

Description of the Riverbend School Municipality Archival Group

Date of Description: January 21st, 2020

Title: Riverbend School Municipality Archival Group

Outside Dates: 1939-1961

Measurement Indicators: 1 conventional box, equivalent to 0.33 linear meter

Biographical Notes and Administrative History:

According to the master's thesis of historian Dany Coté, the municipality of Riverbend in Lac-Saint-Jean was founded by Price Brothers in 1925. The company then owned all the land and buildings on the territory and rented the houses to its managers and employees, most of them were English-speaking. The other employees, most of whom were French-speaking, reside in St-Joseph d'Alma or Naudville. In the early years of the municipality, temporary schools were created to accommodate students of both Catholic and Protestant professions. In 1927, the St.Michael's School was opened and was open to Protestant students until 1948. The same year, the school was taken over by English-speaking Catholics following disagreements with English families practising Roman Catholicism.

In 1948, two school municipalities were created in Riverbend, one for Catholics and one for Protestants. Also in 1948, the trustees of the Riverbend School Municipality purchased lot 23 and the existing St.Michael's School from the Riverbend trustees. Riverbend High School, a school for Protestants, was founded the same year on lot 44 by the Riverbend school trustees. The municipality of Riverbend then had two schools on its territory, one for Catholics (St.Michael's) and one for Protestants (Riverbend High School).

In 1961, a school fusion took place between the school municipalities of Riverbend, St-Joseph d'Alma, Naudville and Isle-Maligne, ending the two school municipalities of Riverbend. The last meeting of the Protestant school municipality of Riverbend was held on June 19, 1961. The Riverbend school commissioners thus became an integral part of the Protestant school municipality of Alma. The following year, these same municipalities were merged to create the city of Alma and each one become districts of this city.

In 2020, Riverbend is a French-speaking district of the City of Alma, known for its houses with old-fashioned English architecture and is part of the city's heritage circuit.

Location:

At the time, civic numbers had not yet been assigned to the buildings; sometimes even the streets were not even named. Minutes of the meeting of the commissioners were held at Riverbend High School. By reviewing correspondence from the administration of the Riverbend School Municipality and plans we can locate the school at this address:

- Avenue Road, Riverbend, P.Q.
- P.O. Box 160, Riverbend, (Lake St.John), P.Q. (postal address)

In addition, the minutes show that commissioners' meetings were sometimes held in the offices of Riverbend Town Hall.

Conservation History:

The documents, originating from the Saguenay region, are stored in a vault under controlled environmental conditions at the Central Québec School Board's Document Management Centre located at the Eastern Québec Learning Centre in Québec City.

Scope and Content:

The documents testify to the documentary management of the school municipality of Riverbend. The evolution of teaching activities, the reflection of the linguistic and cultural situation as well as administrative and financial activities are represented by the archival group.

Support:

All documents in the series are in paper form. No objects (trophies, flags, etc.), graduation albums or student photos can be found. However, a photography of the Riverbend Pavilion can be found in the Administrative and Property Resources series.

Preservation State:

Most of the documents are in English; some documents are bilingual, English and French. Some documents have been translated into French.

Language of the Documents:

Most documents are in English; some documents are bilingual, English and French. Some documents have been translated into French.

Related Terms:

- Board of School Commissioners of the Town of Riverbend
- Board of School Commissioners of the Municipality of Riverbend
- Municipalité scolaire de Riverbend
- Protestant School Board of Riverbend
- Protestant School Municipality of Riverbend
- Riverbend School Board
- Riverbend School Commission
- School Municipal Corporation of Riverbend
- School Municipality of Riverbend
- The School Commissioners for the Municipality of Riverbend
- The School Commissioners for the Town of Riverbend

Filing:

The archival group consists of the following series:

1. Education Resources;
2. Financial Resources; and
3. Administrative and Property Resources.

1. Education Resources:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Progress Report* 	1935-1955 and 1956-1974
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* The years of this document precede and follow the extreme dates of this archival group, as the school changes jurisdiction several times.

2. Financial Resources:

• Budgets	1955 to 1961
• Financial Statements	1954-1955 to 1960-1961
• Bound books of bonds issued and redeemed*	1947-1966 and 1950-1969
• General Ledger	July 1947 to August 1953

* The maturity of the last bonds issued is beyond the extreme closing date of this archival group.

3. Administrative and Property Resources:

• Minutes of the Proprietors of the town of Riverbend and minutes of the School Commissioners for the Municipality of Riverbend	1949-1955 to 1955-1961
• Public notices	1939 to 1950
• Photography of the Riverbend Pavilion	Unknown date

Notes: The deeds of sale and plans for lots 23 and 44 can be found in the series ADM-1100 (Constitution) of the CQSB's archival group.

Access:

The documents constituting this archival group are subject, among other things, but not limited to, the Act respecting Access to documents held by public bodies and the Protection of personal information.