

**Shaver-Hamlet Footprints:  
a guide to our family archives**

There is a USB key that supplements this booklet. It contains more than 11,000 documents relating to the Shaver/Hamlet family. If you would like a copy of the USB key, contact [Bill.Reimer@concordia.ca](mailto:Bill.Reimer@concordia.ca) or [Frances.Shaver@concordia.ca](mailto:Frances.Shaver@concordia.ca).

The “Read Me.txt” file in the root folder of the USB key provides instructions for accessing the files.

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# Shaver-Hamlet Footprints: a guide to our family archives

We are fortunate to have many of the documents and photos that are part of the Shaver and Hamlet history. They begin about three generations back with the contributions of Rev. James Shaver and his wife Elizabeth Asselstine on the Shaver side and the Heald records on the Hamlet side. James provided us with a lovely photographic record of his activities in Newfoundland and Manitoba (especially at Stella Mission in Winnipeg) and Elizabeth's side is documented as a result of her father's business (the woolen mill). Some of the work was done by the Upper Canada Museum staff since they collected materials when the Asselstine woolen mill was moved from Odessa to Upper Canada Village. Since both James and Elizabeth were prolific writers we have some lovely prose accounts of their lives as well.

The materials are organized in a digital folder entitled "[ShaverArchives01](#)<sup>1</sup>". The first level of organization separates them into five categories according to their primary focus and origin. They are the following.

- [ShaverMisc](#)<sup>2</sup>: This folder contains items that were difficult to classify by the categories below. They include photos from the 1970 "Joseph" production at First Met UC and some from activities at WPGUC.
- [ShaverHistory](#)<sup>3</sup>: This is folder that contains many items relating to the Shaver history - including materials from James M. Shaver, Dorothy and Jack's youth, and their early life together.
- [Dorothy](#)<sup>4</sup>: Files and folders copied from Dorothy's computer or prepared for her. It also includes

materials related to the Hamlet and Heald family histories.

- [JackWebsite<sup>5</sup>](#): materials related to Jack's website (<http://billreimer.ca/Shaver/ShaverHM.htm>). Most of these items are related to his professional words and works: sermons, documents, and interviews.
- [FromOthers<sup>6</sup>](#): This folder contains materials and photos provided by various family and friends – like the Healds, Poultons, Gordon Laird, and Peter Shaver.

Since these folders reflect the origins of the files – rather than their content – you will find many topics are located in more than one of the folders and sub-folders. A full listing of the files can be found in the Excel file named “[ShaverItemsForArchives-Filelisting02.xlsx<sup>7</sup>](#)” and a listing of the main folders is on page 13. I have also selected, for this print version, a few of the files and folders that will give you a flavour of the material to be found in these archives. You will find them below. I hope you not only find it reasonably easy to search through these materials, but that you enjoy the results of your searches.

There are a few options for you to use these materials.

- You can click on the small images to the left of the descriptions or the highlighted text to go to the related document(s).
- You can use your Windows Explorer (or Finder for Mac users) to explore the folders and files.
- You can search the folders on the USB key using the links provided on page 17.

# Contents

JM Shaver's Black Album .....	6
JM Shaver's Student Album .....	6
Elizabeth and James' Letters .....	7
Elizabeth Asselstine's Diary .....	7
Bill Shaver's Zipper Bag .....	7
With Glowing Hearts .....	8
Heald Family Book .....	8
Heroes of Albany .....	9
Gladys Hamlet Folder .....	9
Jack's Childhood and Youth .....	10
The Big Project .....	10
Dorothy's Childhood and Youth .....	11
Family History .....	11
Jack and Dorothy .....	12
By Such Stripes .....	13
From Others .....	13
Family Trees .....	13
Directory Structure for Shaver Archives Files .....	14
List of External Links .....	17

# Shaver-Hamlet Family Archives



## [JM Shaver's Black Album](#)

<sup>8</sup>Rev. James Michael Shaver was an amateur photographer throughout his adult years. He put together several albums of his adventures – with occasional comments about the contents. One of the largest is his “Black Album” which covers the period from about the 1830s to the 1940s. I particularly appreciate his comments along the way. You will find photos of Thomas Peter Shaver from 1862 and Caroline Rambough, who he married in 1837, photos of Grantley Cottage where James M. relaxed, many scenes of camping, those of Jack’s marriage, and several in uniform. The individual photos can be [found here](#)<sup>9</sup>.



## [JM Shaver's Student Album](#)

<sup>10</sup>JM Shaver also produced an album from his student days that not only gives us a glimpse into the life of a student but to a bit of Canadian history from around 1907. There are also some lovely photos of the old woolen mill and house in its original location at Odessa. Some of them are from his time at “The Turtle River Mission”. They include a sod hut, log cabin where his first service was held, and several taken of his travels on the prairies. The photos of homes, schools, barns, and even a “hotel” are remarkable for their rustic condition. The Jackfish school is also featured.



### [Elizabeth and James' Letters](#)

<sup>11</sup>We have copies of some of the correspondence between Elizabeth Asselstine and James M. Shaver during the period of their courtship and early marriage (1904 to 1937). Since James was often travelling during his early ministry their relationship included correspondence.

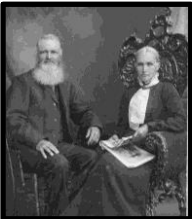
These letters are remarkable for the style of correspondence along with the manner in which people (and lovers) expressed themselves. Imagine how such a relationship would be manifested in our age of the internet!



### [Elizabeth Asselstine's Diary](#)

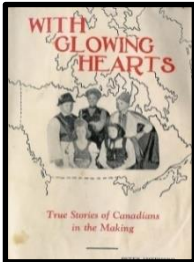
<sup>12</sup>In March, April, and August of 1907, Elizabeth Asselstine composed several accounts and stories of activities and people in her life. Some of these are contained in letters she wrote (several to James M. Shaver). They are contained in the two documents: [Elizabeth](#)

[Diary01](#)<sup>13</sup> and [Elizabeth Diary02](#)<sup>14</sup>. Elizabeth was a remarkable woman for her era – attaining an MA at Queen's University, for example. Her father's woolen mill is preserved as an operating mill at Upper Canada Village near Morrisburg, ON. It is well worth a visit!



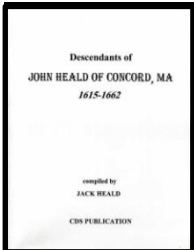
### [Bill Shaver's Zipper Bag](#)

<sup>15</sup>Bill Shaver (Jack's brother) left a zipper bag of photos that includes many handed down from his father. This includes a nice photo of Elizabeth Asselstine's parents, a document transferring ownership of Eleanor Asselstine's goods to Catherine Asselstine, notes about Butler's Rangers (United Empire Loyalists), Items related to Grantley United Church, several clippings regarding King Edward, and several other historical items and photos.



### [With Glowing Hearts](#)

<sup>16</sup>James M. Shaver wrote a book about his experiences welcoming new immigrants to Winnipeg during his time at Stella Mission (1921-1941). He wrote it under the pseudonym Peter Shepherd. This is an interesting document to read in the light of the MA thesis by Shirley Payment (see next page) and the photos from his “Black Album” (above). It stimulating to think about his work and these materials in the light of the current discussions about immigration to Canada, the challenges of multiculturalism, and the role of the church.



### [Heald Family Book](#)

Dorothy Shaver is part of the Heald legacy since her mother Gladys was a Heald. This family is well documented – thanks in large part to Judy Polton – so we have many materials about them. This one is a book compiled from a number of sources. It starts with John Heald of Concord, MA (1615-1662) and follows the family for a number of generations. It includes Gladys (Dorothy’s mother) and her cousins (see p.97). Margie Taylor also tells of an interesting connection of the Heald family with that of John Elliot Chandler who she believes fathered John Elliot Heald. You can see her notes and related documents via the [Chandler Family book](#)<sup>17</sup>. Unfortunately the Heald book is not digitized so we only have hard copies.





[Heroes of Albany](#)

<sup>18</sup>This book was mentioned by Margie Taylor: It contains a chapter on Lieut. Charles Wesley Heald. The chapter on Charles Wesley is pp. 454-456. The book provides a wonderful introduction to the context of British-American relations that are a part of the Heald and Shaver histories. It is an example of the way in which history and biography merge.



[Gladys Hamlet Folder](#)

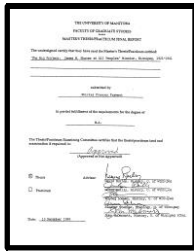
<sup>19</sup>This folder contains a number of items that were saved by Gladys Hamlet. It includes her 1960 President's Report for the Superior Presbytery Women's Association, several clippings from newspapers regarding Rev. MJV Shaver, some letters to family, photos of the King and Queen's visit, a copy of the text of Rev MJV Shaver's message to the graduates of MacGregor Collegiate (1952), the Saga of Jack and Dorothy Shaver, and a short piece she wrote entitled "Old Age Is Here" (when she was 80 years old). You will also find many of her photos in the [GHamletSlides01](#)<sup>20</sup> and [GHamletSlides02](#)<sup>21</sup> folders. She was well-travelled.



### Jack's Childhood and Youth

<sup>22</sup>There are a number of folders which include photos and documents related to Jack's childhood and youth. They have been organized into various topics identified by the labels below. These materials focus mostly on the personal and family side of his life. Materials regarding his ministry can be found on the website which is dedicated to this part of his work ([BillReimer.ca/Shaver/ShaverHM.htm](http://BillReimer.ca/Shaver/ShaverHM.htm)).

- [Jack Childhood and Youth](#)<sup>23</sup>
- [Jack's Day \(PhD, University of Winnipeg\)](#)<sup>24</sup>
- [The Scattering \(Photos from the scattering of Jack's ashes\)](#)<sup>25</sup>



### The Big Project

<sup>26</sup>*The Big Project: James M. Shaver at All Peoples' Mission, Winnipeg, 1921-1941*. This is an MA Thesis that was produced by Shirley Frances Payment at the University of Winnipeg in 1999. It discusses the work of James at the Mission and his conflicts with the United Church office in Toronto as he gave more attention to serving all faiths instead of concentrating on the conversion of those faiths to Christianity in general and the United Church in particular. The author argues that the case illustrates the tension between evangelism and social service that characterized Social Gospel thought.



## [Dorothy's Childhood and Youth](#)

<sup>27</sup>Dorothy has saved a number of items from her youth, classes at Normal School, her mother (Gladys), and her retirement. Daegan also found some of her father's (William Hamlet) military records that I have added to these items. They can be found in the following folders.

- [Dorothy's Album 1: Photos from Dorothy's Normal School days](#)<sup>28</sup>

[Dorothy's Class Photos: A Collection of the classes she taught](#)<sup>29</sup>

[Dorothy's Youth: Photos of Dorothy and her friends](#)<sup>30</sup>

[Dorothy's Mother's Envelope: Many photos from Gladys Hamlet](#)<sup>31</sup>

[Dorothy Retirement Party](#)<sup>32</sup>



## [Family History](#)

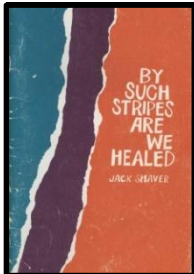
<sup>33</sup>This folder contains various items from the Shavers, Hamlets, and related files. It includes several of the items I have highlighted, but there are many other gems tucked away in the subfolders that have not been sorted or organized. Scanning through them will be like discovering an old shoebox of photos.



Jack and  
Dorothy

Jack and Dorothy's life together produced many items in addition to the people and events. Some of them are reflected in the items below.

- [Murillo: Photos from their lives in Murillo, ON](#)<sup>34</sup>
- [Sidney Pictures 1: Photos from their time in Sidney, MB](#)<sup>35</sup>
- [Sidney Pictures 2: Another set of photos from Sidney, MB](#)<sup>36</sup>
- [Shaver 1940s Album: An album with photos from the 1940s](#)<sup>37</sup>
- [Album 1920: From the 1920s](#)<sup>38</sup>.
- [Album 1959: From about 1959](#)<sup>39</sup>
- [The Holy Family book: Photos from the book produced by Fran and Bill](#)<sup>40</sup>
- [Degrees and Events: Copies of various degrees and related events](#)<sup>41</sup>
- [CSI Ring Binder: Photos from the Christmas at Cap-St-Ignace](#)<sup>42</sup>
- [Rogues Gallery: Photos from those that were hanging on the wall at the condo](#)<sup>43</sup>
- [Loose Photos: A folder of various photos and documents](#)<sup>44</sup>
- [J&D Trips: Various photos from Jack and Dorothy's trips](#)<sup>45</sup>
- [J&D New Years Messages: Christmas messages from 1966 to 1998](#)<sup>46</sup>



### [By Such Stripes](#)

<sup>47</sup>In 1985, Jack was asked to write the Lenten Booklet for the United Church of Canada. “By Such Stripes Are We Healed” was the result. It provides scripture readings for each day of Lent with short reflections on their significance. It is a very accessible and interesting way to discover some of Jack’s way of thinking. The United Church has granted me permission to distribute it publically, so you can find a copy of it on Jack’s website as well: <http://billreimer.ca/Shaver/ShaverHM.htm>.



### [From Others](#)

<sup>48</sup>This folder contains photos and documents that were sent by other family members and friends. The Healds and Poultons were most generous in providing family materials over the years so you will find a number of folders with photos from Dorothy’s cousins and “shirt-tail cousins”. There are also a few photos from the Mossops, Peter and Penny, Aaron, and Gordon Laird.

### Family Trees

<sup>49</sup>You will find three files identifying the ancestors and descendants of Jack and Dorothy Shaver in the following links. Please let us know of any errors or omissions.

- [Ancestors of Michael John Victor Shaver](#)<sup>50</sup>
- [Ancestors of Dorothy Heald Hamlet](#)<sup>51</sup>
- [Descendants of Michael John Victor Shaver and Dorothy Heald Hamlet](#)<sup>52</sup>

## Directory Structure for Shaver Archives Files

- [ShaverMisc](#)
  - [JosephScans](#)
  - [WPGUnited](#)
- [ShaverHistory](#)
  - [GHamletSlides01](#)
  - [JamesShaverBlackAlbum](#)
    - Pages
    - Photos
  - [Asselstine](#)
  - [GHamletSlides02](#)
  - [ShaverMisc](#)
  - [LegacyFamilyTreeFiles](#)
  - [DorothyFinal](#)
    - DorothyHHArticles
  - [ShaverScans](#)
    - Album1920
    - Album1959Move
    - BigBlackShaverAlbum
    - BillShaverZipperBag
    - DegreesAndEvents
    - DorothyAlbum01
    - DorothyClassPhotos
    - DorothyYouth
      - DorothyNormalSchool
    - DotsRetirement1984
    - FlipUpPhotos1982-1984
    - GladysHamletFolder
    - JackChildhoodYouth
    - JacksDay
    - JMShaverStudentAlbum01
    - JMShaverStudentAlbum1907TurtleRiverMission (Edam) 01
    - LoosePhotos
    - MotherEnvelope
    - Murillo
    - RingBinderCSI
    - RoguesGallery
    - Shaver1940sAlbum

- SidneyPictures
- HolyFamily
- SelectedRescans
- 4073
- [Shaver-FromDVD100](#)
  - Academic
    - MJVSAcademic01\_files
  - AudioVis
    - Conversations
      - JackWithJune
    - Events
    - Misc
    - Presentations
    - Sermons
  - Biography
    - \_notes
  - Comments
  - Documents
    - Stripes
    - \_notes
  - Images
  - jackscan12\_files
  - Links
  - Media
  - Misc
  - Photos
    - ShaverWeb
      - pages
      - thumbnails
      - thumbs
  - Prayers
  - Presentations
  - Seminars
  - Sermons
    - MJVSSermons01\_files
    - MJVSSermons02\_files
  - untitled

- └─Wikipedia
- └─[HolyFamily](#)
- └─[Cremation20130327](#)
- └─[SidneyPictures20080508](#)
- └─[ShaverPhotos20090509](#)
- └─[Dorothy](#)
  - └─[FromDorothy](#)
  - └─[ToDot20130506](#)
  - └─[DorothyBackup20110904](#)
    - └─The\_Winnipeg\_Years
    - └─FamilyFiles
      - └─Michael
    - └─JP
    - └─My Photos
    - └─Naramata Choir
    - └─Dorothy
    - └─Start Menu
    - └─Contacts
    - └─Desktop
    - └─Favorites
    - └─My Documents
      - └─WebSend
      - └─Symantec
      - └─Screensaver Pictures
      - └─sarah
      - └─Samantha
        - └─Harrison-ABC
          - └─BumbleeCafe
            - └─ClipArt
      - └─Recordings
      - └─Pictures Archive
      - └─Norton Premium Services
      - └─New Folder
      - └─My Videos
      - └─My Skype Pictures
      - └─My Skype Content
      - └─My Received Files
        - └─My Pictures
      - └─My Pictures

- └─QuickCam
- └─Jim'sPictures
- └─Charles Paul
  - └─2011-03 (Mar)
  - └─2010-10 (Oct)
  - └─2010-05 (May)
  - └─2010-02 (Feb)
  - └─2009-12 (Dec)
  - └─2009-11 (Nov)
  - └─2009-02 (Feb)
  - └─2008-07 (Jul)
  - └─2008-01 (Jan)
  - └─2007-12 (Dec)
  - └─2007-06 (Jun)
  - └─2006-07 (Jul)
  - └─2006-05 (May)
- └─My Music
- └─My eBooks
- └─My albums
  - └─scattering dad
    - └─The\_Scattering
    - └─Aug\_9\_to\_17\_2004
- └─Lectionary
- └─Jonstuff
- └─jonspics
- └─FranShaver
- └─Dorothy-files
  - └─SheetMusic
    - └─NewYearMessages
- └─Daegan-JP-Steve
- └─BobStewart
- └─BillReimer
- └─[DorothySelection2007-12 \(Dec\)](#)
- └─[JackWebsite](#)
  - └─[ShaverWebsite20151030](#)
    - └─Academic
      - └─MJVSAcademic01\_files
    - └─AudioVis
    - └─Conversations

- Events
- Misc
- Presentations
- Sermons
- Biography
- Comments
- Documents
  - Stripes
- Images
- jackscan12\_files
- Links
- Media
- Misc
- Photos
  - ShaverWeb
    - images
    - pages
    - thumbnails
    - thumbs
- Prayers
- Presentations
- Seminars
- Sermons
  - MJVSSermons01\_files
  - MJVSSermons02\_files

- Wikipedia
- [ShaverZipDown20151030](#)
  - AudioVis
- [FromOthers](#)
  - [FromAaron](#)
  - [FromPeterSXmas2011](#)
  - [HealdShaptonAlbum](#)
  - [FromGLaird](#)
  - [FromPeterPenny20110102\\_100CANON](#)
  - [FromPeterS20100103](#)
  - [FromPoultons](#)
    - 2010-04-05, Pat & Henry
    - Bob S Album
    - Gord S Album
    - Healds
    - Master Shapton 2
    - Master Shapton Album
  - [FromHealds](#)
  - [FromPeterS](#)
    - FromPeterS20080803
    - FromPeterS20090803\_100CANON
  - [FromMossop](#)
  - [The Scattering\(Peter\)](#)
  - [FromJim](#)



## List of External Links

- <sup>1</sup> /ShaverArchives01
- <sup>2</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverMisc
- <sup>3</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory
- <sup>4</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives\Dorothy
- <sup>5</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives\JackWebsite
- <sup>6</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives\FromOthers
- <sup>7</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives-Filelisting02.xlsx
- <sup>8</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives/ShaverHistory/JamesShaverBlackAlbum
- <sup>9</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\JamesShaverBlackAlbum\Photos\File2448.jpg
- <sup>10</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives/ShaverHistory/ShaverScans/JMShaverStudentAlbum1907TurtleRiverMission(Edam)01/
- <sup>11</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\JamesAndElizabethShaverCorrespondence1904To1939.pdf
- <sup>12</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\ElizabethShaverDiaryContents01.pdf
- <sup>13</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\Shaver-FromDVD100\Misc\EShaverDiary1907P01.pdf
- <sup>14</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\Shaver-FromDVD100\Misc\EShaverDiary1907P02.pdf
- <sup>15</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\ShaverScans\BillShaverZipperBag\
- <sup>16</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\WithGlowingHearts.pdf
- <sup>17</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives\Dorothy\The\_Chandler\_family.pdf
- <sup>18</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\TheHeroesOfAlbany00clar.pdf
- <sup>19</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\ShaverScans\GladysHamletFolder\
- <sup>20</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives/ShaverHistory/GHamletSlides01/
- <sup>21</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives/ShaverHistory/GHamletSlides02/

22 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\ShaverScans\JackChildhoodYouth\  
23 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\ShaverScans\JackChildhoodYouth\  
24 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\ShaverScans\JacksDay\  
25 ShaverItemsForArchives\FromOthers\The\_Scattering(Peter)\  
26 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\Shaver-FromDVD100\Documents\PaymentJamesMShaverThesis2000MQ51783[1].pdf  
27 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\ShaverScans\DorothyYouth\  
28 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\ShaverScans\DorothyAlbum01/  
29 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\ShaverScans\DorothyClassPhotos\  
30 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\ShaverScans\DorothyYouth\  
31 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\ShaverScans\MotherEnvelope/  
32 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\ShaverScans\DotsRetirement1984\  
33 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\  
34 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\ShaverScans\Murillo\  
35 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\ShaverScans\SidneyPictures\  
36 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\SidneyPictures20080508\  
37 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\ShaverScans\Shaver1940sAlbum\  
38 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\ShaverScans\Album1920/  
39 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\ShaverScans\Album1959Move/  
40 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\HolyFamily\  
41 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\ShaverScans\DegreesAndEvents\  
42 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\ShaverScans\RingBinderCSI\  
43 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\ShaverScans\RoguesGallery\  
44 ShaverItemsForArchives\ShaverHistory\ShaverScans\LoosePhotos\

<sup>45</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives\Dorothy\DorothyBackup20110904\

<sup>46</sup> <http://billreimer.net/workshop/Shaver/Misc/XmasLettersHM.htm>

<sup>47</sup> <http://billreimer.net/workshop/Shaver/Documents/Stripes/StripesContents.htm>

<sup>48</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives\FromOthers\

<sup>49</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives\FromOthers\

<sup>50</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives\AncestorsOfMichaelJohnVictorShaver20161127.pdf

<sup>51</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives\AncestorsOfDorothyHealdHamlet20161127.pdf

<sup>52</sup> ShaverItemsForArchives\DescendentsOfMichaelJohnVictorShaverAndDorothyHealdHamlet20161127.pdf