

Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council

Finding Aid #403

Miscou Mission Field (New Brunswick)

**Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council
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Reference Number: PC/403

Title: Miscou Mission Field fonds

Dates: 1933-2007

Extent: 9.5 cm of textual records and 2 photographs

Administrative History: A pastoral charge consists of one or more communities of faith (known as preaching points prior to 2019) under the spiritual leadership of a minister. The pastoral charge title usually reflects the breadth of the geographic area encompassing the charge.

The Miscou Mission Field covers the Islands of Miscou and Shippagan in Gloucester County, New Brunswick and contains the communities of faith of Miscou Harbour (St. Mark's), and Miscou Lighthouse (St. John's). These churches began as Church of Scotland Presbyterian churches and became part of the United Church of Canada at the time of the union of the Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregational churches in 1925.

With the formation of The United Church of Canada in 1925, Miscou became a separate mission field and included the preaching points of Miscou, Miscou Point, Shippagan, and Little Shippagan. At this time, Caraquet became part of the New Bandon Pastoral Charge. Miscou Harbour was added in 1929. Caraquet was added in 1961 but was no longer listed as a preaching point on the mission field by 1974. St. John's United Church in Shippagan was closed in 2007.

Effective January 1, 2019, The United Church of Canada underwent some structural changes including the elimination of all Presbyteries. At this time, Miscou Mission Field became part of the Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council.

Custodial History: Information about the custody of these records prior to acquisition is incomplete.

Scope and Content: Fonds consists of baptism/marriage/burial records, financial records, home mission record books, minutes, 1 photograph, newspaper clippings, and published and unpublished histories Miscou Mission Field. Fonds is composed of the following series:

Miscou Mission Field records

St. John's United Church (Shippagan) records

Notes:

Source of Supplied Title Proper: Title based on contents of fonds.

Accruals: Further accruals are expected.

Immediate Source of Acquisition: Records were received from the Maritime Conference offices in 2003 (accession 03-070) and from the pastoral charge in 2007 (accession 07-043), 2009 (accession 09-016), 2018 (accession 18-098) and 2019 (accession 19-032).

Related Records: See Bathurst Pastoral Charge fonds for early Presbyterian records (St. Luke's Presbyterian Church). See also W. Burton Crowe fonds for a photograph of the exterior of the church at Miscou Harbour in the 1980s (file V-51-232).

Reference Number: PC/403/1

Title: Miscou Mission Field records

Dates: 1925-1935, 1939, 1950-1963

Extent: 3.5 cm of textual records

Scope and Content: Sous-fonds consists of baptism/marriage/burial records, mission record books, a communion roll, minutes, newspaper clipping, and an unpublished history from Miscou Mission Field. Sous-fonds is composed of the following series:

Baptism/Marriage/Burial Records

Mission Record Books

Membership Records

Records of Congregation

Records of Session

Church Histories

Note:

Source of supplied title proper: Title based on contents of sous-fonds.

File List:

Baptism/Marriage/Burial Records

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
PC/1111/16	Miscou Harbour Union Church: Baptisms (1925-August 26, 1933) Marriages (February 15, 1926) Deaths (January 16, 1934-February 19, 1935) Also includes session/congregational meeting minutes (1910-1925), communion roll (1911-1929); and pre-1925 baptism/marriage/burial records (1905-1925)	1925-1935

Mission Record Books

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
PC/25/10	Mission Record Books (3) These record books include names of ministers/missionaries serving in the field, listing of church officials, communion roll, baptisms/marriages/burials, and weekly offerings	1950-1963

Membership Records

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
PC/1111/16	Miscou Harbour Union Church communion roll Also includes baptism/marriage/burial records (1905-1935), session/congregational minutes, and pre-1925 communion roll (1911-1925)	1925-1929

Records of Congregation

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
PC/1111/16	Miscou Harbour Union Church congregational meeting minutes Also includes baptism/marriage/burial records (1905-1935), session minutes, and communion roll (1911-1929)	1925-1926

Records of Session

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
PC/1111/16	Miscou Harbour Union Church session minutes Also includes baptism/marriage/burial records (1905-1935), congregational minutes (1910-1926), communion roll (1911-1929); and pre-1925 session minutes (1910-1925)	1925-June 1, 1926

Church Histories

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
CH/409	-Newspaper clipping: "Miscou Y.P. have a successful Year," <i>The United Churchman</i> (June 21, 1939) -Notes on Miscou by archivist (n.d.)	

Reference Number: PC/403/2

Title: Miscou Presbyterian Church records

Dates: 1905-1925

Extent: 1 cm of textual records

Administrative History: The religious work on the islands was infrequent and much was left to a French catechist shared by the French Presbyterian Board and the Church of Scotland in New Brunswick. Reports in the "Presbyterian Witness" indicated that he visited only once in 1879 and very infrequently thereafter. The first communion service in Miscou is recorded as in October 1881. The church at Caraquet was part of this Presbyterian field which was overseen by the church at Bathurst. This church was established c. 1875 and the churches on Miscou Island were built in the early 1880s and later. A church was built at Shippagan in 1847 followed by a new building in 1903 after the original one was destroyed by fire. In 1885, *The Presbyterian Witness* newspaper records that Caraquet had a small church and that there were intentions to build on Miscou during the coming year. Reports in 1888 state: "On Miscou the new church is nearly ready for seating; at Caraquet the pews are there, and will soon be put in."

In 1925, the Presbyterian congregations in the area joined The United Church of Canada.

Scope and Content: Sous-fonds consists of baptism/marriage/burial records; a communion roll; minutes; and newspaper clippings from Miscou Presbyterian Mission. Sous-fonds is composed of the following series:

- Baptism/Marriage/Burial Records
- Membership Records
- Records of Congregation
- Records of Session
- Church Histories

Note:

Source of supplied title proper: Title based on contents of sous-fonds.

File List:

Baptism/Marriage/Burial Records

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
PC/1111/16	Miscou Harbour Union Church register: Baptisms (September 11, 1905-1925) Marriages (August 20, 1910-October 8, 1911) Also includes baptism/marriage/burial records from Miscou Harbour United (1926-1935); congregational/session minutes (1910-1926), and communion roll (1911-1929)	1905-1925

Membership Records

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
PC/1111/16	Miscou Harbour Union Church communion roll Also includes baptism/marriage/burial records (1905-1935); and congregational/session minutes (1910-1926)	1905-1925

Records of Congregation

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
PC/1111/16	Miscou Harbour Union Church congregational meeting minutes Also includes baptism/marriage/burial records (1905-1935); Miscou Harbour United session/congregational minutes (1910-1926), and communion roll (1911-1929)	1910-1925

Records of Session

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
PC/1111/16	Miscou Harbour Union Church session minutes Also includes baptism/marriage/burial records (1905-1935); Miscou Harbour United congregational minutes (1910-1926), and communion roll (1911-1929)	1910-1925

Church Histories

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
CH/409	-Photocopy newspaper clipping re. a trip to Miscou by George MacDonnell, <u>The Gleaner</u> -Photocopy of newspaper clipping re. new church at Shippagan, <u>The Gleaner</u>	July 22, 1850 November 9, 1847

Reference Number: PC/403/3

Title: St. John's United Church (Shippagan) records

Dates: 1933-2007

Extent: 8 cm of textual records and 2 photographs

Administrative History: In February 1842, the trustees of Saint John's Church of the Established Church of Scotland purchased land from the Honorable Joseph Cunard for the purposes of erecting a church in Shippagan. The building was completed in November 1847. It was destroyed by fire ca. 1900 and a new building was completed in 1903. It is believed that many church records from St. John's were burned in a fire in the 1930s that destroyed the residence of the then church secretary. With the formation of The United Church of Canada, Shippagan became part of the Miscou Mission Field.

There were no services held in the church from 1981-1988 but beginning in 1989, annual summer services were held in the church. The church was closed in 2007.

Scope and Content: Sous-fonds consists of baptism records, financial records, minutes, an order of service, guest books, photographs, newspaper clippings, and published and unpublished histories from St. John's United Church in Shippagan. Sous-fonds is composed of the following series:

- Baptism/Marriage/Burial Records
- Records of Congregation
- Records of Treasurer
- Orders of Service
- Guest Books
- Orders of Service
- Church Histories
- Photographs

Note:

Source of supplied title proper: Title based on contents of sous-fonds.

File List:

Baptism/Marriage/Burial Records

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
PC/43/8	List of births	1933-1974

Records of Congregation

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
PC/43/8	Transcription of congregational meeting minutes	1936-1989

Records of Treasurer

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
PC/43/9	Treasurer's book	1926-1935
PC/43/6	Treasurer's book	May 1936-1999
PC/43/8	Collections and financial statements	1936-1996
PC/43/10	Income statements	1999-2007

Orders of Service

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
PC/25/10	Order of service for annual summer service	August 19, 2001

Guest Books

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
PC/43/7	Guest books	1989-1999, 2000-2007

Orders of Service

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
PC/411C/58	Order of service for closure of church Includes dedication of memorial cairn and list of those buried in the cemetery	July 29, 2007

Church Histories

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
CH/409	-“Saint John United Church de Shippagan, N.-B.,” by Eloi De Grâce. La Revue d'histoire de la Société Nicholas-Denys. Vol. V, no. 1, January-March 1977	1977
	-Photocopy newspaper clipping re. a trip to Miscou by George MacDonnell, <u>The Gleaner</u>	July 22, 1850
	-Photocopy of newspaper clipping re. new church at Shippagan, <u>The Gleaner</u> , -	November 9, 1847
	-“Historic St. John's Church, Shippagan, Closed” by David Morrison. <u>The New Brunswick Scottish Journal</u>	October 2007
	-Newspaper clipping: “Historic Shippagan church closes doors” by Stephanie Kukkonen, <u>Times & Transcript</u>	2007
	-Newspaper clipping: “Miramichiers participate in St. John's United Church	August 6, 2007

	service in Shippagan” by David Morrison. <u>Miramichi Leader</u> -Correspondence from David Morrison to archivist re. St. John’s United Church records	May 25, 2005
PC/411C/58	-Press release re. the closure -“History of St. John’s United Church – Shippagan” by David F. Morrison	2007

Photographs

File Number	File Title/Description	Dates
V/45/249	Photograph of people standing outside St. John’s United Church, Shippagan, for annual summer service Col. 10 cm x 15 cm	August 19, 2001
V/86	Print-out of photograph of exterior of St. John’s United Church Photographed by David Morrison, col., 28 x 21.5 cm	2007

Ministers of Miscou Mission Field

1925: S.H. Brown (student supply)
1926: J.M Fraser (student supply)
1927: Ward H. MacLean (student supply)
1928: A. Tate Young (student supply)
1929: Clifford Allcroft (student supply)
1930: Dan Mackenzie (student supply)
1931: Fred Sparks (student supply)
1932: Walter Gordon Jones (student supply)
1933: James and S.R. Burden (student supply)
1934: Elias Andrews (student supply)
1935: Walter G. Davis (student supply)
1936: Watson French (student supply)
1937: James Elmo Jones (student supply)
1938: Glenn Firth and Burton Crowe (student supply)
1939: Burton Crowe (student supply)
1940: Aubrey H. Moore (student supply)
1941: Boyd R. Bishop (student supply)
1942-1943: Kenneth Marryat Findley (student supply)
1944: Frank Phinney (student supply)
1945: Earl Leard (student supply)
1946: Roy DeMarsh (student supply)
1947: John Maran (student supply)
1948: Alexander G. Reid (student supply)
1949: G.T. Honnor (student supply)
1950: Donald Miller (student supply)
1951: Lawrence Bone (student supply)
1952: James Henry Tye (student supply)
1953: Hubert Mercer (student supply)
1954: Ben L. Zinck (student supply)
1955: Ben L. Zinck (student supply)
1956: Robert M. Jackson (student supply)
1957: Ronald E. Feltmate (student supply)
1958: Clyde Taylor (student supply)
1959: Morris Bartlett (student supply)
1960: C. Earl Taft (student supply)
1961: Robert E. Stevens (student supply)
1962: Laird Sterling (student supply)
1963: Harvey Harris (student supply)
1964: Roydon Reynolds (student supply)
1965: Lawrence G. Small (student supply)
1966: Chris Decker (student supply)
1967: Larry B. Grandy (student supply)
1968: William Kennedy (student supply)

1969: Lloyd Illman (student supply)
1970: Robert G. Brown (student supply)
1971: Renforth MacKenzie (student supply)
1972: Keith Burton (student supply)
1973: Robert Fillier (student supply)
1974: Warren McDougal (student supply)
1975: Keith Lyons (student supply)
1976: Deborah Poole (student supply)
1977: Paul Putnam (student supply)
1978: Bruce O. White (student supply)
1979: Herbert Klaehn (student supply)
1980: Don Livingstone (student supply)
1981: Timothy Jemerge (student supply)
1982: Student supply
1983: Student supply
1984: Student supply
1985: Student supply
1986-1989: Supplied from New Bandon: Central
1990-1993: Supplied from Douglastown
1994- : ----