

FINDING AID 3405

FONDS 3405
JOHN HUNTER HUSTON FONDS

UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

Accession Number 98.125C/MR

JOHN HUNTER HUSTON FONDS. – 1827-1851. – 1 microfilm reel : positive.

John Hunter Huston (d.1851), was born in Ireland and emigrated to Upper Canada before 1824. He taught school for a time in Toronto Township and on the Yonge Street Circuit. Around 1824-1825, Huston entered the Methodist itinerant ministry on the Toronto Circuit. He previously held services in the absence of preachers while teaching, even in the Town of York, but was not recommended for promotion by the congregation. Nevertheless, Huston may have been on the St. Clair Circuit later that year, and was credited with increasing the membership there. In 1826, John Huston travelled on the Westminster Circuit under Robert Corson, a Presiding Elder. In 1827 Huston was officially received on Trial as a travelling preacher by the Conference. During 1827-1828 Huston was finally appointed to be in charge of the London Circuit, where he increased the membership by forty. He preached on the Thames and Richmond Circuits from 1828-1830 with great success among Irish and rising approval from his colleagues. In 1830 Rev. Huston received Deacon's orders and proceeded to take over the Albion Circuit in 1831-1832. In 1833 Huston requested to retire from travelling and was ordained and located by the Wesleyan Conference.

Huston was one of the five disaffected preachers who broke away from the Wesleyans to form the Methodist Episcopal Church at a First General Conference held in 1834. Huston settled in Dawn Township, the Western District and continued as a Methodist Preacher. He purchased 200 acres on Lot 10, Con. XIV in Sept. 1830. John Hunter likely married Ruth Newton Huston (b.1812) around 1831. Their first son, William was born in 1832. The 1846 census shows Huston living in Dawn Township with his family of seven. The other children were Thomas (b. ca 1834-1836), Edward (b.1835), Louisa L. (b. 1841), and possibly an older sister, Eleanor. By all accounts Rev. Huston had unassuming manners and prudent, industrious and studious habits. Brother Huston was superannuated from the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada in the 1840s, but he still performed marriages until 1851. He died at his residence in the Gore of Camden (formerly the southern part of Dawn Township until 1849), Kent Co., on 9 Oct. 1851. After their father's death, Thomas and William and their descendants continued to farm on the family property on parts of lot 10, near present day Croton.

The donor source of the volume was the maternal great-grandson of Rev. Huston. The volume was left on deposit for copy-loan at the Archives of Ontario by the donor in Feb. 1968. For 9 years it was in the custody of the United Church of Canada Archives. The volume was microfilmed and returned to the donor in 1998.

Fonds consists of a marriage register, 29 Nov. 1827-27 Aug, 1851, recording marriages primarily in the London District and Lambton and Kent Counties in the Western District, between 1839-1851. There are also Rev. Huston's accounts, the names of family members, and several poems in newsclipping form.

Acc. No.	Box-File	Title	Date(s)
98.125C/MR	MR-1	Marriage Register [London District and Lambton and Kent Counties in the Western District, between 1839-1851] -accounts, names of family members, poems in news clipping form	Nov 29, 1827-Aug 27, 1851