers of gold leaf. The envelope has an address written on it: "London, ON N6A 3K7".