

Sources for a Postal History of the Gatineau Valley

Gatineau Valley Historical Society

September 19, 2011

Pascal LeBlond, Manager
Philatelic Collections
Library and Archives Canada

Bibliothèque et Archives Canada



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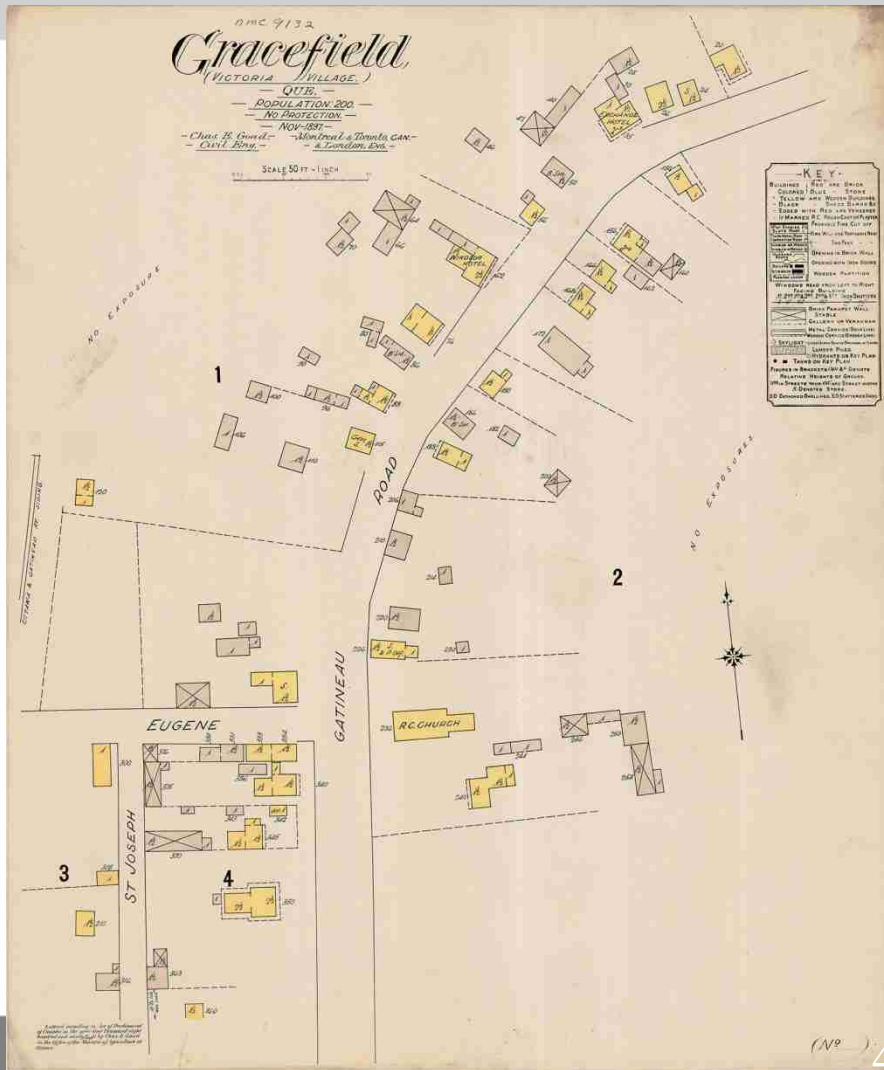
Canada

Programme

- ❖ Tools available
- ❖ Brief postal history of the Gatineau Valley
- ❖ Examples of Reports from Postal Inspectors

- Postal map of the Province of Quebec, 1880, (Amicus 26305748),
Library and Archives Canada

Fire Insurance Plans



- Click to edit the outline text format

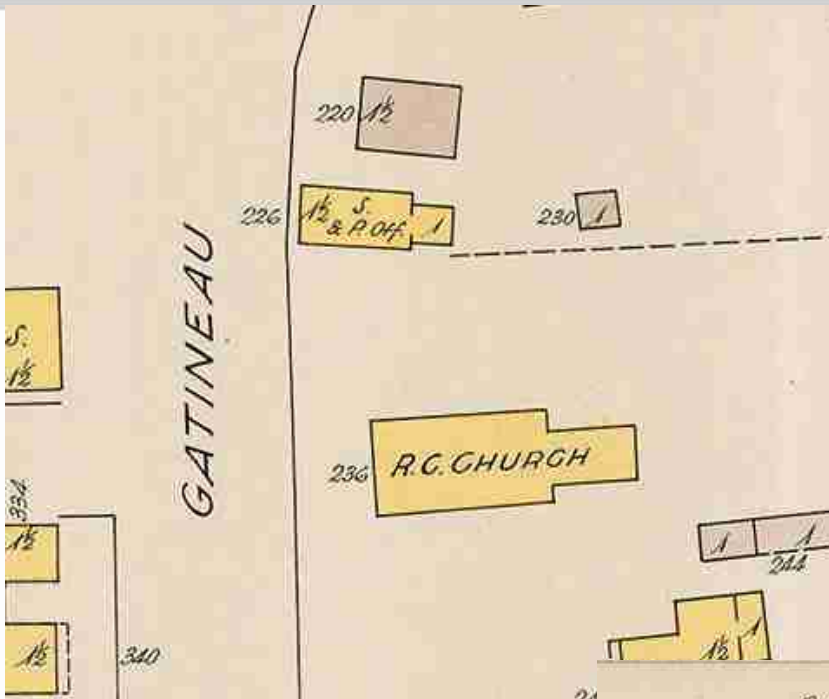
- Second Outline Level

- Third Outline Level

Gracefield, 1900, Charles E. Goad company fonds, R6990, (Mikan 3820158), Library and Archives Canada

- Fifth Outline Level

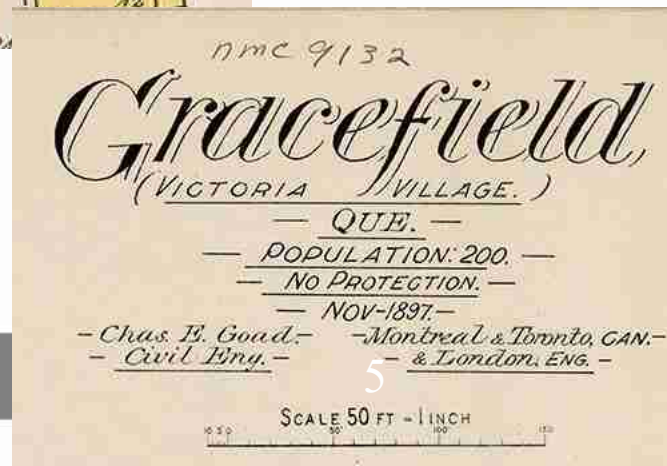
Example: Gracefield



- Click to text form

- Second Level

- T
L



Level

Annual Reports, 1851-

16 Victoria.

Appendix (V.)

A. 1852.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.

YEAR ENDING 5TH APRIL,

1852.

Printed by Order of the Legislative Assembly.



QUEBEC:

PRINTED BY JOHN LOVELL, AT HIS STEAM PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT,
MOUNTAIN STREET,
1852.

16 Victoria.

Appendix (V.)

A. 1852.

SCHEDULE.

	PAGE.
Accompanying this Report are the following Documents therein referred to:—	
No. 1.—Statement of the Finances, Receipts and Expenditure of the Post Office Department, for the year ended 5th April, 1852.....	12
No. 2.—Detail of all payments made, and charges incurred for Mail transportation during the said year	13
No. 3.—Detail of all charges for Salaries, Commissions, and Allowances, for the said year.....	26
No. 4.—Detail of Expenditure for Printing and Advertising, and all Incidental and Miscellaneous items of Disbursement for the said year.....	43
No. 5.—Report of all Contracts made for the transportation of the Mail within the year ending as above	64
No. 6.—Report of all Allowances to Contractors beyond the sums originally stipulated in their respective Contracts, &c., and of all curtailments in Contract rates of payment to the same for the said year.....	86
No. 7.—Report of all Fines imposed, and deductions made from the pay of Mail Contractors during the said year.....	88
No. 8.—Report of New Offices and Post Routes established, and of Offices and Post Routes discontinued and closed within the said year	89
No. 9.—Report of all cases occurring of the Abstraction or Loss of Letters containing money sent through the Post within the said year	98

SUPPLEMENTARY.

No. 10.—True Copy from the Record of all offers made for carrying the Mail upon Contracts advertised for public competition for the said year..	100
No. 11.—Return of Letters opened in the Dead Letter Office, and found to contain money or enclosures of value, and re-addressed to the writers of the said Letters, for the year ended as above.....	118
No. 12.—Book of Instruction in English and French, compiled and issued for the guidance and instruction of the Department.	

J. M.,
P. M. G.

New contracts, 1858

22 Victoria. Appendix (No. 1.) A. 1859.

REPORT No. 5.—Report of all New Contracts entered into in the MONTREAL

Route.		Name of Contractor.	Distance.	Time of week.	Departure.	
From	To				Days.	Hours.
Wakefield.....	Stamachone	Paul Renner.....	64	2	do do	4 p.m.
					Saturday.....	1 p.m.
	River Desert.....	Caleb Brooks	80	1	Tuesday.....	6 a.m.

22 Victoria. Appendix (No. 1.) A. 1859.

DIVISION, for the year ended 30th September, 1858.—(Continued.)

Arrival.		Mode of Conveyance.	Stipulated price to be paid.	Commencement of Contract.	Intended duration of Contract.
Days.	Hours.				
do do	2.00 p.m.	do do			
Wednesday.....	11 a.m.				
Monday.....	9 p.m.	do do	400 00	Sept. 1, 1858..	Four years.

Mode of conveyance: One horse vehicle

Transport costs, 1858

22 Victoria.

Appendix (No. 1.)

A. 1859.

REPORT No. 2.—Detail of all payments made, and charges incurred for Mail Transportation, during the year ended 30th September, 1858—(*Continued.*)

Name of Route.	Name of Contractor.	Mode of Conveyance.	Number of Trips per week.	Period.	Amount.
Ottawa and Templeton	J. Hagan	Horse or vehicle	8	12 do	10 0 0
Ottawa and Wakefield	W. Patterson	2 horse vehicle.	8	12 do	85 0 0

Tenders for contracts, 1858

Mail Tender Register.--(Continued.)

Name of Proposed Contract.	Conditions stipulated by Department in advertising Proposed Contract.	Date of advertising for Tenders.	Date for Reception of Tenders.	Name of person Tendering.	Residence of Person Tendering.	Date of Tender.	Date of receipt of Tender by P. M. G.	No. of Tender.	Terms proposed in Tender.	Proposed duration of Contract.	Amount per annum proposed in Tender.	Observations.
River Desert and Wakefield (80 m's)	Service once per week, from 1st Sept., 1858. Conveyance of vehicles or on horseback, at the option of the Contractor.	June 30...	Aug. 14...	J. B. Desmarais...	Do	" 15	"	0	Do	Do	900 00	Tender No. 1 accepted.
				Caleb Brooks	Lowe	Aug. 2	Aug.	1	Do	Do	400 00	
				Seth Cates	Wakefield	July 10	July	2	Do	Do	520 00	
				Wm. Patterson ..	Hull	Aug. 7	Aug.	3	Do	Do	610 50	
				David Knox	Lowe	" 10	"	4	Do	Do	520 00	
				Wm. Pierce	Do	July 28	"	5	Do	Do	760 00	
				Alex'r Leboucq ..	Aylwin	Aug. 9	"	6	Do	Do	1050 00	
Castleton and Col.	Same as before	July 7	Aug. 18	Charles Waller	Castleton	Aug. 11	"	1	Do	Do	0 575	Tender No. 1

Lost registered letters, 1864

James Copeland.....	Wakefield	— do ...	11 00	J. McLaurin.....	Ottawa	do	Not	omitted to continue the registration, made good its contents.
Moffatt, Murray & Co	Toronto	9th do ...	200 00	Hon. G. S. Boulton..	Cobourg			Letter posted for registration, but its registration having been overlooked
M. Plourde	Rivière Ouelle ...	15th do ...	100 00	O. Beaulieu.....	Labarre	do	Not	in the Wakefield post office, the P.M. was held responsible for its contents.

Revenues versus Salary, 1900



Post Office	Revenue	Salary
Chelsea	\$158	\$126
Old Chelsea	\$57	\$36

Early Official Publications



www.canadiana.ca/en/home

Postal Guide, 1875-

CANADA OFFICIAL POSTAL GUIDE

COMPRISING

THE CHIEF REGULATIONS OF THE POST OFFICE, RATES
OF POSTAGE AND OTHER INFORMATION,

TOGETHER WITH AN

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF POST OFFICES
IN CANADA.

REVISED AND PUBLISHED ANNUALLY

(WITH QUARTERLY SUPPLEMENTS)

BY AUTHORITY OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.

JANUARY, 1898.



OTTAWA
GOVERNMENT PRINTING BUREAU
1898

Price in Paper 25 cents.

Yearly Subscription including Supplements 40 cents.



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Welcome

Bienvenue

Library and Archives Canada

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Canadian Post Office
Publications

Publications officielles
sur la poste
canadienne

English

Français

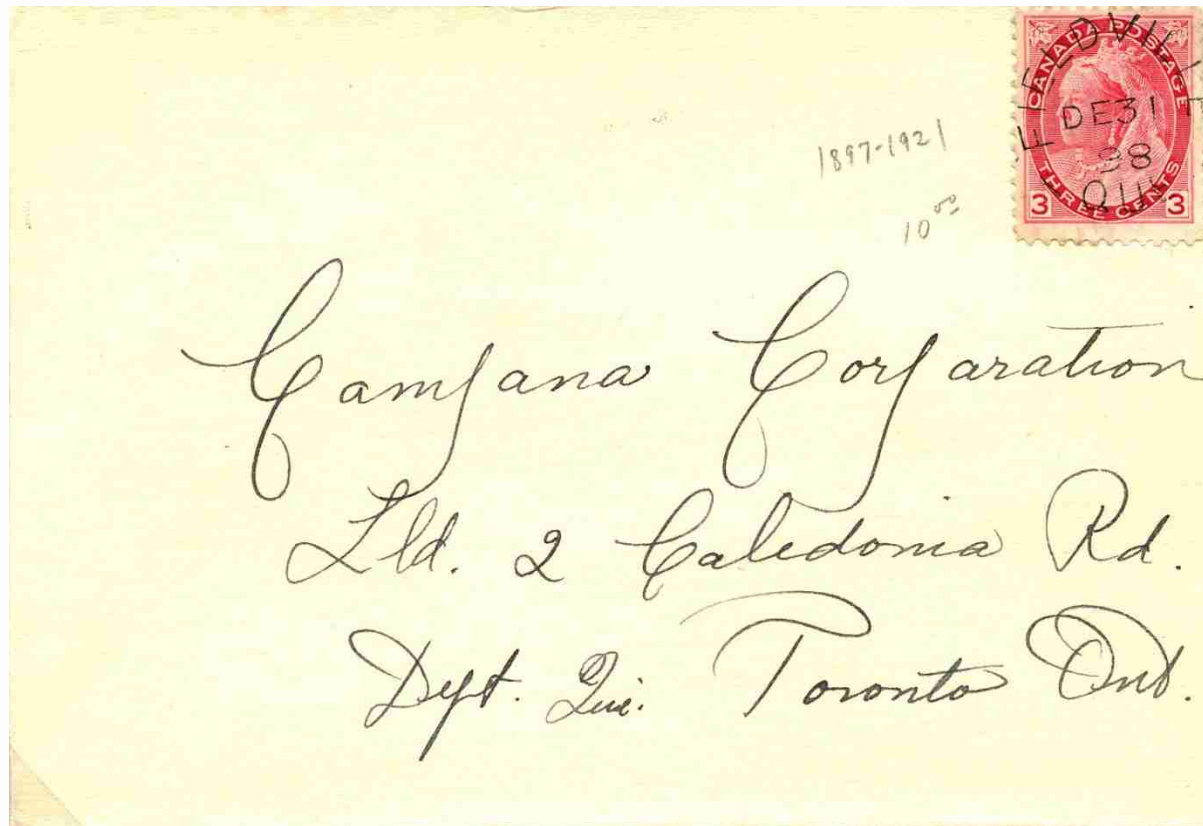
[Important Notices](#)

[Avis importants](#)

Canada

www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/postal-publications/

Example: Fieldville letter, 1898



Fonds Anatole Walker, R9622,
(Mikan 194799),
Library and Archives Canada

Feversham.....	Forey.....	Muskoka and Carry Lake.....	Mrs. Mary A. Pease
*Field.....	Osprey.....	Grey, E. R.....	O. A. McGirr
Fieldville.....	Low.....	Yale & Cariboo.....	B. C. O. Wyckoff
Fifteen Mile Stream.....	Lot 15.....	Wright.....	Q. Michael Field
Fifteen Point.....	Lot 15.....	Hulifax.....	N. S. George McNaughton
Field.....	Lot 15.....	Prince East.....	P. E. I. Andrew Gallant

Example: Fieldville letter, 1898

POSTAL REGULATIONS.

INLAND POST.

(i.e., wholly within the limits of Canada.)

FOR PURPOSES OF INLAND POST ALL MAIL MATTER IS
DIVIDED INTO *Five classes* AS DESCRIBED HEREUNDER.

FIRST CLASS MATTER

Includes Letters, Post Cards, Legal and Commercial
Papers wholly or partly written, and all matter of
the nature of a letter or written correspondence.

LETTERS.

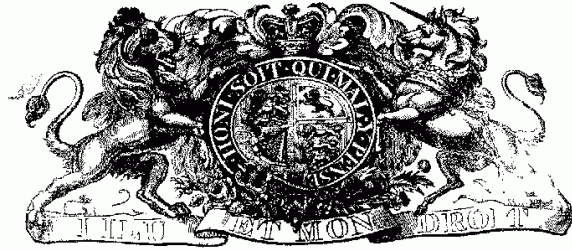
1. POSTAGE RATES.—There are three rates of postage on letters and matter
subject to letter postage, viz.:

(1) The general rate on letters passing between one place and another
in Canada, which is 3 cents per ounce or fraction thereof.

(2) The rate upon local or drop letters, posted for local delivery in
cities where there is a free delivery by Letter Carrier. This rate is 2 cents
per ounce or fraction thereof.

(3) The rate on local or drop letters posted for local delivery in places
where free delivery by Letter Carrier has not been established. The rate
in this case is one cent per ounce or fraction thereof.

Circulars



PLEASE NOTE THAT
QUIETNESS AND ORDER

Must be Maintained in
THIS LOBBY

in order that Despatch of Mails and Office Routine
be not Interfered with.

CHILDREN

or Others Should Not Remain

Longer than to receive their mail, nor wait around
earlier than five minutes previous to sorting of
incoming mails, *from 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.*

THOSE WHO LOITER
or are Noisy will be Prosecuted
without Fear or Favor

BY ORDER OF
THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

Ca. 1874, Post Office Department fonds, R169,
Acc. 1995-156, (Mikan 2267840),
Library and Archives Canada

Post Offices and Postmasters Database



www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/post-offices/

Example: Wakefield

Item Display

[Return to results](#) | [Search Help](#)

Name of Office: Wakefield

Federal Electoral District: Pontiac (Quebec)

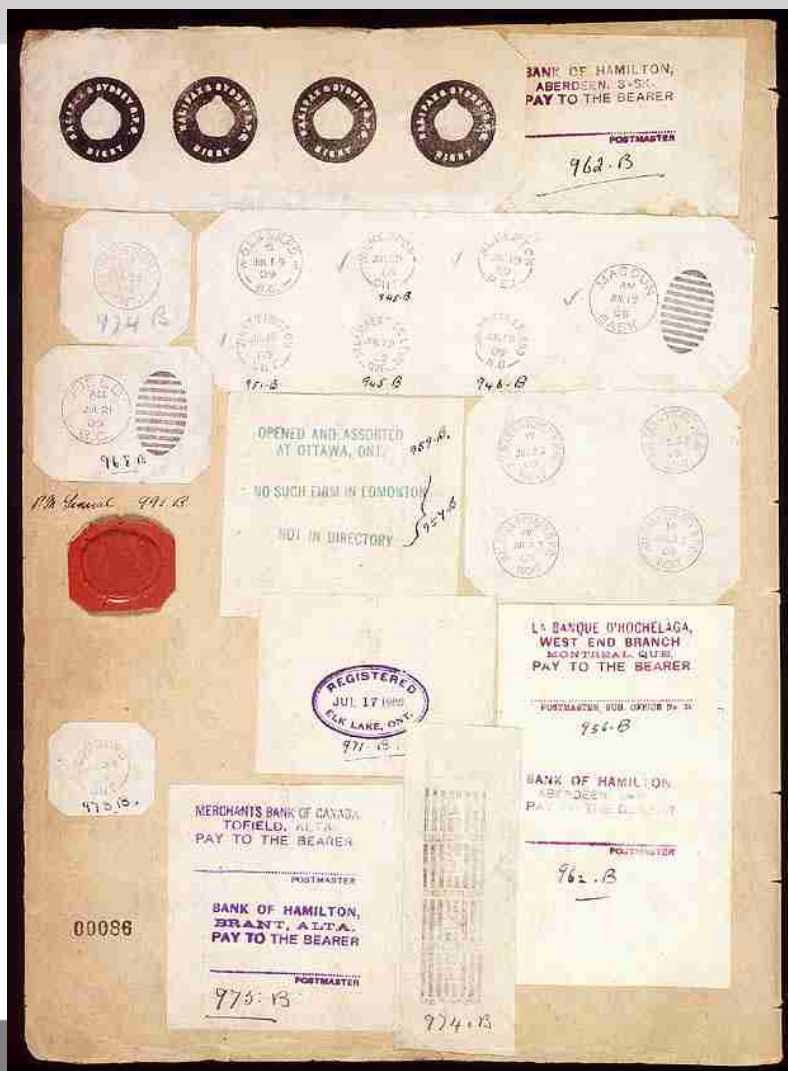
Dates: *Establishment Re-openings* *Closings*
1848-02-06 -

Postmaster Information:

<i>Name of Postmaster</i>	<i>Military Status</i>	<i>Date of Birth</i>	<i>Date of Appointment</i>	<i>Date of Vacancy</i>	<i>Cause of Vacancy</i>
James McLaren (Connu comme M.P. en 1853)	-	-	-	1892-02-10	Mort
David McLaren	-	-	1894-10-10	1898-02-05	*
Alex MacLaren	-	-	1898-11-04	1912-05-22	*
Issac B. York	-	-	1912-06-25	1930-11	Mort
Thomas Arthur Bernard Sully	-	1888-04-17	1932-03-11	1953-04-17	Retraite
Mme Annie Louise Audrey Stevenson	-	*	1953-04-18	-	Intérimaire
Mme. Annie Louise Audrey Stevenson	-	*	1954-04-18	1976-08-31	Retraite
Mme. G. Fournier	-	-	1976-09-01	1976-08-28	Mutation
M. Gaetan Burtrand	-	-	1976-09-29	-	-

* In compliance with the Privacy Act (1983), certain personal information has been deleted from this file.

Cancellation Proof Books



- Proofs made to verify accuracy
- More than 300,000 at LAC

Post Office Proof Impressions for July 1909, Post Office Department fonds, R169, Acc. 1993-133, (Mikan 2267036), Library and Archives Canada

Cancellation Proof Books



General Post Office fonds



1686-1953, 4.443 m of transcripts and 286 microfilm reels
R10901, (Mikan 105345), Library and Archives Canada

Post Offices before 1851



Hull: 1819

Montreal 25th May 1819.

Sir

In answer to your letter of the 9th April last directed to Philemon Wright, I have to inform you, that we the undersigned will undertake to carry the Mail once per week from the City of Montreal to the Township of Deauville in the Province of Lower Canada, also to take such mails from the Post Offices to be established by you at St Eustache, St Andrews, Granville and Hull and from Hull back to Montreal during the space of six years to be accounted from and after such time as you may appoint or after the 15th June next.

Philemon Wright and family fonds, R4074,
(Mikan 99372),
Library and Archives Canada

Postal Rates, 1829

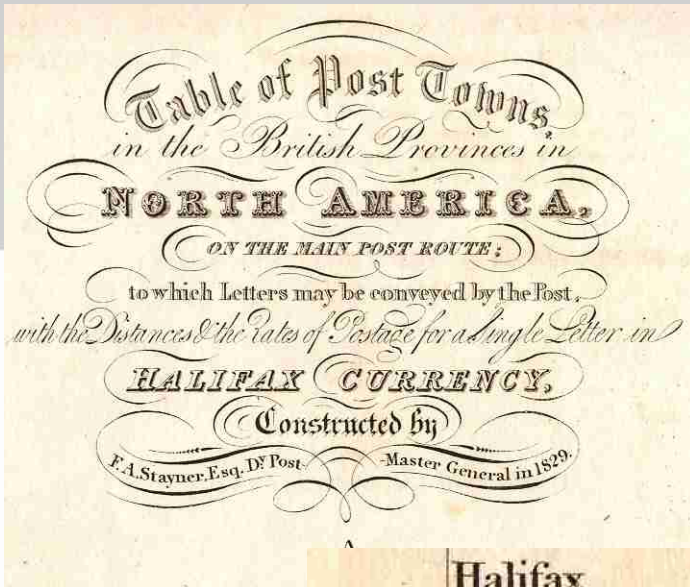


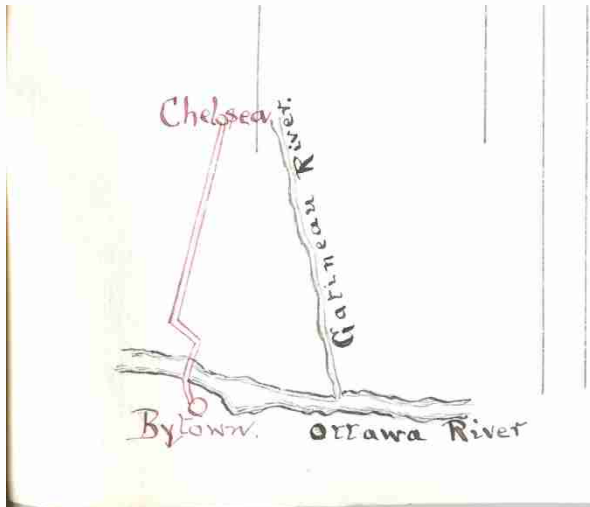
Table of Post Towns in the British Provinces in North America, 1820,
Post Office Department fonds, R169, Acc. 1995-156, (Mikan 2267851)
Library and Archives Canada

<i>From Montreal 3 times P^r Week in Summer & twice in Winter</i>		Halifax		N ^o 4.									
		1.8 ^d 700	Quebec	OTTAWA ROUTE (via) MONTREAL									
		2.1 ^d 880	0.9 ^d 180	Montreal									
		2.3 901	0.11 201	0.4 ¹ / ₂ 21	St. Eustache								
		2.3 925	0.11 225	0.4 ¹ / ₂ 45	0.4 ¹ / ₂ 24	St. Andrews							
		2.3 928	0.11 228	0.4 ¹ / ₂ 48	0.4 ¹ / ₂ 27	0.4 ¹ / ₂ 3	Chatham						
		2.3 940	0.11 240	0.4 ¹ / ₂ 60	0.4 ¹ / ₂ 39	0.4 ¹ / ₂ 15	0.1 ¹ / ₂ 12	Grenville					
		2.3 970	0.11 270	0.7 90	0.7 69	0.4 ¹ / ₂ 45	0.4 ¹ / ₂ 42	0.4 ¹ / ₂ 30	Petite Nation				
		2.5 1003	1.2 303	0.9 123	0.9 102	0.7 78	0.7 75	0.4 ¹ / ₂ 63	0.4 ¹ / ₂ 33	By Town			
		2.5 1004	1.2 304	0.9 124	0.9 103	0.7 79	0.7 76	0.7 64	0.4 ¹ / ₂ 34	0.4 ¹ / ₂ 1	Hull		

A post to Hawkesbury over the River 2 miles - See N^o 5

*A post to March 12 miles & to Richmond 21 miles
twice P^r Week - Also to Brockville - See N^o 11*

Bytown-Chelsea, 1846

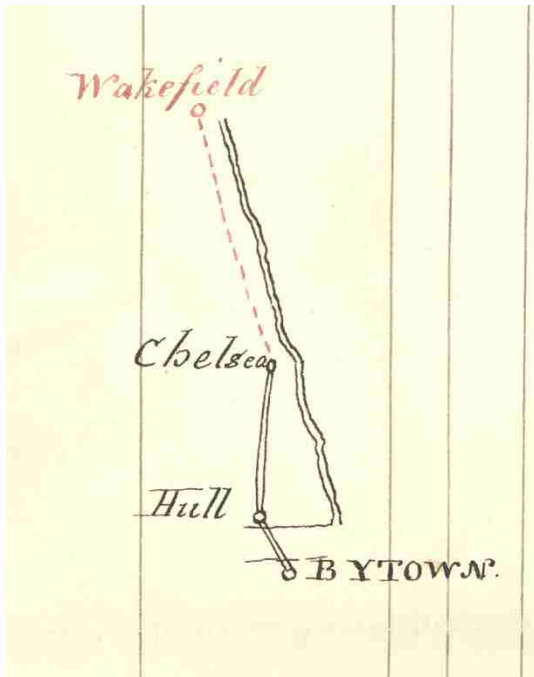


Report from the Postal Surveyor

- No of letters for a fortnight: 16 letters and 52 newspapers
- Distance: 9 miles from Bytown
- Transport: in a light wagon
- Cost: £12
- From Chelsea on Monday & Thursday at Noon
- Arrival at Bytown at 2 P.M.
- From Bytown at 3 P.M.
- Arrival at Chelsea at 5 P.M.

General Post Office fonds, R10901, (Mikan 105345),
Library and Archives Canada

Chelsea-Wakefield, 1847



Report from the Postal Surveyor

- No of letters for a fortnight: 18 letters and 24 newspapers
- Distance: 14 miles from Chelsea
- Transport: horseback
- Cost: £12.10
- From Chelsea on Wednesday at 8 A.M.
- Arrival at Wakefield at 11 A.M.
- From Wakefield at 2 P.M.
- Arrival at Chelsea at 5 P.M.

Post office opened at Wakefield on February 6, 1848

General Post Office fonds, R10901, (Mikan 105345),
Library and Archives Canada

Letter from Wakefield, 1859



Fonds Anatole Walker, R9622,
(Mikan 194799),
Library and Archives Canada

Instructions to Postmasters, 1853



- Every person employed under the Post Office must on entering the Service take and subscribe the Oath of Office.
- A Bar Room or Public Room in a Tavern is never to be made use of as a Post Office.
- The words “Post Office” in large and conspicuous letters must be exhibited outside the Post Office building.
- No person under the age of sixteen should be employed in the Post Office Service, or be suffered in any manner to have access to the Letters or Papers at an Office.

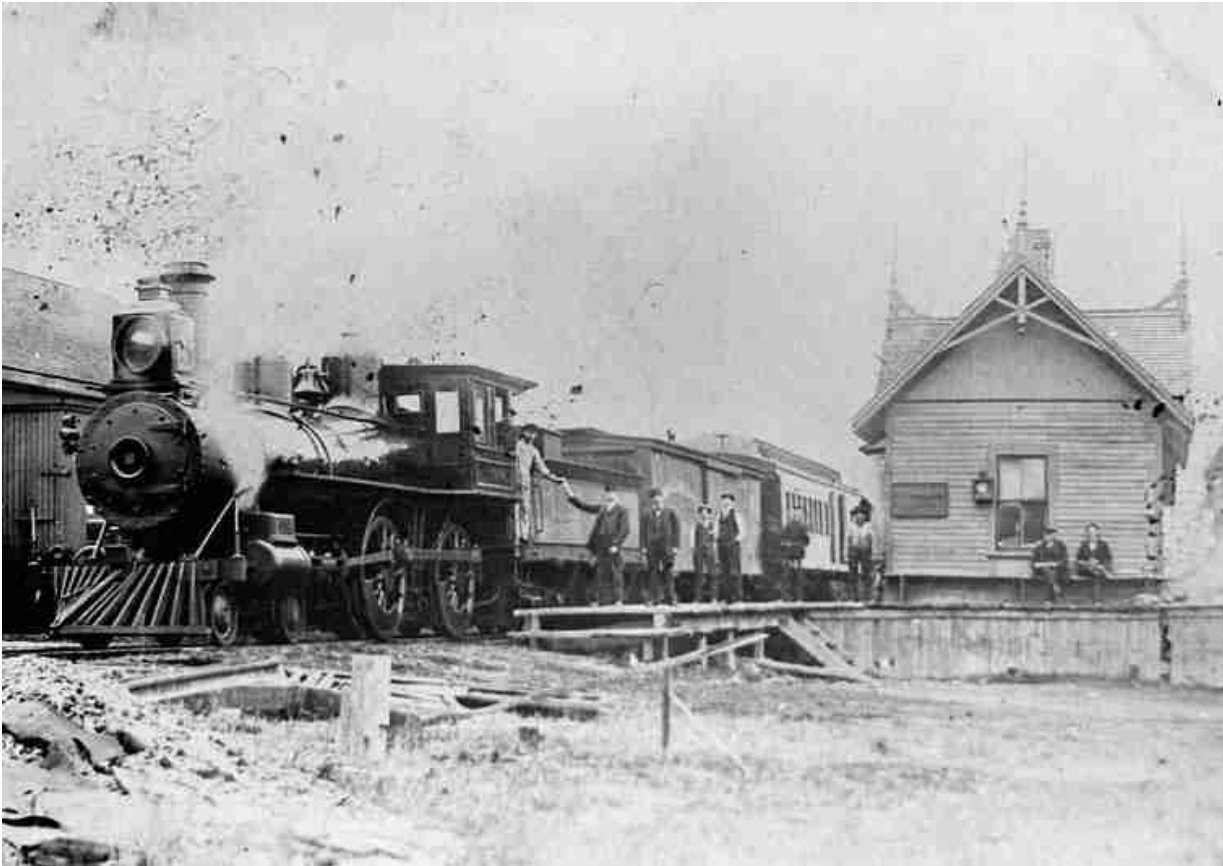
Transportation

Year	Mail Route	Contractor	Method of transport
1852	Bytown-Chelsea	Josephus Hudson	Not specified
1852	Chelsea-Wakefield	James McLaren	Not specified
1854	Bytown-Wakefield	Seth Catey	Not specified
1854	Wakefield-Low	Caleb Brooks	Not specified
1857	Low-Aylwin	John Litle	Horseback
1857	Aylwin-River Desert	Alexander Lebeau	Horseback
1857	Ottawa-Wakefield	William Patterson	Vehicle
1858	Wakefield-River Desert	Caleb Brooks	One horse vehicle
1860	Ottawa-North Wakefield	William Patterson	Two horse covered vehicle
1863	Cantley-Kirk's Ferry	J. Kirk	Ferry or on foot

Transportation

Year	Mail Route	Contractor	Method of transport
1875	Ottawa-North Wakefield	William Patterson	Vehicle (2 months)
1875	Ottawa-North Wakefield	R. Hastey	Vehicle
1892	Ottawa-North Wakefield	R. Hastey	Not specified
1892	North Wakefield- Maniwaki	W. Brooks	Not specified

Transportation



Engine of Ottawa and
Gatineau Valley
Railway - in the 1890s
at Gracefield, Québec,
about 60 miles north of
Ottawa, Ontario.

Photograph, Timms and Howard fonds,
R11288 (MIKAN 3391614), Library and
Archives Canada

Transportation



Year	Mail Route	Contractor	Method of transport
1892	Ottawa-Farrelton	Ottawa and Gatineau Valley Railway	Train
1892	Farrelton-Maniwaki	W. Brooks	Not specified
1895	Ottawa-Wright	Ottawa and Gatineau Valley Railway	Train
1895	Wright-Maniwaki	W. Brooks	Not specified
1900	Ottawa-Gracefield	Ottawa and Gatineau Valley Railway	Train
1900	Gracefield-Maniwaki	J. Nault	Not specified

Numbers of Post Offices



Year	No. of post offices
1851	2
1867	14
1880	27
1900	39
2011	13

Origin of Names

- Click to edit the outline

Post Office	Date	First Postmaster
Kirk's Ferry	1863	John Kirk
Upper Wakefield (Farrelton)	1872	Patrick Farrel
Pélissier	1874	P.N.E. Pélissier
Joynt	1874	Robert Joynt
Wilson's Corners	1875	Henry Wilson
Gracefield	1883	John Grace
Fieldville	1897	Michael Field

– Fifth

Changing Names

- Click to edit the outline

Old Name	Date of change	New Name
River Desert	1875	Maniwaki
Upper Wakefield	1887	Farrelton
Manitou	1885	North Low
North Wakefield	1928	Alcove
Kazubazua	1932	Kazabazua

- Fourth Outline Level

– Fifth

Outline

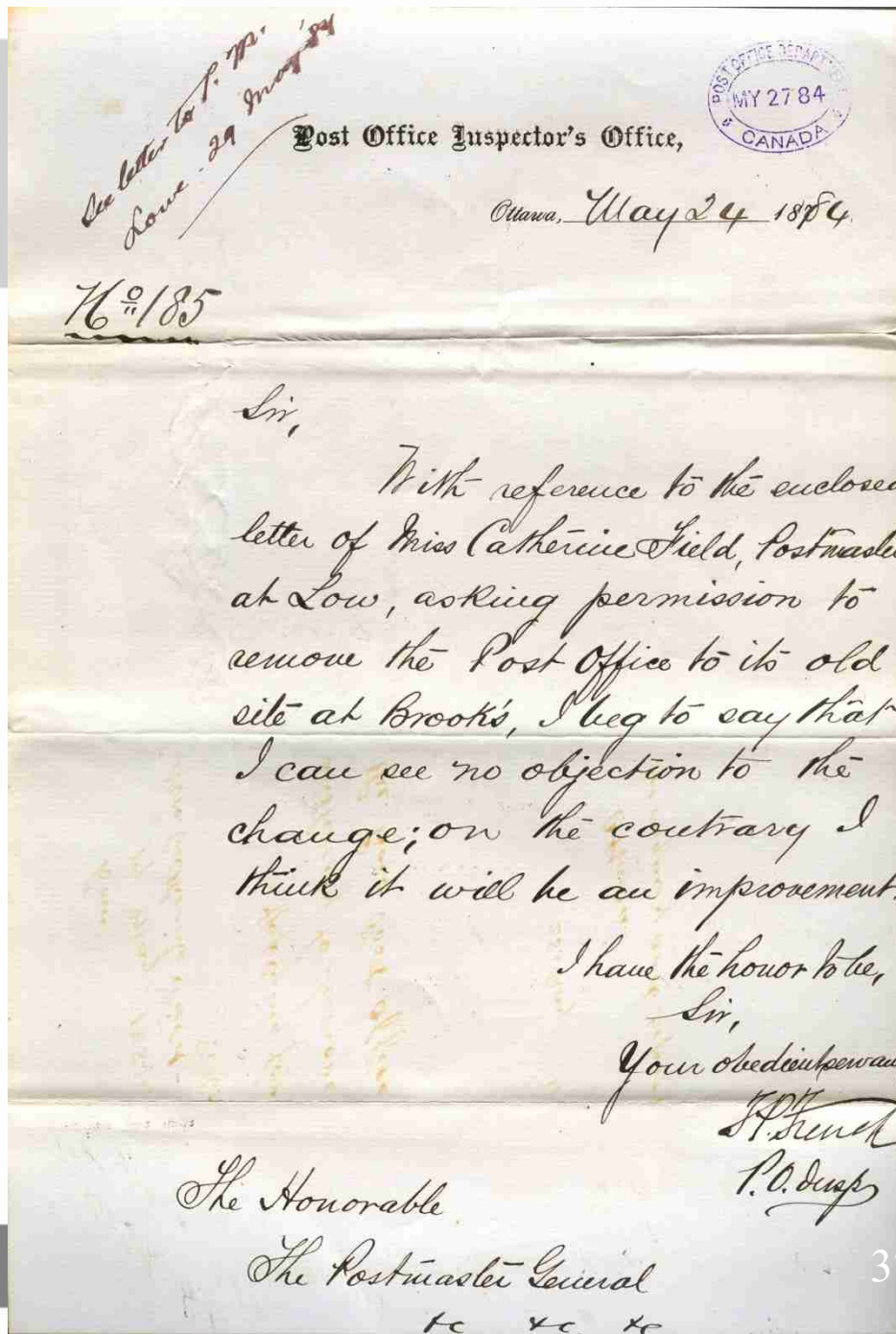
Level

Reports of the Postal Inspectors

Authorized
N^o 291-
J. P. French.
22 Sept. '84-
On applⁿ for
a P.O. at in the Tp.
of Wright.
C^y Ottawa-
"Glen Bean"
John M. Bean, Jr.
N^o of families: 15 to 20
Proposed Service: daily on the How
"Maniwaki" mail route.
Estimated Cost: nil-
" Revenue: \$3⁰⁰ to \$5⁰⁰
Proposed P.M.: John M. Bain
Recommended by: Alonzo Wright
Eng. Dist.

N^o 360-
J. P. French.
Dec: '84-
On applⁿ for
a P.O. at
Old Chelsea,
C^y Ottawa-
N^o of families: 35 to 40
Proposed Service: New service
daily from Chelsea 1 mile distant.
Estimated Cost: \$60⁰⁰ to \$70⁰⁰
" Revenue: \$25⁰⁰ to \$35⁰⁰
Proposed P.M.: Henry Edwards
Recommended by: Alonzo Wright
Eng. Dist.
Inform Mr. Wright
to be

N^o 487-
J. P. French.
17 Mar. '85-
On applⁿ for a
P.O. at
Stevensville,
C^y Ottawa-
N^o of families: 20
Proposed Service: New service weekly
from Wakefield 3 miles.
Estimated cost: \$25⁰⁰
Revenue: \$3⁰⁰ to \$5⁰⁰
Proposed P.M.: Thos. A. Stevenson
Recommended by: Alonzo Wright
Eng. Dist.
Stand to be
12 Mar '86

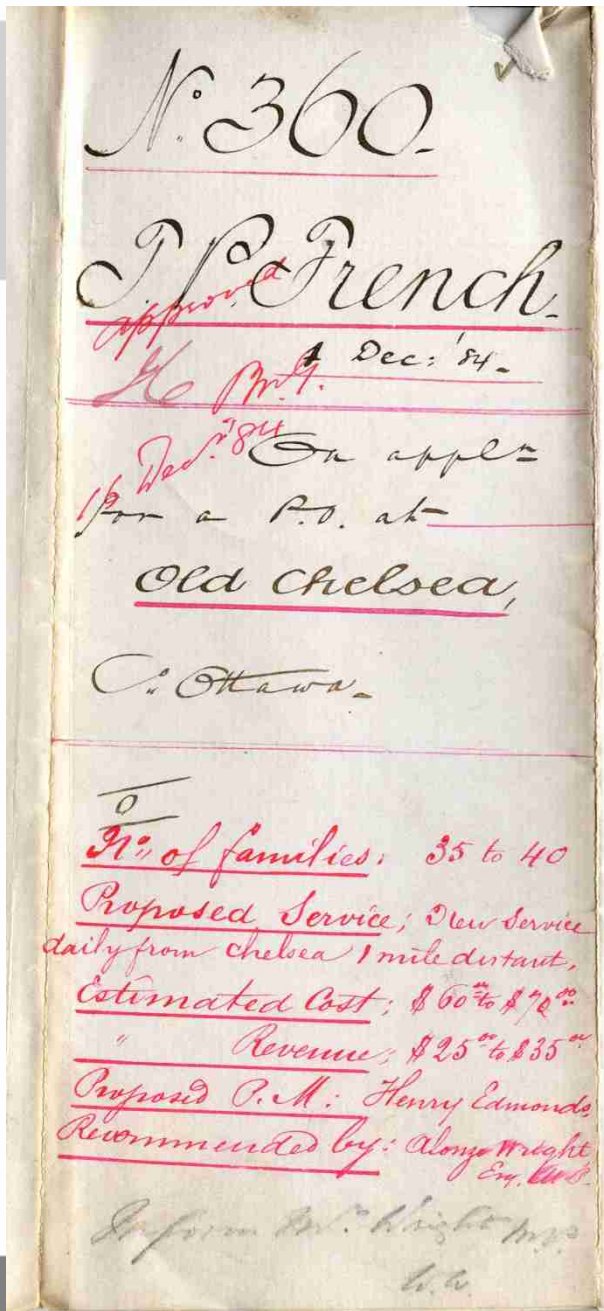


Low, 1884

- Permission to change location of post office to its old site.
- Example of female postmaster: Miss Catherine Field



Application for a change of site for the of post office at Low, Quebec, 1884, Post Office Department fonds, R169 (MIKAN 747522), Library and Archives Canada



Old Chelsea, 1885

- Click to edit the outline
- Date: December 1, 1884
- No. of families: 35 to 40.
- Proposed Service: New service daily from Chelsea, 1 mile distant.
- Estimated cost: \$60 to \$70
- Estimated revenue: \$25 to \$35
- Proposed Postmaster: Henry Edmonds
- Recommended by: Alonzo Wright
- Post Office opened on March 1, 1885
- Fourth Outline Level

Application for the establishment of a post office at Old Chelsea, Quebec, 1884, Post Office Department fonds, RT69 (MIKAN 747543), Library and Archives Canada

Change done: August 1,
1885

cond vel

Third Level

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Level 1

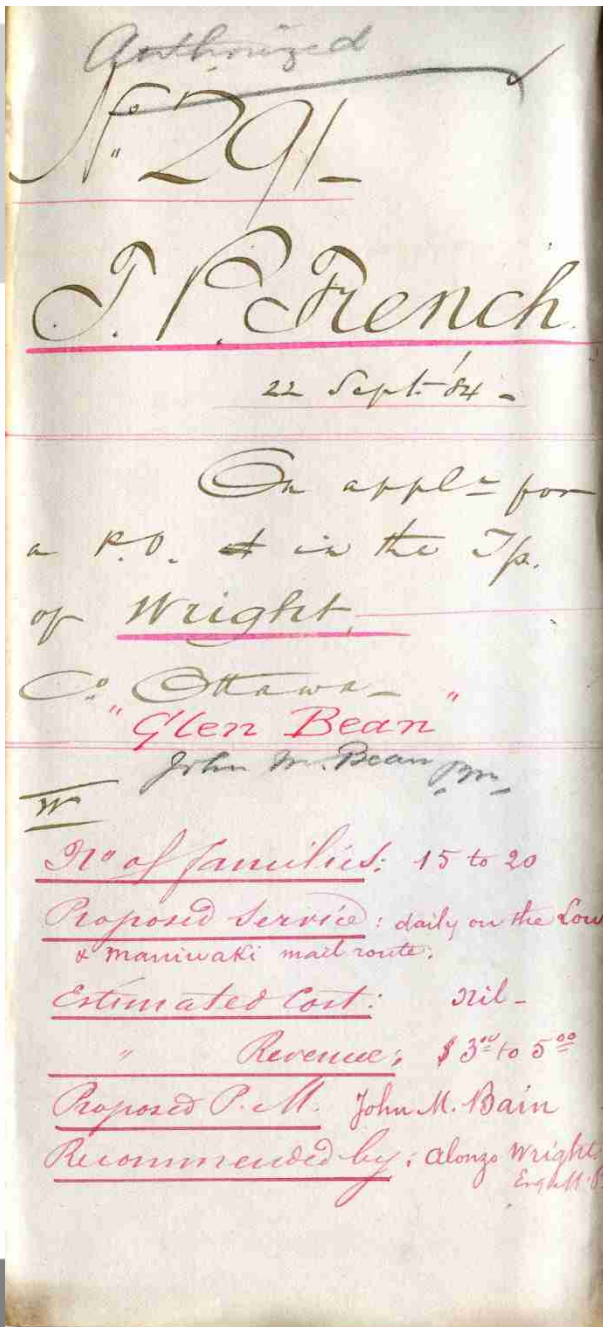
Correspondence on the matter of a change of
name from Manitou to North Low, 1885,
Post Office Department fonds, R169
(MIKAN 747567), Library and Archives Canada

Outline

Level



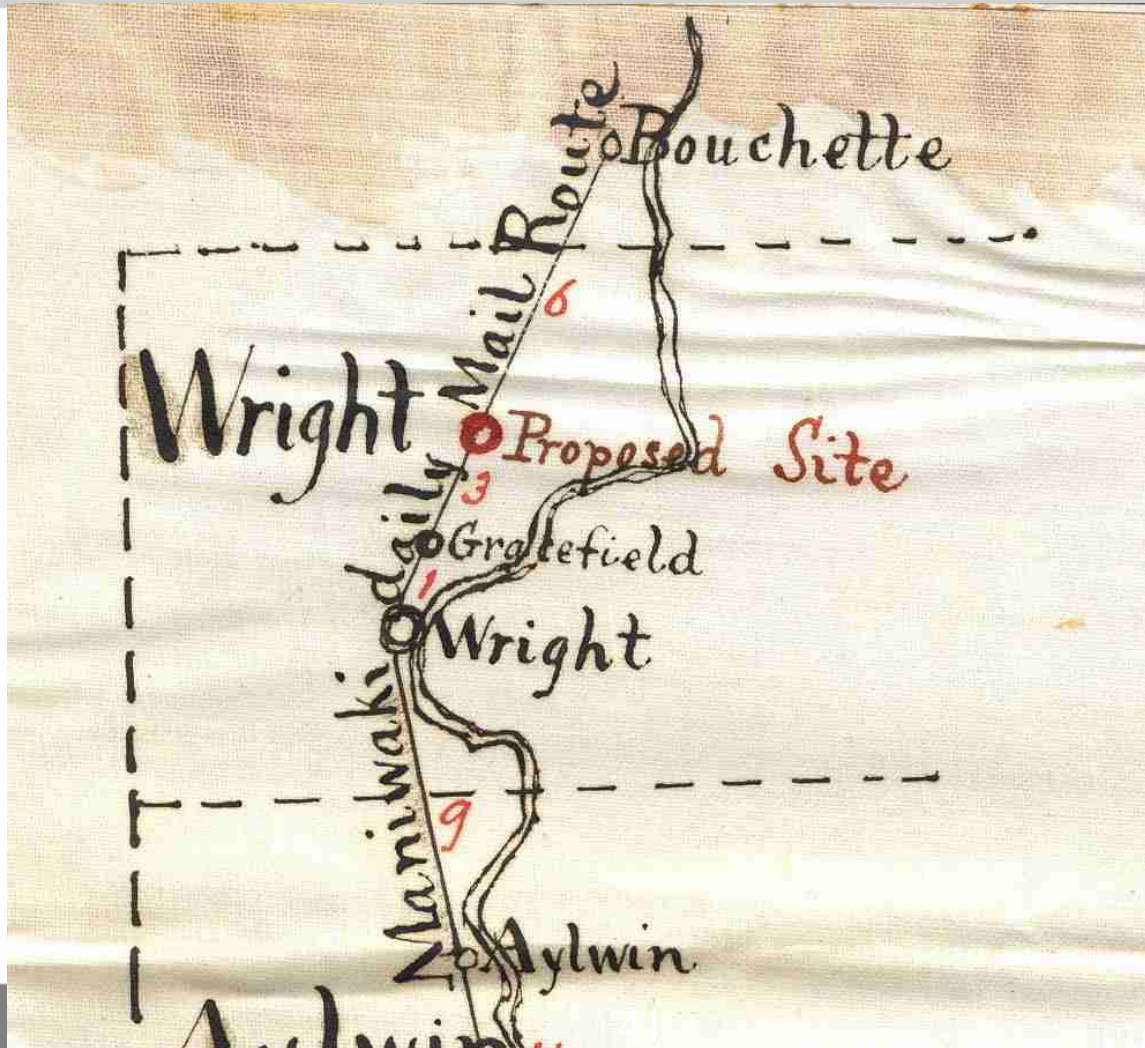
Glen Bean, 1885



- Click to edit the outline text format
- Date: September 22, 1884
- No. of families: 15 to 20.
- Proposed Service: Daily on the Low-Maniwaki mail route.
- Estimated cost: Nil
- Estimated revenue: \$3 to \$5
- Proposed Postmaster: John M. Bean
- Recommended by: Alonzo Wright
- Post Office opened on August 1, 1885
- Fourth Outline Level

Application for the establishment of a post office at Glen Bean, Quebec, 1885, Post Office Department fonds, R169 (MIKAN 747538), Library and Archives Canada

Glen Bean, 1885



the outline

outline

Outline

North Outline

el

fifth

Outline

Level

Stevensville, 1885

N^o 487- ✓

J. P. French

17 Mar. '85

On applⁿ for a
P.O. at
Stevensville
Co. Ottawa

S

N^o of families: 20

Proposed Service: New service weekly
from Wakefield 3 miles.

Estimated cost: \$25⁰⁰

Revenue: \$3⁰⁰ to \$5⁰⁰

Proposed P.M. Thos. A. Stevenson

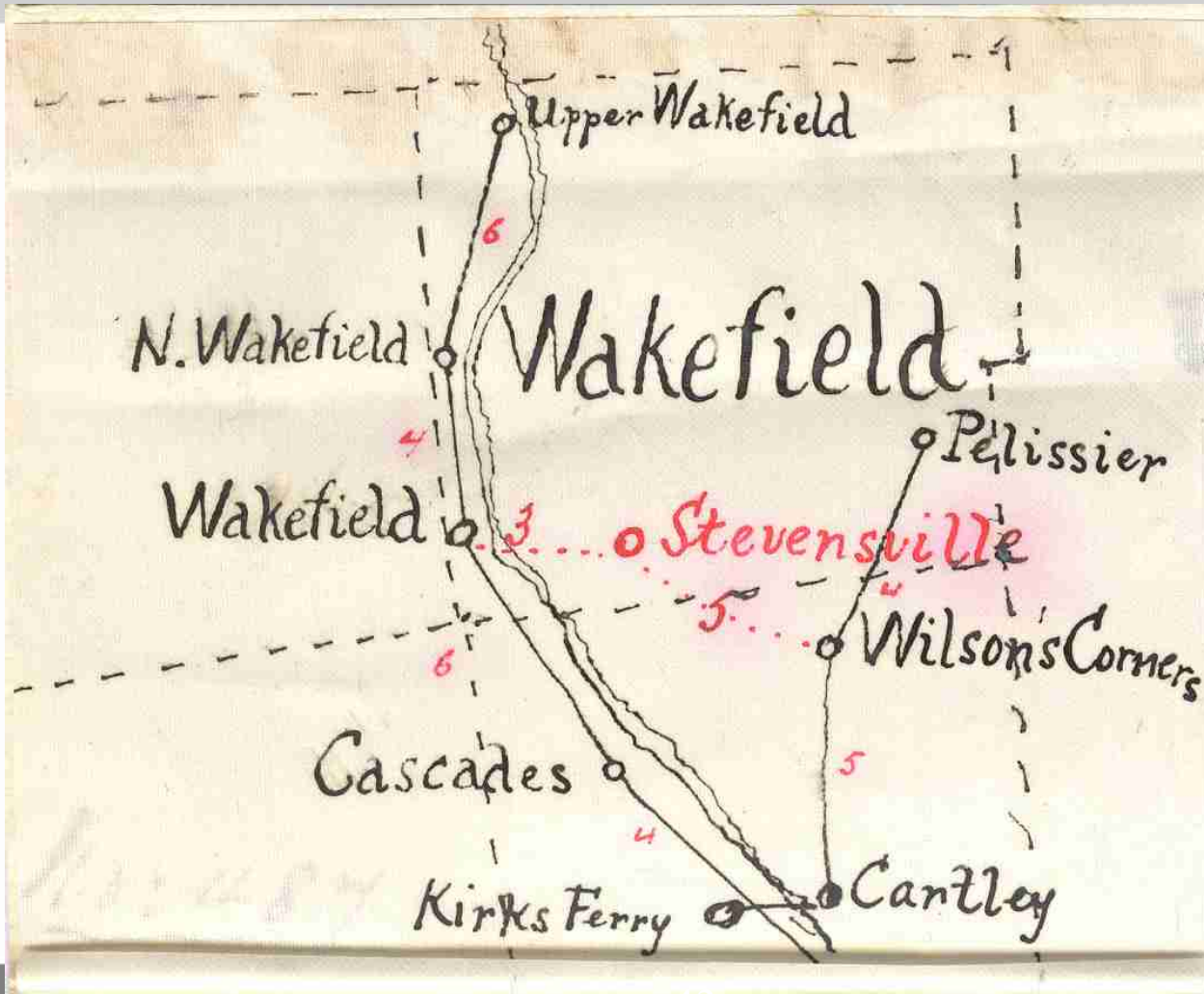
Recommended by: Alonzo Wright, Esq.
M.P.

Stand by
12 Mar 86

- Click to edit the outline text format
- Date: March, 17, 1885
- No. of families: 20.
- Proposed Service: New service weekly from Wakefield, 3 miles.
- Estimated cost: \$25
- Estimated revenue: \$3 to \$5
- Proposed Postmaster: Thomas A. Stevenson
- Recommended by: Alonzo Wright
- Post Office never opened

Petition for the establishment of a post office at Stevensville, Quebec, 1885, Post Office Department fonds, R169 (MIKAN 747565), Library and Archives Canada

Stevensville, 1885



Bibliothèque et Archives Canada

550, boulevard de la Cité
Gatineau (Québec)
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Canada

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ATS : 613-992-6969 ou 1-866-299-1699

Télécopieur : 613-995-6274

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www.collectionscanada.gc.ca

