

FONDS DESCRIPTION (MBMS-46)

Ernst-Balcom Family fonds

1877-1977

6.5 cm of textual records

Benjamin Ernst, the son of Michael and Maria Ernst was born at Blockhouse, Nova Scotia in 1834. A well-known and respected citizen of Blockhouse, he worked as a shoemaker for a time and was active in community affairs. Later turning to farming, he was married three times (Sarah Zwicker, Isabella Zwicker, and Elizabeth Eisenhaur) and died as a widower in 1916. Benjamin's son, Asom, who was active in the Blockhouse Agricultural Society, apparently inherited his father's home in Blockhouse. The house later belonged to Aubrey R. Balcom (1913-2003), the son of Harry Eugene Balcom and Emily May Ernst. Members of the Ernst-Balcom family were apparently close to the Justice of the Peace Nathaniel Hebb and were involved in the recording of community rates for schools and the poor as well as other community services and activities.

Fonds consists of notebooks that record various community activities in Blockhouse, Nova Scotia, including school finances and rates, church rates, payments to the poor, poor rates, and electoral lists.

The records were found in the Ernst-Balcom house in Blockhouse and donated by Marlene (Balcom) Burgess in 2008 (acc.nos. 08.06.01-499-506).