

Fort Kent (Me.) postcards, 1900s

MCC-00372

Finding Aid

**Prepared by Kathryn Donahue, September 2011
Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes
University of Maine at Fort Kent
Fort Kent, Maine**

Title: Fort Kent (Me.) postcards

Creator/Collector: Fort Kent (Me.)

Collection number: MCC-00372

Shelf list number: UM-372

Dates: 1900s

Extent: 1 folder (.05 cubic feet)

Provenance: Material was acquired from Mariella Squire, 2011. Purchased from Roger Boulanger in Wallagrass, Maine, 2011.

Language: English.

Conservation notes: The 3 postcards were placed in plastic sleeves for protection and preservation.

Access restrictions: No restrictions on access.

Physical restrictions: None.

Technical restrictions: None.

Copyright: Copyright has been assigned to the Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes

Citation: Fort Kent (Me.) postcards, MCC-00372, Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent

Separated materials: Not applicable.

Related materials: Not applicable.

Location of originals: Not applicable.

Location of copies: Not applicable.

Published in: Not applicable.

Organizational history: Fort Kent, Maine began as an outpost for the lumber industry in the early 19th century. During the Aroostook War of 1839, a blockhouse was built to defend the outpost and the border between Canada and the United States. The town was incorporated in Aroostook County on February 23, 1869 from the Daigle and Fort Kent Plantations. Both the town and the blockhouse were named after Governor Edward Kent.

One of the end points of Route 1, which runs from Florida to Maine, is located in Fort Kent.

Scope and content:

This collection consists of three black-and-white postcards of Fort Kent, Maine, depicting aspects of the town in the early 1900s. The first postcard is of Hotel Dickey, taken circa 1900. Handwritten notes on the postcard verso provide a timeline of the building's history. The building, built in 1841 by Lucien Webster (captain at Fort Kent) was located on Pleasant Street. In 1857, the State of Maine sold the building to the Page family. In 1867, Major Dickey bought the building. After his death in 1899, his son, Cyrus, turned the home into a hotel. The building burned down on May 25, 1928. The second postcard depicts lower Main Street in Fort Kent from the direction of St. Francis; the image was probably taken after 1903. A number of buildings appear in the image. The first building on the left was Henri Nadeau's millinery store (H. Nadeau was married to Zeline Audibert). The second building was H. Nadeau's forge. The third building was a shed. The fourth building was the Fort Kent Telephone Company, also referred to as "la centrale." The business was managed by F.W. Mallet. The cables between the forge and the Fort Kent Telephone Company building anchored the footbridge crossing the St. John River between Clair, New Brunswick and Fort Kent, Maine. The fifth building was the F.W. Mallet store. The sixth building was the Masonic Lodge (demolished in 2011 in preparation of a new international bridge). on the right side of the street, the Fort Kent Trust Company is located across from the foot bridge; at the time of the photograph, the president of the company was Cyrus Henry Dickey. The third postcard depicts Military Square in Fort Kent, circa 1908. The first three buildings in the image were all part of the G.H. Page store. The fourth building is H.A. Sawyer Jewelry Store (the Sawyer family was from Ashland, Maine. The fifth building was a rented office used by a lawyer.

Inventory:

Folder 1: Postcards of Fort Kent, Maine. Black and white. 3 items.