Materials in the University Archive

The University Archive is in the Robarts Library, and has extensive Chemistry holdings. One has to be registered with them to get access, which probably requires a letter from the Chemistry Chair to the Head Archivist, to explain why access is needed and to guarantee that personal information will not be published or used without permission. You cannot handle sensitive materials yourself, but they will photocopy anything you need.

The listings of University Archive resources can be accessed by those interested via the link http://utarms.library.utoronto.ca/about. The highly knowledgeable staff is listed in http://utarms.library.utoronto.ca/contact-us Please note that preclearance by UTARMS is required before any database access is granted.

An excellent contact is:

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U of T Archives & Records Management Services (UTARMS)
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Among the materials available are:

- The University history from 1827 onwards. The first admission of Chemistry students was ~8 June 1843
- All the calendars from the beginning., detailing the Chemistry courses, examinations and budget details
- The University College calendar for 1857-58 with the Croft part of the Corporation. Henry Croft arrived from the UK in January 1843 and set up the Chemistry department in the Upper Canada Houses of Parliament at Front and John streets. Then in 1850 he became the first Professor of Chemistry and Experimental Philosophy, locating in King's College when the University of Toronto was formed in 1850, with Croft its first vice-chancellor.
- For material on Croft, etc., go into the Catalogue file of the Department of Graduate Record, which has full alphabetical listings of people. [See also the book on the Department's history "Historical Distillates", by A.G. Brook and W.A.E. McBryde, 2007, ISBN 978-1-55002-724-2].
- The University Archive has copies of the old Chemistry exams from 1843 onwards. (It is planned to include illustrative copies of the earliest examinations in the Chemistry Archive).