

University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections

Finding Aid - Alfred St. George Hamersley mining collection (RBSC-ARC-1796)

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Alfred St. George Hamersley mining collection

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Summary information

Repository:	University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections
Title:	Alfred St. George Hamersley mining collection
ID:	RBSC-ARC-1796
Date:	1895 - 1903 (date of creation)
Physical description:	4 cm of textual records and 1 map
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	Collection arranged and described and finding aid developed by Stuart Hill, July 2018.
Note [generalNote]:	1 map (RBSC-ARC-1796-OS-01) 2 oversized mining licenses (RBSC-ARC-1796-OS-01)

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Alfred St. George Hamersley (8 October 1848 – 25 February 1929) was a solicitor, entrepreneur, and English Rugby Union international. He was born in Great Haseley, Oxfordshire and educated at Marlborough College and the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich.

He became a barrister in London before emigrating to New Zealand where he married Isabella Snow. They had seven children together. For 15 years he practiced law in South Canterbury, New Zealand, where he also served in the military and promoted the sport of Rugby.

He and his family moved to Vancouver in 1888 where he was credited with becoming the city's first solicitor. He was legal advisor to the Vancouver City Corporation and was active in local business and athletics. In Vancouver, Hamersley became involved in real-estate investments, significantly buying and subdividing the land that came to be occupied by the city of North Vancouver. He also owned shares in several mining companies in British Columbia, most notably the Vermilion Forks Mining and Development Company.

In 1905 Hamersley retired to Oxfordshire, England, where his electioneering activities for the Conservative and Unionist parties made him a well known figure. In 1910 he was elected as the Unionist MP for Mid Oxfordshire, Woodstock, and served in this position until 1918. He continued to be involved in the Rugby community and helped to establish the Oxfordshire Nomads Rugby Union Football Club. During the First World War he formed a heavy battery unit, but gave the command of it over to a younger man when it was drafted overseas. He continued to support the Oxfordshire Heavy Batteries, advocating for a memorial that was eventually erected to commemorate their service.

Hamersley spent his final years in Bournemouth, where he passed away on 25 February, 1929.

Custodial history

Purchased July 5th, 2018, from bookseller Bjarne Tokerud, who had arranged the items of this collection into a binder with each item encased in a plastic sleeve. Collection's title at time of purchase was "Alfred St. George Hamersley. An Archive of business and legal documents related to various mining companies owned by Hamersley or where he held a large number of shares, particularly in Princeton, B.C. especially the Vermilion Forks Company. 1899-1902."

Scope and content

The collection consists of documents from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries related to mining in the area around Princeton, British Columbia. Many of the documents pertain to Alfred St. George Hamersley's involvement with mining in this region, mostly notably with the Vermilion Forks Mining and Development Company. Records also relate to W.J. Waterman and Ernest Waterman's activities in the mining industry of this region, particularly Ernest Waterman's role as manager of the Vermilion Forks Mining and Development Company. Business of the Anglo-American Gold and Platinum Hydraulic Mining Company Limited Liability, the Princeton Water Power Company, and the London and Vancouver Finance and Development Company Limited is also documented. Records are arranged into files that correspond to items in the collection. Document types include correspondence, sales of shares, land, and mineral rights, business and mining licenses, lease agreements, land registries, and Government of British Columbia receipts. A map of the region is also included.

Notes

Title notes

Arrangement

Mostly arranged according to arrangement of last custodian, bookseller Bjarne Tokerud. Some items such as correspondence and mining receipts condensed into files of similar items.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** published
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Access points

- Vermilion Forks Mining and Development Company
- Mining (subject)
- Princeton (B.C.) (place)

- Similkameen (B.C.) (place)

Series descriptions

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-01	File - Writ of Summons	1899		
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-02	File - Correspondence: August 1902	August 1902		
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-03	File - Sketch Map of Areas Referred to in Reports	Between 1895 and 1902		
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-04	File - Certificate of the Incorporation of the Princeton Water Power Company Limited	16 Jul. 1900		
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-05	File - Bill of Sale: Mineral Claims	22 Oct. 1897		
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-06	File - An Agreement: Mineral Claims	15 Jun. 1897		
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-07	File - Claims of W.J. Waterman	23 Jul. 1898		
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-08	File - Assignment of Dredging Lease	Oct. 1899		
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-09	File - Bill of Sale Mineral Claim	16 Feb. 1898		
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-10	File - Assignment of Water-Rights	17 Dec. 1895		
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-11	File - Mining Receipts	1896-1898		
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-12	File - Transfer of Mining Lease	6 Aug. 1894		
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-13	File - Winding Up Order	9 Jul. 1898		
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-14	File - Power of Attorney	27 May 1898		
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-15	File - Petition for Registration of the Company in British Columbia	18 Jan. 1897		
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-16	File - Transfer of Mineral Claim	28 Aug. 1897		
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-17	File - Power of Attorney	18 Apr. 1901		
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-18	File - Record of Mineral Claim	10 Jul. 1897		
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-19	File - Records of Mineral Claims	15 Jan. 1899		
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-20	File - British Columbia Mining Receipts	1897		
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-21	File - Cheques	1897		
RBSC-ARC-1796-01-22	File - Deed of Land	4 Jul. 1898		

RBSC- ARC-1796-01-23	File - Anglo-American Winding Up Order	9 Jul. 1898
RBSC- ARC-1796-01-24	File - Correspondence	4 Mar. 1902
RBSC- ARC-1796-01-25	File - Correspondence	28 Feb. 1899
RBSC- ARC-1796-01-26	File - Agreement	27 Feb. 1897
RBSC- ARC-1796-01-27	File - Mining License	30 Jan. 1901
RBSC- ARC-1796-01-28	File - General Receipts	29 Aug. 1903
RBSC- ARC-1796-01-29	File - License authorising an Extra- Provincial Company to carry on Business	11 Jul. 1898
RBSC- ARC-1796-01-30	File - Agreement for Sale and Management	27 May 1898
RBSC- ARC-1796-01-31	File - Sale of Land	1897
RBSC- ARC-1796-01-32	File - Affidavit of A. St. G. Hamersley	Jul. 1902
RBSC- ARC-1796-01-33	File - Correspondence	1902
RBSC- ARC-1796-01-34	File - Affidavit of John W. Pugh	Feb. 1900
RBSC- ARC-1796-01-35	File - Mining Lease	18 Apr. 1895