

J.V. Welch Company fonds

1897-1983

54 cm of textual records

Administrative history

J.V. Welch Company Limited were railroad contractors. The company was founded by Vincenzo and Giovanni Veltri, emigrants to North America in the early 1800s from Grimaldi, Italy. They worked as railroad navvies in the northwest United States in the mid 1880s, then moved to British Columbia in 1895 where they set up a small construction company. Then they moved to Port Arthur in 1898 where their company prospered and is still operating today in Thunder Bay.

Scope and Content

A collection of journals, ledgers, time books, notebooks, correspondence, contracts, agreements, records, estimates, reports, blueprints, and memoirs regarding the employees, business, and legal affairs of the J.V. Welch Company.

Series B 9/1/1-9. - Journals. - 13 cm. - 1905-1931

A series of journals from the J.V. Welch Company. 1) Daily cash book, Aug. 1911 to June 1912. 2a+b) Welch company store account (in two pieces) 1897-1901.

3) Notebook of store accounts-1898.

4-8) Five notebooks recording various personal expenditures by company personnel. 4) 1905-1906. 5) 1922. 6) 1931. 7-8) no date.

9) A Bound volume of the Purchase Journal, Mar. 1913 to Dec. 1913.

Series B 9/2/1-3. - Ledgers. - 12 cm. - 1907-1913

Three bound volumes of the J.V. Welch Company Limited ledgers.

1) General ledgers: May 1906 to Aug. 1907.

2) General ledgers: Aug. 1919 to Mar. 1919.

3) A volume of a purchase ledger. 28 Mar. 1913 to Dec. 1913.

Series B 9/3/1-9. - Time books. - 4 cm. - 1897-1927

10 monthly time books for field employees of the J.V. Welch Company Limited. The timebooks are in notebook form except for #10.

1) Nov. 1897 and June 1898.

2) Dec.1899 to Jan. 1900.

3) Mar. to Sept. 1901.

4) Apr. to May 1900

5) Jan. to Mar. 1910.

6) Apr. to May 1911.

7) Aug. to Sept. 1914.

8) Nov. 1923 to Aug. 1924.

9) May to Aug. 1927.

10) Loose time sheets of various contracts.

Series B 9/4/1-13. - Miscellaneous Notebooks. - 11 cm. - ca. 1897-1910

A series of 12 notebooks used by Field Foremen of the J.V. Welch Company including address books, pocket diaries and notebooks which record expenditures and work progress reports. 1-10 are miscellaneous notebooks. 11) Cheque book. 12-13) Notebooks.

Series B 9/5/1-2. - Correspondence. - 2 cm. - 1901-1936

1) One envelope containing various correspondences to John Welch, primarily concerning the business of the J.V. Welch Company Limited. Arranged chronologically from 1901 to 1936.

2) One envelope of miscellaneous correspondence.

Series B 9/6/1. - Legal agreements and contracts. - 3 cm. - 1901-1919

One envelope containing various legal agreements and contracts made between the J.V. Welch Company and other companies pertaining to the subcontracting of construction work, also including personal agreements of John Welch dealing with partnerships, land deals and other legal matters. Arranged chronologically from 1901 to 1919. Also there is one envelope containing miscellaneous agreements primarily dealing with mines and mining contracts from the 1890s.

Series B9/7/1-4. - Financial records. - 3 cm. - 1915-25

Three envelopes containing various financial records and material of the Welch Company and John Welch.

- 1) Bank statements of the Welch Company from Aug. 1924 to May 1925.
- 2) Receipts, invoices, tax statements from 1907 to 1926.
- 3) Three bundles of cancelled cheques of John Welch from 1915 to 1925.
- 4) Miscellaneous receipts and statements.

Series B 9/8/1. - Work estimates and progress reports. - 1 cm. - 1908-10

One envelope containing various work estimates and progress reports filed by the J.V. Welch Company

Series B 9/9/1. - Blueprints. - 1912-1915

One envelope containing blueprints which were used for various projects which were undertaken by the Welch Company, primarily dealing with the J.D. MacArthur contract, 1912.

Series B 9/10/1. - Report. - 1 cm. - 1926

One envelope containing a report written by Vincenzo Veltri to the Italian Consulate in Ottawa dealing with the conditions of Italian immigrants in the Port Arthur area. The finished report and the questionnaire are included as well as two letters to Veltri from Ottawa concerning the report.

Series B 9/11/1. - Memoirs. - 2 cm. - 1983

A photocopy of the translated version of the memoirs of Giovanni Veltri, translated and annotated by John Potestio. The original is in possession of John Potestio.

Series B 9/12/1-8. - Miscellaneous. - 2 cm. - ca. 1910-1930

- 1) Two insurance policies taken out by the Welch Company to insure tools and miscellaneous supplies used on work sites. 22 May 1910.
- 2) Lawyers notes citing legal case precedents probably to be used in a case involving the Welch Company. No date.
- 3) One typewritten paper outlining land boundaries of a mineral claim made by the Welch Company in Manitoba. No date.
- 4) Two written pages listing various shares held probably by John Welch. No date.
- 5) Two copies of a will written by Giovanni Veltri in Italian (one is a rough copy). No date.
- 6) Records regarding legal dispute of Welch versus McArthur, 1915 and Welch versus Carboni and Fero, 1912. As well there are miscellaneous papers regarding employees and railway contracts.
- 7) Series of letterheads of the Welch Company. No date.
- 8) Envelope of mining papers including assays from various mines worked by Welch, descriptions of plots, miner's certificates and claims, ca. 1890s-1920.