



The Law Society
of Upper Canada

Barreau du
Haut-Canada

FINDING AID FOR

James Henry Shannon fonds

PF192

Summary

The "James Henry Shannon fonds" Fonds contains:

0 Subgroups or Sous-fonds

0 Series

0 Sub-series

0 Sub-sub-series

12 Files

0 File parts

4 Items

0 Components

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PF192

James Henry Shannon fonds. -- 1899-1955. -- 11.5 cm of textual records

Biographical/Sketch/Administrative History

James Henry Shannon was born in Harriston, Ontario, in 1880 to Thomas Shannon and Hannah Turner. He attended the University of Toronto, where he attained a BA degree in 1908, before continuing his studies in 1909 at Osgoode Hall Law School. Shannon was called to the Bar in 1912. He returned to Harriston, where he initially joined the practice of Archibald Gilchrist Campbell. Shannon then became a sole practitioner in Harriston, with a focus on estates, mortgages and small civil litigation issues. He also conducted business as an insurance agent. Shannon was an active resident of Harriston and served as town clerk in the early 1950s. James Henry Shannon died on October 26th, 1955, in Harriston, Ontario.

Scope and Content

Fonds consists predominantly of office administrative records created or accumulated by James Henry Shannon. These records pertain to Shannon's legal work for individuals and for the Town of Harriston, as well as his work as an insurance agent. The records in the fonds include correspondence, invoices, legal forms, newspaper clippings and a patent.

Provenance

The records from James Shannon's law practice were transferred to the firm of McNab & McNab after Shannon's death in 1955, where they were maintained until the death of John W. McNab in 1979. McNab's wife, Mary, kept these records after his death until they were donated to the Law Society of Upper Canada in May 1990, when the records of McNab & McNab were destroyed and those of James Shannon were sent to the Archives.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Arrangement

The records in the fonds have been arranged in alphabetical order.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the fonds.

990030-001 Bills and invoices. -- 1929, 1932, 1934-1955. -- 2 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

File consists of bills and invoices belonging to James Shannon pertaining to office and personal purchases and expenses, taxes, insurance premium payments, as well as the purchase of newspaper ads for estate and mortgage auctions. Also included in the file is correspondence regarding Shannon's ownership of commercial property in Harriston, Ontario.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the file.

990030-002 Bond purchases. -- 1931, 1944-1945. -- 0.5 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

File consists of a signed agreement between John W. Morrison and James H. Shannon for the purchase of Shannon's six preferred shares in the Harriston Stove Company, dated 30 March 1931. Also include in this file is correspondence between Shannon and Wood, Gundy & Company pertaining to bonds purchased in Simpsons Limited on behalf of Drusilla Shaw and Harry and Grace Tarr, as well as a letter from the Bank of Canada regarding Dominion of Canada bonds.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

990030-003 Canadian Surety Company documents. -- 1913. -- 4 p.

Scope and Content

File consists of correspondence, an agreement and a rate sheet pertaining to James Shannon's enrolment as an attorney of the Canadian Surety Company.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the file.

990030-004 Client account invoices. -- 1925-1953. -- 4 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

File consists of itemized account invoices prepared by James Shannon pertaining to his legal work for clients. Each invoice summarizes the nature of his work for a particular client, the dates of those activities and fees charged. Some invoices for Shannon's work as an insurance agent are also included in this file.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the file.

990030-005 Client account invoices. -- 1943, 1946-1953. -- 1 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

File consists of itemized account invoices prepared by Shannon pertaining to his legal work for clients. Each invoice summarizes the nature of his work for a particular client, the dates of those activities and fees charged. Some invoices for Shannon's work as an insurance agent are also included in this file.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the file.

990030-006 Correspondence : Jan 5 - to date. -- 1954-1955. -- 11 p.

Scope and Content

File consists of correspondence and notes pertaining to James Shannon's role as Clerk for Minto Township.

Included are letters sent by the Canadian National Railway, the Canadian Farm Loan Board, and the Ontario Departments of Municipal Affairs and Public Welfare. Also included is correspondence relating to his legal practice.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

990030-007 Drusilla McMurray. -- Sept. 1947. -- 4 p.

Scope and Content

File consists of two letters written to James Shannon by Drusilla (Shaw) McMurray, who was Shannon's secretary/typist prior to her marriage.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

990030-008 Elmer D. Bell : Brussels. -- 1934. -- 0.5 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

File consists primarily of correspondence between Elmer David Bell, a lawyer in Brussels, Ontario, and James Shannon in 1934. The correspondence relates primarily to Bell's requests for Shannon's legal opinion on a variety of matters. Other items of correspondence in this file were received by Shannon on behalf of Bell. It is likely that Bell articulated with Shannon and was, during 1934, looking for a permanent place to practice law. Also included in the file are notes written by Shannon, Bell's 1934 Law Society practice certificate, and a copy of Bell's Wallace Nesbitt Essay Competition submission titled "Treaty Law in Canada," which earned 2nd place in the contest in 1932.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

990030-009 Legal. -- 1934, 1936, 1938, 1950. -- 0.5 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

File consists of a 1950 letter sent to Shannon regarding the Canadian Bar Association's survey of the legal profession in Canada, as well as assorted newspaper clippings pertaining to legal cases and/or news. Some news items may relate to Shannon's clients and his work in the area of estates.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

990030-010 Legal forms. -- [190-]-1946. -- 1 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

File consists of blank legal forms belonging to James Shannon for use in his legal practice. Contents of the file include forms for affidavit of plight, notice to produce, notice to admit, administration bond, writ of summons, application for probate, offer to exchange, agreement for sale of land, last will and testament, indentures, agreement for sale and purchase, discharge of mortgage, power of attorney, renunciation of probate, and farm lease.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the file.

990030-011 Letter from Anson Spotton to Mrs. John Fulton. -- 5 Oct. 1899. -- 1 p.

Scope and Content

Item is a handwritten letter from lawyer Anson Spotton to a Mrs. John Fulton regarding an accusation of slander made against her by a Mrs. John Lang.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the item.

990030-012 Letter to James Shannon from Mrs. S.A. Tyndell. -- 26 Oct. 1953. -- 1 p.

Scope and Content

Item is a handwritten letter sent to James Shannon by Mrs. Tyndell regarding Halloween vandalism.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the item.

990030-013 Letterhead and forms. -- [192-?], 1946, 1954. -- 0.5 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

File consists of blank letterhead belonging to James Shannon and the firm of McNab and McNab, as well as a blank 1946 employer's payroll statement and forms from University College (University of Toronto) and the Owen Sound Fire and Casualty Insurance Agents' Association regarding social events.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the file.

990030-014 Patent for mop holders issued to Andrew Crosby Sotheran. -- 1917, 1923. -- 1 cm of textual records

Scope and Content

File consists of an 18-year patent for a mop holder design, issued on 5 June 1917 and renewed on 23 May 1923. The patent is registered to Andrew C. Sotheran, of Howick, Ontario, who was a client of lawyer James Shannon. Included is a letter and business card from Fetherstonhaugh & Co., solicitors of patents, based in Toronto, who filed the patent renewal on behalf of Sotheran.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

Title Notes

Title based on contents of the file.

990030-015 Phrenological chart describing the character and talents of Mr. James Johnston. -- [between 1890 and 1910]. -- 10 p.

Scope and Content

Item is a handwritten phrenological assessment of James Johnston by S.A. Daniels. This item details the measurements of Johnston's head, strength of personality traits, and a summary of his character. The item is believed to have been part of the client file of Johnston maintained by lawyer Anson Spotton, which was inherited by James Shannon when he took over Spotton's legal practice.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

990030-016 University of Toronto, Law Club - letter from J. Kenneth Blair. -- 13 June 1934. -- 1 p.

Scope and Content

Item is a letter from J. Kenneth Blair, President of the Law Club of the University of Toronto, to J.H. Shannon.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.