



Dalhousie University Archives

Finding Aid - James Benjamin Westhaver fonds (MS-2-587, SF Box 4, Folders 1-14, 16; SF Box 45, Folders 25-32)

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James Benjamin Westhaver fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	Dalhousie University Archives
Title:	James Benjamin Westhaver fonds
Reference code:	MS-2-587, SF Box 4, Folders 1-14, 16; SF Box 45, Folders 25-32
Date:	1901-1907 (date of creation)
Language:	English
Physical description:	12 cm of textual records (24 folders)
Note [generalNote]:	Preferred citation: [Identification of item], James Benjamin Westhaver fonds, MS-2-587, Box [box number], Folder [folder number], Dalhousie University Archives, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Capt. J. Benjamin Westhaver was a master mariner and inventor from Mahone Bay, N.S.

Custodial history

Fonds was sold to Dalhousie Archives by John Townsend.

Scope and content

Fonds includes items dealing with the invention of and patenting of a hydraulic gold extractor first registered in 1887. Also involves setting up a company to use the machine and begin gold mining. The material covers a period of 1883 to 1905, and involves many individuals in the business and legal community of Halifax and the South Shore. It also includes the original patent with the specification and diagrams, other diagrams, a 31 page hand written report by Westhaver on his trip to Dawson City, Yukon in 1902 to test his separator. A very interesting collection of letters, documents, legal correspondence, governmental material, etc., etc., dealing with the starting of a company to use the gold separate and Westhaver's various difficulties with financing and control.

Notes

Title notes

Restrictions on access

There are no access restrictions on these materials. All materials are open for research.

Conditions governing use

Materials do not circulate and must be used in the Archives and Special Collections Reading Room. Materials may be under copyright. Contact departmental staff for guidance on reproduction.

Accruals

No further accruals are required.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published

Access points

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Business records (subject)
- Gold (subject)
- Mariners (subject)
- Minerals (subject)
- Mining (subject)
- Mining engineering--Canada (subject)
- Patents--Canada (subject)
- Personal archives (subject)
- Mahone Bay (N.S.) (place)

Collection holdings
