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# Records Relating to the War of 1812 at the Archives of Ontario

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**213** Research  
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## 1. Introduction

Between 1812 and 1814, Upper Canada was the major theatre of operations in the war between Great Britain and the United States. All but a handful of the land battles were fought in Upper Canada or along the American side of the St. Lawrence, Niagara and Detroit Rivers. Many of the individuals who played important roles in the government and economy of the province in later years first came to prominence during the war, including John Beverley Robinson and Bishop John Strachan. The War of 1812 was a destructive conflict that damaged the limited infrastructure of the province and disrupted the main agricultural economy for three years. At the same time, the war led to the development of a provincial patriotism and nationalism that grafted the successful defence of Upper Canada to the existing Loyalist tradition.

The holdings of the Archives of Ontario relating to the war are rich and diverse. They include original private correspondence from contemporaries and official records relating to the administration of justice in wartime. Other materials in the custody of the Archives document how later generations perceived the war.

This guide will provide researchers with a brief synopsis of each of the fonds held by the Archives with a connection to the war. The guide has been divided into sections for the purpose of clarity. At the end of the document, links to the more detailed descriptions in the Archives Descriptive Database are provided.

The guide does not include reference to material that is held only as microfilm copies or photocopies of original records.

A [web exhibit](#) about the War of 1812 has been mounted on the Archives of Ontario website. It features many of the fonds and collections described in this document.

## **2. The Participants:**

The majority of the material held by the Archives of Ontario relating to the War of 1812 is original correspondence written by those who lived through the conflict. These letters provide an invaluable source of information on the life of Upper Canadian civilians and soldiers during wartime. They also provide some insight into the views of American citizens. Much of this correspondence would today be considered official records, yet the records were retained by local officials and militia officers amongst their personal papers, and now can be found in the following fonds.

### **F 17 William Baldwin Family fonds**

William Baldwin (1775-1844) was a lawyer and businessman in Upper Canada during the war. Most of the correspondence concerned with the War of 1812 in this fonds relates to the war's effect on the state of business in the province.

### **F 20 Henry John Boulton fonds**

Henry John Boulton (1790-1870) was a member of the Legislative Assembly for Upper Canada, and served as Solicitor-General and Attorney-General for Upper Canada. The records include correspondence on life in Upper Canada during the War of 1812.

### **F 37 Mackenzie-Lindsay family fonds**

William Lyon Mackenzie (1795-1861) was a newspaperman and politician in Upper Canada and leader of the Rebellion of 1837. There are a few letters in the fonds relating to the destruction of the original Brock's Monument in 1840 during the final stages of the Rebellion.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

### **F 43 Thomas Ridout family fonds**

Thomas G. Ridout (1754-1829) served as a militia officer throughout the War of 1812, primarily in the commissariat or supply department. His family letters for the period 1812-1815 are a great source of information on the impact of the war on individuals and their families. There are also first-hand descriptions of the battles at Queenston Heights and at Chrysler's Farm. The Thomas Ridout fonds is considered the Archives' most significant holding relating to the War of 1812 because of its breadth of coverage of the war.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

#### **F 44 John Beverley Robinson family fonds**

John Beverley Robinson (1791-1863) served as a militia officer during the War of 1812 and as the Acting Attorney-General through most of the conflict. He served as the lead in the prosecution of those accused of Treason in 1814 for aiding the American invaders. The correspondence in this fonds is very informative on the general administration of justice and the investigation of treason.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

#### **F 429 Duncan Clark fonds**

Duncan Clark (1785-1862) was a militia officer and fur trader who served during the War of 1812. Included are records describing the action at the battle of Lundy's Lane and the siege of Fort Erie. Also included is a poem written by Duncan Clark on 25 July 1814, entitled "The Battle of Lundy's Lane."

#### **F 440 John Norton fonds**

John Norton (fl. 1790-1821) was a leader of the Mohawks of the Grand River during the War of 1812. Norton achieved the rank of Major in the conflict. Most of the documents relating to the war are testimonials to his service.

#### **F 483 Ford family fonds**

Nathan Ford (1763-1829) was an American citizen who lived in Ogdensburg, New York during the War of 1812. His family correspondence comments on the insecurity of civilian life in wartime and on the activities of his neighbours in providing supplies to the British Army in Upper Canada, Ogdensburg being a major wartime smuggling depot. The fonds is a vital source of information on wartime conditions along the frontier and the way that trade frequently trumped security during this war.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

#### **F 504 Urquhart family fonds**

This fonds documents the activities of a farm family in Glengarry County, Upper Canada in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. It includes several documents relating to militia service during the War of 1812.

#### **F 515 Gilkison family fonds**

William Gilkison (1777-1833) served as an assistant quartermaster-general with the rank of Captain in the War of 1812. The fonds includes militia documents relating to his service during the war.

#### **F 536 Joel Stone family fonds**

Joel Stone (1749-1833) was a businessman and militia officer in Gananoque, Upper Canada, who served in the local forces throughout the war. The correspondence and reports found in his papers relate to the issue of supply and defence along the line of the

St. Lawrence River. After the war, Stone worked as a Commissioner under the Alien Act, to review cases of suspected disloyalty during the conflict.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

#### **F 542 Robert Nelles family fonds**

Robert Nelles (1761-1842) was a local official and landowner in the Niagara area during the War of 1812. Most of the war-related records in this fonds are concerned with the experiences of his son Captain Henry Nelles, who was a prisoner of war in the United States after the Battle of Lundy's Lane.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

#### **F 543 Abraham Nelles family fonds**

Abraham Nelles (1775-1839) was a surveyor, militia officer and member of the Legislative Assembly. He served throughout the War of 1812. His correspondence relates to concerns such as obtaining supplies for the British and Canadian troops, damage to his property, and the administration of the local militia. There are also records of his work as a Commissioner under the Alien Act after the war.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

#### **F 547 Samuel Street fonds**

Samuel Street (1775-1844) was a lawyer and moneylender in the Niagara area. The records include material documenting the damage to Street's property during the American occupation of the Niagara region in 1813 and 1814.

#### **F 548 John Macdonell fonds**

John Macdonell (1768-1850) was a fur trader and militia officer. The fonds includes a few militia orders and some correspondence relating to the American attack on York (Toronto) in 1813.

#### **F 549 George Crookshank fonds**

George Crookshank (1773-1859) was a businessman, office holder, and politician in York (Toronto) during the early 19th century. Crookshank served as the Assistant Commissary General during the war, and his fonds includes several letters concerned with the supply issue in the Northwest. There is also correspondence relating to rumours of peace (1813) and speculation on the actual peace talks at Ghent in the fall of 1814.

#### **F 556 Ely Playter fonds**

Ely Playter (fl. 1801-1853) was a farmer and militia officer near York (Toronto) during the War of 1812. He left a diary that details much of the day-to-day life during the war, and provides interesting information on the impact of the 1813 American raid on York on the townsfolk.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

**F 662 William Hamilton Merritt family fonds**

William Hamilton Merritt (1793-1862) served as a Captain in the Company of Provincial Dragoons (cavalry) during the War of 1812. Of particular interest in his correspondence are the letters he exchanged with his future wife Catherine Prendergast, while he was a prisoner of war in the United States after the Battle of Lundy's Lane. Also of interest is the material relating to the construction and rededication of the new Brock's Monument at Queenston Heights in the 1840s and 1850s. As a leading businessman of the province and a veteran, Merritt played a major role in that project.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

**F 902 William Marr Button family fonds**

The William Marr Button family lived in Markham Township, York County during the 19th century and was involved in politics, the military and land development. The fonds includes York Militia orders dating from 1812 to 1815.

**F 917 David Kinnear fonds**

Lieutenant David Kinnear was a British Army officer who served in Spain, France, and Bermuda during the Napoleonic Wars and in North America during the War of 1812. The fonds consists of Kinnear's personal diary. The diary makes references to the Napoleonic Wars and the War of 1812, including the burning of Washington.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

**F 955 Gordon Drummond fonds**

General Sir Gordon Drummond (1772-1854) served as the senior British military commander in Upper Canada during the last year of the War of 1812. In the absence of the Lieutenant Governor of the province, he was also the acting President of the Executive Council, or head of the government. The fonds consists of copies of outgoing correspondence sent by Drummond's civil secretary, R.R. Loring. The correspondence deals mainly with matters of civil government, but there are some items concerned with militia orders and related issues.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

**F 983 John Strachan fonds**

John Strachan (1778-1867), first Anglican Bishop of Toronto, took a leading part in promoting the defence of the province during the War of 1812. The records in this fonds document his efforts to raise morale and promote the welfare of militiamen and their families through the Loyal and Patriotic Society of Upper Canada.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

**F 1107 John Galt fonds**

John Galt (1779-1839) was a novelist and a founder of the Canada Company. The records include correspondence relating to Galt's claims for compensation for damage to his property during the War of 1812.

**F 2128 Jacques Duperon Baby family fonds**

Jacques (James) Duperon Baby (1762-1833) was a public servant, office holder, judge, landowner and a militia officer. The records include accounts of his experiences during the War of 1812 and claims for compensation for damage to his property.

**F 4140 Battle of Lundy's Lane Letter**

This single document is a letter dated 30 March 1815 from an American Lieutenant, C. Blake, to his brother describing his experience at the Battle of Lundy's Lane.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

**3. General Collections**

Over the years, the Archives of Ontario has obtained many miscellaneous records collected by organizations or individuals interested in a specific geographic area or subject. The Archives itself has compiled several miscellaneous collections to organize the many single items that have been received from donors. Some of these include records relating to the War of 1812.

**F 378 Hiram Walker collection**

The Hiram Walker Collection contains many records relevant to the history of southwestern Ontario, which were originally collected by the Hiram Walker Museum in Windsor. There are a few documents in the collection that relate to the War of 1812.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

**F 775 Miscellaneous collection**

This is a chronologically arranged general collection compiled by the Archives of Ontario. It includes a number of documents relating to the surrender of Fort Detroit to General Brock in 1812. There are also some militia documents.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

**F 895 Military History collection**

This collection consists of a group of miscellaneous records that are arranged chronologically, including a number of documents relating to the War of 1812. Most interesting amongst these is a Journal of a Staff Officer, which records most of the major military actions in the Niagara area in 1813-1814. Another item of note is a prize list for militiamen who participated in the capture of Fort Detroit in 1812.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

#### **F 992 Lee Pritzker collection**

This scrapbook contains many newspaper clippings germane to the War of 1812 and Napoleonic wars. It is an interesting snapshot of how war news was distributed in the early 19th century.

## **4. Remembering the War**

A number of fonds at the Archives of Ontario document the careers of historians and organizations with an interest in the War of 1812.

#### **F 1076 William Kirby fonds**

William Kirby (1817-1906) was a novelist, historian and preservationist. The fonds includes correspondence between Kirby and The Lundy's Lane Historical Society regarding monuments and memorials about the War of 1812. There is a file on his efforts to protect War of 1812 battlefields and forts in the Niagara area from destruction. There is also a file of correspondence with Colonel James Fitzgibbon regarding his role in the war and the Battle of Beaver Dams. In addition, Kirby was in contact with Sarah Ann Curzon and Emma A. Currie, authors of works on Laura Secord.

#### **F 1081 Ferdinand Brock Tupper fonds**

Ferdinand Brock Tupper (b. 1795), Sir Isaac Brock's nephew, wrote biographies of General Brock and compiled research material and correspondence on his life. The fonds includes correspondence with participants in the war such as James Fitzgibbon, J.B. Robinson and General Roger Hale Sheaffe. As part of his research, Tupper collected a few original letters relating to the War of 1812.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

#### **F 1137 The Lundy's Lane Historical Society fonds**

The Lundy's Lane Historical Society (founded 1887) was established to commemorate the War of 1812 and the Niagara area through historical publications and markers. The records at the Archives of Ontario include posters, pamphlets and other materials concerned with the events and programs organized by the Society.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

#### **F 1151 Brock Monument Committee fonds**

The Brock Monument Committee (established 1840) was formed to organize the reconstruction of Brock's Monument following the destruction of the original structure in the aftermath of the 1837 Rebellion. The records include accounts of donations and expenditures, correspondence, minutes and resolutions, resolutions from First Nations and some material on design ideas for the new tower, completed in the 1850s.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

### **F 1194 C.H.J. Snider fonds**

C.H.J. Snider (1879-1971) was a journalist and historian who wrote articles for the Toronto Telegram on Great Lakes marine topics and the general history of Ontario. His columns, Schooner Days and Faded Flag of Fadeless Fame, include many accounts of incidents from the War of 1812.

## **5. Government**

Overall responsibility for managing the war effort fell on the imperial government in London, as represented by senior officials and officers in the Canadas. The role of the civil authorities in Upper Canada was to support the commissariat department and maintain the militia. The government was also responsible for the maintenance of law and order, and an important wartime aspect of this duty was the investigation and punishment of disloyalty. The province, through the control of Crown Lands, was also able to reward those who supported the war effort. In later years, particularly in the 1930s, the government of Ontario provided support for the commemoration of the war by creating battlefield parks, markers and memorials, such as at Fort Erie.

### **5.1 Treason Trials**

During the American occupation of Niagara in the spring and summer of 1813 and the Western District in the fall of the same year, individuals sympathetic to the United States provided direct support to the invaders by gathering intelligence or joining their military forces. After the withdrawal of American troops, a number of arrests were made and fifteen men were tried for treason (eight were eventually executed). The following records documenting the trials are available.

#### **RG 4-1 Pre-Confederation Records of the Attorney-General**

Series consists of miscellaneous correspondence relating to the administration of justice in Upper Canada. It includes correspondence on the conduct of the Treason Trials at Ancaster in 1814.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

#### **RG 22-134 Assize Minute Books**

Series consists of central minute books of the Court of Queen's Bench civil and criminal assizes. Each year, commissions of assize were issued for the trial of superior court criminal and civil cases in the district towns. Volume 4 contains minutes of the Ancaster Treason Trials.

#### **RG 22-143 Court of King's Bench Records of High Treason Trial of 1814**

Series consists of the few remaining records of the High Treason Trials held at Ancaster during May and June 1814. These records relate to individuals who were accused of treason but never captured and the confiscation of lands of individuals charged under the Alien Act.



## 5.2 Alien Act

The Legislative Assembly passed the Alien Act in March of 1814 to permit the seizure of lands belonging to residents who left the province in wartime for the United States. Persons found guilty were declared aliens and therefore were ineligible to hold land in the province. The following records documenting this process are available.

### **RG 22-144 Alien Act Commissions, Inquisitions and related records**

Series consists of commissions with attached inquisitions (investigations), some correspondence of the Clerk of the Alien Act Commission (J.B. Macaulay), and the proceedings of the Home District Alien Act Commission at York (Toronto) in May and November of 1822.

### **RG 22-678 Johnstown District Alien Act Inquisition Extract Register**

Series consists of a register, maintained by the Clerk of the Peace in Johnstown District, documenting inquisitions for property seizures made under the Alien Act. It includes as column headings: names, additions, "late places of abode", real estate vested in His Majesty, date of inquisition and names of Commissioners.

### **RG 22-3768 Newcastle District Clerk of the Peace Inquisition to Declare Certain Persons Alien**

Series consists of two extracts of inquisitions held in Newcastle District under the authority of "An Act to declare certain persons therein described Aliens and to vest their Estates in His Majesty, Whereby any real Estate or Estates have been vested in His Majesty" (Statutes of Upper Canada 1814, chap. 9).

### **RG 22-3782 Newcastle District Clerk of the Peace High Treason in War of 1812 Poster**

Series consists of a broadside entitled, "Names of Persons who have been attained of High Treason committed in Upper Canada, or who have been returned as having absconded from the Province during the late War with the United States of America".

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

## 5.3 Land Grants

Following the war, the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada made provisions for the granting of land to veterans of the militia. At least part of the land distributed to the veterans was obtained through the confiscation of estates under the Alien Act.

### **RG 1-9 Crown Land Administration Subject files**

Series consists of general correspondence related to the administration of the Crown Lands system, which was received in the office of the Commissioner of Crown Lands. It includes a file of correspondence regarding requests for land grants for militia service during the War of 1812.

**RG 1-54 Petitions relating to land received by the Crown Lands Department**

Series consists of alphabetically arranged petitions for land grants of all types. It includes petitions from veterans of the War of 1812 that may provide details on military service.

**RG 1-100 Patent Plans**

Series consists of township plans showing the sale or lease of Crown Lands to individuals and corporate bodies. The maps can be useful in documenting the location of lands granted to veterans for militia service during the War of 1812.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

**RG 1-152 Registers of Militia Grants**

Series consists of registers of those receiving land grant certificates from the provincial government in recognition of their service in the militia, provincial dragoons or provincial marine during the War of 1812. The registers record the individual's name, rank, unit and the acreage to which he was entitled.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

**5.4 Remembering the War**

The provincial government has been involved in the preservation of historic sites since the late 19th century. The series described below provide information on Ontario's efforts to remember the War of 1812 through parks, memorials and historic sites.

**RG 5-4 Correspondence of the Minister of Tourism and Information**

Series consists of correspondence between the Minister of Tourism and Information and various tourist organizations and agencies, tourists, and tourist operators regarding tourism, heritage and general political matters. It documents provincial involvement in the promotion of historical tourism and the development of sites, including those related to the War of 1812.

**RG 5-54 Administrative records of the St. Lawrence Parks Commission**

Series consists of administrative records created by the St. Lawrence Parks Commission while it was responsible for the planning, construction, management, and operation of parks and historic sites in Ontario. The series is particularly useful regarding information on the Chryslers Farm Battlefield Park at Upper Canada Village.

**RG 38-3 Subject Correspondence of the Niagara Parks Commission General Manager**

Series consists of correspondence created and or maintained by the Office of the Superintendent and, later, the General Manager of the Niagara Parks Commission. There is extensive correspondence relating to the development of historic sites and reconstructions along the Niagara River relating to the War of 1812.

### **RG 38-17 Niagara Parks Commission historical records**

Series consists of records pertaining to the history of the Niagara Parks Commission, hydro-power development, monuments and historic sites in the Niagara Falls Park, and the landscape and environment in the Niagara Falls area. The records include reports and original documents relating to early preservation efforts for War of 1812 sites located along or near the Niagara River.

### **RG 65-35 Tourism promotion photographs**

Series consists of photographs created and used to market, advertise and promote tourism in Ontario. The photographs were maintained and indexed in a photo library that was initially established in the Department of Travel and Publicity in the late 1940s or early 1950s. The photographs document all regions of Ontario and include many photographs of historic War of 1812 sites.

## **6. Illustrating the War of 1812**

Official war artists like those of the two World Wars did not document the War of 1812. The province was a thinly populated, largely agricultural society that had little time during peace for artistic pursuits, and still less in the midst of war. The following are potential sources of illustrations for those interested in the War of 1812.

### **6.1 Government of Ontario Art Collection**

The Government of Ontario Art Collection contains a number of works related to the War of 1812. As the province grew in wealth and population during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, there was increasing interest in documenting the key figures in Upper Canadian history, including those involved in the War of 1812. George Theodore Berthon (1806-1892) was commissioned to paint official portraits of long-dead lieutenant governors and administrators who had been directly involved in the war. Berthon's subjects included senior military officers Sir Isaac Brock, Sir Gordon Drummond and Sir George Prevost. Other artists were commissioned to create portraits and busts of such figures as Tecumseh and Laura Secord.

Equally important in the holdings of the Art Collection are the paintings and drawings of Charles William Jefferys (1869-1951). Created in the first decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, these works of historical imagination illustrate battles and incidents like Laura Secord's journey to warn the British.

The Government Art Collection is not yet described in the Archives databases. For an overview and catalogue of the artworks in the collection please refer to Fern Bayer's *The Ontario Collection*, Toronto: Fitzhenry and Whiteside, 1984. This book is available in the Archives Library, Call # 708.113 B39.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

## 6.2 Documentary Art fonds

There are several collections of documentary art at the Archives of Ontario which shed light on the appearance of the province shortly before and after the War of 1812, and which illustrate many of the places mentioned in the correspondence from the war period.

### C 1 Thomas Burrowes fonds

Captain Thomas Burrowes (b. ca. 1796) served as an engineering officer while the Rideau Canal was built, and during its operation between 1826 and 1846. During this period, he painted many watercolours of the canal and the St. Lawrence River. These images are valuable sources of information on early riverain settlements and places that played a part in the War of 1812. All of Burrowes watercolours held by the Archives may be viewed in the Archives of Ontario Visual Database.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

### F 47 Simcoe Family fonds

Elizabeth Posthuma Simcoe (1766-1850), the wife of Upper Canada's first Lieutenant Governor, was a prolific and talented artist. Her watercolours and sketches of the province in the 1790s are the earliest graphic images of many of the locations that became famous during the War of 1812, including Queenston Heights, Kingston and York (Toronto). All of her work held by the Archives may be viewed in the Archives of Ontario Visual Database.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

### F 596 Thomas Glegg fonds

Captain Thomas Glegg (b. ca. 1825) was an engineer in the British army who was in Canada West (Upper Canada) in the period 1841-1842 to assist in the construction of the New Fort in Toronto. He sketched a number of scenes of the province, including Brock's monument following the explosion that ruined the original structure. Some of Glegg's sketches may be viewed in the Archives of Ontario Visual Database.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

## 6.3 Photographic Records

Photography was invented well after the War of 1812 but the Archives holds many images that document battlefields, monuments and some of the people who participated in the war. The work of the following photographers may be of particular interest to War of 1812 researchers. Please see the section on government records for photographs created by the Tourism department.

### **C 7 John Boyd fonds**

John Boyd (1865-1941) was a railway employee and amateur historian who took many photographs around Ontario in the first decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. His work documents some of the sites related to the War of 1812 and the defence of Upper Canada. Some of Boyd's photographs may be viewed in the Archives of Ontario Visual Database.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

### **C 57 Eric Arthur fonds**

Eric Arthur (1896-1982) was an architect and photographer. He captured images of many of the surviving buildings from the War of 1812 era. Some of his photographs may be viewed in the Archives of Ontario Visual Database.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

### **F 1075 M.O. Hammond fonds**

M.O. Hammond (1876-1934) was a journalist and amateur historian who photographed many of the battlefields and monuments of the War of 1812 during the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. His black and white images captured these sites before they were restored or turned into parks, providing an interesting comparison for those visiting them today. Hammond also made photographic portraits of artists C.W. Jefferys and G.T. Berthon. Hammond maintained a diary that provides insights to his historical interests and travels. Hammond's photographs may be viewed in the Archives of Ontario Visual Database.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

## **6.4 Architectural Plans and Drawings**

Few original drawings or plans dating from the War of 1812 are available to researchers. The fonds described below include some material related to the war and to the efforts to reconstruct some of the historic sites associated with the war.

### **C 23 McMurrich and Oxley fonds**

The fonds consists of the architectural drawings of McMurrich and Oxley and their predecessor, Sommerville, McMurrich and Oxley. This firm was involved in planning for the reconstruction of a number of historic sites in Ontario, including Fort George and Fort Erie in the Niagara area. Drawings and plans relating to these projects are available.

*Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, The War of 1812.*

### **F 360 Mrs. Edward Kemp collection**

This miscellaneous collection of historical records was donated to the Archives of Ontario by Mrs. Edward Kemp (1814-1896). It includes drawings of a bateau and of what is believed to be one of the vessels built at the Kingston Naval Yard in 1814.

Featured in the Archives of Ontario on-line exhibit, *The War of 1812*.

## 7. Archives of Ontario Library

The Library of the Archives of Ontario holds many publications relating to the War of 1812, including works of popular and academic history, pamphlets, compilations of documents concerning the war and biographies of participants. These items range from broad accounts of the war through detailed campaign and battle micro-histories. Information on many historic plaques in Ontario, including those describing events of the War of 1812, is available through the Library. Keyword searches can be carried out in [BIBLiON](#), the Library's on-line catalogue, using the names of battles, individuals or places. Not all publications held by the Library are described in the BIBLiON database, and researchers are advised to consult the card catalogue available in the Archives' Main Reading Room for additional resources. The web exhibit [The War of 1812](#) includes a list of a few of the publications relating to the war that can be found in the Library collection.

## 8. Table of fonds and collections relating to the War of 1812

Where microfilm is available, researchers must use it rather than original records, for conservation reasons. With the exception of the microfiche for the Hiram Walker Collection, all microfilms are available in the Main Reading Room on a self-service basis. Records that are not available on microfilm must be retrieved from storage. To see the detailed description in our database please click on the entry in the Reference Code column.

Reference Code	Title	Where to find 1812 records
C 1	Thomas Burrowes fonds	All Burrowes' watercolours are on the <a href="#">Visual Database</a> .
C 7	John Boyd fonds	Some of John Boyd's photographs are in the <a href="#">Visual Database</a> .
C 23	McMurrich and Oxley fonds	Project 409, Fort George and Fort Erie restorations. Available through the Special Collections Reading Room.
C 57	Eric Arthur fonds	Some of Eric Arthur's photographs are in the <a href="#">Visual Database</a> .
F 17	William Baldwin Family fonds	Correspondence 1812-1815 on microfilm MS 88, reel 1.
F 20	Henry John Boulton fonds	Correspondence 1812-1815, on microfilm MS 525, reel 1.
F 37	Mackenzie-Lindsay family fonds	Correspondence 1839-1841, on microfilm MS 516, reel 6.
F 43	Thomas Ridout family fonds	Correspondence 1812-1815 on microfilm MS 537, reel 1.
F 44	John Beverley Robinson family fonds	Correspondence 1812-1815 microfilm MS 4, reel 1.

<b>Reference Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Where to find 1812 records</b>
F 47	Simcoe Family fonds	Elizabeth Simcoe's sketches and watercolours are on the <a href="#">Visual Database</a> .
F 360	Mrs. Edward Kemp fonds	Drawings are available through the Special Collections Reading room.
F 378	Hiram Walker collection	Microfiche 20-231 (request from stacks).
F 429	Duncan Clark fonds	Request F 429, box MU 572.
F 440	John Norton fonds	Correspondence on microfilm MS 94, reel 1.
F 483	Ford family fonds	Request F 483, box MU 1054.
F 504	Urquhart family fonds	Request F 504, box MU 3053.
F 515	Gilkison family fonds	Use microfilm MS 497, reel 1.
F 536	Joel Stone family fonds	Correspondence on microfilm MS 519, reel 1.
F 542	Robert Nelles family fonds	Correspondence on microfilm MS 503, reel 1.
F 543	Abraham Nelles family fonds	Correspondence on microfilm MS 502, reel 1.
F 547	Samuel Street fonds	Correspondence on microfilm MS 500, reel 1.
F 548	John Macdonell fonds	Correspondence on microfilm MS 821.
F 549	George Crookshank fonds	Request F 549, box MU 5928.
F 556	Ely Playter fonds	Diary on microfilm MS 87, reel 1.
F 596	Thomas Glegg fonds	Sketches are on the <a href="#">Visual Database</a> .
F 662	William Hamilton Merritt family fonds	For Brock's Monument see Package 8 on microfilm MS 74, reel 2; for wartime correspondence see Packages 42 and 43, microfilm MS 74, reel 5.
F 775	Miscellaneous collection	Request F 775, boxes MU 2102 and MU 2143.
F 895	Military History collection	Request F 895, boxes MU 2035, MU 2036 and MU 2037.
F 902	David William Marr Button family fonds	Request F 902, box MU 453.
F 917	David Kinnear fonds	Request F 917, box MU 841.
F 955	Gordon Drummond fonds	Request F 955, box MU 8191.

<b>Reference Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Where to find 1812 records</b>
F 983	John Strachan fonds	Correspondence on MS 35, reel 1.
F 992	Lee Pritzker collection	Request F 992, box MU 2635.
F 1075	M.O. Hammond fonds	M.O. Hammond's Photographs are on the <u>Visual Database</u> ; diaries describing his photographic expeditions are in F 1075, boxes MU 1292 and MU 1293.
F 1076	William Kirby fonds	Correspondence on microfilm MS 542, reels 1, 3 and 4.
F 1081	Ferdinand Brock Tupper fonds	Correspondence on microfilm MS 496, reel 1.
F 1107	John Galt fonds	Correspondence on microfilm MS 861, reel 1.
F 1137	The Lundy's Lane Historical Society fonds	Request F 1137, box MU 1747.
F 1151	Brock Monument Committee fonds	Request F 1151, boxes MU 296 and MU 297.
F 1194	C.H.J. Snider fonds	A searchable index to Snider's "Schooner Days" is available through the website of the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes, <a href="http://www.marmus.ca">http://www.marmus.ca</a>
F 2128	Jacques Duperon Baby family fonds	Correspondence on microfilm MS 498 reel 1.
F 4140	Battle of Lundy's Lane Letter	Request F 4140, box 1.
RG 1-9	Crown Land Administration Subject files	Correspondence on microfilm MS 892, reel 6.
RG 1-54	Petitions relating to land received by the Crown Lands Department	A detailed listing is available on the Files and Items portion of the <u>Archives Descriptive Database</u> .
RG 1-100	Patent Plans	Review plans for townships of interest to you. Available through the Special Collections Reading Room.
RG 1-152	Registers of Militia Grants	Use microfilm MS 693, reel 40.
RG 4-1	Pre-Confederation Records of the Attorney General	Request RG 4-1, box 1.
RG 5-4	Correspondence of the Minister of Tourism and Information	A detailed listing is available on the Files and Items portion of the <u>Archives Descriptive Database</u> .
RG 5-54	Administrative records of the St. Lawrence Parks Commission	A detailed listing is available on the Files and Items portion of the <u>Archives Descriptive Database</u> .
RG 22-134	Assize minute books	Use microfilm MS 930, reel 1.



Reference Code	Title	Where to find 1812 records
RG 22-143	Court of King's Bench Records of high treason trial of 1814	Use microfilm MS 7237.
RG 22-144	Alien Act Commissions, Inquisitions and related records	Request RG 22-144, boxes 1 and 2.
RG 22-678	Johnstown District alien act inquisition extract register	Request RG 22-678.
RG 22-3768	Newcastle District Clerk of the Peace inquisition to declare certain persons alien	Request RG 22-3768.
RG 22-3782	Newcastle District Clerk of the Peace high treason in War of 1812 poster	Request RG 22-3782.
RG 38-3	Subject Correspondence of the Niagara Parks Commission General Manager	A detailed listing is available on the Files and Items portion of the <a href="#">Archives Descriptive Database</a> . Search by a name or location for the best results, for example Fort Erie.
RG 38-17	Niagara Parks commission historical records	A detailed listing is available on the Files and Items portion of the <a href="#">Archives Descriptive Database</a> . Search by a name or location for the best results, for example Fort Erie.
RG 65-35	Tourism promotion photographs	A detailed listing is available on the Files and Items portion of the <a href="#">Archives Descriptive Database</a> . Search by place name for the best results. Available through the Special Collections Reading Room.

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