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Pictou supreme court judgement books. - [microform, textual records]. : 1807 - 1921. - 1807 - 1828; Microfilmed 1994. - 3 cm. of textual records; xx reels of microfilm.

The Supreme Court at Pictou was established by legislation (1805 cap 13) to hold sessions annually on the second Tuesday in June for a period no longer than five days. The first session was held on 10 June 1806 with Judge George Henry Monk and his associates (Judges of the Inferior Courts) Hugh Dunoon, John Dawson and Robert Pagan presiding over five cases. As there was no Court House, the sessions are said to have been held in a carpenter's shop (Patterson, George History of Pictou County, p.216). Monk had been commissioned to the Supreme Court on 18 August 1801 and was accompanied in later sessions by associates Brenton Haliburton and Foster Hutchinson. The first Deputy Prothonotary was Thomas Harris (clerk). Subsequent legislation altered the dates and frequencies of Supreme Court sessions in order to accomodate the changing circuit and growing docket of cases. An Act of 1816 (cap 2) required the Supreme Court to sit in June and September of each year. In 1834 it was legislated (cap 4) that the Supreme Court could be held with one judge presiding. A loan for erecting a new Court House in Pictou was approved in 1855 (1855 cap 56).

The first three volumes were donated to PANS in 1989 from a private collector who obtained them from the safe of the old Pictou Town Hall in the mid 1980's. The remaining volumes were borrowed directly from the prothonotary at the Pictou County Justice Building in Pictou and were returned after microfilming in 1994.

The series consists of judgement books recording findings of the Supreme Court in civil suits heard in Pictou County. Each entry records the parties involved and their lawyers, the action or damages sought, the finding of the court and its date and information on damages and costs awarded. Starting in November 1884 case numbers assigned under Judacature Act of that year are recorded. Each book has an index by name of Plaintiff that also records the defendants. Some entries also record the ultimate execution or satisfaction of the court's award. The entries within the books are chronological by date of judgement. Most actions are for the recovery of debts and seldom do the Judgement books record any details about the cases. Additional information on the cases may be found in the Supreme Court case file series (xxxx). The Judgement Books serve as a partial index and listing of the case file series however not all cases result in findings that are recorded in the Judgement Books.

Title adapted from binding titles of volumes and content of Series.

Due to the availability of microfilm the original volumes are closed to use.

A volume list is available.

Further accruals may be expected.

Originals dirty and ink often faint or faded.

Book 7 used in the other direction is the last Judgement Book of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas for Pictou County and covers the period 1832-1841.

Description	Dates	Vol. No.	Archival Series No.	Microfilm No.	Notes
Pictou County Supreme Court Judgement Book	June 1807 - June 1815	1	1363	924	
Pictou County Supreme Court Judgement Book	June 1816 - Sept. 1820	2	1363	924	
Pictou County Supreme Court Judgement Book	June 1820 - May 1828	3	1363	924	
Pictou County Supreme Court Judgement Book	Sept. 1828 - June 1837	4	1363	924	
Pictou County Supreme Court Judgement Book	Sept. 1837 - July 1842	5	1363	924 / 925	Volume continues from Pg.125 to the end on Microfilm Reel 925
Pictou County Supreme Court Judgement Book	Oct. 1842 - May 1844	6	1363	925	
Pictou Court of Common Pleas Cause Book	Jan. 1832 - Jan. 1841	7	1363	925	
Pictou County Supreme Court Judgement Book	June 1844 - June 1846	7	1363	925	
Pictou County Supreme Court Judgement Book	Oct. 1846 - Aug. 1849	8	1363	925	
Pictou County Supreme Court Judgement Book	Oct. 1849 - Sept. 1853	9	1363	925 / 926	
Pictou County Supreme Court Judgement Book	Oct. 1853 - Feb. 1859	10	1363	926	
Pictou County Supreme Court Judgement Book	Feb. 1859 - Sept. 1861	11	1363	926	
Pictou County Supreme Court Judgement Book	Sept. 1861 - Dec. 1864	12	1363	926	
Pictou County Supreme Court Judgement Book	Jan. 1865 - June 1868	13	1363	926 / 927	
Pictou County Supreme Court Judgement Book	June 1868 - June 1871	14	1363	927	
Pictou County Supreme Court Judgement Book	June 1871 - April 1876	15	1363	927	
Pictou County Supreme Court Judgement Book	April 1876 - April 1886	16	1363	927 / 928	Processes: A1 to A131
Pictou County Supreme Court Judgement Book	May 1887 - Nov. 1897	17	1363	928	Processes: A137 to A1169

Pictou County Supreme Court Judgement Book	Nov. 1897 - Aug. 1921	18	1363	928	Processes: A1123 to A2601
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