

**Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library,
University of Toronto**

**Finding Aid - John Siebert Nelles Papers (MS COLL
00615A)**

Generated by Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto on October 11, 2024
Language of description: English

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John Siebert Nelles Papers

Table of contents

Summary information	3
Administrative history / Biographical sketch	3
Scope and content	3
Notes	4
Access points	4
Series descriptions	4

Summary information

Repository:	Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto
Title:	John Siebert Nelles Papers
Reference code:	MS COLL 00615A
Date:	1908 - 1930 (date of creation)
Physical description:	3 boxes (1 metre)
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

John Siebert Nelles was a surveyor for the National Transcontinental Railroad. John Nelles graduated from Civil Engineering at the University of Toronto in April 1908. He was offered a job as a surveyor/instrumentman to accompany a party as they surveyed and staked out the last section of track for what would become the short-lived National Transcontinental Railway.

Scope and content

This collection contains material relating to the work of John Siebert Nelles and his work as a surveyor for the National Transcontinental Railroad. John Nelles graduated from Civil Engineering at the University of Toronto in April 1908. He was offered a job as a surveyor/instrumentman to accompany a party as they surveyed and staked out the last section of track for what would become the short-lived National Transcontinental Railway. This collection, which was donated to the library by John Nelles's granddaughter, Ginger Nelles, includes a book titled Pioneer Trails that Nelles wrote to describe his experiences, three photograph albums, a diary, a notebook of recipes, and a camera, which all relate to his work as a surveyor.

Notes

Title notes

Immediate source of acquisition

Gift of Ginger Nelles, 2021

Restrictions on access

No restrictions on access.

Material may be requested in person at the Fisher Library Reference Desk, or in advance using our online stack retrieval request form: <https://aeon.library.utoronto.ca>

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
 - **Status description:** Final
 - **Description identifier:** CA OTUTF MS COLL 00615A
 - **Institution identifier:** Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto
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Access points

- Textual records (documentary form)
 - Photographs and art (documentary form)
 - Objects (documentary form)
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Series descriptions

Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
MS COLL 00615A-Box 1	File - Photograph album <i>Scope and content:</i> Photograph album containing 118 photographs of survey work and railroad construction.	1908 - 1910	
MS COLL 00615A-Box 2 - Folder 1	Item - Photograph album containing 193 photographs of railroad construction,	1910	
MS COLL 00615A-Box 2 - Folder 2	Item - Photograph album containing 163 photographs of survey work and family life in Manitoba	1908-1930	

MS COLL 00615A-Box 2 - Folder 3	Item - Diary for 1916	1916
MS COLL 00615A-Box 2 - Folder 4	Item - Notebook of recipes	1908
MS COLL 00615A-Box 2 - Folder 5	Item - Camera	1908
MS COLL 00615A-Box 2 - Folder 6	Item - 10 photographs of survey work in Ontario and Manitoba	1910-1916
MS COLL 00615A-Box 2 - Folder 7	Item - Photograph of railroad at the Mattagami River, Ontario	1930s
MS COLL 00615A-Box 2 - Folder 8	Item - Correspondence and documents relating to John Siebert Nelles' employment with railroad companies	1907-1909
MS COLL 00615A-Box 3	File - Pioneer Trails by John S. Nelles, [Manitoba: John Siebert Nelles, [191-].	[1920]