

Fonds Sedbergh

Cote: FSED

Société historique Louis-Joseph-Papineau



Sedbergh School – Canada 1939 – 2010

History/Biographical Information

Opening in 1939, Sedbergh was a private English speaking boarding school, situated in Notre Dame de Bonsecours, Quebec, on a property known as the Valley Farm. Sedbergh offered a coeducational program (girls were admitted in 1987) starting in grade 5 through grade 12 to over 100 Canadian and international students. It was forced to close in 2010 due to a lack of students and insufficiency of funds. The school was a non-profit organization from 1977 until its closure in 2010.\

Two men, T. J. Wood, affectionately known as "Woody", and Frank Duxbury, known as "The Duke", were the Co-Founders of Sedbergh. T. J. Wood was originally a farmer but became a football coach and a renowned athlete. Frank Duxbury was an experienced teacher who had emigrated from the UK at the beginning of the Depression. He was fascinated by the great explorers and dreamed to taste the rigours and isolation of the huge open spaces of Canada. The two men taught at Lakefield (Ontario), north of Peterborough before starting this unique school, Sedbergh, in Quebec.

During its seventy years of operation, several Headmasters ran the school.

1. Thomas J. Wood (Co-Founder)
2. Frank Duxbury (Co-Founder)
3. Thomas L. Wood
4. Terry Guest
5. Duncan Hossack
6. Jeremy McLean
7. Andrew Blair



Sedbergh Memorabilia



Tony Vintcent, alumni director and archivist at Sedbergh, had been a student, a teacher and Assistant Headmaster there. Interested in the preservation of the memorabilia, once the school had closed and had been sold to a private company, he gathered and placed it in a barn in the village of Notre Dame de Bonsecours. A few of the items were offered for exposure in the Sedbergh Room

at the village Hall of that municipality. By lucky chance, Mr. Vintcent was advised that the Société Historique Louis-Joseph-Papineau was interested and had the expertise to accept the Sedbergh memorabilia and prepare it for permanent exposure.

Géral Geoffrion, President of this Société, undertook the steps to move the material and for the Société to take on the responsibility to prepare it for preservation. The entente was signed by the two parties on November 3, 2022.



FACT SHEET – SEDBERGH MATERIAL

Description

The Sedbergh documents and items are in excellent state of conservation.

A first overview permits the useful organization of material into categories. The different elements can be indexed into a system of classification.

1. Documents (letters, manuscripts, booklets, revues and magazines, publications, bulletins, private and personal diaries).
2. Maps, plans, panels and posters, announcements and texts.
3. Images (photos, iconographic documents).
4. Artifacts (various objects of interest).
5. Multimedia (slides, 8 and 16 mm films, VHS cassettes, audio cassettes).

Categories of material

History – education and process

Private School – academics and social

Digital inventory on a computer

Storage in a secure vault