

FREDERICK WALTER LEE

an inventory of his papers held by the
CHILLIWACK MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

(Add.MSS. 21)

compiled by

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Frederick Walter Lee was born in England in 1863. He studied art at the South Kensington Art School and at the Royal Academy. In 1894 his work came to the attention of the royal family, and this resulted in several commissions from notable persons. His work was exhibited at the Royal Academy and at several provincial exhibitions.

In 1899 Lee came to Canada, initially settling at Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan. After losing virtually all of his possessions in a fire, he set out on a journey across the western United States, supporting himself as an itinerant artist and photographer. He settled in Chilliwack about 1904, and, except for a brief relocation to the Vancouver area, remained there for the rest of his life. Plagued by ill health and various misfortunes, Lee never achieved the success that his early career would have indicated. He was barely able to support himself as an artist and art teacher in Chilliwack, and died in 1948.

Lee's papers held by the Chilliwack Museum and Historical Society include some of his prose and poetry writings; musical works arranged for guitar; photographs; financial records; and his address book. Several of his paintings are also held by the Chilliwack Museum.

