



MEMORANDUM

CLASSIFICATION

TO
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Mr. Louis McDermott

YOUR FILE No.
Votre dossier

OUR FILE No. 71-42719/6711
Notre dossier

FROM
De

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF CANADA

DATE 14 December 1971.

FOLD

SUBJECT
Sujet

E.A. Cruikshank

A search of our various indexes and logical sources has produced the following references to Brigadier-General Ernest Alexander Cruikshank:

1. E.A. Cruikshank was born in Bertie Township, Welland County, 29 June 1854, the son of Alexander Cruikshank of Peterhead, Scotland and Margaret (Milne) Cruikshank of Aberdeen, Scotland. He was educated at St. Thomas Grammar School and Upper Canada College after which time he was employed in the United States in newspaper work and in translation work for a commercial firm. Returning to Canada he served as reeve of Fort Erie and then sat as a member of the Welland County Council for eight years. He was elected Welland County warden in 1886. From 1904 to 1908 he acted as police magistrate for Niagara Falls and district before resigning to become keeper of military records at the Public Archives, a position he held until resigning in 1911.

His extensive military career began in 1877 when he received his commission as Ensign of the 44th Regiment. He was promoted to Captain in 1884, to Major in 1897 and from 1899 to 1904 he was Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding the regiment. From 1904 to 1908 he was commanding officer of the 5th Infantry Brigade. In 1911 after resigning from the Public Archives he was appointed commander of military district number 13 and was promoted to Colonel in 1913 and again in September 1915 to Brigadier-General. He was attached to special services at Army headquarters in Ottawa from 1917 to 1918 and spent April to August, 1918 overseas on special services. From 1918 to 1921 he was Director of Historical Staff, General Staff in Ottawa.

On retirement in 1921 he spent much of his time in historical research and writing. A member of a number of historical societies, he also served for a number of years as Chairman of the Historical Sites and Monuments Board. He died in Ottawa on

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23 June 1939. According to the Ottawa Journal of 24 June 1939 he was to be buried with full military honors at Beechwood Cemetery, Ottawa.

His first wife, Julia E. Kennedy, wife of Samuel Kennedy of Buffalo, died in 1921. His second wife, the former Matilda Jane Murdie of Seaforth, Ontario, survived him. The Ottawa Citizen, 24 June 1939, noted that there were no children.

2. The Public Archives has 11 feet of Brigadier Cruikshank's private papers consisting of correspondence, 1909-1939; transcripts and manuscripts, Military papers, 1905-1920 and miscellaneous material, 1903-1940, (Manuscript Group 30, D 32). While the papers contain some genealogical files, they relate to families other than Cruikshank's own. The papers were presented to the Archives in 1951 by Mrs. Cruikshank.
3. The Upper Canada land grant files in our possession produced two references to the Patrick Cruickshank mentioned in your inquiry. Both references deal with Patrick Cruickshank's petition for an additional 200 acres of land over and above the 200 acres he had earlier received. The first reference consisted of his petition to Peter Russell, who was the Administrator of Upper Canada and was dated 5 February 1797, in Niagara. The petition stated that Cruickshank had a wife and one child, had served in the American War as a gunner in the Royal Artillery and that he had already received 200 acres (Record Group 1, L 3, Volume 90, C 2/111). The Upper Canada Land Book B also contains the approval of Patrick Cruickshank's request for the additional 200 acres (RG 1, L 1, Volume 20, Upper Canada Land Book B, page 300, dated 7 April 1797).
4. There is also one reference to a farmer named Alexander Cruikshank who received a grant of 100 acres in Talbot Settlement in the year 1848. The petition stated that Cruikshank had emigrated from Scotland, in 1811 and had been located "by Hon. Col. Talbot on a lot of land of 100 acres in the year 1824 subject to settlement duties which he has fulfilled." The petition requested that the lot be now granted to him. The petition was recommended and approved on 8 April 1848. (RG 1, L 3, Volume 136, C 4/195, 8 April 1848, Canada Land Petitions).
5. Further evidence, however, would indicate that the above mentioned Alexander Cruickshank was not E.A. Cruikshank's father. The Bertie Township census for 1851 lists Alexander Cruikshank as 39 years old, a farmer, born in Scotland. Also listed are his wife, Margaret, aged 35, born in Scotland; daughters, Rachael,

aged 16 and born in Bertie; Liza aged 14, born in Bertie and son Alexander, aged 8, born in Bertie. The census also lists that they lived in a one story log house. (Census, Ontario, Bertie Township, 1851, microfilm reel C-985).

Both the location of residence and the time of emigration to British North America of the two Alexanders would indicate that they are not one and the same individuals.

The 1861 census for Bertie Township lists Ernest Cruikshank, aged 8 as well as his father Alexander, mother, Margaret and sister, Eliza. The family is listed as living in a two story brick dwelling. (Census, Bertie Township, 1861, microfilm reel C 1080). The 1871 census lists Margaret Cruikshank as a widow and Ernest, aged 18 is the only other member of the family listed as residing with her. (Reel C-613).

6. E.A. Cruikshank's publications are many. Some of his major works are listed below:

A Century of Municipal History 1792-1892, Compiled From the municipal records of the County of Welland.
Published by authority of the County Council, 1892-93.
2 volumes, Welland, Ontario, Tribune Press.

The Battle of Lundy's Lane, 25 July 1814. A Historical Study. Welland, Ontario; Tribune Office 1893 (?).

The Correspondence of Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe, with Allied Documents relating to his Administration of the Government of Upper Canada. Collected and edited by Brig. Gen. E.A. Cruikshank...for the Ontario Historical Society. 5 volumes. 1923-1931.

The Correspondence of Honourable Peter Russell with Allied Documents relating to his Administration of the Government of Upper Canada during the official term of Lt. Gen. J.G. Simcoe, while on leave of absence. For the Ontario Historical Society. 3 volumes. 1932-1936.

The Documentary History of the Campaign upon the Niagara frontier in the year 1812-1814. Collected and edited for the Lundy's Lane Historical Society by Major Ernest Cruikshank. 9 volumes. 1896-1908.

Canada, Archives: Documents relating to the invasion of Canada and the Surrender of Detroit, 1812. Selected and edited by E.A. Cruikshank. 1912.

Canada, Department of Militia and Defence, General Staff: A History of the Organization, Development and Services of the Military and Naval Forces of Canada from the Peace of Paris in 1763, to the present time. Edited by the Historical Section of the General Staff. 3 volumes. 1919-1920.

The Political Adventures of John Henry; the record of an international imbroglio. 1936.

The Life of Sir Henry Morgan; with an account of the English settlement of the Island of Jamaica, 1655-1688. 1935.

Inventory of the Military Documents in the Canadian Archives, prepared by Lt. Col. Cruikshank. 1910.

The Settlement of the United Empire Loyalists on the upper St. Lawrence and the Bay of Quinte in 1784; a documentary record, transcribed and edited by E.A. Cruikshank. 1934, for the Ontario Historical Society.

/mf


C.V. Carroll

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
OF CANADA



ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
DU CANADA

395 Wellington Street

395, rue Wellington
OTTAWA 4, ONTARIO.

December 17, 1971.

Mr. Louis McDermott,
108 High Street,
Fort Erie, Ontario.

Dear Mr. McDermott:

In answer to your recent
letter, I am pleased to
~~send~~ send you a memorandum
relating to your
inquiry.

En réponse à votre ré-
cente lettre, il me fait
plaisir de vous envoyer
un mémoire relatif à votre
demande.

Yours sincerely,

Veuillez agréer l'expression
de mes sentiments les meilleurs.

Le directeur des archives historiques


Bernard Weilbrenner,

Director, Historical Branch.

P.S. Our Picture Division will reporting shortly.