

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

WESTERN ARCHIVES



THE JOSEPH SIDDALL FAMILY FONDS

AFC 66

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

**WESTERN ARCHIVES
AFC 66
THE JOSEPH SIDDALL FAMILY FONDS**

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THE JOSEPH SIDDALL FAMILY FONDS
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FONDS DESCRIPTION

Dates

1850-1912

Extent

7 folders

18 volumes

Biographical Sketch

John Siddall and his wife Diana Rowden immigrated from London, England and settled, in the early 1830s, at a site on the boundary between London and Lobo townships, approximately five miles from Lucan, Ontario. Here John Siddall built a grist mill in 1832, thereby founding the village of Siddallsville. The grist mill was expanded to include woolen and saw mills, as well as a brewery and distillery.

The mill, farm, and associated businesses were inherited by various of Siddall's sons. The second son, Joseph Siddall (b. 21 Jan. 1824), was active as a grain merchant in Parkhill by 1865, when he was in partnership with R.H. O'Neil of Lucan and William Shoults of Parkhill. Joseph also served as a justice of the peace for Lobo Township, as well as treasurer of West Williams Township. Joseph married Jane O'Neil (b. 1832) in the early 1850s. Jane died in September, 1859. Joseph and Jane had three children:

Loezia Siddall (May 1854 – 14 July 1854)

Melissa Siddall (b. 11 Oct. 1855)

Robert Henry (Harry) Siddall (b. 21 Aug. 1857)

There was a fire at John Siddalls' grist mill in 1867; his son Joseph rebuilt it two years later. In 1877, Joseph opened the "J. Siddall and Son" bank in Lucknow, Ontario in partnership with his son Harry. Affiliated with Molson's Bank of London, Ontario, J. Siddall and Son moved to Galt, Ontario and eventually closed in the mid-1880s.

Throughout their time as bankers, the Joseph and Harry Siddall continued to run the mill or to rent it out. The family moved back to Siddallsville in the early 1880's, turning their focus again to the family mill. The mill burned again in 1883, and was rebuilt the following year; in the 1890s the Siddalls tried to sell it, apparently unsuccessfully. The family continued to operate the mill until a flood destroyed the dam in 1907.

Joseph and his two children resided together in Siddallsville as late as 1908; there is no evidence that either Melissa or Harry ever married. Harry gained a local reputation as a horse breeder, but the businesses did not prosper. Joseph died at home on his 95th birthday in 1909, and is buried at St. George's Anglican cemetery in London Township. Harry and Melissa's activities following the death of their father are unknown.

Scope and Content

This fonds contains personal, business, administrative and educational records of the family of Joseph Siddall. Documents relating to the Siddall family mills, the Siddall family bank, and Joseph's Siddall's employment as justice of the peace and township treasurer are included. Personal correspondence and educational documents are also included.

Arrangement

The fonds is arranged into the following series:

Series 1: Joseph Siddall public office documents

Series 2: Siddall family mill business documents

Sub-series 2.1: Siddall family mill ledgers

Sub-series 2.2: Siddall family mill purchase ledgers

Sub-series 2.3: Siddall family mill account books

Sub-series 2.4: Siddall family mill specialized account books

Sub-series 2.5: Siddall family mill day book

Sub-series 2.6: Siddall family mill bill book

Sub-series 2.7: Siddall family mill letterbooks

Sub-series 2.8: Siddall family mill miscellaneous documents

Series 3: J. Siddall and Son bank business documents

Series 4: Siddall family personal documents

Finding Aids

File and item lists are available.

Custodial History

The fonds appears to have remained in the Siddall family until its donation to the University of Western Ontario in 1939.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Donated by Harry Siddall in 1939.

Conditions Governing Access

No restrictions on access.

**THE JOSEPH SIDDALL FAMILY FONDS
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SERIES DESCRIPTIONS and FILE LISTS**

Series 1 Joseph Siddall public office documents

Dates

1859-1869

Extent

1 folder

Scope and Content

This series contains legal documents and witness reports relating to Joseph Siddall's position as justice of the peace at Lobo and Park Hill, Ontario. One liquor licence, from Joseph Siddall's time as treasurer of the Municipality of West Williams, Ontario, is included.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Joseph Siddall Justice of the Peace and other legal documents	1859-1869	B4067-10

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Series 2 Siddall family mill business documents

Dates

1850-1910

Extent

2 folders

17 volumes

Scope and Content

This series contains business documents relating to Joseph and Robert Henry Siddall's milling businesses. Documents and correspondence detailing operations at the Siddall family mills in Parkhill, Siddallsville, and Denfield are included.

Arrangement

The series is arranged into the following sub-series:

Sub-series 2.1: Siddall family mill ledgers

Sub-series 2.2: Siddall family mill purchase ledgers

Sub-series 2.3: Siddall family mill account books

Sub-series 2.4: Siddall family mill specialized account books

Sub-series 2.5: Siddall family mill day book

Sub-series 2.6: Siddall family mill bill book

Sub-series 2.7: Siddall family mill letterbooks

Sub-series 2.8: Siddall family mill miscellaneous documents

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Sub-series 2.1 Siddall family mill ledgers

Dates

1879-1905

Extent

3 volumes

Scope and Content

This sub-series contains ledgers relating to Joseph and Robert Henry Siddall's milling businesses. Ledgers detailing operations at the Siddall family mills in Siddallsville and Denfield are included.

Item List

Title	Dates	Box/Volume
Ledger 1880-1884 [vol.]	1880-1884	B4066-11
R.H. Siddall ledger 1889-1905 [vol.]	1889-1905	B4067-5
Journal 1879-1882 business [vol.]	1879-1882	B4066-10

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Sub-series 2.2 Siddall family mill purchase ledgers

Dates

1858-1875

Extent

5 volumes

Scope and Content

This sub-series contains purchase ledgers relating to Joseph and Robert Henry Siddall's milling businesses. Purchase ledgers detailing operations at the Siddall family mills in Park Hill, Siddallsville and Denfield are included.

Item List

Title	Dates	Box
J. Siddall 1858-1865 purchase ledger [vol.]	1858-1865	X1666-1667
J. Siddall 1866-68 purchase ledger [vol.]	1866-1868	X1666-1667
Joseph Siddall 1868-9 purchase ledger [vol.]	1868-1869	X1666-1667
J. Siddall 1869-71 purchase ledger [vol.]	1869-1871	X1666-1667
J. Siddall 1872-75 purchase ledger [vol.]	1872-1875	X1666-1667

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Sub-series 2.3 Siddall family mill account books

Dates

1850-1861, 1885-1891

Extent

4 volumes

Scope and Content

This sub-series contains account books relating to Joseph and Robert Henry Siddall's milling businesses. Account books detailing operations at the Siddall family mills in Park Hill, Siddallsville and Denfield are included.

Item List

Title	Dates	Box/Volume
J. Siddall A/C book 1850-1854 [vol.]	1850-1854	B4066-7
J. Siddall A/C book 1850-1861 [vol.]	1850-1861	B4066-8
Siddall's mills A/C book 1885-1888 [vol.]	1885-1888	B4067-3
Siddall's mills A/C book 1886-1891 [vol.]	1886-1891	B4067-4

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Sub-series 2.4 Siddall family mill specialized account books

Dates

1858-1864, 1877-1884

Extent

2 volumes

Scope and Content

This sub-series contains specialized account books relating to Joseph and Robert Henry Siddall's milling businesses. A distillery account book and grain account book, detailing operations at the Siddall family mills in Parkhill and Siddallsville, are included.

Item List

Title	Dates	Box/Volume
Distillery account book [vol.]	1858-1864	B4066-4
Grain book 1877-1884 [vol.]	1877-1884	B4066-9

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Sub-series 2.5 **Siddall family mill day book**

Dates

1880-1885

Extent

1 volumes

Scope and Content

This sub-series contains a day book relating to Joseph and Robert Henry Siddall's milling business at the Siddall family mill in Siddallsville.

Item List

Title	Dates	Box/Volume
Daybook 1880-1885 R.H. Siddall [vol.]	1880-1885	B4067-1

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Sub-series 2.6 Siddall family mill bill book

Dates

1884-1897

Extent

1 volumes

Scope and Content

This sub-series contains a bill book relating to Joseph and Robert Henry Siddall's milling businesses. This bill book details operations at the Siddall family mills in Siddallsville and Denfield.

Item List

Title	Dates	Box/Volume
Billbook 1884-1897 [vol.]	1884-1897	B4067-2

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Sub-series 2.7 **Siddall family mill letter books**

Dates

1888-1910

Extent

2 volumes

Scope and Content

This sub-series contains letter books relating to Joseph and Robert Henry Siddall's milling businesses. These letter books detail business correspondence for the Siddall family mills in Siddallsville and Denfield.

Item List

Title	Dates	Box/Volume
Letter book 1888-1900 [vol.]	1888-1900	B4067-6
Letter book 1900-1910 [vol.]	1900-1910	B4067-7

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Sub-series 2.8 Siddall family mill miscellaneous documents

Dates

1865-1868, 1877-1900

Extent

2 folders

Scope and Content

This sub-series contains miscellaneous documents relating to Joseph and Robert Henry Siddall's milling businesses. Correspondence, receipts, and other documents detailing operations at the Siddall family mills in Park Hill, Siddallsville, and Denfield are included.

File List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Siddall business documents Park Hill from old A/C book	1865-1868	B4066-2
Miscellaneous business papers	1877-1900	B4066-6

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Series 3 J. Siddall and Son bank business documents

Dates

1868-1887

Extent

3 cm of textual records
1 volume

Scope and Content

This series contains documents relating to the J. Siddall and Son bank in Lucknow, Ontario. Included are bank books and records, cancelled cheques, and a teller's book.

File and Item List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Bank vouchers, books, etc.	1868-1884	B4066-3
Siddalls's Bank cancelled cheques	1877-1878	B4066-1
Teller blotter Siddall's Bank [vol.]	1877-1887	X1666-1667

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Series 4 Siddall family personal documents

Dates

1877-1912

Extent

5 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

This series contains correspondence, school notes, and other documents relating to the personal lives of Joseph Siddall and his two children, Robert Henry Siddall and Melissa Siddall.

File and Item List

Title	Dates	Box/File
Miscellaneous Siddall family financial and insurance papers	1877-1912	B4066-5
Melissa Siddall notebook and composition – Hellmuth College	1877	B4067-8
Robert Henry Siddall school books and letters of reference	1879-1883	B4067-9
Letters between Joseph Siddall and Robert Henry Siddall	1879	B4067-11