

FONDS DESCRIPTION (MBMS-85)

Bob Sayer fonds

Dates: ca. 1875-2022

Extent: 64 cm of textual records; 209 photographs

Biographical History:

Robert “Bob” Sayer was born at Kent, England in 1941. During his years in England, he was an avid soccer player, including participation in the sport at the university level. In 1968, he moved to Nova Scotia to pursue a career in education, eventually serving as a junior-high-school principal and later as a school supervisor. At the same time, he pursued his love of soccer as a player, coach, and organizer, founding the Lunenburg District Youth Soccer Association, which became the largest youth soccer organization outside Halifax. He also subsequently served in leadership positions with the South Shore Senior League and the board of Soccer Nova Scotia. In addition, he played an instrumental role in the development of women’s soccer in Canada. His many contributions to the development of the sport in Nova Scotia and beyond were recognized and honoured by his induction into both the Nova Scotia Sports Hall of Fame (1992) and the Canadian National Soccer Hall of Fame (2020).

In addition to his educational and sports achievements, Sayer was active as a local historian, authoring three books focusing on aspects of the history of Mahone Bay: *Mahone Bay Old School: A Life and Times* (2008), *Mahone Bay, 1919-2019: One Hundred Years and Counting* (2019), and *Mahone Bay: From Mi'kmaw Treasure to Town of Talents* (2022). He has also given talks and authored numerous articles on local history.

Formerly a longtime Mahone Bay resident, Sayer now lives in Newtonville, Ontario.

Scope and Content:

The fonds consist of three series, Families, School, and General. Families contains alphabetized biographies and reference files of prominent Mahone Bay families; the second series, School, pertains to his research on the Mahone Bay Old School after which he authored *Mahone Bay Old School: A Life and Times* (2008); and the third series, Town, relates closely to his book on Mahone Bay’s Centennial: *Mahone Bay, 1919-2019: One Hundred Years and Counting* (2019) endorsed by the Town of Mahone Bay, and another general history book which he wrote concurrently entitled: *Mahone Bay: From Mi'kmaw Treasure to Town of Talents* (2022).

Fonds consist of class photos and reunions, administrative records, and profiles of prominent graduates from the Mahone Bay School. It also contains documents related to the formation of the Mahone Bay Centre Society in 2001, which later established the Mahone Bay Centre on the same site.

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

Families

Dates: ca. 1875-2005

Extent: 12.5 cm

56 Photos

Series consists of photos, newspaper clippings, and school reports that form biographies of prominent Mahone Bay citizens and families. Many of the people documented in the series were graduates and/or teachers of the Mahone Bay Old School, such as Clara Quinlan and Agnes Croft. This biographical reference material was drawn upon as a source for Sayer's self published books.

General

Dates: ca. 1920-2022

Extent: 24 cm of textual records; 40 photographs

The series contains Sayer's research files, articles, and notes relating to various general aspects of Mahone Bay's history, including local Mi'kmaw history, the Labrador family, the attack of the Payzant family, and Gorham's Rangers. It also includes profiles of Foreign Protestant families and information on the original 30-acre farm lots. Additional materials document early settlement, the town's incorporation, as well as aspects of community life, such as sports, festivals, recreation, churches, and cemeteries.

Industrial development is also represented through records on railways, shipbuilding, and local industries, including the T.G. Nichol Power Plant, and Ernst and McLean shipbuilders. These files reflect Sayer's research for his two general histories of the town, Mahone Bay, 1919-2019: One Hundred Years and Counting (2019) and Mahone Bay: From Mi'kmaw Treasure to Town of Talents (2022)

Old School

Dates: 1914 - 2000

Extent: 5 cm of textual records; 113 photographs

Series consists of newspaper clippings related to the closure of Mahone Bay's Old School, photographs of the glee club, and biographies of notable alumni. It also includes clippings that reflect memories of the Old School and the public response to its closure. Materials document the reunion marking the school's closure, held June 30 to July 2, 2000, as well as the Grade 9 graduation for that year. Further records relate to the commissioning of the Old School Bell on May 20, 2004. Report cards and other administrative records are also included.

FINDING AID

SERIES 1: FAMILIES

| <u>VOL.</u> | <u>FILE #</u> | <u>TITLE</u> | <u>DATES</u> |
|-------------|---------------|------------------------|--------------|
| 1 | 1 | Bruhm, Verda | 1919-2005 |
| 1 | 2 | Burgoyne, Hilda | 1909-1976 |
| 1 | 3 | Daurie | 1914-1932 |
| 1 | 4 | Eisenhauer | 1917-1997 |
| 1 | 5 | Doucette, Francis | 1940-2006 |
| 1 | 6 | Freeman-Kedy, Margaret | 1908-1977 |
| 1 | 7 | Earle, Langille | 1920-1960 |
| 1 | 8 | Ernst, Arthur Lawrence | 1876-1964 |
| 1 | 9 | Hirtle | 1940-1960 |
| 1 | 10 | Hirtle, WHG | 1886-1976 |
| 1 | 11 | Hyson, Hope | 1903-2006 |
| 1 | 12 | Hyson, Reginald | 1874-1949 |
| 1 | 13 | Joudrey, O.S. | 1880-1966 |

| | | | |
|---|----|-------------------------------|--------------|
| 1 | 14 | Joudrey, William F. | 1933-1936 |
| 1 | 15 | Kedy, Lawrence | 2007 |
| 1 | 16 | Lohnes | 1875-1960 |
| 1 | 17 | Mader, Charles Uniacke | 1880-1969 |
| 1 | 18 | Mader, Fred | Date Unknown |
| 1 | 19 | Mader, Tom | 1915-1935 |
| 1 | 20 | Mason, John Wesley | c.1930 |
| 1 | 21 | McLean, Margaret | 1908-2001 |
| 1 | 22 | Mosher, Fred | 1913-1993 |
| 1 | 23 | Nichol, T.G. | 1852-1931 |
| 1 | 24 | Quinlan, Clara | 1895-1988 |
| 1 | 25 | Stevens, Michelle (Sailmaker) | 2003-2005 |
| 1 | 26 | Strum-Davis, Ulrica | c. 1930 |
| 1 | 27 | Walsh | 2003 |
| 1 | 28 | Whynot, Agnes | 1949-2000 |
| 1 | 29 | Whynot, Hilda | 1930-1935 |
| 1 | 30 | Whynott, Roger | c. 1940s |
| 1 | 31 | Younis, Charles | 1961 |
| 1 | 32 | Zwicker | c. 1800-2020 |

SERIES 2: GENERAL

VOL. FILE # TITLE DATES

SERIES 3: SCHOOL

| <u>VOL.</u> | <u>FILE #</u> | <u>TITLE</u> | <u>DATES</u> |
|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 3 | 1 | Activities | c. 1920-1950 |
| 3 | 2 | Addition | 1961 |
| 3 | 3 | Bell | 2000, 2004 |
| 3 | 4 | Closing 2000 | 2000 |
| 3 | 5 | Building | 1914-1978 |
| 3 | 6 | Class Photos I | c. 1914-1940 |
| 3 | 7 | Class Photos II | 1931-32; c. 1940 |