

## The Provincial Archives of New Brunswick

Hugh A. Taylor

Volume 1, numéro 1, autumn 1971

URI : [https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/acad1\\_1arc01](https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/acad1_1arc01)

[Aller au sommaire du numéro](#)

### Éditeur(s)

The Department of History of the University of New Brunswick

### ISSN

0044-5851 (imprimé)

1712-7432 (numérique)

[Découvrir la revue](#)

### Citer ce document

Taylor, H. A. (1971). The Provincial Archives of New Brunswick. *Acadiensis*, 1(1), 71–83.

## Archives

# The Provincial Archives of New Brunswick

Historians probably find archival repositories both invaluable and exasperating. On the one hand, they are no doubt grateful to have widely-scattered sources housed under one roof, reasonably accessible, and equipped with finding aids which the archivist hopes are of some assistance. On the other hand, they are robbed of the personal excitement of discovering records (as opposed to the information they contain), and must depend largely on the archivist to relate their needs to the sources in his care. These sources are often dry and impersonal; the public records of property and status were not designed to aid the historian. In his most gloomy moments, the researcher must feel that all the wrong records have survived and those which do exist are too intractable for his purpose. There may even be a feeling that the archivist is, in a sense, withholding records through insufficient knowledge of their contents or has failed to relate one source to another; worse still, that the archivist has allowed records to be destroyed under criteria which fail to take the historian's needs fully into account. The following may help to explain why our provincial archives contains the records it does, why some series have been totally lost, and what is now being done to make the contents usable as primary source material.

From the foundation of the province in 1784, public administration in New Brunswick has followed the English tradition, with its origins deeply rooted in the courts of law. Administration during the colonial period was seen as the making and keeping of good law under the watchful eye of the High Court of Parliament at Westminster. Orders-in-Council, whether of the Privy Council in London or the Governor in Council in New Brunswick, were as much legal as administrative instruments. In New Brunswick, as in England, the Justices in General Session not only heard cases brought before them but also administered the affairs of the County through the maintenance of law and order. Judicial and administrative decisions were not always distinguishable, but they were all duly entered in the 'Public Records' to which the citizen had access as of right, especially when he had recourse to law. Executive Council and

legislative Assembly proceedings, the records of the Supreme Court, County Courts and General Sessions – these and many others came to be regarded as “Public Records”, although the various classes were never specifically enumerated.

The quasi-judicial nature of colonial administration in New Brunswick is best illustrated through the disposal of Crown Land. First, the Crown, in the person of the Governor, was petitioned, this petition was then considered by the Lands Committee of the Executive Council, a warrant to survey was issued and the final grant was made in the form of an imposing Letters Patent to which was affixed the Great Seal. The grant would also be enrolled in a register. These are ancient legal forms deriving from the mediaeval Chancery when it was concerned with royal administration and before it became purely a court of equity. The Public Records which survive form a reasonably accurate but bald series of facts; only the petition may contain details of the petitioner’s background and family. It is significant that the records of professional administration; i.e., those of the Surveyor General (who was not at first a member of the Council), including the correspondence with his surveyors and others, would not have been regarded as Public Records in the strict sense. When the purely administrative Crown Land Office was established, the Public Records relating to land appear to have passed into its care. Other series mercifully survived for want of specific directives on the subject, but the petitions, having ceased to be of administrative value and of slight legal value, fell into neglect. They were no longer regarded as essential Public Records and suffered the consequences.

It is a mistake to imagine that because Public Records were ill defined, they have always been neglected. The Provincial Secretary (who was also Clerk to Executive Council until 1846) was required, amongst his other duties, “to have the custody of the Public Records”<sup>1</sup> (Even today, the term “keeping the record” has the double meaning of both recording and preserving.) Likewise, the Auditor General’s duties included “keeping records of all accounts of every description communicated with the King’s Casual Revenue and also entering and docketing all grants of land passed under the Great Seal of the Province”<sup>2</sup> The Clerks of the Supreme Court were also obliged to keep their records in the same manner as the Court of King’s Bench in England.<sup>3</sup> The Clerk of the General Assembly followed English House of Commons practices. It is not surprising, therefore, that the surviving early records of the Executive Council, Legislative Assembly, Crown Land Office and Supreme Court total over 1,400 linear feet. These early ‘keepers’ and their successors were better custodians than is generally believed.

1 Provincial Archives of New Brunswick, N. B. Blue Book, 1829, p. 58.

2 *Ibid.*, p. 65.

3 *Ibid.*, p. 75.

The first indication that the Provincial Secretary was failing in his custody of the Public Records may well be the decision of Sir Arthur Hamilton Gordon<sup>4</sup> to find a safe place for sixty-two volumes of governors' despatches prior to his leaving the province because the government showed little enthusiasm about preserving them.<sup>5</sup> Gordon felt that these records, which were in the office of the Provincial Secretary, were threatened by "dirt, neglect, and the curiosity of chance visitors"<sup>6</sup> He ordered his private secretary to arrange, index and finally bind the despatches which eventually reached the Public Archives of Canada *via* the Colonial Office. In 1905, James Hannay reported to the Dominion Archivist that "the papers of the Executive Council were also kept in the garret of the Provincial Secretary's Office, but had been removed by the Clerk of the Executive Council to a more suitable location and are being properly catalogued"<sup>7</sup> This task appears to have been abandoned. Instead a large part of them were deposited in the Public Archives for arrangement. Some copying was done in 1912, perhaps on the instigation of W. O. Raymond who, in that year, was appointed to the Historical Manuscripts Commission as New Brunswick's first representative. When the Provincial Archives was opened in 1968, they were returned to the Province. Meanwhile, the remaining papers in the hands of the Provincial Secretary fell into total disarray, and drew the following sharp comments from W. C. Milner, District Archivist of the Public Archives of Canada in the Maritimes:

The successive administrators of New Brunswick have honestly earned a fine reputation for neglecting official records of the Province. Masses of departmental correspondence and other documents and papers have been picked up in the country by the Dominion Archives.<sup>8</sup>

Eight years later, when Attorney General McNair applied to have the governors' despatches returned to the province, Milner was once again in full cry: "It would be a misfortune if this application was complied with for the Government of the Province has a particularly bad reputation for the preservation of its records"<sup>9</sup> The despatches remained in Ottawa. Milner tended to overlook the fact that the New Brunswick Museum may have been in a position to accept records although not perhaps on the scale that would have been necessary, but

4 Lieutenant-Governor, 1861-1866.

5 I am indebted to M. Roger Comeau of the Public Archives of Canada for a full account of the transfer of these despatches.

6 P.A.C., RG 7, G8B, v. I.

7 P.A.C., *Report* for 1905, v. II, p. xii.

8 W. C. Milner, "Condition of the Public Records in the Maritime Provinces", *Canadian Historical Association Report*, 1929, p. 44.

9 Letter to the Editor of *The Gazette*, 21 January 1937.

we owe it to him that many of the Crown Land Petitions were set in order, indexed and placed in the Lands Branch. This index is still used in the Provincial Archives, although thousands of additional petitions have recently been unearthed to form a second series.

Milner also scolded the province for not ordering the preservation of the General Sessions records in 1878 when County Councils were introduced, but on the whole, the county officials continued to care for the records quite well. There were accidental fires in Restigouche and Westmorland, but the most serious losses occurred among the early records of York County. Milner reported that "when Mr. Rainsford, who had been Clerk of the Peace of York County, died, the records of York, Carleton, Sunbury and Madawaska were turned out on the Court House Square and burned. Thus the early history of four counties was lost."<sup>10</sup> The *Gleaner* for April 28, 1888, supplies further details:

Workmen who are now engaged in tearing down the old Record Office on Province Square, have brought to light stacks of papers and records of historic interest to the county and province. No one seemed to know that these interesting documents were concealed within the walls of this old building; and consequently, a good many of them were thrown to the winds before anyone sought their contents. The present county registrar, although he occupied the building for about eighteen years, was not aware that these records were stored within the building. It appears that about all the papers in connection with the office bearing dates between 1785 and 1830 or thereabouts had been stored away above the vault near the roof, and as soon as the workmen had torn away the roof they came across these papers, and there were bushels of them. During the last couple of days the place has been visited by scores of citizens, everyone of whom has found something of more or less interest, and many of the historic treasures have thus in one way and another been preserved. Many of the papers, of course, do not amount to much, but there are many of them again of real historic worth, and it seems that some attempt should have been made for their public preservation."<sup>11</sup>

Here is a fascinating glimpse of an early county record office and the disastrous effect of moving the administration to a new building.

Although historians and others castigated the government for neglect of its records, it is quite possible that, in many instances, less rather than more historical material would have survived if Public Records had been clearly defined, and the remainder destroyed. We would have lost the Crown Land

<sup>10</sup> Milner, *op. cit.*, p. 44.

<sup>11</sup> Fredericton *Gleaner*, 21 April 1888.

Petitions, the Surveyors' letter books and most correspondence, the business archives in the Supreme Court in Bankruptcy division, and much else besides.

Even if the definition of Public Records had been extended to include other records of historical value, little would have been gained since the older historians, including James Hannay, conceived of most history as being written from the existing Public Records in the narrower definition of that phase. In 1909 Hannay wrote:

The need of a complete History of New Brunswick has long been recognized and the present work is an attempt to carry out this idea . . . . My aim has been to trace the development of the constitution, and the growth of the laws of New Brunswick from the foundation of the Province down to the present time . . . . The materials for this work have been found in the parliamentary papers of New Brunswick, the Journals of both Houses, the Minutes of the Executive Council and other original sources.<sup>12</sup>

As a result his "complete History", for all its value, is little more than parliamentary history.

With historians maintaining this very limited viewpoint, the so-called neglect by New Brunswick civil servants who laboriously carried tons of papers to the attic of the Legislative Building and stored them there rather than decide what to destroy can be seen in quite another light. To do nothing can be an admirable decision at times. More may well have been saved than lost through neglect.

W. C. Milner not only criticized neglect; his practise of rescuing provincial government records and having them deposited in the Public Archives is also well known. He was both the most effective and most difficult of Sir Arthur Doughty's regional archivists, and although often tactless and impatient, his intense enthusiasm cannot be questioned. He often embarrassed his chief through the removal of records to Ottawa which later had to be returned, but both Doughty and Milner knew that without an adequate local repository, only the Public Archives would offer proper protection. The following statement by Doughty clarifies his general policy:

It has never been any part of our intention to ask for the removal of provincial and local records, from the provinces to which they belong, to this office. Our principal object is, rather, to obtain authority to search for such records, and to ensure their removal wherever or whenever necessary, from an unsafe to a safe place of keeping.<sup>13</sup>

12 James Hannay, *History of New Brunswick* (St. John, 1909), I, Author's Note.

13 Doughty to A. W. H. Eaton, 24 November 1911, P.A.C., RG 37, v. 235, unnumbered correspondence. I am indebted to Mr. Ian Wilson, Archivist of Queen's University, for drawing my attention to the references in RG 37.

## 76 *Acadiensis*

Three years later, he wrote:

It is the intention of the Government to obtain copies of all the more important papers in the Provinces, so that eventually the student will be able to find in the archives at Ottawa most of the material he requires regarding the history of Canada.<sup>14</sup>

This was the principal motive for moving provincial records temporarily to Ottawa — to select and copy the most significant and then return them. Doughty realized that this was not a final solution and approved a suggestion made by Dr. J. C. Webster in 1922 for an archives for the Maritime Provinces to be erected by the P.A.C. Five years later, Doughty wrote Professor W. F. Ganong: “If each province would donate a site, I would suggest that the Federal Government, with the aid of the provinces, erect suitable buildings.”<sup>15</sup> Webster even suggested that an employee of the P.A.C. should have charge of the Archives in the New Brunswick Museum. Nothing came of these federal provincial schemes but the air of friendly co-operation is most apparent.

In contrast to the series discussed above, the best kept records were those of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly as attested by Hannay:

In 1902 and 1903 I made an index of the Legislative papers of the Province from the meeting of the first Legislature in 1786 down to the year 1858. This index fills two large volumes and by means of it reference can be had to any papers between these dates. The papers themselves are kept in cabinets in a large vault, safe from fire and properly arranged.<sup>16</sup>

Unhappily, none of the documents were numbered by Hannay and his calendar, which still exists, is devoid of any catalogue marks. Since his day, many of these papers have become seriously disordered and have strayed into the records of the Clerk of the Executive Council, but the calendar is still a splendid record of a well-kept archive.

The same year that Milner’s Report was published by the Canadian Historical Association, the Public Records Act and the New Brunswick Museums Act were passed. Their provisions and impact have been well summarized as follows:

The first measure empowered the province to take possession of municipal records for historical purposes, though it did not stipulate what officer would wield the power. It also provided the power to replevy all alienated municipal records. The two measures taken together made provision for

14 A. G. Doughty, “The History of the Canadian Archives”; *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society*, 3rd series, v. IX, 1915, p. 174.

15 29 September 1927, P.A.C., RG 37, letterbooks, v. 18, p. 299.

16 P.A.C. *Report* for 1905, v. II, p. xii.

the discovery, collection, and preservation of material having any bearing on the history of the province. The material collected was to go to the New Brunswick Museum, in effect making that institution the provincial archival agency. The Museum, through its Board as established by statute, was to be the custodian of such portion of the public records as the Lieutenant Governor in Council might decide to transfer to its care.

The first overt effect of the legislation was to heighten the rivalry between Saint John, the site of the New Brunswick Museum, and Fredericton, the capital. Both cities aspired to become the provincial centre for archival services. While the New Brunswick Museum Act certainly implied that the Museum would assume the function of official archival depository, the wording in the Act was merely permissive.<sup>17</sup>

The Public Records Act meant well but only a Provincial Archivist and a properly equipped Archives would have provided the necessary staff and space for effective action. The 1930's was hardly the best time for such a venture. Archival responsibility remained in doubt for many years and meanwhile, the New Brunswick Museum and Legislative Library did what they could to help. At one time, Lord Beaverbrook apparently considered the possibility of presenting an archives building to the Province, but nothing came of this.

The Public Documents Disposal Act of 1963 approached the problem from the other end; namely, a properly controlled policy of destruction, but again, an archives would have to be found for records marked for permanent retention, together with an archivist who could advise upon this kind of decision. A further factor rendered a decision more urgent if a repetition of the Court House Square bonfire on a vast scale was to be avoided. When it became known that the Federal Government would contribute \$2.5 million to New Brunswick's official Centennial Project, some interest in a Provincial Archives was kept alive by the fear that valuable historical records would be lost when Departments moved into the new Centennial Building. In the fiscal year 1965-1966, provision was made for the position of Archivist in the estimates of the Legislative Library, but no action was taken to fill the position since the problem of space for the Archives had not, by then, been solved.

Dr. W. Kaye Lamb was asked to prepare a report which he presented during the summer of 1966, in which he recommended that a Provincial Archives and a Records Centre (concerned with modern records management) should be established, since each was complementary to the other; that there should be a moratorium on the destruction of all departmental records; that machinery for review of all records from an historical and long-term point of view be incorporated in an Act of the Legislature; and that efforts be made to establish the archives in the Bonar Law-Bennett Building which had housed the univer-

<sup>17</sup> John H. Archer, "A Study of Archival Institutions in Canada" (unpublished Ph.D. thesis, Queen's University, 1969), p. 278.



sity library on the campus of the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton. The report and recommendations were extremely well received in all quarters and formed the basis for all subsequent negotiations. The Bonar Law-Bennett Building was duly secured as the Provincial Archives and the records transferred. Hugh A. Taylor was appointed Provincial Archivist, and on May 29, 1968, the New Brunswick Provincial Archives was officially opened by the present Dominion Archivist, Dr. Wilfred I. Smith.

When the move began, it was found that the staggering total of some 10,000 linear feet of records had accumulated in the Legislature attic, about half of which were destroyed as being merely duplicate or excessively trivial material. Historians can rest assured that the selection was most carefully done. Anything which was even remotely of value was saved, and marginal material will be reviewed again in a few years' time to see if it is worth retaining permanently.

There is a capacity in the Provincial Archives for 17,000 linear feet of records; after four years, about 6,000 feet are filled, and preliminary inventories have been made for the bulk of material received. There is an effective Archives Act, a Records Centre and a Central Microfilm Service. Such rapid growth would have been inconceivable a few years ago, but this very speed has its problems. "Instant archives" now come into being extremely rapidly, but many people feel that because the building is open, a full service is available. Such an appearance can be very deceptive. The archivist can point to most satisfying rows of volumes and boxes of records, once in great disarray, but to be able to use this material in depth requires long and patient study and analysis. Those institutions which have gradually expanded over a long period of time have often been able to digest their resources and produce the most exhaustive indexes which give a richness and depth to their holdings, which is lacking in the kind of repository that I am at present considering. Today, it is possible for an archives to appear fully armed within a few months, and within a short time thereafter, to absorb most of the records immediately available and yet have not one single index card completed.

"Instant archives" can of course give some kind of service, especially in the field of research and the pursuit of broad subjects, but for the rest, we have to rely heavily on indexes prepared earlier. These are sometimes adequate, but normally extremely patchy. Meanwhile, never a week passes but there will be a steady trickle of letters, which, in the inevitable impetus of an archives, will grow to a flood, from people wanting to know about people, ordinary inoffensive people who left bits of themselves scattered throughout a dozen records like dismembered limbs. But an archives without indexes is a kind of genteel charnel house where records are stacked neatly like so many skulls and bones, carefully arranged but, from the biographical point of view, in no way related to one another. Nevertheless, the fragments *are* labelled, and have only to be related. John Doe, the school boy; John Doe, the husband; John Doe, the murderer of his wife; John Doe, the soldier; John Doe, deceased —

the record may lie somewhere, and with indexes, we can sometimes achieve what all the king's horses and all the king's men once failed to do.

It is not always clear to the users of archives why government records are often extremely intractable series to handle in terms of the individual, or the search for an individual. It is sometimes forgotten that administration does not concern itself primarily with persons but with the management of a system. This is not necessarily wrong or wicked; it merely means that a department of government comes into being as a result of certain statutory obligations and limitations, and must see that certain statutory requirements are carried out in its operation. Civil servants may be, and usually are, extremely humane people, and deal humanely with the public with whom they come in contact, but when they arrange the records, the individual is not the most significant category. Taxes are usually levied on things, such as houses. Public health is concerned with the preservation of standards of hygiene and cleanliness with the individual receiving prominence only when he seems to fall below this standard, and therefore appears as such in the record. Probate and deed registration is, of course, orientated towards persons, but here the system is rather different because statute provides for individuals to record certain transactions as individuals. Perhaps this is why it is so much easier to write about institutions, businesses and departments of government in a general way rather than to deal with these departments as they affect people. There is need for work on both aspects of administration certainly, but the second is by far the most difficult. Again, the historical value of a record may be quite different from its administrative value when created. This is particularly true of tax records where the descriptions of long-vanished property is of far greater importance than the tax assessment.

We are probably entering into a new age of the index which, for some time now, has been somewhat in eclipse, especially in the newer archives. The intake of records has been so tremendous in the last few years that indexing has lapsed, but it is more than likely that as modern records pass on to computer tape, which may be searched in any way desired, more and more time will be given over to the indexing of the older records through punch cards and automation to bring them into line with the new. Meanwhile, most provincial archivists are concerned to control and process their records as quickly as possible to make them available to the public through effective and carefully considered inventories and checklists. The days are long past when an infinity of time can be spent on one collection while the rest of the records would remain gathering dust.

A great era in archival development is drawing to a close in North America. The last state and provincial archives are being established; a vast network of archival repositories now covers the continent; the preservation of private manuscripts has been greatly accelerated; the preservation of public records has been undertaken as never before. A great battle for the surviving records

and manuscripts of the past has been won in the sense that chaos from neglect has given way to professional care and the establishment of archival order. Records which now stand on the shelves of repositories are a massive paper monument to two or more generations of legislators, lobbyists, archivists and librarians who have fought the good fight. "Mopping up" operations will continue for some time, especially in the private sector, and while many valuable records will still be lost, it will not be for want of a repository that would be willing to take them.

During these formative years of the archival profession, the emphasis has had to be on preservation and *physical order*. In future, there must be a far more searching analysis of the *contents* of archives through more sophisticated finding aids. Historians and other users will expect no less and we as archivists must devote far more time to this problem. As a first step, the archivist should be able to present an overview by subject of sources both primary and secondary within the field of his jurisdiction. With this end in view, the Provincial Archives is publishing *New Brunswick History: A Checklist of Secondary Sources* on the above lines, to be ready shortly. A programme of this kind is most valuable and most easily produced where most of the archives in an area are relatively new, and their finding aids unsophisticated, as in New Brunswick. It would clearly be inappropriate where elaborate guides to individual repositories had already been published. It is hoped that the next publication of the Provincial Archives will be a guide to the records and manuscripts, relating them where possible to sources elsewhere. Archivists, from the researchers' point of view, are essentially providers of information. Historians want to know about sources for their subject wherever they may be. A subject index to the collections as a whole is still in the planning stage, but will start before next year.

Meanwhile, the following will have to suffice and is the first published list of the holdings of the Provincial Archives.

*A brief listing of the principal holdings of the  
Provincial Archives of New Brunswick*

*Note:* Inventories for each of these series have been prepared, but some are more detailed than others.

*Executive Council*

Minutes, 1784-1943; Governors' letter books, 1784-1800, 1816-19, 1836-90; Blue Books (returns and statistics), 1829-65; Election Returns, 1786-1892; Papers (including those recently returned by the Dominion Archivist which have been preserved as a separate group and listed in P.A.C. Inventory to Manuscript Group 9), 1784-1940. Many of these are strays from the Legislative Assembly papers and are gradually being identified. Arranged by subject up to 1867 (no trace remains of the original order) and, therefore, of immediate value for research on this basis. 450 feet.

*Legislative Council*

A descriptive inventory has been prepared of the annual and special reports published as Appendices to the Journals of the Council, 1836-1892.

*Legislative Assembly*

Bills, journals, messages, petitions, reports and returns, miscellaneous, 1786-1899. The indexes to the published Journals may be used to supplement the inventory and to locate individual items since the original bundling has survived to a large extent, and has been preserved. A descriptive inventory to the Appendices of the published Journals, 1784-1900 has also been prepared. 190 feet.

*Departments*

*Agriculture:* Apart from the published Annual Reports, only recent records appear to have survived.

*Education:* Board and Dept. of Education records, 1840-1960; School Board and District records, 1870-1955; Portland and Saint John School Board records, 1877-1945; Chief Superintendent of Schools, Gloucester County, 1940-1968. 600 feet.

*Health and Welfare:* Vital statistics (marriage registers), by County, 1790-1888; Provincial Hospital, Saint John, records, 1854-1957; Civilian Volunteer Corps records, 1940-42. 50 feet.

*Justice: Supreme Court* records, 1785-c. 1920. An immense collection which was in complete disorder. The Court papers are arranged by year and type of instrument within the year to 1899. Judgment Rolls, Declarations and Informations are the most useful to historians. Court registers contain indexes of cases. 700 feet.

*Bankruptcy* (deposited business records), Maritime Bank, 1873-1905; Nepisquit Lumber Company, 1903-1921, Saint John Building Society, 1861-97; Cushing Sulphite Fibre Company, 1899-1906. 132 feet. *County Court* records, by county, 1813-1966. 220 feet. Probate Court records, by county, 1785-1950 (4 counties only, remainder on microfilm to 1888). 40 feet. Total: 1,500 feet.

*Municipal Affairs:* County records (General Sessions and County Council): Albert, 1840-1967; Carleton, 1852-1958; Charlotte, 1785-1966; Gloucester, 1831-1960; Kent, 1828-1965; Kings, 1815-1966; Madawaska, 1873-1965; Northumberland, 1789-1966; Queens, 1826-1949; Restigouche, 1906-1965; Saint John, 1812-1962; Sunbury, 1782-1967; Victoria, 1850-1968; Westmorland, 1785-1966; York, 1818-1947. 1500 feet. For city and town records, see under "Private Manuscripts: municipal records", below.

*Natural Resources: Crown Land Office:* petitions, 1768-1854 (fully indexed); journals (land committee of the Council), 1785-1840; Surveyor General, letter books, 1785-1896; grants, 1763-1868; land sales, 1829-1867; timber records, 1839-1861. 150 feet. Deputy Minister's correspondence, 1923-57, 330 feet. Total: 480 feet.

## 82 *Acadiensis*

*Provincial Secretary:* Early records of Provincial Secretary are combined with those of Clerk to the Executive Council and are unsorted beyond 1846; records of over 60 railway companies, 1870-1920 are sorted and listed briefly.

*Public Works:* records, 1855-1940. Bridge files by County (bridge plans on microfilm). 132 feet.

### *Private Manuscripts: Family and Business*

Barry (Fredericton) MSS, 1887-1943. Household accounts; law students' notebooks; Saint Dunstan's R.C. Church, Fredericton, accounts, 1909-1929; Symonds and Burpee estate journal, 1880-1891. 7 feet.

Burchill (South Nelson) MSS, 1830-1965. Lumber business archives. An immense and very complete record (in process of being arranged and listed). 300 feet.

Coy (Fredericton) MSS, 1800-1857. Family papers. 2 feet.

Gillmor (Rothesay) MSS, 1850-1897. The papers of Arthur Hill Gillmor. Family, business and political correspondence. Gillmor was Provincial Secretary, 1865-66. 12 feet.

Gorham (Fredericton) MSS, 1911-1946. The papers of Raymond Paddock Gorham. Personal correspondence, entomological and historical research papers (early New Brunswick). 60 feet.

Hannay MSS. Notes of the survey of James Hannay of the records of the Maritime Provinces, 1907-1908. 3 feet.

Hanson (Fredericton) MSS, 1918-1948. Political and municipal correspondence. R. G. Hanson was a prominent member of the Conservative Party. His papers of Federal interest are in the P.A.C. 15 feet.

Hatch (Saint Andrews) MSS, 1802-1906. Professional and personal papers including those of Harris Hatch, the attorney. 3 feet.

Hill (Saint Stephen) MSS, 1785-1898. Personal, political and legal papers of George S. and George F. Hill. Very important for the political history of New Brunswick and local history of Saint Stephen. 6 feet.

Manny (Newcastle) MSS, 1815-1930. An artificial collection of manuscripts and printed material relating to the Newcastle and Chatham area. Also Corry Clark (Spoolwood) business records, 1899-1953. 18 feet.

Maritime Electric Company (Fredericton) MSS, 1927-1944. Business records. 7 feet.

Todd (Saint Stephen) MSS, 1870-1935. Personal and political papers of the Todd family (mainly Frank, Henry and William); lumber business records. 43 feet.

Williston (Newcastle) MSS, 1789-1850. Historical notes on Northumberland County. 3 feet.

Wood (Sackville) MSS, 1800-1942. Papers of the family of Josiah Wood. 6 feet.

*Private Manuscripts: Municipal Records*

Fredericton, 1848-1960. 54 feet; Moncton, 1882-1957. 63 feet; Newcastle, 1899-1937. 9 feet; Saint John, (Council papers only), 1832-1955. 126 feet; Saint Stephen, 1871-1947. 9 feet.

*Private Manuscripts: Societies*

Fredericton Rotary Club MSS. 3 feet.

New Brunswick Law Society MSS, 1811-1895. 1 foot.

York Sunbury Historical Society MSS. A large artificial collection including: York County Records; business records, including Hazen and White, 1785-1821; family papers of Burpee 1821-1934, Bellamy 1871-1890, Street 1812-1859, Skinner 1875-1891, Babbitt 1865, 1914-50, Flewelling 1776-1868, Atherton 1771-1785; Wolhaupter, 1799-1859; diaries of Benjamin Coburn, M.D., 1863-67; G. H. Markham research papers on local military history. 33 feet.

*Private Manuscripts: Miscellaneous*

Beaverbrook Scholarships Trust, Papers, 1920-66. 18 feet.

Maritime Union Study, papers, 1967-70. 50 feet.

Various small groups and individual documents, including: Glazier and Sons (Lincoln, N. B.) accounts, 1857-97; York County gaol, register of prisoners, 1877-1931; Pickard Royal Blue (Orange) Lodge, minutes, 1875-1891, 1912-1914; Fredericton Methodist Chapel, Sunday School Book, 1821-1831; St. Annes (Fredericton) Church Warden's book, 1821-1831; Albion Store ledgers, 1837-1839.

*Photographs:* About 10,000 negatives in fifteen collections have been printed and listed. A very thorough subject index to the major collections has also been completed.

*Maps:* An inventory to the map collection is being prepared and a card index by counties is under way.

*Microfilm:* (of originals held elsewhere). Colonial Office papers, 1784-1867; Census returns, 1851, 1861, 1871; Saint John Common Council, minutes, 1785-1959; Prudent L. Mercure papers (historical notes on Madawaska area, 1753-1851); Early Nova Scotia Crown Land grant books from 1730; Chipman papers, 1767-1843; Raymond, Jack, etc., scrapbooks. *Church records:* A representative of the Provincial Archives has been microfilming the records of Anglican, Baptist, Presbyterian and United churches in the field. Nearly 100 churches have been covered in this way so far.

HUGH A. TAYLOR