



## Ready/Laidlaw Collection

A1005.4

### Fond Description

<b>Title:</b>	Ready/Laidlaw Collection
<b>Creator(s):</b>	St. Marys Museum
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	1904, 1907-1916, 1919, 1923-1925, 1936-1940, 1940s, 1965, 1967, 1983, 2003, 2008
<b>Physical Description:</b>	73 photos 6 negatives 2 postcards 1 program 1 booklet 2 CD-ROMs 3 photo albums 10 cm Textual Records
<b>Administrative History/ Biographical Sketch:</b>	The photographs were originally taken by William (Bill) Laidlaw who came to St. Marys from Durham with the St. Marys Cement Company and worked in the office of that industry. He married a St. Marys girl, Alice Ready, who passed away in 1985. William Laidlaw died in 1976. Their son Ron grew up in St. Marys and became a photographer and journalist working in London. The photos came to be in the possession of Ron Laidlaw, which were then donated to the St. Marys Museum in 2008.
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	<p>The photo albums contain a number of pictures taken, apparently by Bill Laidlaw soon after he arrived in St. Marys. Many of them show some early views of St. Marys before World War I as well as the people in Laidlaw's circle of friends. There are also a few photographs of Durham. The collection also includes newspaper clippings, many which were written by Ron Laidlaw, photo negatives, letters, and other miscellaneous items such as poems and obituaries. The majority of the material relates to the Laidlaw and Ready families.</p> <p>Series titles include:</p> <p>Series 1: Miscellaneous Ready and Laidlaw  <i>Subseries 1:</i> Newspaper clippings  <i>Subseries 2:</i> Photographs of the Ready family  <i>Subseries 3:</i> Royal Train Rugby Team negatives  <i>Subseries 4:</i> Photographs of well-known St. Marys boys</p> <p>Series 2: Material related to Lorine Ready  <i>Subseries 1:</i> Alma College</p>

	<p><i>Subseries 2:</i> Lorine Ready wedding  <i>Subseries 3:</i> “The Bluebird”  Series 3: Letters  <i>Subseries 1:</i> Letters from W.J. Mills  <i>Subseries 2:</i> Methodist Letter of transfer &amp; envelope  Series 4: St. Marys Collegiate Institute  <i>Subseries 1:</i> Collegiate “Cardinal”  Series 5: Family photos  <i>Subseries 1:</i> Wine coloured photo album  <i>Subseries 2:</i> Small black photo album  <i>Subseries 3:</i> Medium black Laidlaw album  <i>Subseries 4:</i> Loose Ready photos  <i>Subseries 5:</i> Laidlaw photos on CD-ROMs  Series 6: Miscellaneous Laidlaw material  <i>Subseries 1:</i> Laidlaw obituaries  <i>Subseries 2:</i> Journal Argus  <i>Subseries 3:</i> Photocopies of photos  <i>Subseries 4:</i> Journal Argus clippings</p>
<b>Custodial History:</b>	<p>Some parts of the collection were given to Larry Pfaff from Ron Laidlaw which was later donated to the St. Marys Museum. Subsequent material came from various other individuals including Don Campbell and the Richardson family. The majority of the collection was donated by Ron Laidlaw, and later compiled by the St. Marys Museum.</p>
<b>Restrictions on Access:</b>	None
<b>Notes:</b>	Materials once housed in acidic paper folders and/or envelopes have been removed from them and are now stored in acid free file folders.
<b>Finding Aids:</b>	Available online and at the front of the fonds.
<b>Access Points:</b>	Autographs, Band, Bankers, Bazaar, Boxing, Cement plant , Church, College, Commencement, Council, Gifts, High school, Hockey, Ice rink, Injury, Letters, Methodist, Obituaries, Poems, Postcards, Principal, Quarry, Reporter, Rugby, School newspaper, Shoe store, Shotgun, Softball, Soldiers, Students, Theft, Train station, Train wreck, Wedding
<b>“Artifacts” within fonds</b>	999.8.1-4

## Series Descriptions

### Series 1:

<b>Title:</b>	Miscellaneous Ready and Laidlaw
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	1904, 1910s, 1920s, 1940s
<b>Physical Description:</b>	43 photos 6 negatives 2 postcards Textual Records 1.5 cm
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	This series includes miscellaneous items such as newspaper clippings including items concerning St. Marys, most of which were written by Ron Laidlaw. Photographs are also included in the series, some of which have been identified. There are also negatives in the series which are from photos of the Royal Train Rugby Team.

### Subseries 1:

<b>Title:</b>	Newspaper clippings
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	Unknown
<b>Physical Description:</b>	Textual Records 1.5 cm
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	<p>This subseries includes article clippings and pictures concerning St. Marys which were written by Ron Laidlaw.</p> <p>“Get Silverware by Easy Defeat of Town Bankers” “Talk of the Town” “St. Marys Grid Squad Hangs Up Equipment” “Pandrieds Blast St. Marys Hopes for Grid Title” “St. Marys Council Expects Surplus” An article without a title concerning a rugby team in St. Marys “Exhibition Game Opens St. Marys Rugby Season” “Stone Town Smarting from Tillsonburgh Loss” Article without a title concerning a teacher travelling to Africa “The Talk of the Town – Hockey for St. Marys would Mean Junior Club” “Trip to Big Four Game Stone Town Grid Reward” “St. Marys High Needs Victory at Ingersoll” “St. Marys High in Ingersoll Today” “Stone Town C.I. Sure of Play-Off in Tri-Town Loop” “Stone Town C.I. Tops Ingersoll in Home Opener” “Grads-Collegiate Game at St. Marys on Monday” “St. Marys Grads Outscore High” “St. Marys Hockey League Ready for Play-Downs”</p>

	<p>“Stone Town Enthusiastic Over New Grid Set-Up”</p> <p>“Stone Town Enthusiasts Welcome Hockey League”</p> <p>“St. Marys Fistic School Claims Gunner Billings”</p> <p>“Allow Just One Squabble to Break up Cage Loop?”</p> <p>“Pan Drieds Win 11 to 7”</p> <p>“Shotgun Blast Breaks Windows in Store Front”</p> <p>“New Rink for St. Marys? It’s a Good Topic, Anyway”</p> <p>“The Talk of The Town – Stone Town Mitt Men Organize Boxing School”</p> <p>“Paper Chase Follows Theft of Chocolate Bears”</p> <p>“St. Marys Honors Her Soldiers”</p> <p>“Large Crowd Attends Bazaar at St. Marys”</p> <p>“St. Marys Has a Hockey Situation”</p> <p>“St. Marys Defeats Woodstock Bees”</p> <p>“St. Marys Outscores Waterloo Cardinals”</p> <p>“Lack of Weight Problem to Stone Town Grid Square”</p> <p>“St. Marys Softball”</p>
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**Subseries 2:**

<b>Title:</b>	Photographs of the Ready Family
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	1904, 1920s
<b>Physical Description:</b>	36 photos (b&w) 2 postcards
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	This subseries contains black and white family photographs of the Ready family one of which shows the family at the Junction Station. Not all of these photos have been identified.

**Subseries 3:**

<b>Title:</b>	Royal Train Rugby Team negatives
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	1940s
<b>Physical Description:</b>	6 negatives
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	There are six negatives in this subseries, all from photos of the Royal Train Rugby Team.

**Subseries 4:**

<b>Title:</b>	Photographs of well-known St. Marys boys
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<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	1940s
<b>Physical Description:</b>	7 photos (b&w)
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	This subseries contains photographs found at Kensington Village and given to Ron Laidlaw by “Cuff” Richardson’s family. These are photos of St. Marys boys including, Clarence London, Harry Urstadt, Bud Oliver, Arthur Gibson, Bill Somerville, John Maxwell, Rod Hughes, and Alan Andrews.

**Series 2:**

<b>Title:</b>	Material related to Lorine Ready
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	1919
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1 program Textual Records 1.5 cm
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	This series contains textual records of Lorine Ready’s time at Alma College, and it also includes various records of Lorine Ready’s wedding, along with the gift list from her wedding.

**Subseries 1:**

<b>Title:</b>	Alma College
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	1919
<b>Physical Description:</b>	Textual Records 1 cm
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	This subseries contains textual material, including Lorine Ready’s exams, two poems and Lorine’s commencement material. The subseries also contains several newspaper clippings including an article with a picture which are related to Alma College and Lorine Ready.  “Students Honor Lady Principal” “Twenty-Two” (article continued from another page) “Honor Lady Principal – Miss Ella D. Bowes”

**Subseries 2:**

<b>Title:</b>	Lorine Ready Wedding
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	Unknown
<b>Physical Description:</b>	Textual Records <1 cm
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	The material in this subseries is related to Lorine Ready’s wedding. The subseries contains a gift list from the wedding and two newspaper

	<p>article clippings.</p> <p>“Presentation to Miss Read”  “Campbell-Ready Wedding”</p>
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**Subseries 3:**

<b>Title:</b>	“The Bluebird”
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	Unknown
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1 program
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	This subseries contains a program for a play titled “Bluebird”.

**Series 3:**

<b>Title:</b>	Letters
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	1914, 1923 – 1925
<b>Physical Description:</b>	Textual Records <1 cm
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	This series contains various letters including correspondence between W.J. Mills and Mrs. Campbell, and a letter from the Methodist Church for Mrs. G. Campbell.

**Subseries 1:**

<b>Title:</b>	Letters from W.J. Mills
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	1923-1925
<b>Physical Description:</b>	Textual Records <1 cm
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	This subseries contains correspondence between W.J. Mills and Mrs. Campbell. The letters are all written on Maxwell’s letterhead.

**Subseries 2:**

<b>Title:</b>	Methodist Letter of Transfer & Envelope
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	1914, 1925
<b>Physical</b>	Textual Records <1 cm

<b>Description:</b>	
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	This subseries contains a letter written by the Methodist Church in St. Marys. This a letter of transfer for Mrs. G. Campbell, as she was transferring to the church in Cochrane. The subseries also contains an envelope from the Methodist Church.

**Series 4:**

<b>Title:</b>	St. Marys Collegiate Institute
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	1936
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1 booklet
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	This series contains a St. Marys Collegiate Institute school newspaper.

**Subseries 1:**

<b>Title:</b>	Collegiate "Cardinal"
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	1936
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1 booklet
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	This subseries contains the Collegiate "Cardinal" a school newspaper which came from St. Marys Collegiate Institute. Inside the booklet there is a page of autographs of students who attended the high school. Ron Laidlaw was the reporter for the Intermediate Class.

**Series 5:**

<b>Title:</b>	Family Photos
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	1907-1937, 1965, 2005
<b>Physical Description:</b>	10 photos 3 photo albums (maroon and black c.o.) 2 CD-ROMs Textual Records <1 cm
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	This series contains two photo albums which were a Laidlaw donation which was donated to the St. Marys Museum in 1999. There are also a number of loose photos included in the series. One of the albums came from the collection of the late Don Campbell from Kapuskasing, as well as a few of the loose photos, which came into the possession of Ron Laidlaw.

**Subseries 1:**

<b>Title:</b>	Wine coloured photo album
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	1907-1937
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1 photo album (maroon c.o., b&w photos)
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	This subseries includes a photo album which contains a number of photos and postcards. The photos are mostly of unmarked family, local photos, and some photos which have been identified and dated. There are photos of both the Laidlaw and Ready families along with various others. There are also photos of Durham in 1912, St. Marys, Niagara Falls in 1914, the Cement Plant, Westover, Central School, Trout Creek, old lime works quarry, a flood in St. Marys in 1918, and a train wreck in 1937.

**Subseries 2:**

<b>Title:</b>	Small black photo album
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	1913, 1924
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1 photo album (black c.o., b&w photos) Textual Records <1 cm
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	This subseries includes a small black photo album with photos of Ready family, specifically John Ready's family. There are no names on the photos, and only two are dated. Included in the album is a picture from <i>The Evening Telegram</i> of Toronto of the Brampton Bugle Band. H. Ready is a member of the band and is included in the picture.

**Subseries 3:**

<b>Title:</b>	Medium black Laidlaw album
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	1908-1917
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1 photo album (black c.o., b&w photos)
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	This subseries includes a photo album containing photos of the Laidlaw family. The album mainly contains photos of unmarked family with most of the photos having been dated. The album belonged to Alice (Ready) Laidlaw. The families included in the album include the Ready family, the Laidlaws, and the Copelands with various others. The album also contains local photos including the Water Street bridge, downtown St. Marys, the Ready shoe store, the Cement Plant, and a royal visit in 1914.

**Subseries 4:**

<b>Title:</b>	Loose Ready photos
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	1904, 1965
<b>Physical Description:</b>	10 photos (b&w)
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	The loose photos are of the Ready and Campbell families and include the Ready family Christmas photo, a photo of Mary E. Ainslie a friend of Harriet Ready, a baby photo of two Ready girls, and what is believed to be a photo of Harcourt Ready.

**Subseries 5:**

<b>Title:</b>	Laidlaw photos on CD-ROMs
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	2005
<b>Physical Description:</b>	2 CD-ROMs
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	In this subseries there are two CDs which contain collections of Ron Laidlaw's old photographs. On one CD there are 350 copies of vintage photos, and on the second CD there is a collection of black and white copies of older prints.

**Series 6:**

<b>Title:</b>	Miscellaneous Laidlaw material
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	1967, 2003, 2008
<b>Physical Description:</b>	20 photos Textual Records 6cm
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	This series contains various records related to the Laidlaw family. The series includes obituaries for Ron Laidlaw and Vibeke Laidlaw and various newspaper articles pertaining to St. Marys and the local area. Included in the series are 20 copies of photos of various locations in Ontario.

**Subseries 1:**

<b>Title:</b>	Laidlaw Obituaries
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	2003, 2008
<b>Physical Description:</b>	Textual Records <1 cm

<b>Scope and Content:</b>	This subseries contains an obituary from <i>The Globe and Mail</i> for Ron Laidlaw. Also included is an obituary written by Mary Smith, an article from the <i>London Free Press</i> about Ron Laidlaw's death, a death announcement of Ron Laidlaw printed from the <i>London Free Press</i> website, a copy of Vibeke Laidlaw's obituary in <i>The Globe and Mail</i> , and correspondence between Larry Pfaff and The St. Marys Museum about Ron's death.
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**Subseries 2:**

<b>Title:</b>	Journal Argus
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	1967
<b>Physical Description:</b>	Textual Records 2 cm
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	Included in this subseries are two copies of the St. Marys Journal Argus, the date of the paper is July 12 1967.

**Subseries 3:**

<b>Title:</b>	Photocopies of photos
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	1983
<b>Physical Description:</b>	20 copies of photos Textual Records <1cm
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	This subseries includes correspondence between Ron Laidlaw and Mary Smith in 1983 when these photocopies were donated. Also included are photocopies of 8x10 photos of various locations throughout Ontario, including one photo of the Cement Plant in St. Marys, the stone quarry, and a view of the clay beds.

**Subseries 4:**

<b>Title:</b>	Journal Argus clippings
<b>Dates of Materials:</b>	1939-1940
<b>Physical Description:</b>	Textual Records 2 cm
<b>Scope and Content:</b>	This subseries contains various newspaper articles containing topics relating to St. Marys. Several of the articles also include pictures. Many articles have been written by Ron Laidlaw.