

Finding Aid for the Ross Graves Collection—For the East Hants Museum, November 2025

1. Framed family record for the Thomas and Elizabeth (Withrow) Fenton of Lower Rawdon.
Made by Libbie Britton, granddaughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (her mother was Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth) and given by Libbie's sister Janet to Alma Fenton of Upper Rawdon (daughter of William, of Robert, of Thomas and Elizabeth).
2. Framed watercolour painting by Rhoda MacDougall of West Gore, signed RMD.
2 x27 cm; brown frame, white mat
Scene: country road, fencing along sides of the road, birch tree on right, house in distance.
This is the view in front of Rhoda's parents' home, West Gore, looking east to the house where lived Rhoda's aunts Ethel, Emma, and Myrna MacDougall. Rhoda gave it to them, and when the last aunt died and their brother Munroe cleaned out the house, he gave it to me. a distant relative.
3. Autograph book of Ethel MacDougall of West Gore.
Contains autographs and name cards of relatives and neighbours, 1890s and on. From Munroe.
4. Autograph book of Annie (MacDonald) Barker of Centre Gore.
Contains autographs of relatives and neighbours, 1893 and on. From her daughter Nellie, another distant relative, 1960s.
5. Bible of John Dodds of Centre Gore.
Leather bound. Inscribed: John Dodd's Book, May 5th 1858
He was a ship's carpenter, died 1879 aged 28 from a fall while at work in Avondale; buried in the Kennetcook cemetery.
See comments penciled in on inside back cover.
6. Poetry scrapbook of Jessie Blackbum of Milford Station (later. Mrs Harry Purple, Milford Station).
Contains two poems of interest: one 'Memories of My Boyhood Days in Selma', by Charles Sweeny, and the other the once widely known ballad 'Babes in the Woods' about the Maher children lost in the Dartmouth woods, by Devil Dan' Blois.
7. Homespun linen, made from flax grown on the John MacDougall place at Riverside Comer, spun and woven by his daughters Mary Ann and Janet, who raised Marion Williams, who when old gave it to my grandmother Jennie Sim of Centre Gore.
(Mr MacDougall was M.L.A. for Hants East at one time; there is a large picture of his house, with Mary Ann and Janet in the picture, in box #17.)
8. Homespun tablecloth, spun and woven from flax grown on the James Gordon farm, West Gore; made by his daughter-in-law, Elizabeth (Madill) Gordon, wife of James Jr., who lived on the homestead. From Helen (Purple) Nichols of Truro, a distant relative and great-grand-daughter of Elizabeth.
9. Skein of wool, spun by Elizabeth (Madill) Gordon (1827-1899) of West Gore, from sheep raised on the James Gordon farm. West Gore. From Helen Nichols.
10. Wooden kitchen paddle, from James Gordon home. Passed down in the family.
11. Coffin plate of Alexander Sim, born 1817 in Rothes, Morayshire, Scotland; died 1897 at his home. Centre Gore; buried in Upper Rawdon. Passed down in the family; he was a brother to my gt-gt-grandfather.
12. Family Bible of Benjamin and Freedom (Strong) Sanford, early settlers in West Gore. Contains family record, 1763-1814.
25 by 40 cm, leather bound. Heavy. Inside binding badly twisted. Inscribed on inside back cover: 'B. McDonald'.
Poor condition. Missing up to Genesis XV and from Philemon on.
The family lived for many years in the western end of what is now West Gore, on what was later called the antimony mines road. Remains of the cellar can still be seen in what is now woods. Many descendants in East Hants: McPhees, MacDonalds, MacDougalls, Sims/Simms, etc.
Of interest: seven sets of twins in four generations of this family, beginning with Benjamin and Freedom's daughters Drusilla and Cinderella (spelt 'Syndarilla' in the record). See chart inserted next to the family record, between the Apocrypha and the New Testament.
Bought in 1960s from Nellie Barker of Centre Gore, daughter of Annie, daughter of Benjamin, son of Cinderella.

Notes on history and families of eastern Hants County
compiled by Ross Graves in the 1950s and 60s

Box 1

1. Micmacs	
2. Acadians	
3. Settlers along the shore	
4. Douglas township grant, 1784, 1786, &c	
5. Douglas - Haliburton Associates	
6. Douglas-misc.	
7. 84 th Regiment - muster rolls, copied from originals at PRO, London, 1959	38. Hants Co. deeds
8. 84 th Regiment-papers &c	39. Hants Co. probate
9. Rawdon township grant, 1784	
10. Rawdon town meetings, 1810-1875	
11. Rawdon - Loyalist claims	Deeds -1
12. Rawdon Baptist Church	Deeds-2
13. Rawdon - misc.	East Hants Historical Society
14. Eastern Hants names in Newport records	J.W. stones
15. Eastern Hants names in Windsor records	Grade 10 history notes
16. Everyday life in early days	
17. Shipbuilding	
18. Churches, ministers	Community files
19. Roads, bridges, railway	Admiral Rock
20. Maps	Belnan
21. Place names	Burntcoat
22. Literature	Centre Gore
23. Miscellaneous	Centre Rawdon
24. Hants County histories	Clarksville
24a. Ralph Whittier's history	East Gore
25. PANS work notes	East Noel
26a. 26b, 26c-schools	East Uniacke
27. school returns - Douglas	East Walton
28. school returns - Rawdon	Elmsdale
29. school returns - Newport &c	Enfield
30. Squire Densmore's diary	Five Mile River
31. William Mosher's necrology	Georgefield and Glencoe
32. S.P.G. reports	Greenfield
33. census lists	Hardwoodlands
34. gravestones	Hillsvale
35. Crown land grants	Indian Road, East and West
36. PANS land grants-A	Kennetcook
37. PANS land grants-B	Lantz

Box 2

Lower Selma
Maitland
Maitland clippings
Maple Grove
Milford Station
Mill Village
Minasville
Moose Brook
Mount Uniacke
Nine Mile River
Noel
Noel Road
Noel Shore
North Noel Road
North Salem
Northfield
Rawdon Gold Mines (Pleasant Valley)
Renfrew
Riverside Corner
Ryans Creek
Selma
Shubenacadie
South Maitland
South Rawdon
Stanley
Tenecape
Upper Kennetcook
Upper Nine Mile River
Upper Rawdon
Urbania
Walton
West Gore - general
West Gore - antimony mines
West Gore - cemetery - 1
West Gore - cemetery - 2
West Gore - church
West Gore - college
West Gore - schools
West Gore - news clippings

Family Files

Ainslie
Aitken
Aker
Alexander
Allen
Allison
Ambrose
Anderson
Andrews
Angevine
Annand
Anthony - 2 folders
Archibald
Armstrong
Arnold
Ashley
Aubray
Aylward

Banks
Barbrick
Barclay
Barkhouse
Barr
Barrett
Barron
Bartlett

Box 3

Beach	Campbell
Beattie	Canavan
Bechman	Carr
Bell	Carroll
Benere	Carter
Bennet	Casey
Best	Chisholm
Bilby	Church
Bishop	Clark - Clarksville
Blackburn	Clark - Musquodoboit
Blades	Clark, Ellis - Halifax
Blair	Clooney
Blake	Clow
Blois - 6 folders	
Boate	
Boggs	
Bond - Upper Rawdon	
Bond - Lower Rawdon	
Boomer	
Boudreau	
Bowman	
Braden	
Bradley	
Braughan	
Brazil	
Brechin	
Brennan	
Brightman	
Brimicombe	
Brison	
Britton	
Bruce-West Gore	
Bruce - Musquodoboit	
Bryden	
Buchanan	
Burgess	
Burnett	
Burris	
Burton	
Caddell	
Cahill	
Caldwell	
Cameron	

Box 4

Cochrane - clippings	Dechman
Cochrane - Felix and Terry	Demont
Cochrane - East Gore	Densmore - 2 folders
Cochrane - Minasville	Dewis
Colbert	DeWolf
Colburn	Dick
Cole	Dickie
Collins	Dill
Colter-see Coulter	Dillman
Conley	Dimock-2 folders
Connors	Dingle
Conrad	Dixon
Cook	Dodd(s)
Copeland	Dodge
Corbett	Donaldson
Corney	Dorey
Cotta m	Dotten
Coulter	Douglas
Courtney	Douthwright
Cox	Dow
Crawford	Dowell, Doull
Creed	Dowling
Crocker	Doyle
Croft	Drillio
Crossley	Dunbrack
Crossman	Dunn
Crowe	Dunton and other Black
Crowell	families
Cruickshank	Eagles
Cunard	Eaton
Curren	Eddy
Currie	Edgett
Custance	Edwards
	Eisan
	Eldridge
Dalrymple	
Daniels	
Dartt	
Davidson	
Davis	
Davison - 2 folders	
Dawes	
Day	
Deal	
Dearman	

Box 5

Elliott	Garden
Ellis	Garland
Ells	Gass
England	Gauld
Erskine	Gay
Esdale	Gibbon
Etter	Gilbert
Ettinger-3 folders	Gilby
Fahie	Gill
Fancy	Gilroy
Farnell	Gladwin
Faulkner	Glennie
Fenton-6 folders	Goff
Ferguson	
Fielding	
Findlay	
Fish	
Fisher	
Fisk	
Fitzpatrick	
Flemming	
Fletcher	
Flynn	
Foley	
Forbes - 5 Mile River, 9 Mile River	
Forbes - Old Barns	
Fowler	
Fox - Northfield	
Fox - Musquodoboit	
Frail	
Frame	
Franklin	
Fraser - Nine Mile River	
Fraser - Musquodoboit	
Fraser - Parrsboro	
Freize	
Fulmore	
Fulton	
Gaetz	
Gale	
Gallant	
Garby	

Box 6

Gordon -13 folders
Gorman
Gorvette
Gould
Gow
Graham
Grant - East Gore, 7 folders
Grant - Hardwoodlands
Grant - Fort Ellis
Grant - Musquodoboit
Grantmyre
Graves - 3 folders
Gray
Green
Greeno
Grono
Grumley

Haley
Hall
Hamilton - Centre Gore
Hamilton - Rawdon
Hanes, Hines
Hanna
Hare
Harris
Harrison
Harvey-West Gore
Harvie, Harvey-Noel Road
Hawkins
Hay

Box 7

Hayes	Kellough
Hayward-see Howard	Kelly
Hazel	Kennedy
Helpard	Kenty
Henderson	Kerr
Henley	Keyes
Hennigar-4 folders	Kilcup
Higgins - Rawdon - 3 folders	Kilian
Higgins - Musquodoboit	Kindervater
Hilchie	King
Hill	Kirkpatrick
Hiltz	Kitchen
Hines	Knowles
Hingley	
Hirtle	Lacey, Leacy
Holland	Lade
Holman	Laffin - 2 folders
Hood	Lahey
Hopkins	Lake
Horne	Landerkin
Horton	Lane
Howard, Haywood	Langille
Howe	Lantz
Howlett	Lattie
Hoyt	Lavers
Hughes - Kennetcook	Lawrence
Hughes - Princeport	Laws, Law
Huntley	Lawton
Hurley	Lay, Leek
Hutchinson - Rawdon	Ledwidge
Hutchinson - Musquodoboit	Lee
Hutt	Leighton
	Lemmon - Rawdon
Irving, Irvin(e)	Lemmon - Musquodoboit
Ingram, Ingraham	Lennerton
Isenor	Lennox
	Leslie
Jackson	Letson
Jamieson	Levy
Jennings	Lewis
Johnson, Johnston	Lindsay
Joudrey, Jodrey	Lingard
Joy	Liswell
Joyce	Little
	Lively
Kavanagh	Locke
Keating	
Kehoe	

Box 8

Lockhart
Logan
Loomer- 2 folders

Loughead
Lowe
Lunn
Lynch
Lyttle, Lightle

MacAloney
MacArthur
MacAskill
MacAulay
McBane
MacCallum
MacCormick
MacCulloch
McCurdy
MacDonald - Centre Gore
MacDonald - Riverside
MacDonald - Indian Road
MacDonald - others, 2 folders
McDonnell
MacDougall - Riverside
MacDougall - Maitland
MacDougall - Belnan
MacDowell
McDuffie
McFetridge
McGinnis - see McInnes
McGuire - see Maguire
McHardie
McHeffey
McInnes
McIntosh
MacKay
McKeen
McKeil
McKenna
Mackenzie - 2 folders
McKillop
McKinnon
McLachlan
McLaughlin of Economy - 3 folders

Box 9

McLean
McLearn-4 folders
McLellan
McLeod
McMichael
McMillian
McMullin
McNeil
McNutt
McPhee - 20 folders
McQuarrie

Box 10

Macumber	Neil
Madden	Nelson
Madill	Newcomb
Maguire	Nichols
Main	Nieforth
Malcolm	Nix
Manley	Noble
Mann	Nolan
Marriott	Nolter
Marsh	Norman
Marshall	Northover
Marsman	Northrup
Marsters	Nowlan
Martell	O'Brien - Noel
Mason	O'Brien - Rawdon
Matheson	O'Donnell
Mattatal	O'Neil
Meadows	O'Rourke
Meehan	O'Toole
Meek	Oatley
Messervey	Ogilvie
Metlin	Olson
Miller - Kennetcook - 6 folders	Orechia
Miller - Newport	
Miller-Musquodoboit, Fall River	
Millett	
Milne	
Minard	
Mitchell	
Monteith	
Moody	
Moore	
Morris	
Morrisey	
Morrison	
Morton	
Mosher	
Moxon	
Moxsom	
Mumford	
Murdoch	
Murphy-Gore	
Murphy - Rawdon	
Murray	

Box 11

Osborne
Oxley

Pace
Page
Parker - Rawdon
Parker - Shubenacadie
Parker - Nine Mile River
Parker - Musquodoboit
Parks, Park, Parke
Parks - Noel
Parr
Paterson - Five Mile River
Patterson
Patton
Pearson-2 folders
Pemberton
Peters
Phalen
Pineo
Pollock
Pooley
Porter
Potter
Powell
Power
Pratt
Preeper
Prescott
Price
Proctor
Putnam

Queripel

Rafter
Ramsay, Ramsey
Rand
Rankin
Rath, Rathe
Ray
Reader
Redden
Redmond
Reid - Moose Brook
Reid - Musquodoboit
Reid - Centre Gore
Reynolds
Rhind
Rhyno
Richardson
Riley
Rines-3 folders
Robertson
Robinson
Rolph, Rolfe
Rose
Ross
Roulston
Roy
Royles
Russell
Ryan

Salter

Box 12

Sanford-7 folders
Sargent
Saunders
Savage
Schwartz
Scothorne
Scott - East Gore - 8 folders
Scott - Minasville
Scott - Belnan
Scott - Musquodoboit
Seaboyer
Sedgewick
Seeton
Sharpe
Shaw
Sheehy
Sheridan
Shortt
Shunaman
Sim, Simm - 3 folders
Simmonds
Simpson
Sinclair
Singer - 2 folders
Skaling
Smeltzer
Smiley
Smith - Irish
Smith-Yorkshire
Smith-Scotch Village
Smith-Rawdon
Smith - Rev. David
Smith-others
Smith-clippings

Box 13

Snide	Tracey
Soley	Trenholm
Spares	Tucker
Spearing	Tufts
Spencer	Tulloch
Sprott	Tully
St. John	Turner
Stairs, Stanfield	Turple
Steadman	
Steck	
Stephens	Underwood
Sterling	Urquhart
Stevens	
Stevenson	Vance
Stewart-Wallace	Vaughan
Stewart - Indian Road	
Stoddard	Waddell
Streach	Walker
Strong	Wall
Stuart	Wallace - Rawdon - 6 folders
Sullivan	Wallace - Kings Co.
Sutherland	Waller
Sweeney	Walsh
Sweet	Walters
Swift	Ward
	Wardrop
	Watson

Taggart	Weatherhead
Tanner	Webb
Tarr	Webber
Taylor	Webster
Tays	Weldon
Teasdale	Wellwood
Temple	Weiner
Tennyson	West
Terhune	Whalen
Thomas	Wheadon, Wheaton
Thompson - Oxford	Whidden
Thompson - Nine Mile River	White - Noel Road - 4 folders
Thomson	White - South Maitland
Thurrott	White - Musquodoboit
Tipping	
Tobin	
Todd	
Tomlinson	

Box 14

Whitman
Whittier
Wickwire
Wier, Weir, Wyre - 2 folders
Wilcox
Wile
Williams
Wilson
Withrow - 3 folders
Wood - white - 2 folders
Wood - Black
Woodworth
Woolahan
Woolaver
Wright

Yeadon
Yohnke
Yorke
Young
Yuill

Zwicker

General file:

Index, 13 pp.

A, B

C

D-F

G

H-J

K, L

Mac

M

N-Q

R

T-V

W-Z

Box 15-p.1**Sources**

1. Scribblers containing interviews made in 1950s and 60s. Earlier and later interviews were written on loose pages which I discarded after incorporating the data into the family folders. (Notebook marked 'Book 11' contains some data from earlier interviews not incorporated.)
 - A. Harry Withrow, Belnan, 1957
 - B. Harry Withrow, Belnan, 1957-58
 - C. Harry Withrow, Belnan, 1958
 - D. Harry Withrow, Belnan
 - E. Will MacDougall, West Gore, 1957-58; Dr. Eliza Brison and sister Nellie Sim, West Gore, 1958; Harry Withrow, Belnan, 1958
 - F. Alma Fenton, Upper Rawdon, 1958
 - G. Bertie Madill, Centre Rawdon, 1958; Gertie Moxon, Centre Rawdon, 1958; Alvah and Vera Campbell, Greenfield, 1958
 - H. Alvah Campbell, Greenfield; Shirley Parker, Greenhill, 1961
 - I. Annie Grant, East Gore, 1957, 1960
 - J. Annie Grant, East Gore
 - K. Myrtle MacDougall, West Gore, 1958
 - L. Leila McCulloch, Noel Road, 1957
 - M. Leila McCulloch, Noel Road, 1958 Creighton White and dau..Thelma, Noel Road, 1957, 1958
 - N. Howard Allison, Georgefield, 1958; Jim Miller, Indian Road, 1958
 - O. . Gladys Parker, North Salem, 1961; Ethel Cruickshank, Shubenacadie
 - P. Lizzie Snide, 1961; Margaret Reid, 1961; Frances Annand, 1961; all of Shubenacadie
 - Q. Margaret Wickwire, Louise Custance, Mary MacDonald, Adeline Fox, Milford Station, 1961; Gladys McPhee, Hardwoodland, 1961; Alice Caldwell, Nine Mile River, 1961
 - R. Dutch Settlement area, various informants, 1961
 - S. Fred and Jennie Brimcombe, Admiral Rock; Murray MacDonald, Ryans Creek, 1961
 - T. Billy and Kate Nelson, Shuby; Mary MacDougall, Mary Putnam, Maitland, 1961
 - U. Lou Eaton, Hannah Lawrence, Maitland; Roy sisters, Maitland, 1961; Mattie Densmore, Halifax, 1961
 - V. three Roy sisters, Maitland, 1961, 1965
 - W. Chester Hennigar, East Noel; Pearl O'Brien, Noel; Colin Faulkner, Noel
 - X. Chester Hennigar, East Noel
 - Y. Ruth Miller, Lower Selma, 1958; Milton and Alice Reid, Moose Brook, 1958; Woodbury Dalrymple, Lower Selma, 1957; Mary Ells Canning, Noel Shore, 1958
 - Z. Milton and Alice Reid, Moose Brook, 1958; Pearl O'Brien, Noel, 1958
2. Five smaller size scribblers containing data copied in 1958 and 1959 at the PRO in London: extracts from documents regarding the Royal Highland Emigrants who settled in Douglas and the South Carolina Loyalists who settled In Rawdon.
3. Nine smaller size scribblers containing data copied in 1958 at the office of the Registrar General of Scotland In Edinburgh: baptism and marriage records for families of settlers in Douglas whose origin in Scotland I knew; e.g., Rothes in Morayshire for any Sim baptisms 1770-1807.

Box 15 - p.2

4. Cemetery inscriptions, 2 volumes
5. Rawdon Anglican Church records marriages, baptisms, and burials, 2 volumes
6. Newspaper extracts, marriages and deaths in eastern Hants County; 2 volumes
 - copied by Annabel (Siteman) Ells of Halifax at PANS
 - copied by me at Acadia University Library: Christian Messenger extracts, 1837-1857
7. Indices: loose pages held together by large paperclips:
 - Index to Rawdon Anglican Church records
 - Index to newspaper extracts copied by Mrs. Ells
 - Index to Christian Messenger extracts
 - Index to Helen Whidden's Smith history
 - Index to Rawdon poll tax lists, 1791-1795
8. Small record book giving key to sources given by number rather than name on family pages