

# **SOUTHBROOK FARMS FONDS 1930-1991**

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City of Vaughan Archives  
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## **Introduction to the City of Vaughan Archives' Finding Aid**

The purpose of the City of Vaughan Archives Finding Aid is to provide access to a given body of records by representing those external and internal components of a fonds and its constituent parts brought to light during the analysis of the fonds' characteristics (i.e. during arrangement). A fonds is defined as the totality of records or papers created and/or accumulated and used by an individual, family, or corporate body throughout their existence. The external structure of a fonds consists of contextual information relating to the record creator (i.e. the person, family or corporate body chiefly responsible for the creation and/or accumulation and use of a fonds), that is to say, information relating to the history, organization, functions and activities of a records creator that give shape to the fonds. The internal structure of the fonds is concerned with the latter's documentary nature, or with the actual records themselves: their arrangement, organization, classification, documentary form, etc. The reason for providing data about the external and internal nature of a fonds is to ensure that records can be seen in the context of their creation and so that they can be associated with the actions which brought them into existence in order for them to act as evidence of said actions.

Fonds may have a number of components. In terms of the concept of agent of creation (i.e. the person, family or corporate body responsible for the creation and/or accumulation and use of the fonds), a fonds may be divided into sous-fonds, which represent subordinate record-creating agencies (departments, bureaus, etc.) under the jurisdiction of the larger administrative body responsible for the creation of the fonds as a whole. For example, the fonds of the Vaughan Township Office of the Clerk-Treasurer, the Treasure Branch and General Administration Branch are the constituent sous-fonds. The actual records constituting a fonds (i.e. internal structure of a fonds) are grouped into bodies of like documents called series, with a series being an aggregate of records deriving unity from some common relationship arising out of the records' creation, receipt and use, and relating to the functions and or activities of the records' creator. Series in turn may be further divided into subseries, or even sub-subseries, these being naturally-defined subdivisions of series formed on the basis of a common feature such as documentary form, subject, arrangement in accordance with a filing system (chronological, alphabetical, subject, etc.), etc.

The format utilized to represent the part-to-whole structure of the fonds described in this Finding Aid is based on the Canadian data content standard Rules for Archival Description (RAD). All formal descriptions (i.e. those descriptions above the file level in the Finding Aid) are compiled in accordance with the guidelines outlined in RAD. Lists of files and items are presented as appendixes in the descriptive inventory, without regard to RAD.

Photocopying of documents in the City of Vaughan fonds is permitted except where documents fall under the personal information and privacy provisions of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. In such instances, the researcher is referred to the City Archivist for specific access procedures.

## Part 1: Fonds Level Description

### Southbrook Farms (formerly Patch Farms/Don Head Farms) Fonds (MG 11)

**Date(s) of creation  
of record(s)** 1930-1991

**Physical Description**

- 65 cm of textual records and other material
- 6 three dimensional objects

**Biography/History** The Don Head Farm was established by John D. Patterson in 1930 when the former established a new Aberdeen-Angus cattle herd that would ultimately play a prominent part in the development of the Aberdeen Angus herd in North America. The operation also included a flock of Southdown Sheep. J.D. Patterson was the son of Peter Patterson who, with his brother, established Patterson and Bro., a farm machine manufacturing firm, on the site of the Don Head Farms in 1851. In 1940, the farm was purchased by Willy Redelmeier, a Dutch banker. In 1991, the farm was owned and operated by two of his sons, Ernest and Francis. Francis and Ruth Redelmeier's farm became known as Patch Farms and was later sold, while today, part of Ernest's original farm is owned and operated by his son, Bill, known as Southbrook Farms Vineyards.

**Scope and Content** The fonds consists of payroll books, herd register, sheep and cattle pedigrees, lists of sale, herd dispersion material, farm guest book, periodical material, newspaper clippings, 59 photo prints (includes 10 photo prints depicting farm in the aftermath of Hurricane Hazel, 1954), 3 postcards and 6 wood-mounted printer's plates (1 of Southdown ewe and others of Angus and Jersey cattle herds). Fonds also includes a videocassette copy of original 8 mm footage of commercial and other activity on the Farm during the period 1939-1952 and a book on the farm compiled by Ruth Redelmeier.

**Location** Boxes 1-5

**Notes** Title based on contents of fonds

**Related Materials** Related material may be found in the Patterson Collection, 1850-1991 (MG 7).

## Part 2: File Level Description

### Box 1

1. Printer's Block, View of Farm, 20.5 x 9.5 cm
2. Printer's Block, Sheep, 7.6 x 5.5 cm
3. Printer's Block, Cattle, 9.5 x 7 cm
4. Printer's Block, Cattle, 9.5 x 7 cm
5. Printer's Block Cattle, 7.6 x 5.6 cm
6. Printer's Block, Cattle, 6.3 x 4.6 cm
7. Herd Register for the Don Head Aberdeen-Angus Herd
8. Don Head Farms Limited Payroll Book, 1940-1946
9. Don Head Farms Limited Payroll Book, 1946-1951
10. Don Head Farms Limited Payroll Book, 1951-1958
11. Don Head Farms Limited Payroll Book, 1958-1966
12. Oversize items
  - a. Auction Sale of Dairy Equipment Poster, Oct. 14, 1995
  - b. Map of Don Head Farms, divided into 5 smaller farms

### Box 2

1. Catalogues and Newspapers
  - a. Newspaper Edition of the Aberdeen-Angus Herd Journal, 1934
  - b. Dispersal Catalogue for the sale of the Southdown Flock (1958)
  - c. Dispersal Catalogue for the sale of the Jersey Herd (1983)
  - d. Dispersal Catalogue for the sale of the Jersey Herd (1995)
2. Binder with pedigrees and details about the dispersal sale of the Aberdeen Angus herd
3. Binder with pedigrees for sheep, details about the dispersal sale of Southdown sheep and show records
4. Guest Book for visiting Don Head Farms

### Box 3

1. Family plot map in Old Cemetery, New York State
2. Indentures, Transfer of Land, Lot 21, Concession 2
3. Newspaper Article and Pedigree Stock Letters
4. Picture of Patterson and Brothers
5. Picture of Mr. and Mrs. Willy Redelmier
6. Pictures of Sheep
7. Pictures of Sheep
8. Pictures of Sheep
9. Scrapbook, with articles Re: farm. Sheep and cattle



#### Box 4

1. Don Head Farms, 1924-1983 Book by Ruth Redelmier

#### Box 5

1. 2 Photographs of Cow from Don Head Farms and Six Men