

Kamloops Museum and Archives

**PLEASED
TO MEET
YOU
KMA**

Hudson's Bay Company collection

**1937.022,
1977.024.001, 1982.090.032-033, 0.3476, 0.3518, 0.3657**

Compiled by
KMA Staff
Revised by
Jaimie Fedorak, December 2019

KAMLOOPS MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

1937.022

Access: Open.

Hudson's Bay Company collection

Textual, Graphic, Cartographic

1863-2012

0.41 meters

Title: Hudson's Bay Company collection

Dates of Creation: 1863-2012

Physical Description: 41 cm of textual records, 29 colour negatives, 2 maps, and 2 photographs

Administrative History:

The Hudson's Bay Company was incorporated by Royal Charter on May 2, 1670 in London, England by Pierre-Esprit Radisson. The company was originally founded as a fur trading enterprise and had been operating in the area which would later become Canada as early as the 1650s. The company functioned as the de facto government in many parts of North America until it sold the remainder of its land holdings to Canada in 1869. The company continues to operate department retail stores throughout Canada, and is headquartered in Brampton, Ontario.

A trading post was initially established at Kamloops in May 1812 by Alexander Ross for the Pacific Fur Company, known as Fort Cumcloups. The fort was later controlled by the North West Company, and then came into the hands of the Hudson's Bay Company when the two rival organizations merged in 1821. The post then became known as Thompson's River Post or Fort Thompson, based on its proximity to the junction of the North and South Thompson Rivers. The fort continued to prosper due to its key location on the Hudson's Bay Brigade Trail, and would eventually become the City of Kamloops.

Scope and Content:

This collection consists of subject files and various H.B.C. records documenting the fur trade in Kamloops and the surrounding area. Many of the records in the collection are copies of records held at other repositories, though there are a small number of original Thompson's River Post records also included near the end of the collection. Other records include newspaper clippings, reports, pamphlets, and photographs.

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Custodial History:

Records in this collection were brought together by staff at the Kamloops Museum and Archives, based on their affiliation to the Hudson's Bay Company. Additional records in this collection were previously placed in the Vertical Files collection, and were accrued to this collection during reprocessing in 2019: accessions 0.3476, 0.3518, and 0.3657.

Few records in this collection contain any provenance information, as they were gathered in the manner of ephemera and many are copies or typescripts of archival documents held at other repositories. Where possible, provenance of original documents has been noted. Accession 1977.024.001 was donated to the Kamloops Museum and Archives on May 5, 1977, after being copied by the donor from the Provincial Archives of British Columbia. Accessions 1982.090.032 and 1982.090.033 were donated in October 1982 by the Cariboo College Library per John Weller. Accessions 0.3476 and 0.3518 have no donor information available. Accession 0.3657 was donated on March 15, 1982 from an unknown donor.

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Notes:

Source of supplied title: Title based on contents of collection

Arrangement: The collection was initially arranged into two series: Series 1: Subject files and Series 2: Thompson's River Post, Hudson's Bay Company records. Series 1: Subject Files is arranged alphabetically based on subject to facilitate access. Series 2: Thompson's River post, Hudson's Bay Company records is arranged chronologically to reflect the original creation date of records, with indices and access materials placed before original records to facilitate access. A third series was added to this collection during reprocessing in 2019 to accommodate records which had initially been placed in the Vertical Files collection. Records in Series 3: Other Records are arranged based on accession number where possible, as no previous arrangement is apparent.

Access restrictions: No restrictions on access. The archivist reserves the right to restrict access to any fragile material for preservation purposes.

Terms governing use and reproduction: No reproduction permitted without consent of copyright holder. It is the researcher's responsibility to obtain permission for the reproduction of materials for publication or dissemination.

Finding aids: File list is available for this collection.

Accruals: No further accruals are expected.

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Series 1: Subject Files

1916-2012 — 13 cm of textual records, 29 colour negatives, 2 maps, and 2 photographs

Scope and Content: This series consists of subject files documenting the fur trade and the Hudson's Bay Company, primarily relating to Fort Kamloops and its fur trade personnel.

Accession	Description	Dates	Box/Folder
	Chief Traders, H.B.C. Kamloops – File includes lists of “headmen” at Fort Thompson/Kamloops, correspondence, photocopies of photographs of H.B.C. men, copies of H.B.C. correspondence, newspaper clippings, essays, a postcard of Ranald MacDonald's gravestone, copies of articles, and a map of the MacDonald claim. – 1 cm of textual records, 1 colour photograph, and 1 map	[196-?]-[198-?]	1/1
	Samuel Black – File includes essays, newspaper clippings, correspondence, copies of Samuel Black's correspondence, and articles. – 0.5 cm of textual records	[195-?]-[1985?]	1/2
	Archibald McKinlay – File includes photocopies of McKinlay's correspondence, essays, correspondence, articles, and newspaper clippings. – 0.5 cm of textual records	[195-?]-[197-?]	1/3
	Archibald McKinlay letters, 1883-1885 – File includes copies of McKinlay's correspondence, and an index to his letters. – 1 cm of textual records	[197-?]	1/4
	Donald McLean – File includes copies of McLean's correspondence. – 0.25 cm of textual records	[197-?]	1/5
	Alexander Ross map – File includes a negative and print of a map drawn by Alexander Ross, correspondence, and an invoice. – 1 colour negative, 1 b&w photograph, and 2 textual records	1988	1/6
	John Tod – File includes articles, copies of Tod's correspondence, copies of Tod's painting, and newspaper clippings. – 0.5 cm of textual records	[194-?]-1979	1/7

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	Fort Kamloops – File includes articles, copies of index cards, and newspaper clippings. – 0.5 cm of textual records	1930-2012	1/8
	Hudson's Bay Company – File includes essays, newspaper clippings, a map of Chief Nicola's valley until 1868, H.B.C. certificate for the company's 300 th anniversary, articles, publications, H.B.C. liquor labels, a postcard, and pamphlets from Fort Langley National Historic Park. – 1 cm of textual records and 1 map	1916-[198-?]	1/9
	Hudson's Bay Company Archives – File includes correspondence, information about the H.B.C. Archives, newsletters, pamphlets, and newspaper clippings. – 1 cm of textual records	[196-?]-1993	1/10
	Hudson's Bay Company Archives, Ken Favrholt notes – File includes a report on a trip to the H.B.C. Archives and Favrholt's research notes. – 0.5 cm of textual records	1979	1/11
	Hudson's Bay Company Archives, notes – File includes an essay and research notes. – 0.5 cm of textual records	[198-?]	1/12
	Hudson's Bay Company papers, Public Archives of Canada – File includes Peter Carsten's research notes and a photocopy of a typescript of Thompson's River post records. – 0.25 cm of textual records	1982	1/13
1982.090.032, 1982.090.033	Pacific Fur Company – File includes correspondence, pamphlets, newsletters, and articles. – 0.5 cm of textual records	[192-?]-1986	1/14
	Mary Cullen – File includes an essay written by Mary Cullen entitled "Inland Transportation in the Columbia Department: Outfitting New Caledonia 1821-1858," and photocopies of documents from the Fort Langley National Historic Park regarding staff at Fort Langley and supplies. – 1 cm of textual records	1978	1/15
	North American Fur Trade Conference, programs – File includes two programs from the North	1981-1985	1/16

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	American Fur Trade Conference. – 0.25 cm of textual records		
	Nor'Wester, Journal of the North West Company – File includes two copies of <i>Nor'Wester, Journal of the North West Company</i> , volume 2.1. – 0.75 cm of textual records	1973	1/17
	George D. Brown – File includes articles written by George D. Brown for the <i>Kamloops Advertiser</i> , based on the Thompson's River Post journals. – 0.75 cm of textual records	1937	1/18
	Doug Cox, H.B.C. Okanagan Fur Brigade Trail teacher's kit – File includes a teacher's kit constructed by Doug Cox exploring the H.B.C. Okanagan fur brigade trail. – 0.25 cm of textual records and 29 colour negatives	1983	1/19

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Series 2: Thompson's River Post, Hudson's Bay Company records

1863-1992 — 27 cm of textual records

Scope and Content: This series consists of records documenting the Thompson's River Post (Kamloops) of the Hudson's Bay Company. Records in this series include H.B.C. journals (1841-43, 1850-52, 1854-55, 1859-62, 1867-70), account books (1863-65, 1876-78), correspondence books (1866-67, 1872-80), and district fur returns (1826-57), along with accompanying documentation and indices. The majority of the records consist of copies or typescripts of material held at the H.B.C. Archives, the B.C. Archives, or Library and Archives Canada; though the series also includes original H.B.C. records, namely two Thompson's River Post account books for 1863-1865 and 1876-1878 and one Thompson's River Post correspondence book for 1872-1880.

Accession	Description	Dates	Box/Folder
	Thompson's River Post, Journal, 1841-1843 (John Tod), copy – File contains a typescript copy of the Thompson's River Post Journal maintained by John Tod 1841-1843. Copied from the Legislative Library in Victoria, B.C. – 1 cm of textual records	[196-?]	2/1
	Thompson's River Post, Index to Journals: 1850-1870 – File contains an index to the Thompson's River Post Journals 1850-1870, compiled by KMA staff. – 1 cm of textual records	[196-?]	2/2
	Thompson's River Post, Journal, 1850-1852, 1854-1855 (Paul Fraser), typescripts – File contains a typescript copy in two volumes of the Thompson's River Post Journal maintained by Paul Fraser 1850-1852 and 1854-1855. Copied from an unknown source. – 2 cm of textual records	[196-?]	2/3
	Thompson's River Post, Journal (Kamloops Journal), 1859-1862, 1867-1870 (William Manson and Hamilton Moffatt), typescript – File contains a bound typescript copy of the Thompson's River Post Journal maintained by William Manson and Hamilton Moffatt 1859-1862 and 1867-1870. Copied by the Provincial Archives of B.C. – 5.5 cm of textual records	[196-?]	4

KAMLOOPS MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

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	Thompson's River Post, Account Book, 1863-1865, index and documentation – File contains an index to the Thompson's River Post Account Book 1863-1865 and correspondence. – 0.5 cm of textual records	[196-?]	2/4
	Thompson's River Post, Account Book, 1863-1865 – File contains the Thompson's River Post Account Book 1863-1865. – 3 cm of textual records	1863-1865	2/5
	Thompson's River Post, Account Book, 1876-1878 (John Tait), index and summary – File contains an index and summary of the Thompson's River Post Account Book maintained by John Tait 1876-1878. – 0.25 cm of textual records	[196-?]	2/6
	Thompson's River Post, Account Book, 1876-1878 (John Tait) – File contains the Thompson's River Post Account Book maintained by John Tait 1876-1878 and loose correspondence. – 3 cm of textual records	1876-1878	2/7
	Thompson's River Post, Report on District, 1823 (John McLeod) – File contains an article and a typescript copy of the Thompson's River Post Report on the District 1823 written by John McLeod. Copied from the Archives of B.C. – 0.25 cm of textual records	[196-?]	2/8
	Thompson's River Post, Report on District, 1865 (William A. Mowat), copy – File contains a copy of the Thompson's River Post Report on the District 1865 written by William A. Mowat and correspondence. – 0.25 cm of textual records	1992	2/9
1977.024.001	Thompson's River Post, Correspondence Book, 1866-1867 (Hamilton Moffatt), typescript copy – File contains a typescript copy of the Thompson's River Post Correspondence Book maintained by Hamilton Moffatt 1866-1867. Copies from the Archives of B.C. – 0.25 cm of textual records	[1977?]	2/10
	Thompson's River Post, Correspondence Book, 1872-1880 (John Tait), index and transcript – File contains an index and transcript of the Thompson's River Post Correspondence Book	[196-?]	3/1

KAMLOOPS MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

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	maintained by John Tait 1872-1880. – 3 cm of textual records		
	Thompson's River Post, Correspondence Book, 1872-1880 (John Tait) – File contains the Thompson's River Post Correspondence Book maintained by John Tait 1872-1880. – 3 cm of textual records	1872-1880	3/2
	District Fur Returns, 1826-1857, copy – File contains copy of District Fur Returns 1826-1857, including the Thompson's River Post and for miscellaneous H.B.C. posts in the Columbia District. – 0.5 cm of textual records	[197-?]	3/3

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Series 3: Other Records

1888-[ca. 1950] — 1 cm of textual records

Scope and Content: This series consists of miscellaneous records from the Hudson's Bay Company, including tickets, waybills, liquor bottle labels, and publications.

Accession	Description	Dates	Box/Folder
0.3476	Ticket on Draw – File contains a ticket for a prize draw sponsored by the Kamloops Hudson's Bay Company store. – 1 textual record	1912	3/4
0.3518	Waybill – File contains a waybill for supplies from the H.B.C. store. – 1 textual record	1888	3/5
0.3657.005-011	Liquor Bottle Labels – File contains labels for liquor bottled by the H.B.C. including Blackberry Brandy, Hudson's Bay Rum, Old Rye Whisky, and Ginger Wine. – 7 textual records	[ca. 1900s]	3/6
	A Brief History of the Hudson's Bay Company – File contains publications entitled "A Brief History of the Hudson's Bay Company" published by the H.B.C. – 1 cm of textual records	[ca.1950?]	3/7