



WESTERN ARCHIVES

FINDING AID FOR

Abbott Brothers Carriage Works fonds

AFC 471

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AFC 471

Abbott Brothers Carriage Works fonds.
1864-1886.
1 volume

Biographical Sketch/Administrative History

Abbott Brothers Carriage Works: Samuel William Abbott (born 1840) and Hodson Gunning Abbot (born 1841) were brothers from Castlebar, Ireland. Their parents were Alexander Samuel Abbott and Dorinda (née Ruxton) Abbott. They were Wesleyan Methodists. The family moved to London, Ontario, Canada and began Abbott Brother's Carriage Works, manufacturing carriages and delivery wagons. The company was located at 308-316 Dundas Street.

In 1864, Hodson Gunning Abbott married Elizabeth Beattie and they had five children together. Elizabeth died in 1872. He remarried Emily Hunt in 1876 and they had several children before Emily died in 1901. He remarried a final time in 1910 to Eva Mae Francis. Hodson Gunning Abbott and his family lived at the company buildings.

Samuel William Abbott married Maria Louisa Cohoon in 1870. He started the carriage company with his brother but eventually left the company around 1883 to work as a bookkeeper for McCormick Manufacturing Co. After he left, the company mostly went by H.G. Abbott Carriage Company.

In 1883, Hodson Gunning Abbott's son, Frederick A. Abbott (born 1865) also began to work for the carriage company and boarded separately from the family in the company buildings. He worked mostly as a painter. By 1886, he had stopped working for the company in order to attend school and became an elocution professor in 1890.

In 1887, Hodson Gunning Abbott's son, William Abbott (born 1869) became the new painter for the carriage company. By 1900, he had become the manager. After Hodson Gunning Abbott's death in 1921, he took over the company.

The company ceased operations in 1925.

Scope and Content

Fonds consist of business records used by Abbott Brother's Carriage Works. This includes the company's order book, accounts and handbill, and illustrations and diagrams. For a detailed transcription of contents, see the preliminary finding aid.

Series Descriptions

AFC 471-S1 Business Records.

1864-1886.

1 volume

Scope and Content

Series consists of the order book, accounts and handbill, and illustrations and diagrams. The order book records dates, customer names, order information and prices. Illustrations and diagrams consist of carriage, wagon and sleigh sketches.

AFC 471-S1-F1 Order Book. -- 1868-1886. -- 1 volume. -- Box Number AFC 471-1

AFC 471-S1-F2 Accounts and Handbill. -- 1864. -- 1 volume. -- Box Number AFC 471-1