Tyrrell, James Williams, 1863-1945
Papers, 1836-1982.
24 boxes (3 metres)
Collection of correspondence, notebooks and diaries, notes, drafts for his writings, survey plans and maps, photographs relating to his family and work, and ephemera.
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TYRRELL (JAMES WILLIAM) PAPERS

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

CORRESPONDENCE FILES

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE, BUSINESS AND PERSONAL.
1883-1945.

Letters (and some other materials) sent and received by JWT. Includes some documents relating to JWT’s surveying business. Includes typescript of obituary notice by Edwin Mills, 1945. (Arranged chronologically)

Box 2

FAMILY CORRESPONDENCE. 1836-1929.

Chiefly letters addressed to or received by JWT from various members of his family. Includes some early William Tyrrell papers pertaining to JWT’s father, William Tyrrell, and material connected with JWT’s sons. Significant items described below.

William Tyrrell (father of JWT). Includes documents and letters. 1836-1898. 12 folders.

Copies of early letters written to family in Ireland by WT describing his first years in Canada. 1836-1842.

Typed copies of memoranda re Burwick Factory, 1845; re ownership of property in Twp. of York, 1853.

Indenture of sale John D. Porter to William Tyrrell, 1853.

Deed of confirmation, John D. Porter to William Tyrrell, 1859.

Report on Town Hall, Weston, by architect Ellis. 1893.

Elizabeth Tyrrell (sister of JWT). Notebook containing letters written to JWT at Ashe Inlet, 1886. (1 folder)
JWT to infant son, William Charlton.
Athabasca River, June 4, 1893. Written on birchbark. "I will tell you a secret, Baby Willie. This is your mother and father's wedding day ..."

William Charlton Tyrrell (JWT's son). Documents relating to WCT's service overseas during World War I. Include messages received at the front and his Platoon roll book. Also Field Medical Card, dated 10/7/16, stating he was suffering from shell shock, and note from medical officer describing his condition, same date.

(See also notebooks for 1886-87, Ashe Inlet)

1878-80 Diary and accounts.
1882 Diary covering summer work on survey in northern Ontario for Mr. F. Bolger.
1883/1887 July-Aug. 1883 entries cover work on survey of Lake of the Woods under A.C. Lawson. April-May 1887 entries cover beginning of his employment as an engineer on the International Railway of Maine.
1901 Diary and accounts. Covers trip up to Dawson City and work surveying in Klondike.
1904 Diary and accounts.
1905 Diary covers expedition to Churchill, June to August.
1906 Diary and accounts. Few entries.
1907 Diary and accounts.
Notebooks (Cont’d)

1907-08  Notebook of medical information and remedies.
1908    Diary with few entries and accounts.
1909    Diary with few entries and accounts.
1924-25 Account book with notes and memos.
1925-26 Account book with diary entries.
1927    Diary.
1941    Diary

Undated  Notebook with JWT’s notes on northern expeditions undertaken by Back and Warburton Pike.

SUBJECT GROUPINGS

ASHIE INLET MATERIALS. 1885-86.

JWT appointed hydrographer and meteorological observer on federal government expedition to Hudson Bay, summer 1885 to summer 1886. He spent winter as an observer at Ashe Inlet, on Big Island on the north side of Hudson Strait. See list of printed materials for A.R. Gordon’s Report on this survey.

ASHIE ISLAND MATERIALS

Papers include "station provision list"; sketch of cabin; sketch maps of Big Island (1 folder); notes entitled "Eskimo traditional beliefs" (1 folder); mss. of several poems by JWT.

Notebooks include:
   Diary, June -Sept.1885.

   4 notebooks of tidal and meteorological observations.

   Notebook containing glossary of Eskimo words and phrases.
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TYRRELL (JAMES WILLIAM) PAPERS

CONTAINER LIST

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Box 5

SURVEY OF COUNTRY BETWEEN GREAT SLAVE LAKE AND HUDSON BAY. 1900-01.

Original manuscript survey maps, published in JWT’s official Report on an Exploratory Survey..., Ottawa, 1901.

Boxes 6-7

SURVEYS OF MINING AND OTHER PROPERTIES. 1897-1965.

Box 6

The Bridge River and Lillooet Gold Mining Company, B.C. Prospectus. 1897. 1 folder.

Swayze Twp., Ont. and vicinity. Maps and extracts from field notebooks (typed copies) re mining properties. 5 folders.

Little Long Lac area, Ont. Plans and documents re mining claims. Agreements with Northern Canada Mining Corp. 1933-37. 5 folders.

Kirkland Lake Gold Mines. Plans of mining claims; notebook containing townsite surveys, Kirkland Lake, 1924 and 1929. 1924-40. 4 folders. See also photo files.

Rosedale, Barton Twp., Wentworth County. 3 plans of subdivision. 1912. 1 folder.

Wentworth Ranch, Sask. Plan. 1918. 1 folder. See also photo files.

Box 7

Red Lake Mines, Ont. 1896-1965. 1 box. See also photo files.

JWT surveyed eight gold properties at Red Lake, Keewatin District, in 1897. They were not developed due to inaccessibility of the properties. In 1926 JWT set up Tyrrell Red Lake Mines, Ltd. (Hamilton Red Lake Mining Syndicate) and sent his son, William C. Tyrrell, to survey 18 claims in the same area which was now under development. In 1963 WCT returned to visit Red Lake. Papers include:
Printed map issued by Geological Survey: "District of Keewatin ... vicinity of Red Lake" 1896.
Blueprint: "Plan of mining locations ... Red Lake" by JWT. Oct. 1897.

Correspondence and papers re WCT's survey of 18 claims for the Tyrrell Red Lake Mines, Ltd., 2 notebooks of WCT's observations; clippings re Red Lake Mines, 1926; WCT's reports to shareholders, 1926, 1927; topographical map, 1926.

Correspondence and papers re WCT's 1963 visit to Red Lake, and souvenirs.

JWT was keenly interested in this project as a result of his 1905 expedition to assess the feasibility of Churchill as a port. He made numerous speeches and wrote numerous articles on the subject. A few background materials are included here.

JWT built a summer cottage at Norway Point on Lake of Bays in 1907 and spent most summers there from then on. He also developed a subdivision across the lake, called Clovelly Point. This material consists chiefly of ephemera, clippings, survey of Clovelly subdivision, prospectus; account for building wharf, 1914.

An Encounter with Polar Bears. 1885.
Vocabulary of 350 Eskimo words. [188-?] 
Navigable Waterways of the Four Great Interior Basins ... 1898. 
Newfoundland. 1904. 
The Hudson Bay Route from a Military Viewpoint. 1909 
Natives of Our North Land. 1909. 
The Hudson Bay Route. 1910. 
Intelligence and Scouting in War. 1914. 
Tyrrell for Mayor. 1917. 
The Hudson Bay Route, Resources, Conditions, and Development to Date. 1920. 

Speech to the Hamilton Automobile Club. 1921. 
The Hudson Bay Route. 1924. 
Nine Thousand Miles through Our Great Northern Heritage. [1931?] 
Economic Resources of the Hudson Bay District. [s.d.] 
Hudson Bay and Churchill. [s.d.] 
On to Hudson Bay. [s.d.] 
Synopsis of Papers on the Hudson Bay Route. [s.d.] 
Speech -- Songs, Ancient and Modern. [s.d.] 
Poem: The Discovery of the Thelon River.
Across the Sub-Arctics of Canada a journey of 3,200 miles by canoe and snowshoe through the barren lands (Toronto: W. Briggs, 1897). 3 folders.


Explorations and Adventures in Our Far North Land, Being the Life Story of James W. Tyrrell. [194-?] JWT’s unpublished autobiography, written near the end of his life. 281 p. with xeroxes of photos.

Two typescripts: "original copy" and "unedited copy". Correspondence with Ryerson Press re publication. 1943-44. (1 folder)

Contains copies of JWT’s published articles, etc. See also box of typescripts and manuscripts. Copies of his published Report on an Exploratory Survey, 1901, are in book collection.

Chiefly printed materials re JWT and his family. Large collection of clippings. Sizeable files on J.B. Tyrrell and especially on expedition of 1893.
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TYRELL (JAMES WILLIAM) PAPERS

CONTAINER LIST

Box 15 Photograph album (cont’d)

Box 15 Photograph album: Ashe Inlet, 1885-1886. Contains 17 photos. by R. Bell of Ashe Inlet and Churchill and 30 photos. by JWT of Ashe Inlet and environs.

Box 16 Photograph album: Hudson Bay Expedition from Great Slave Lake to Hudson Bay, 1900. Contains 104 labelled photographs by JWT.

Photograph album: [Hudson Bay Expedition from Great Slave Lake to Hudson Bay, 1900]

Untitled photos and album. Shows similar scenes to labelled photograph album above. Photos in different format and order. Taken by JWT? Contains approximately 170 photos.

PRINTS AND NEGATIVES

Arranged by topic and/or date. Prints and negatives interfiled. Most are unlabelled.

Box 17 NORTH AND WESTERN EXPEDITIONS AND SURVEYS. 1893-1930.

Includes photos of:
Barren Lands, 1893 (1 photo. plus list)

Great Slave Lake Expedition, 1900 (5 folders)

Klondike, 1901-2 (24 photos.)

Saskatchewan survey parties, 1903-04 (2 folders)

Expedition to Churchill, 1905 (8 folders)

Manitoba survey parties, 1907-1915, and many undated (8 folders)

Red Lake area, 1926 and undated (3 folders)

Churchill and vicinity, undated, 1930’s? (4 folders)

Photos of mines and northern scenes, mostly unidentified, undated.
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TYRELL (JAMES WILLIAM) PAPERS

CONTAINER LIST

Boxes 18-19

PRINCE ALBERT RANCH, SASK. 1916-1923.
Includes 1 box of 24 glass negatives.

Boxes 20-22

GENERAL AND FAMILY. 1888-1942.
Includes some early undated Tyrrell family photos and 4 glass negatives.

Box 23

EARLY ISSUES OF NEWSPAPERS

The Graphic. "Arctic Number". Nov. 8, 1876.
Saturday Globe. Toronto. July 6, 1895. Special issue on "Toronto as It Is".

Box 24

EPHEMERA COLLECTED BY JWT

Tyrrell, William. "To Builders, Tenders will be received by William Tyrrell ... for the erection of store-house at Burwick, for J.W. Gamble ...
Weston, 28th Sept., 1846. Printed at the British Canadian Office, Bay-Street.

Tyrrell, William. "To Builders, sealed tenders will be received for the erection of a brick house for Peter Shaver ... Weston, 6th February, 1847". Printed at the British Canadian office, Bay-Street. 2 cops.

Tyrrell, William. "To the electors of West York!". Weston, 1872.

Dennis & Boulton, Agents. "A beautiful location for country residences at Weston ... public auction ... 11th day of September". Toronto, Sept. 2, 1856.

Invitation to J.W. Tyrrell for the opening of the Hamilton and Barton Incline Railway. June 11, 1892. Menu and list of toasts for the dinner.

Christmas card from Lt. Col. A.F. van Nostrand and the Officers of the Corps of Guides. 1911.


Menu for the eleventh reunion dinner, Engineering Alumni Association, Royal York Hotel, Toronto, Nov. 14, 1942.

Etching of main entrance, University College, Toronto.