

Title:	Robert Hamilton collection, 1798-1807		
Creator:	Robert Hamilton		
Dates of Material:	1798-1807	Record Group Number:	RG 574
Summary of Contents:	<p>The collection consists of five documents:</p> <p>1.1 Letter to Peter Ten Broeck, 12 Mile Creek Co. Lincoln, from J. White, dated at York, 9 November 1798. The letter reads “Dear Sir Please to pay the Honourable Robert Hamilton on order the sum of Forty two pounds Sterling for value...by your hble Servt J. White”.</p> <p>1.2 Printed certificate of Commission for William Lottridge as Captain, 25 June 1802. Signed by R. Hamilton and Francis Goring, Secretary to the Lieutenant. The certificate has a red seal.</p> <p>1.3 Note addressed to Robert Hamilton, Merchant, Queenston. The note contains a list of sums from July 25, 1805 to November 1, 1807. The name Samuel Peterson appears at the top of the list.</p> <p>1.4 Envelope addressed to Robert Hamilton, Queenston, no date. The envelope is stamped Kingston.</p> <p>1.5 Deed of sale of land between Robert Hamilton, his wife Mary, and John Robertson. The deed is for 300 acres of land in Stamford sold by Hamilton and his wife to John Robertson, 30 April 1803. The deed is signed by R. Hamilton, Mary Hamilton, John Robertson, William Dickson and Thomas Dickson, as well as H. Allcock, C.J. [Chief Justice].</p>		
Physical Description / Condition:	<p>1 letter, 16 x 20 cm 1 certificate, 24 x 37 cm 1 note, 22.5 x 19 cm 1 envelope, 14 x 16.5 cm 1 deed, 56 x 35 cm</p>		

Other Notes:	<p>Robert Hamilton was born in Scotland in 1753. Like many of his middle-class Scottish contemporaries, he came to British North America through his associates in the fur trade. In 1780 he formed a partnership with Richard Cartwright at Fort Niagara. They established a successful business provisioning the British Army and Indian Department. Around 1785, Hamilton settled in Queenston, Ontario. Over the next several years, he brought several of his cousins from Scotland to work with him, including Thomas Clark, and Robert, Thomas and William Dickson. Eventually his cousins were established in businesses that were related to Hamilton's enterprises, an arrangement that was mutually beneficial.</p> <p>In addition to providing supplies for the army and fur trade, Hamilton had a large retail business in Queenston and was heavily involved in land speculation. He also became involved in politics, beginning with an appointment as one of the original justices of the peace at Niagara in 1786, to his appointment as a member of the Legislative Council in Upper Canada in 1792. He died in 1809 after a lengthy illness. He was survived by numerous children, some of whom became prominent entrepreneurs and office holders, most notably Alexander, George and John.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Source: Dictionary of Canadian Biography http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/hamilton_robert_5E.html Retrieved: 2016/10/27</p>		
Location:	Brock University Archives		
Source Information:	Purchased from Alexander Books in September 2016 (deed not included).		
Described by:	Chantal Cameron	Date:	October 2016