

Grasse River Water Power Assessment, 1871

MSS COLL NO. #225

Scope and Content

The document is an appraisal of properties using hydropower on the Grasse River, dated July 19th, 1871. Each entry in the appraisal gives the name of the owner of the property, the nature of the business, the specifics of the hydropower mechanisms, size of and boundaries of the property, and an assessment of the property's worth. Properties are sequenced moving south to north along the Grasse River: Clifton, Monterey, Town of Clare, Russell Village, Town of Russell, Town of Canton, Canton Village, Morely, Bucks Bridge, Madrid Village, Town of Madrid, Town of Louisville, Chase Mills, Town of Louisville, Millersville, and Massena. Signatures of the assessors are illegible, though one appears to be John Parker.

On the first page is the following abstract:

Schedule and description of the several lots and parcels of land on which there is hydraulic power dependent from the waters of Grass River in the County of St. Lawrence, and an assessment for each of the said several lots and parcels of land, for the [?] of five thousand dollars; made in accordance with, and by the authority of Chapter 83, laws of the state of New York passed March 31st 1869 entitled "An Act to Provide for the Improvement of Grass River and the water flowing therein and to check [?] therein."

The document is twelve leaves, a heavy lined paper measuring 11 ½ inches wide by 17 ½ inches tall, very likely removed from a ledger book.

Extent

One box, 0.25 linear feet.

Provenance

Purchased from Tom Jennison in March 2023.