

Trent University Archives

Finding Aid - Sir Louis Hippolyte LaFontaine fonds (71-004)

Generated by Trent University Archives on January 09, 2026

Language of description: English

Trent University Archives
Trent University Library & Archives
Archives, Room 117
Thomas J. Bata Library
1600 West Bank Drive
Peterborough
Ontario
Canada
K9J 7B8
Telephone: 705-748-1011 ext. 7413
[Email: archives@trentu.ca](mailto:archives@trentu.ca)
<http://www.trentu.ca/library/archives>
<http://archives.trentu.ca/index.php/71-004>

Sir Louis Hippolyte LaFontaine fonds

Table of contents

Summary information	3
Administrative history / Biographical sketch	3
Scope and content	3
Notes	4
Access points	6

Summary information

Repository:	Trent University Archives
Title:	Sir Louis Hippolyte LaFontaine fonds
Reference code:	71-004
Date:	Microfilmed 27 July 1966 (creation)
Physical description:	9 microfilm reels

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Sir Louis Hippolyte LaFontaine was born near Boucherville, Chambly county, Lower Canada, on October 4, 1807, the third son of Antoine Menard dit Lafontaine, a farmer; and the grandson of Antoine Menard LaFontaine, a member of the Legislative Assembly of Lower Canada from 1796 to 1804. He was educated at the College of Montreal, was called to the Bar of Lower Canada, and practiced law in Montreal. From 1830 to 1837 he was a member of the Legislative Assembly of Lower Canada for Terrebonne; and he was a supporter of Louis Joseph Papineau. He opposed the appeal to arms by the Patriotes in 1837; but he deemed it wise to leave Canada, and on his return to Canada in 1838 was arrested. He was released, however, without trial; and when the union of 1841 was brought about, he became the leader of the French Canadian Reformers. He was defeated in the election of 1841 in Terrebonne, but found a seat, through the offices of Robert Baldwin, in the fourth riding of York, Upper Canada. He was able to sit continuously in the Assembly until 1851, first for the fourth riding of York, second for Terrebonne, and lastly for the City of Montreal. In 1848 he became the Prime Minister of the Province of Canada until 1851 when he resigned from the government and withdrew from public life. In 1853 he was appointed Chief Justice of Lower Canada and he occupied this position until his death on February 26, 1864. (taken from "The Macmillan Dictionary of Canadian Biography." 4th ed. Toronto: Macmillan of Canada, 1978.)

Custodial history

The microfilm was in the custody of the the Societe historique de Montreal and acquired by the Trent University Archives.

Scope and content

The fonds consists of microfilmed copies of correspondence, memoirs, and copies of documents relating to his affairs, from 1820 to 1864. It also includes extracts from parish registers, from 1634 to 1822.

Notes

Title notes

- **Source of title proper:** Title based on the creator of the fonds

Immediate source of acquisition

This fonds was acquired from the Societe historique de Montreal

Location of originals

The original items are located at the Societe historique de Montreal

Restrictions on access

None

Related material

See also the "Inventaire de la Collection LaFontaine" compiled by Elizabeth Nish, on the library reference shelf for further information.

Note [General]

Microfilm. Set 1.

Note [General]

Reel No. 1(a)

Correspondance: 000001-000025, undated, partially dated

Correspondance: 000026-000122, includes some copies, drafts of letters sent, 17 November 1835 - 29 December 1840

Correspondance, 1841-1864: 000123-000306, this reel includes dates 7 January 1841 - 11 December 1843

Reel No. 2(a)

Correspondance, 1841-1864: 000307-000529, this reel includes dates 11 December 1843 - 17 April

1849

Reel No. 3(a)
Correspondance, 1841-1864: 000530-000754, this reel includes dates 22 April 1849 - 29 August 1853

Reel No. 4(a)
Correspondance, 1841-1854: 000755-000892, this reel includes dates 10 October 1853 - 29 January 1854

Divers, 1820-1840: 000893-000945, 15 December 1820 - 13 August 1840. Contains varied materials - letters, petitions, indectures, extracts from executive council proceedings, etc.

Divers, 1841-1842 : 000946-000984, 19 January 1841 - 30 December 1842. Contains varied materials - executive council committee reports, Stanley - Bagot correspondence, copy of Metcalfe's Commission as Governor-General of Canada

Divers, 1843-1844: 000985-001036, 2 January 1843-31 December 1844. Contains attorney-general's accounts, reports of executive council committees, etc.

Divers, 1845-1847: 001037-001044, 18 January 1845 - 18 July 1845. Varied content - extracts from minutes of legislative assembly, list of municipalities enacted by proclamation since the union - carries onto Reel No. 5(a)

Divers, 1845-1847: 001045-001081, 7 August 1845 - 19 July 1848, extracts from committee reports on Crown lands, Indians, election memos, etc.

Divers, 1848: 001082-001125, 15 January 1848 - 31 December 1848, indentures, petitions, abstracts of returns furnished by clerks of Circuit Courts, etc.

Divers, 1849: 001126-001145, 1 February 1849 - 31 December 1849, abstracts, Jesuit Estates, memo of writs issued by the Superior Court of the Queen's Bench

Divers, 1850: 001146-001177, 8 February 1850 - 21 December 1850, transcripts of court of Queen's Bench proceedings, schedules re public works claimants in the late Newcastle District, etc.

Divers, 1851-1863: 001178-001208, 21 January 1851 - 2 February 1854. Some Grey-Elgin correspondence, clippings re La Fontain's appointment as Chief Justice of Lower Canada Reel No. 5

Liste Civile, Salaires: 001209-001215

Ecclesiastique: 001216-001221

Education: 001222-001232

Electoral: 001233-001250

Indiens: 001251-001255

Judiciaire-Historique: 001256-001283

Question de Justice: 001284-001300 Reel No. 6(a)

Questions de Justice: 001301-001313

Terre: 001314-001322

Legislation: 001323-001335

Navigation: 001336-001350

Travaux Publiques: 001351-001371

Rebellion et Union: 001372-001391

Esclavage: 001392-001400

Personnel: 001401-001419

R.E. Caron (imprimé): 001420-001421 (1845-1846)

Extraits de Registres (1): Pointe à la Caille, (St. Thomas) 1738-1763, pages 1-7. Cap St. Ignace, 1692-1775, pages 8-12

Extraits de Registres (2): St. Arine du Bout de L'Isle, 1704-1784, pages 3-13. Pointe aux Trembles, 1675-1772, pages 15-32. Longueuil, 1679-1790, pages 33-64. L'Assomption, 1749-1782, pages 65-74. Pages 75-116, blank. Index, pages 117-145

Extraits de Registres (3): Extraits de la Paroisse de Québec, 1739-1752. Index, plus 106 pages

Extraits de Registres (4): LaChine, 1681-1778, Vol. I, 91 pages. Index, pages 109-138. Vol. II, Index and 59 pages

Extraits de Registres (5): St. Eustache, 1771-1802, pages 1-16

Extraits de Registres (6): Index. La Longue Pointe, 1724-1795, pages 1-20. Sault au Recollet, 1736-1778, pages 21-34. La Pointe - Olivier, 1739-1754, pages 35-42. Chambly, 1746-1789, pages 43-62. Pointe aux Trembles, 1678-1714, pages 63-131

Extraits de Registres (7): Index. Sault au Recollet, 1749-1806, pages 3-11. Ile Jesus, 1727-1805, pages 13-23. Rivière des Prairies, 1687-1695, pages 24-26 Reel No. 7(a)

Extraits de Registres (7): Rivière des Prairies, 1687-1695, pages 27-58

Extraits de Registres (8): Repentigny, 1681-1887, pages 1-17. Lachenaye, 1684-1744, pages 17-22. Vercheres, 1724-1788, pages 23-59. St. Ours, 1681-1801, pages 60-75. Terrebonne, 1725-1797, pages 76-89. La Prairie, 1680-1762, pages 90-97. La Pointe Claire, 1718-1800, pages 98-103. La Longue Pointe 1724-1800, pages 104-118. Rivière des Prairies, 1702-1801, pages 119-132

Extraits de Registres (9): Lanoraie, 1735-1821, pages 1-19. La Valtrie, 1716-1815, pages 21-38. Berthier, 1727-1785, pages 41-71. St. Laurent, 1720-1799, pages 73-86

- Extraits de Registres (10): Index. Longueuil 1699-1795, pages 1-56
- Extraits de Registres (11): Index. Boucherville 1688-1762, Vol. I, 219 pages, 1763-1800. Vol. II, 59 pages plus index
- Extraits de Registres (12): Boucherville 1696-1800, pages 1-45. Varennes, 1697-1803, pages 47-110. Index, pages 111-153
- Extraits de Registres (13): Index. Varennes, 1693-1800, pages 1-170
- Extraits de Registres (14): Chateaugai (au greffe). Ft. St. Frederic, 1732-1760, pages 1-15. Ft. St. Jean, 1757-1760, pages 16-17. Chateaugay, 1752-1783, pages 18-20. Index, pages 117-140
- Extraits de Registres (15): L'Isle du Ponds, 1709-1774, pages 1-33. Saurel, 1679-1732, pages 34-36. Index, pages 117-141
- Extraits de Registres (16): Trois Rivières, 1650-1699, pages 1-50. Batiscan, 1680-1764, pages 51-98. Champlain, 1679-1809, pages 99-121 Reel No. 8(a)
- Extraits de Registres (16): Champlain, 1679-1809, pages 121-162. Cap de la Magdelaine, 1687, 1735-1741, pages 152-154. Trois Rivières, 1654-1675, pages 163-189, Index, pages 190-202. Deschambault et la Chevratière, 1705-1712, pages 204-214
- Extraits de Registres (17): Trois Rivières, 1634-1699, 116 pages
- Extraits de Registres (18): Registres de l'Etat Civil, Trois Rivières, 1636-1699, pages 1-54. Registres de la curé, Montréal, 1695-1730, pages 55-358. Index, commencent à la fin
- Extraits de Registres (19-1): Montréal, 1642-1694, 332 pages. Index, pages 334-362
- Extraits de Registres (19-2): Montréal, 1731-1746, 185 pages
- Extraits de Registres (19-3): Montréal, 1747-1755, 112 pages Reel No. 9(a)
- Extraits de Registres (19-4): Montréal 1756-1763, 104 pages
- Extraits de Registres (19-5): Montréal, 1764-1777, 110 pages
- Extraits de Registres (19-6): Montréal, 1778-1792, 106 pages
- Extraits de Registres (19-7): Montréal, 1793-1812, 137 pages
- Extraits de Registres (19-8): Montréal, 1813-1822, 86 pages
- Extraits de Registres (20): Christ Church: Marriages, 1766-1794; Baptisms, 1767-1768. 7 pages

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published

Access points

- Microfilm collection (documentary form)
- Textual records (documentary form)
- Politics and Government (subject)