

Trent University Archives

Finding Aid - Captain Thomas Gummersall Anderson diaries collection (77-1014)

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Captain Thomas Gummersall Anderson diaries collection

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Summary information

Repository:	Trent University Archives
Title:	Captain Thomas Gummersall Anderson diaries collection
Reference code:	77-1014
Date:	Transcribed [before 1977]. (creation)
Physical description:	2 items

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Captain Thomas Gummersall Anderson, Superintendent of Indian Affairs (1830-1845), was born at Sorel, Quebec, on November 12, 1779, the son of Captain Samuel Anderson, of the Royal Regiment of New York. His first wife was Mar-pi-ya-ro-to-win (Grey Cloud), a descendent of Sioux Chief Wahpasha, and they had three children; his second wife was Elizabeth Ann Hamilton (1796-1858). After serving an apprenticeship with a merchant at Kingston, Upper Canada, he went into the fur trade at Michilimackinac; and in 1814 was in command of a party of volunteers that re-took Prairie-du Chien from the Americans. After the War he was appointed as an officer of the Indian Department, with the rank of Captain. He was stationed in turn at Drummond Island, Penetanguishene, Coldwater, and Manitoulin Island. In 1845 he succeeded Colonel S.P. Jarvis as Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Canada West; and he held this post until his retirement in 1858. He died at Port Hope on February 10, 1875.

Custodial history

The typescripts were acquired by the Honourable Leslie M. Frost from Mr. P.C. Garratt of Toronto, Ontario. Mr. Garratt was married to the granddaughter of Captain T.G. Anderson.

Scope and content

This fonds consists of two typescripts of diaries written by Captain Thomas G. Anderson. The first diary consists of reminiscences of his early life, covering the years from 1795 to 1800 (10 pages). The second diary was written while Captain Anderson was the visiting Superintendent of Indian Affairs at Cobourg, Canada West from September to December 1849. It includes an account of a journey to settle an Indigenous land claim on Lake Superior and Lake Huron (34 pages).

Notes

Title notes

- **Source of title proper:** Title based on the contents of the collection.

Immediate source of acquisition

This fonds was bequeathed by the Honourable Leslie M. Frost.

Location of originals

The location of the original items is unknown.

Restrictions on access

None.

Related material

For related records see the Leslie M. Frost fonds (77-024). Associated materials located at the Archives of Ontario.

Note [General]

The early reminiscences of Captain Thomas G. Anderson are published in: Rowe, S. Mrs. "Anderson Record from 1699-1896." Ontario Historical Society Papers and Records. Vol 6., p. 109-135.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
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Access points

- Isolated manuscripts (documentary form)
- Diaries and journals (documentary form)
- Indigenous Studies (subject)
- Politics and Government (subject)
- Northumberland and Durham Counties (place)