



Smithsonian Institution Archives

Roderick Ross MacFarlane Papers, 1889

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., osiaref@si.edu
Title:	Roderick Ross MacFarlane Papers
Identifier:	Record Unit 7207
Date:	1889
Extent:	0.25 cu. ft. (1 half document box)
Creator::	MacFarlane, R. (Roderick), 1833-1920
Language:	English

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 7207, Roderick Ross MacFarlane Papers

Historical Note

Roderick Ross MacFarlane (1833-1920) was born in Scotland, but joined the Hudson's Bay Company in 1852 and spent most of the rest of his life in Canada. MacFarlane had charge of a number of fur-trading posts in western and northwestern Canada between 1852 and 1894. These posts were the only settlements in these areas and, as a result, were used as headquarters by a number of naturalists who explored and collected in the region. In 1859, Spencer F. Baird sent Robert Kennicott to the Mackenzie River area to collect for the Smithsonian Institution. Kennicott's work there stimulated MacFarlane's interest in natural history, and MacFarlane began to collect specimens from the areas where he was stationed. He made a number of important collections for the Smithsonian in this manner, chiefly of birds and mammals. He also published a few works on the birds and mammals of western and northwestern Canada.

Descriptive Entry

These papers consist of both a partial and a complete typewritten copy of Roderick Ross MacFarlane's testimony before a Canadian Senatorial Committee on January 11, 1889, concerning the resources of the Mackenzie Basin, British Columbia.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Natural history

Types of Materials:

Manuscripts

Names:

Baird, Spencer Fullerton, 1823-1887
Hudson's Bay Company
Kennicott, Robert, 1835-1866
MacFarlane, R. (Roderick), 1833-1920

Geographic Names:

Canada

Container Listing

Box 1

- | | |
|------------|---|
| Box 1 of 1 | Complete copy of "Answers by R. MacFarlane to the Senatorial Queries, 11, Jany., 1889, 'Great Mackenzie Basin'." |
| Box 1 of 1 | Partial copy "From Testimony regarding the Resources of British America by R. MacFarlane, Made before a Canadian Senatorial Committee (1889?)." |