

Nova Scotia Archives

Finding Aid - Isaac Deschamps fonds (MG 1 volume 258)

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Isaac Deschamps fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	Nova Scotia Archives
Title:	Isaac Deschamps fonds
ID:	MG 1 volume 258
Date:	1750-1814, predominant 1756-1768 (date of creation)
Physical description:	4 cm of textual records
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	Revised 2017-06-16 Carli LaPierre (items imported and list updated)
Note [generalNote]:	There is also a transcription of the 1756-1757 almanac/diary (MG 1 - Vol. 258A, No. 1) published in the Nova Scotia Historical Review, Vol. 16 (2), 1996: p. 99-108.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Isaac Deschamps was born circa 1722, presumably of Swiss descent, and arrived in Halifax, N.S. in 1749. He was employed by Joshua Mauger and in 1754 he ran Maugher's truckhouse at Pisiquid (Windsor) where he traded with local Acadians and First Nations. In 1760, Deschamps was appointed truckmaster for the trade at Fort Edward and justice of the peace for Kings County. In the following year he was named judge of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas and judge of probate for Kings County. He served as MLA for Annapolis County, 1759-1769, Falmouth Township, 1761-1770, and Newport Township, 1770-1783. Deschamps was appointed acting chief justice, 1785-1790, and became the subject of an investigation concerning the partiality of his rulings. In 1799 he became road commissioner for Kings County. Isaac Deschamps died on 11 August 1801 in Windsor.

Custodial history

The bound volume was originally in the Nova Scotia Legislative Library and circa 1882 was given to T.B. Akins, commissioner of public records for Nova Scotia, by Judge L.M. Wilkins. It came to the Archives in 1931.

Scope and content

Fonds consists of records created and accumulated by Deschamps, primarily documenting his activities at Fort Edward. Fonds includes a bound volume containing correspondence relating to the Acadians;

lists of Acadian prisoners and Mi'kmaq families residing near Fort Edward; and other material relating to Deschamp's various appointments, First Nations commerce and trade, Treaty of 1760, and settlements in Kings County. Fonds also contains an original Pisiquid almanac/diary as well as photocopies of his other surviving diaries.

Notes

Title notes

Location of originals

The originals of the photocopied almanacs/diaries are held by the Killam Memorial Library Special Collections, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia. MG 1 vol. 258 (microfilm reel 14912).

Alternative form available

[Website with digitized copies and transcriptions available.](<https://archives.novascotia.ca/deschamps/>)

Restrictions on access

Researchers are required to use the microfilm reel 14912 for MG 1 vol. 258.

Finding aids

[Item list is attached.](<https://archives.novascotia.ca/lists/isaac-deschamps-fonds.pdf>)

Related material

Charles Townshend collection MG 1 vol. 558

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published

Series descriptions

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
MG 1 volume 258 number 1 pages 1-4	Item - Isaac Deschamps' appointment as Truckmaster at Fort Edward, Windsor, Nova Scotia.	16 June 1760		
MG 1 volume 258 number 2 page 5	Item - List of settlers transported from Newport, Rhode Island to Falmouth, Hants County, Nova Scotia, in the sloop "Sally" – [Jonathan] Lovett master.	May 1760		

MG 1 volume 258 number 3 pages 6-9	Item - Memorial of the inhabitants of Falmouth regarding the Registry of Deeds sent to Benjamin Green [attributed to Michael Franklin].	ca. 1766
MG 1 volume 258 number 4 pages 10-13	Item - Copy of a document drafted by Charles Morris and sent to Isaac Deschamps regarding the establishment of Newport, Nova Scotia.	31 March 1761
MG 1 volume 258 number 5 pages 14-15 10.2.2	Item - Account of fees due to the Secretary and Chief Land Surveyor for the grants of the following townships: Horton, Cornwallis, W. Falmouth, and Newport	22 July 1761
MG 1 volume 258 number 6 pages 16-17	Item - Copy of a letter sent to Isaac Deschamps and Henry Denny Denson by Lieutenant-Governor Jonathan Belcher appointing them as joint surveyors of the proposed road from Ford Edward, Windsor to Fort Sackville in Nova Scotia.	27 September 1762
MG 1 vol 258 item 1 pages 1-4	Item - Isaac Deschamps' appointment as Truckmaster at Fort Edward, Windsor, Nova Scotia	16 June 1760
MG 1 vol 258 item 2 page 5	Item - List of settlers transported from Newport, Rhode Island to Falmouth, Hants County, Nova Scotia, in the sloop "Sally" Jonathan Lovett master	May 1760
MG 1 vol 258 item 3 page 6-9	Item - Memorial of the inhabitants of Falmouth regarding the Registry of Deeds sent to Benjamin Green (attributed to Michael Franklin)	ca. 1766
MG 1 vol 258 item 4 pages 10-13	Item - Copy of a document drafted by Charles Morris and sent to Isaac Deschamps regarding the establishment of Newport, Nova Scotia	31 March 1761
MG 1 vol 258 item 5 pages 14-15	Item - Account of fees due to the Secretary and Chief Land Surveyor for the grants of the following townships: Horton, Cornwallis, W Falmouth, and Newport	22 July 1761
MG 1 vol 258 item 6 pages 16-17	Item - Copy of a letter sent to Isaac Deschamps and Henry Denny Denson by Lieutenant-Governor Jonathan Belcher appointing them as joint surveyors of the proposed road from Ford Edward, Windsor to Fort Sackville in Nova Scotia	27 September 1762
MG 1 vol 258 item 7 pages 18-19	Item - Number of French prisoners kept and victualled at Fort Edward, Windsor, Nova Scotia between 13 June 1763 and 18 March 1764	19 March 1764
MG 1 vol 258 Item 8 pages 20-21	Item - A list of the head of the families belonging to the Indian tribe of Amquaret which is hunting between Cornwallis on the Annapolis Road and the tribe of Nocout which is hunting on the Kennetcook River in Newport Township	20 December 1763

MG 1 vol 258 item 9 pages 22-23	Item - Document regarding the establishment of a fair at Windsor, Nova Scotia	29 March 1765
MG 1 vol 258 item 10 pages 24-27	Item - List of Indians residing in the district surrounding Fort Edward, Windsor, Nova Scotia with a listing of what was sold to the Indians (fish and furs)	24 September 1767
MG 1 vol 258 item 11 pages 28-31	Item - Copy of a memorandum from M. Tonge to Rev. W.C. King, Rector of Windsor describing the development of the community of Windsor, Nova Scotia	11 January 1814
MG 1 vol 258 item 12 pages 34-65	Item - List of settlers victualled at Halifax between 18 May and 4 June 1750	June 1750
MG 1 vol 258 item 13 pages 66-67	Item - An Act to Regulate Shipping and Exporting of corn or grain made and passed in Council at Halifax	5 October 1754
MG 1 vol 258 item 14 pages 68-79	Item - Peace Treaty concluded at Halifax with the Indians of the St John River and Passamaquoddy	February 1760
MG 1 vol 258 item 15 pages 80-83	Item - Rates and regulations for Indian commerce treaty concluded between Charles Lawrence and Mitchell Neptune (Chief of the tribe of the Indians of Passamaquoddy) and Belloni Glode (Captain of the tribe of the Indians of St John's River)	23 February 1760
MG 1 vol 258 item 16 pages 84-97	Item - Document regarding the House of Assembly and the Indian Treaty	January - March 1760
MG 1 vol 258 item 17 pages 98-99	Item - Typescript of a letter from the inhabitants of Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia to Isaac Deschamps	10 December 1760
MG 1 vol 258 item 18 pages 100-105	Item - List of French prisoners at Fort Edward, Windsor, Nova Scotia with the number in each family	5 October 1761
MG 1 vol 258 item 19 pages 106-109	Item - Petition for provisions and aid from the inhabitants of Onslow	11 May 1762
MG 1 vol 258 item 20 pages 110-113	Item - List of French prisoners at Fort Edward, Windsor, Nova Scotia with the number in each family and numbers victualled	August 1762
MG 1 vol 258 item 21 pages 114-121	Item - Letter sent to an unidentified individual providing a description of the St. John River signed by (S Watmough?)	2 February 1762
MG 1 vol 258 item 22 pages 122-124	Item - Copies of a series of letters concerning the Acadians in exile	March - July 1763
MG 1 vol 258 item 23 page 125	Item - Copy of a return of families settled in the Townships of Horton, Cornwallis, Falmouth and Newport in Kings County together with the numbers of persons said families consist of and of their stock of cattle and grain and roots raised the present year	15 October 1763

MG 1 vol 258 item 24 pages 126-129	Item - Extract of a letter from the Earl of Hertford to the Earl of Halifax written in Paris, France regarding the Acadians	19 January 1764
MG 1 vol 258 item 25 pages 130-133	Item - Copy of a letter from Lord Halifax to Governor Montagu Wilmot regarding the Acadians	11 February 1764
MG 1 vol 258 item 26 pages 134-137	Item - Letter from the Acadians who resided in the vicinity of the Piziquid River (near Windsor, Nova Scotia) to Governor Wilmot petitioning for provisions with a list of the heads of the families	1764
MG 1 vol 258 item 27 pages 138-140	Item - Letter from Richard Bulkeley concerning the departure of five hundred Acadians to Cape Beausoleil	30 November 1764
MG 1 vol 258 item 28 pages 141-142	Item - Letter from Richard Bulkeley, Secretary's Office, Halifax, to Isaac Deschamps stating that Justices of the Peace are not to perform marriages	16 May 1764
MG 1 vol 258 item 29 pages 143-144	Item - Letter from Richard Bulkeley, Secretary's Office, Halifax, regarding the government's position not to provide provisions to the Acadians	16 November 1764
MG 1 vol 258 item 30 pages 145-155	Item - Letter sent from Michael Francklin, Halifax, Nova Scotia providing instructions to Isaac Deschamps regarding an appointment as superintendant for Prince Edward Island and what was required in that position	20 May 1768
MG 1 vol 258 item 31 page 156	Item - Letter sent from Richard Bulkeley to Isaac Deschamps regarding the Acadians, their adherence to the French King and their request to be transported to Cape Francois	17--
MG 1 vol 258 item 32 pages 157-158	Item - Proclamation issued by Montagu Wilmot permitting the Acadians to remain in Nova Scotia if they swear an oath of allegiance and fidelity to His Majesty's Government	7 November 1764
MG 1 vol 258 Item 33 pages 159-174	Item - A series of petitions sent to M. Deschamps from Acadians in the vicinity of Pizquit / Windsort (Windsor, Nova Scotia)	1764-1768
MG 1 vol 258 item 34 pages 175-182	Item - A sketch of province of Nova Scotia and chiefly of such parts as are settled	ca. 1773
MG 1 vol 258 item 35 pages 183-190	Item - Letter from Jas. Gray, Esq. written at New York concerning the voyage of the Royal Oak and a subsequent account written by Josh Goreham regarding privateers	September 1781
MG 1 vol 258 item 36 pages 191-194	Item - Letter from Richard Bulkeley to Isaac Deschamps regarding a requisition of 30 men, and details of prisoners at Lunenburg	10 August 1782

MG 1 vol 258 item 37 pages 195-197	Item - Letter from Richard Bulkeley to Isaac Deschamps regarding the Council	29 February 1788
MG 1 vol 258 item 38 pages 198-212 and 216-222	Item - Letters from Richard Bulkeley to Isaac Deschamps	1800
MG 1 vol 258 item 39	Item - An undated letter written by Richard Bulkeley	
MG 1 vol 258A item 1	Item - An Astronomical Diary Or, an Almanack (Ames Almanack) (used by Isaac Deschamps as a diary)	1756-1757
MG 1 vol 258A item 2	Item - A description of the system of husbandry used by the Acadians, including returns on wheat and grass along with a discussion of the system of dyking land and how quickly the land produced thereafter	after 1764
MG 1 vol 258A item 3	Item - Almanac used as a diary by Isaac Deschamps	1759
MG 1 vol 258A item 4	Item - Almanac used as a diary by Isaac Deschamps	1765
MG 1 vol 258A item 5	Item - Almanac used as a diary by Isaac Deschamps	1766
MG 1 vol 258A item 6	Item - The Nova-Scotia Calendar Or an Almanack for the Year of the Christian Aera (used as a diary by Isaac Deschamps)	1772
MG 1 vol 258A item 7	Item - The Nova-Scotia Calendar Or an Almanack for the Year of the Christian Aera (used as a diary by Isaac Deschamps)	1773
MG 1 vol 258A item 8	Item - The Nova-Scotia Calendar Or an Almanack for the Year of the Christian Aera (used as a diary by Isaac Deschamps)	1774
MG 1 vol 258A item 9	Item - Almanac (used as a diary by Isaac Deschamps)	1775
MG 1 vol 258A item 10	Item - The Nova-Scotia Calendar Or an Almanack for the Year of the Christian Aera (used as a diary by Isaac Deschamps)	1776
MG 1 vol 258A item 11	Item - The Nova-Scotia Calendar Or an Almanack for the Year of the Christian Aera (used as a diary by Isaac Deschamps)	1777
MG 1 vol 258A item 12	Item - The Nova-Scotia Calendar Or an Almanack for the Year of the Christian Aera (used as a diary by Isaac Deschamps)	1778