

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

WESTERN ARCHIVES



THE DONALD MACKENZIE CAMERON FONDS

AFC 63

Inventory prepared by Alison Mitchell-Reid, based on student finding aid project(s) undertaken in partial fulfilment of archives course requirements - November 2009

WESTERN ARCHIVES

**THE DONALD MACKENZIE CAMERON FONDS
AFC 63**

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THE DONALD MACKENZIE CAMERON FONDS
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FONDS DESCRIPTION

Dates

1869 - 1905

Extent and Material

19 cm of textual records

2 volumes of textual records

Biographical Sketch

Donald MacKenzie Cameron was born in Dingwall, Scotland on November 11, 1843. Moving to Canada in 1859, Cameron married Victoria Gooderham (b. 2 April 1846). In addition to Lillian (b. 1874), Victoria's daughter from her previous marriage to Robert Wilson, the couple had four children:

Victoria Cameron Routledge (b. 27 Feb. 1876)

Kenneth Cameron (b. 1 Nov. 1880)

Norman Cameron (b. 7 Jan. 1882)

Evan Cameron (b. 18 May 1885)

After working as a reporter for the London, Ontario *Prototype* and the Toronto *Globe* newspapers, Donald Cameron took over his father's Strathroy, Ontario shoe store in the 1860s. He served as Deputy Reeve and Reeve of Strathroy between 1878 and 1883, and was elected Liberal Member of Parliament for West Middlesex in an 1883 by-election. Cameron was defeated in the federal election of 1887.

Cameron left his family shoe store, Cameron and Son, in 1894 and the family moved to London, Ontario. He was appointed Sheriff of Middlesex County in 1894 – a position he would hold for 27 years. Beginning in 1897, he served for 20 years as President of the London and Middlesex County Children's Aid Society. Cameron was also active in lobbying railway companies to extend routes through rural South-western Ontario towns.

After Victoria Gooderham Cameron died in December, 1922, Sheriff Cameron remained at the family home in London until 1926. He then moved in with his son Kenneth in Ottawa, where he lived until his death on May 12, 1936. Donald MacKenzie Cameron and his wife are interred in the mausoleum at London's Woodland Cemetery.

Scope and Content

The fonds consists of materials related to Cameron's business activities and personal life. Included are legal and financial records, correspondence, and miscellaneous documents.

Arrangement

The fonds is arranged into the following series:

- Series 1 Family correspondence
- Series 2 Business correspondence
- Series 3 Legal and administrative documents
- Series 4 Financial documents
- Series 5 Miscellaneous documents
- Series 6 Cameron & Son business documents

Finding Aids

File and item lists are available.

Related Material

Western Archives has many records from the Middlesex County Sheriff that cover D.M. Cameron's time in that office. Box numbers are included in the list below:

- Cash books X196-199
- Day books X153-176
- Fee books X189-190
- Ledgers X191-195
- Petit cash books B48
- Record of fees due B37

Conditions Governing Access

No restrictions on access.

THE DONALD MACKENZIE CAMERON FONDS
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SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS

Series 1 Family correspondence

Dates

1902-1905

Extent

4 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

Series consists of letters to Donald MacKenzie Cameron from two of his sons, Kenneth and Evan. Also included are letters from Col. R. Reade of the Royal Military College of Canada regarding Keith and Evan's attendance there. Family attendance records, report cards and receipts are also included.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Letters family – undated	[ca. 1905]	B4014-1
Letters family – 1902-1905	1902-1905	B4014-2
Letters & undated correspondence (family)	[ca. 1905]	B4014-22

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Series 2 General correspondence

Dates

1889-1912

Extent

6 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

This series consists of correspondence and other documents related to Cameron's involvement with the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Strathroy Collegiate Institute. Letters from the man who had been contracted to maintain the family cottage near Sarnia are also included.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Correspondence 1889-1898	1889-1898	B4014-23
General accounts, letters, 1896-1898	1896-1898	B4014-18
General accounts, letters, 1899	1899	B4014-19
General accounts, letters, 1900-1912	1900-1912	B4014-20

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Series 3 Legal and administrative documents

Dates

1893-1905

Extent

3 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

Series consists of legal and administrative documents relating to Cameron's personal property and business. Included are indentures, a blank mortgage form, and petitions, acts, votes, and proceedings regarding the proposed Canadian National railroad through Arkona, Ontario.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Administrative records, indentures – 1893-1905	1893-1905	B4014-4
Administrative records, railway petitions 1900	1900	B4014-5
Administrative records, acts, votes, and proceedings 1897-1899	1897-1899	B4014-6

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SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS

Series 4 Financial documents

Dates

1893-1902

Extent

2 folders of textual records

Scope and Content

Series consists of financial records of Donald MacKenzie Cameron's personal life. The records include property tax documents from Sarnia and Strathroy, as well as receipts for goods and services.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
General accounts, taxes & assessment notices 1893-1902	1893-1902	B4014-7
General accounts, statements & accounts 1893-1898	1893-1898	B4014-8

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SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS

Series 5 Miscellaneous documents

Dates

1887-1898

Extent

4 folders of textual records

Scope and Content

Series consists of sketches and correspondence related to building plans and Cameron's Lake Shore Cottage in Sarnia, Ontario. Receipts, letters, copies of subpoenas, and a catalogue section are included. Records relating to Samuel Carroll, supported by Cameron after being accused of perjury in 1887, are also included.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
General accounts, property & building plans.	[ca. 1890]	B4014-11
General accounts, Lakeshore Cottage papers 1895-1896	1895-1896	B4014-12
General accounts, Samuel Carroll papers 1887-1898	1887-1898	B4014-13
General accounts, T. Eaton Co. Catalogue pages, ca. 1897	[1897?]	B4014-21

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SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS**

Series 6 Cameron & Son business documents

Dates

1869-1895

Extent

3 folders of textual records
2 volumes of textual records

Scope and Content

Series consists of correspondence, a ledger, and an account book from the Cameron & Son Shoe Company. The ledger records transactions, sorted by customer. The account book lists credit and cash transactions by date.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Cameron & Son (Wm. & Donald M) Strathroy, Boots & Shoes (dealers in) Ledger, 1869-1883 [vol.]	1869-1883	B4014
Cameron, D.M., account book [vol.]	1891-1895	B4014
General accounts, letters, undated	[ca. 1880]	B4014-14
General accounts, letters, 1872-1890	1872-1890	B4014-15
General accounts, letters, 1891	1891	B4014-16
General accounts, letters, 1892-1895	1892-1895	B4014-17