



**MCGILL UNIVERSITY
MONTREAL**

30 June 1971

Dear Mrs. Winslow-Spragge:

It was good to receive your letter of 26 June, but most distressing to learn that you had been ill. Thank you too, for the kind words about the slides. Nick de Jong wrote a brief note on the project which was published in The Canadian Archivist, June 1971, p. 71, a Xerox copy of which is enclosed.

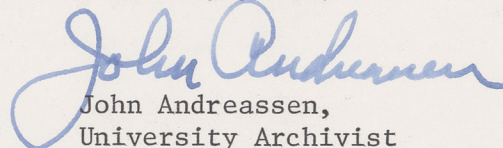
We're in the turmoil of moving, a task which is to be completed by 16 July. How, I really don't know, since none of the new space is ready. Our plans are completed and all is in readiness, but such moves can hardly be accomplished in a day or two.

I've spent a week in Washington at the big Microfilm Show, most of another week in St. John's, Newfoundland at the Canadian Historical Association Convention and some days in Burlington, Vermont where my wife is attending a refresher course at the University of Vermont.

We plan to spend most of August on Cape Breton Island, providing the University Archives is moved in time. Our new quarters in the McLennan Library will provide no increase in office, laboratory or reading room space but it will provide approximately three times the records storage space.

I do wish you an early and full recovery and a very pleasant summer and I look forward to seeing you again in the Fall.

Sincerely yours,


John Andreassen,
University Archivist

JA:md
encl.

Mrs. Lois Winslow-Spragge,
"Cedarbrae",
Almonte, Ontario.

TECHNICAL NOTE:

COLOR MICROFILM - ONE APPLICATION

by Nicolas de Jong¹

The use of color microfilm in Canada is relatively recent and as such has not received a great deal of attention. In order to illustrate certain of its uses and capabilities, one specific application is here considered.

Sir John William Dawson, McGill University Principal, 1855-1893, Lady Dawson, and most members of their family were accomplished illustrators of many of his and their works. Their daughter, Anna, who married Dr. Bernard J. Harrington, has left a considerable body of water-colors, largely relating to the vacation areas of the lower St. Lawrence, but including paintings done in Scotland, the northern United States, France and Montreal. The continuing search for material relating to Sir J. W. Dawson by the University Archivist, Mr. J. C. L. Andreassen, resulted in the discovery of this collection of water-colors in the home of Mrs. Lois Winslow-Spragge, daughter of Professor and Mrs. Bernard J. Harrington. It was apparent that the bulk of the collection would in due time be distributed to various present-day descendants of the Dawson and Harrington families.

Shortly after the Second World War, Mr. Andreassen was privileged to see, among Captured Enemy Documents, the architectural survey materials on color transparencies, produced by direction of Adolf Hitler, in Germany. At that time, he came to the sad conclusion that the bulk of these remarkable color photographs would have a relatively short lifespan. However, one recent development has been the production of color microfilm of archival quality.

Mr. Andreassen suggested to Mrs. Winslow-Spragge that she allow the University Archives to conduct an accessioning experiment through the use of this archival quality microfilm. This she agreed to, and in the course of her discussions with Mr. Andreassen, she presented the University Archives with a framed water-color. The assistance and interest of the Montreal representatives of Recordak of Canada, Ltd. was obtained and the project was assigned to me. It was decided to retain in roll form, one copy of each of the ninety-eight water-colors as a master copy, to be used when necessary in the future to make other copies. The remaining four shots of each picture have been mounted in double glass slides. One set of these slides has been presented to Mrs. Lois Winslow-Spragge. The remaining three sets together with a copy of the pamphlet listing the ninety-eight captions have been retained for reference use and occasional loan, to interested individuals and/or groups.

¹Nicolas de Jong is an Assistant University Archivist, McGill University Archives.

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