

Title:	Grant of Permission for lease of military lands from Sir Robert Prescott to Thomas Clark, 1798-1801.		
Creator:	Robert Prescott, Thomas Clark, and J. McDonell		
Dates of Material:	1798-1801	Record Group Number:	RG 416
Summary of Contents:	<p>A Grant of Permission from Sir Robert Prescott, Governor-in-Chief of both Upper and Lower Canada and Commander of the Forces, for a lease of land granted to Thomas Clark of Queenston. It grants the lease of a lot of military crown lands on the river at Queenston, to Thomas Clark, to occupy and to build there structures consisting of wood only and not brick or stone, subject to reasonable compensation if the said lands were required to be repossessed for military purposes by the government (14 years before the War of 1812). The document was signed by Prescott on July 9, 1798 in Quebec city, by Thomas Clark on August 16, 1798, and amended by J. M'Donell Lt. Col. on October 13, 1801.</p>		
Physical Description / Condition:	<p>2 large sheets.</p> <p>Each sheet measures 39 x 43 cm.</p>		
Other Notes:	<p>Full transcript of item available by clicking on "View item" link in the catalogue record.</p> <p>Thomas Clark (d. 1835) was a prominent businessman in the Niagara area who became one of the most successful and wealthiest merchants in Upper Canada. After arriving in Upper Canada in 1791, he worked for his cousin Robert Hamilton in Queenston. Around 1796, Clark opened his own shop in Queenston, and in 1799 built a wharf and storehouse there as well. He formed a very successful business partnership with Samuel Street. His business pursuits were varied, and included large-scale flour milling, land speculation, and money-lending. During the War of 1812, he served as lieutenant-colonel of the 2nd Lincoln militia. In 1815, he became a member of the Legislative Council. Upon his death, it was estimated that his estate was worth about £100,000.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Source: Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online http://www.biographi.ca/009004-119.01-e.php?&id_nbr=2806 retrieved 2012/05/03</p>		
Location:	Brock University Archives		

Source Information:	Purchased from Alexander Gallery in February 2012.		
Described by:	Chantal Cameron	Date:	May 2012