

# S. J. McKee Archives



## Berbank Church fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4825>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 28-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1919-1966

Physical Description: 6 cm

History /

Biographical:

The name Berbank was created by combining the names of two local districts: Riverbank and Bertha. Both were located south of Brandon in the Rural Municipality of Oakland. The Berbank Church was built in 1919. Its construction grew out of the work of the Berbank Red Cross founded in 1917. The Berbank Church was a "union" church, constructed in anticipation of the formation of the United Church of Canada. In 1966, the Berbank congregation joined with the Nesbitt congregation to operate out of the Nesbitt United Church. The final service at the Berbank United Church was held in 1966.

Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1997. Prior custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Fonds contains a document titled "Berbank Church History." This document is partially in a printed format with a portion handwritten. Fonds also contains minute books and legal documents pertaining to the ownership of the land upon which the Church was constructed.

Notes: CAIN No. 202614

Subject Access: Red Cross  
United Church of Canada  
Presbyterian  
Bertha  
Riverbank  
church union  
World War I

Accruals: Berbank Red Cross fonds (18-1997), Berbank Ladies Aid fonds (27-1997), and Bertha School District fonds (8-1998 ).

Storage Location: 1997 accessions

Storage Range: 1997 accessions

## B.J. Hales fonds



<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4838>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 31-1998  
GMD: textual records  
Date Range: 1925-1927  
Physical Description: 8 cm textual records  
3 books

#### History /

##### Biographical:

Benjamin J. Hales was born in Peterborough, Ontario on November 24, 1868. Hales lived in Peterborough until attending the University of Toronto, where he graduated in 1894. In 1897, Hales travelled west to teach at Broadview, North West Territories. He moved to McGregor, Manitoba in 1899, where he was Principal of the school, and in 1902, he moved to Hartney, Manitoba. Between 1907 and 1911, Hales devoted his time to working for the provincial Normal School that offered courses for prospective teachers in Portage La Prairie, Manitou, and Brandon. In 1911, the normal courses were established in Brandon and Hales moved to Brandon, where he resided for the rest of his life. Hales acted as the Principal of the Brandon Normal School from 1912 until his retirement in 1938. B.J. Hales married Elizabeth Lewis of Peterborough, who died in 1942. The couple had one daughter Marion Hales Doig. B.J. Hales was a well-known naturalist and author of several texts dealing with prairie flora and fauna. Hales also built a museum of Manitoban flora and fauna in the Normal School. Hales was an alderman on Brandon City Council from 1920 to 1923, and served as the chairman of the city's Parks Board from 1937 until his death in 1945. Hales was twice the president of the Western Manitoba Teacher's Association, and once the head of the Manitoba Educational Association. B.J. Hales was also a member of the First United Church and served on its board. He died on December 23, 1945 at his home in Brandon.

##### Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. Previous custodial history is unknown.

##### Scope and Content:

Fonds includes three books written by B.J. Hales, titled, "Selected Western Flora: Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta"(1925); "Prairie Birds"(1927); and "Forests and Trees"(1925), all published in Toronto by The MacMillan Company of Canada. The fonds also includes two books of field notes concerning specimens held in the Brandon Normal School Museum, as well as a list of birds in the Atkinson Collection also located at the Brandon Normal School Museum.

Notes: CAIN No. 202623  
Subject Access: B.J. Hales  
Brandon Normal School Museum  
Atkinson Collection  
flora  
prairie birds  
museums  
trees  
wild life  
naturalist  
Storage Location: 1998 accessions  
Storage Range: 1998 accessions



## A.C. Miller fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4842>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 19-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1916-1938

Physical Description: 5 cm

History /

Biographical:

Archie Cleveland Miller owned and operated a farm near Roland, Manitoba from 1918 to 1938. Miller was engaged principally in a commercial grain operation.

Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned in 1997 by the McKee Archives. Prior custodial history is unknown. .

Scope and Content:

Fonds contains legal documents from A.C. Miller's farm near Roland, Manitoba from 1916 to 1938. They include mortgage documents, lease agreements, and bank receipts.

Notes: CAIN No. 202603

Subject Access: Archie Cleveland Miller

Archie A. Ross

Lydia Ross

Manitoba Farm Loans Association

Roland Manitoba

Farm lease

Farm business

Myrtle Manitoba

Storage Location: 1997 accessions

Storage Range: 1997 accessions



## Basswood OddFellows fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4850>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 5-2000

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1910-1954

Physical Description: 12 cm

History /

Biographical:

The OddFellows has a long international history as a mutual assistance society for men. OddFellow Lodges were open to white males over the age of 21, who were in good health and possessed good moral character. Upon joining an OddFellow's Lodge, a member received social and financial benefits. The Constitution of the Subordinate Lodges in Manitoba, 1899, notes that OddFellows Lodges were obliged to teach the importance of fraternity. Under the organization's constitution, lodge members assumed five obligations: to visit the sick, to relieve the distressed, to bury the dead, to educate the orphan, and to aid the widow. The Progress Lodge of the Basswood OddFellows was created in 1910; it continued as a group until early 1955, when it amalgamated with the Minnedosa OddFellows. The Progress Lodge of the Basswood OddFellows included men of many different occupations and social classes including, farmers, merchants, ministers, teachers, agents, carpenters, grain buyers, clerks, and laborers.

Custodial History:

The records of the Basswood Oddfellows Lodge were in the possession of Donald McNabb, who for many years was an active member of the Minnedosa Oddfellows. He donated the records to the McKee Archives in June 2000.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of five books. The first book is a membership list from 1910-1948. The list includes the members' names and occupations, the date that they joined the lodge, and their status within the hierarchy of the lodge. The other four books consist of minutes for the years 1910-16, 1916-25, 1935-44, and 1945-54.

Notes: CAIN No. 202644

Subject Access: Basswood OddFellows

Progress Lodge

Basswood

Manitoba

International Order of OddFellows

Minnedosa

fraternal associations

mutual aid societies

Storage Location: 2000 accessions

Storage Range: 2000 accessions

Related Material: The Minnedosa OddFellows fonds is also located in the McKee Archives.

## Kodaly in Manitoba fonds



<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4882>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 7-2006

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1982-2004

Physical Description: 25 cm

History /

Biographical:

Zoltan Kodaly was a philosopher and musicologist who introduced new ideas about teaching music in his native Hungary during the 1950's. In 1964 in Budapest, Kodaly addressed the International Symposium of Music Educators and his ideas were introduced to the world

Canadian music educators were made aware of the Kodaly approach primarily through the work of Richard Johnson who taught music theory at the University of Toronto. He brought method classed to the Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto, summer school in 1965 and also integrated principles from the method into sight-singing class at the Faculty of Music there.

Edna Knock, an Associate Professor of music education and musicianship, brought the Kodakly approach to Brandon University music educators in the 1980's. She was introduced to Kodaly methods in her studies at the University of Toronto and the Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto and also trained at the Kodaly Musical Training Institute in Wellesley, Mass., and in Hungary.

The Kodaly approach to teaching music presents concepts of rhythm, melody and written symbols in structured, developmental sequence using familiar, quality music from the folk culture of the students being taught.

In the early 80's a group of music education students at Brandon University were studying classroom methods with Edna Knock. These musicians quickly realized how well the new ideas worked for their classrooms and for their own musicianship.

The first meeting of these nine enthusiasts was held in September, 1982, at Edna's home. They decided to become a formal group to promote Kodaly in Manitoba in five ways:

1.Lobby MMEA to include Kodaly clinicians at the Provincial Music Educators Conference, SAG. They accomplished this in 1983, and there has been a Kodaly clinician at SAG ever since.

2.Sponsor regular Kodaly workshops based on practical demonstrations for classroom teachers, private music teachers, and specialists. A yearly workshop in January was established in Brandon and continued until the mid 90's.

3. Initiate study sessions for Professional Development and musicianship. The first meetings of the group included solfege exercises, canon singing and sight-singing. Later, KIM was active in promoting Summer School classes at BU and offered scholarships to students in these classes.

4.Share pedagogical material with all music educators in the province. A NEWSLETTER was produced twice a year for distribution to members, and articles were placed in other music education publications.

5.Provide a connection to the national Kodaly organization, Kodaly in Canada (now called Kodaly Society of Canada) to advertise national and provincial meetings, courses and events. The group was accepted as a branch of Kodaly in Canada in 1985 and went on to host

events. The group was accepted as a branch of Kodaly in Canada in 1983 and went on to host the National Kodaly Convention in Winnipeg called SPECTRUM in 1988.

By February, 1984, at the first Annual General Meeting, the founding group had a constitution, eighteen members, and an executive elected to a two year term. By the second AGM in 1985, eight students had completed Level III training at Summer School, and KIM membership totaled 28 music educators across the province. Membership continued to increase to 36 by 1990.

During its 22 years of operation, KIM continued to sponsor highly trained clinicians at SAG in October and in Brandon in January. A Kodaly for Kids day was introduced to have a more direct reach into classrooms and give experience to students as well as teachers. KIM actively promoted Summer School courses and provided scholarships to students attending these sessions. The last Level III graduating class of 1992 formed the core of KIM executive for the last 10 years of operation.

In the new millenium, plagued by budget cutbacks in arts education and devaluation of music as an essential component of public education, declining membership and executive burnout, KIM had to face the reality of disbanding the organization.

On August 24, 2004, the executive voted to end the organization on October 31, 2004, the end of the membership year. Financial assets from the organization were placed in a designated fund at Brandon University School of Music to be used to promote Kodaly course in education and provide seed money to reinstate the organization. Historical documents were placed in the Brandon University archives and working files were left with Brandon Kodaly advocate and past president of KIM, Elizabeth Grant. It is thus hoped that the strong and vibrant role of KIM in music education in Manitoba will be remembered and available for future generations.

#### Custodial History:

Records were in the possession of Kodaly in Manitoba until their donation to the McKee Archives in December 2005.

#### Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of minutes, reports, correspondence, membership lists, financial statements, the KIM constitution, newsletters, Spectrum '88, teacher workshops and Kodaly for Kids.

Notes: All descriptive information and inventories provided by Carolyn Durston, Archivist and Past President of KIM. Various faculty members, particularly Edna Knock and Shelia Scott, in the Brandon University School of Music had a close association with Kodaly in Manitoba, teaching kodaly methods and sponsoring kodaly workshops.

Finding Aid: Inventory available in the Kodaly accession file.

Storage Location: 2006 accessions



## Anna Enns fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions5081>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 16-2007

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: ca. 1922

Physical Description: 3.5 cm

Physical Condition: Mothergoose Primer is fragile

History /

Biographical:

Biographical information on Anna B. Enns is currently unavailable.

Custodial History:

Donated to the McKee Archives in 2005 by Anne Eaton, a relative of Anna B. Enns.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of a copy of the "Mothergoose Primer" and a handwork book (1922) from the Brandon Normal School. The latter contains samples of various kinds of art and craft work.

Notes: Description by Christy Henry.

Storage Location: 2007 accessions

Storage Range: 2007 accessions

Related Material: Dorothy Frances Davidson fonds (33-2007).



## Frank Robb fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions5133>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 22-2007

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1956 - c.1965

Physical Description: 0.5 cm textual records; 155 slides

History /

Biographical:

Frank Robb was Assistant Secretary Treasurer for School District of Brandon No. 129 and Curator of the B.J. Hales Natural History Museum exhibition for Brandon's 75th Anniversary (1957). Robb left Brandon ca. 1969 and relocated to Minaki, Ontario.

Custodial History:

Frank Robb sent the slides to Fred McGuiness ca. 1986. McGuiness gave them to Eileen McFadden at the McKee Archives in April 1986.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of 155 slides taken by Frank Robb, an inventory for the slides prepared by Robb and a letter from Robb to Fred McGuiness regarding the slides and memories of Brandon ca. 1950s.

Notes: Description by Christy Henry.

Name Access:	Albert Hepinstall John Bojarski Frank Robb Doreen Walton (nee Rookes) Lily Harrison
Subject Access:	B.J. Hales Museum Brandon 75th Anniversary Brandon Camera Club Royal Beardedde Ballet ladies' auxiliary First United Church School District of Brandon No. 129 flooding summer fair T.A. Neelin High School Vincent Massey High School dam Experimental farm Bedford Drive Souris' swinging bridge Highway No. 1 by-pass School Teacher night classes 18th Street
Storage Location:	2007 accessions
Storage Range:	2007 accessions
Arrangement:	Original order and numbering system.





## John Crawford fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions5136>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 25-2007  
GMD: textual records  
Date Range: 1882-1883  
Physical Description: 50.5 x 38.5 cm  
Physical Condition: Generally good. Some small holes along the centre fold line.  
History /  
Biographical:

Reverend John Crawford, faculty member at Woodstock College (Baptist institution), Woodstock, Ontario took the initiative in 1879, to come west to Rapid City, Manitoba to establish a Baptist seminary to train Baptist ministers for service in Western Canada. He established Prairie College for this purpose. Students at the College would homestead in the area, farming in the summer and studying in the winter. Prairie College only lasted a few years and consumed most of Crawford's limited private wealth. Prairie College closed in 1881.

### Custodial History:

This document is a copy found in the Neepawa Land Titles Office. It was donated to the McKee Archives when the Office was culling historical records.

### Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of the Dominion Lands grant to the Reverend John Crawford situated in the Province of Manitoba, Township 13, Range 19, Section south 1/2 of 32, dated December 16, 1882.

Notes: Description by Christy Henry and Tom Mitchell.  
Storage Location: Reading Room display case.  
Storage Range: Reading Room display case.



## J.C. Cousins fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions5137>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 26-2007  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: pre-1881 settlement era - 1940s  
Physical Description: 6 cm  
Physical Condition: Generally good, but tattered in some places.  
History /  
Biographical:

John C. Cousins was the son of Thomas Cousins (b. August 17, 1882 in Truro, Nova Scotia - d. March 5, 1914) and Mary Margaret Craig (b. April 14, 1824 - d. April 25, 1903). He married Eunice Eliza Nixon from London Township, County of Middlesex, Ontario. Together they had three children: Eunice M., Eric O. and Kathleen. J.C. Cousins was Reeve of the Rural Municipality of Daly from 1905 to 1910 and Assessor for the Town of Rivers from 1931-1938.

Custodial History:

Record was accessioned in 2007 by the McKee Archives. Prior custodial history unknown.

Scope and Content:

This document is a rambling memoir of John C. Cousins' recollections of life in the Rural Municipality of Daly from the settlement era in the early 1880s, through to the 1940s. He touches on various themes, including: his family history; the activities of the R.M. of Daly and his role as Reeve; the history of school districts in the municipality (lists names of first teachers and early students); the history of churches in the municipality; tragedies in the municipality; lists members of the Council of the municipality for the years 1885-1946; and the devastating impact of the Spanish Influenza on Aboriginal people in the municipality.

In addition, the memoir includes documentary records, such as minutes and copies of letters. There are also many photographs of both events and individuals (virtually all of the photographs are labelled and names are provided). The memoir goes beyond a simple recounting of facts. Cousins is discursive and thoughtful, often making references to developments happening in other parts of North America and Canada. There is also a link to the Maritimes, from which his family originated.

Notes: Description by Christy Henry and Tom Mitchell.

Subject Access: Pendennis  
Rivers  
Manitoba  
Harrow school  
Mayne School District  
Hunter School District No. 571  
Poplar Hill school  
Tarbolton School District  
Wheatland School District  
Westwood School District  
Bradwardine School District  
Ancrum or Wellwood School District  
Spring Valley School District  
Aetna School District  
Robinvile School District  
Oakleigh school  
Lothian School District  
Rivers School District

Storage Location: 2007 accessions

Storage Range: 2007 accessions



## Stephen Adolph Magnacca fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4788>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Creator: Stephen Adolph Magnacca

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 5-1998

Date Range: 1884-1981; predominant 1955-1975

Physical Description: 32.5 cm of textual records  
21 photographs, various sizes

Material Details: Includes 5 audiocassettes, 1 scrapbook, 2 maps, 2 theatre programs, ca. 40 postcards, ca. 25 brochures and programs, ca. 20 posters

Physical Condition: Very good

History /  
Biographical:

Stephen Adolph Magnacca was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, on 12 October 1902. He joined the Winnipeg Highland Cadets at the age of twelve. In 1940 he was posted to Brandon, Manitoba, where he opened the A4 Training Camp. After the Second World War, Magnacca was transferred to the militia from active service and became a hospital manager with the Department of Veteran Affairs. He resigned in 1947.

Although he left the service, Magnacca remained interested in military matters. For the next three decades, he attended functions at CFB Rivers and CFB Shilo. He also collected clippings about the activities of the Canadian militia. As well, Magnacca was interested in civic affairs. In 1961 he was elected mayor of Brandon, a position he held until 1969. Many of his mayoral projects were connected with the military, including an attempt to build a new road to CFB Shilo, an effort to prevent the closure of CFB Rivers, and the coordination of a Freedom of the City Ceremony. In 1967, Magnacca was made honorary colonel of the 26th Field Regiment of the Royal Canadian Artillery.

A construction boom in the city marked Magnacca's term as mayor. Throughout the sixties, Magnacca was instrumental in the building of the Keystone Centre, the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium, a new city hall, and the residential subdivisions of Riverheights and Kirkcaldy Heights. Magnacca's business interests aided the development of these subdivisions—during this time he was president of Magnacca Real Estate and general manager of the Magnacca Housing Project.

Besides being a colonel, a mayor, and a president of a real estate company, Magnacca held numerous other titles. These included at different times president of the Brandon Lions Club, president of the Royal Canadian Legion Brandon Branch No. 3, treasurer of the Brandon Progressive Conservative Association, and director of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind in Brandon. In recognition of these efforts, Magnacca was named a member of the Order of Canada in 1973. In the middle of the seventies, Magnacca was active in historical pursuits. He became president of the Assiniboine Historical Society and helped to establish the Brandon Daly House Museum. To prevent Brandon's Prince Edward Hotel from being demolished, he formed a protest group called "Save the Eddy." In his spare time, he wrote unpublished accounts of local political figures and collected various artifacts.

A member of St. Matthew's Cathedral, religion was important to Magnacca. Also important to him were hard work, efficiency, and hierarchy. He was a British loyalist and was devoted to public service and political life. As mayor, he prized industrial and urban development. Much of his public life was dedicated to furthering awareness of governmental and industrial activities.

Magnacca's wife, Grace, played an integral role in her husband's career, attending numerous networking and volunteer functions, and often organizing his activities. They had two children, Patricia (Coleman) and Allan. On 4 August 1980, at the age of seventy-seven, Stephen Adolph Magnacca passed away due to heart failure.

Custodial History:

Little is known of the custodial history of the fonds. On 1 May 1995 Magnacca's Thomas Mayne Daly collection and Magnacca's Manitoba Historical Society papers were deposited in the Archives.

#### Scope and Content:

The fonds consists of minutes of meetings; correspondence with politicians and military officials; newspaper clippings of military affairs; documents about governmental and military celebrations; notes on Louis Riel; a manuscript about Thomas Mayne Daly and other local politicians; papers of the Daly House museum; issues of nineteenth-century Brandon newspapers, and various historical artifacts.

The fonds is valuable for researchers interested in Brandon city council history 1882-1969, regional military history 1955-1975, and general Manitoba history 1882-1981. For social historians, this fonds is important because it demonstrates which actions and which beliefs gave Magnacca access to his many esteemed positions. Historians of gender will discover that Magnacca had a specific definition of masculinity that permeated all his activities in the public realm.

The fonds is divided into four series, including: (1) mayoral papers; (2) historical interests; (3) military interests; and (4) photographs.

Notes: Description by Tom Mitchell. Biographical sketch: Information in the biographical sketch comes from the fonds itself, as well as from two articles of the Brandon Sun: "Steve Magnacca warmly recalled," Tuesday, 5 August 1980, p. 1; and "Brandon loses one of its finest," 5 August 1980, p. 3. Biographical information about Stephen Adolph Magnacca is located in the Biography Files of the McKee Archives.

Associated material: Brandon Sun: "Man for the Sixties," 30 December 1969; "History Comes Alive," 15 June 1978; "Tenure Appointment," 18 October 1978; "Steve Magnacca warmly recalled," Tuesday, 5 August 1980, p. 1; "Brandon loses one of its finest," 5 August 1980, p. 3; and "Magnacca," 9 August 1980, p. 16, located on microfilm in the John E. Robbins Library at Brandon University.

Conservation: Original processing of records and preparation of finding aid by Donica Belisle (22 July 1999)

Finding Aid: Patricia Coleman, daughter of Stephen Adolph Magnacca, provided the funding for the creation of this finding aid.

Storage Location: 1998 accessions

Related Material: Twenty-four file drawers at the Brandon Daly House Museum contain records donated by Magnacca that deal with local political, military, and economic history.



## Brandon Cinema Club fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4798>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 9-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1952-1956

Physical Description: 1 cm

History /

Biographical:

The Cinema Club of Brandon was formally created in May 1954, and operated for two and one-half years before dissolving due to lack of interest. The club was formed for the purpose of providing private screenings, on a non-profit basis, of films that normally would not have been exhibited in commercial theatres in Brandon. Films had to be assessed by the club membership as outstanding in quality. During its existence, the club sponsored the screening of two to three movies every second Sunday.

Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee archives in 1997. Prior custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Fonds includes a minute book that contains a record of each meeting held by the Brandon Cinema Club and a list of the elected executives. It also includes a file of newspaper clippings from the Brandon Sun about the Cinema Club.

Notes: CAIN No. 202661

Subject Access: R.A. Clement  
Steffan Kossak  
Beryl Burtnick  
Walter Richardson  
Brandon  
Manitoba  
associations  
film  
recreation

Storage Location: 1997 accessions

Storage Range: 1997 accessions



## Crocus Women's Institute fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4800>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 5-2002

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1946-1984

Physical Description: 18 cm

History /

Biographical:

The Women's Institute was founded in 1897 in Stoney Creek, Ontario, by Adelaide Hoodless. By 1913, institutes had been established in every Canadian province. In 1919, provincial representatives met in Winnipeg to form the Federated Women's Institute of Canada. The Women's Institute was designed to promote quality of life in rural Canada and to foster the advancement of rural women. The first Women's Institute in Manitoba was organized in 1910, in Morris, Manitoba. The Crocus Women's Institute was created in the fall of 1946. The charter for the group was issued on November 25, 1946. One of the first projects of the group included sending food parcels to Britain until war rationing was discontinued. The main focus of the Institute was the local school: the Institute sponsored essay contests and provided furniture for the school. The Institute also sponsored a garden club and held a garden show for many years. Finally, the group had an annual Christmas Cheer project. The Crocus WI disbanded in 1984.

Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned in 2002 by the McKee Archives. Prior custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Fonds contains member lists in the form of roll calls from 1946-1984. There are also Women's Institute Programs from the years 1946-1984. Fonds also includes the organization's minutes, financial records and annual reports from 1946-84, a scrapbook for the years 1946-1984, and the Certificate of Organization for the Crocus Women's Institute, dated September 5, 1950.

Notes: CAIN No. 202645

Subject Access: Edith Mitchell  
Margaret Erven  
Evelyn Firby  
Edna Allen  
M. Johnston  
Irene Erven  
E. Crawley  
Florence Wilmot  
Dawn Erven  
Miss Frances Isabel McKay  
Mrs. Evelyn Luella Ames  
Crocus Women's Institute  
Manitoba Women's Institute  
rural women  
women's organizations  
scrapbooks

Storage Location: 2002 accessions

Storage Range: 2002 accessions

Related Material: Related women's institute collections in the McKee Archives include:

Manitoba Women's Institute; Minnedosa Women's Institute; Cordova Women's Institute; Clanwilliam Women's Institute; Rathwell Women's Institute; Strathclair Women's Institute; Crocus Women's Institute; Southwest A Region - Manitoba Women's Institute; Douglas Women's Institute



## Berbank Women's Aid fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4806>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 27-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1919-1965

Physical Description: 6 cm

History /

Biographical:

Berbank Women's Aid was founded in 1919. It was, in large part, the Berbank Red Cross under a new name. The principal project of the original Berbank Ladies Aid was the construction of the Berbank Church, which was accomplished in 1919. In 1962, the organization was renamed the Berbank United Church Women. With the closing of the Berbank church in 1966, the Berbank United Church Women were dissolved.

Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1997. Prior custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

This fonds consists of various minute books of the Berbank Ladies Aid, and its successor organization, dating from 1919 to 1965.

Notes: CAIN No. 202613

Subject Access: Red Cross  
United Church of Canada  
Rural Municipality of Oakland  
Riverbank  
Bertha  
Rural women  
religion in western Canada

Storage Location: 1997 accessions

Storage Range: 1997 accessions

Related Material: 18-1997 Riverbank/Berbank Red Cross fonds; 28-1997 Berbank Church fonds; and 8-1998 Bertha School District fonds are all located in the McKee Archives.



## C. J. Barnes fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4808>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 20-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: ca. 1962

Physical Description: 2 cm

History /

Biographical:

C. J. Barnes was born in Brandon, Manitoba in February 1884. His parents were native Nova Scotians who arrived in Brandon in the early 1880s. In 1884, the family settled on a homestead near the present town of Lauder. This homestead was sold in 1899, and the family moved to farm in the district of Medora. C. J. Barnes took over the operation of this farm in the early 1900s. He farmed until 1924. Barnes was educated in schools in the Truro School District and the village of Lauder. He was active in the original Territorial Grain Growers' Association.

Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee archives in 1997. Prior custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Fonds contains a pamphlet written and published by C.J. Barnes titled *Seventy Years in Southwestern Manitoba*. The pamphlet contains an account of life in rural southwestern Manitoba from the 1880s through to the 1940s. The pamphlet is based on a variety of sources including diaries written by Mr. Barnes' father. Fonds also includes some hand-drawn maps not included in the published version of the pamphlet, as well as four letters c.1962, between C.J. Barnes and Rev. Robert Harvey in his capacity as a columnist for the *Brandon Sun*.

Notes: CAIN No. 202605

Subject Access: Rev. Robert Harvey

Lauder

Medora

Deloraine

Southwestern Manitoba

Agriculture

Boundary Commission Trails

Storage Location: 1997 accessions

Storage Range: 1997 accessions





## William J. Birtles fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4813>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 7-2003

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: c. 1880; c. 1935-2001

Physical Description: 4 photographs;  
2 biographical sketches

### History /

#### Biographical:

William Birtles was born in Alexander, Manitoba in 1930. He received his early education at Alexander School. In 1948, he completed grade 12 at St. John's College School in Winnipeg. He undertook formal training in art, beginning in 1949, at the Winnipeg School of Art. In 1952, he graduated from the Manitoba Provincial Normal School. After teaching school in Winnipeg for three years, Birtles completed a Bachelor of Fine Arts with a major in Sculpture in 1958. He obtained a Bachelor of Education from the University of Manitoba in 1970. Throughout his adult years, Birtles taught in various Manitoba communities, was active as an artist, showing his work and winning awards. He was also active in the Manitoba Society of Artists and associated provincial organizations. Birtles is retired and is a resident of Winnipeg, Manitoba.

#### Custodial History:

All of the items in the fonds were in the possession of William Birtles until their donation to the McKee Archives in 2003.

#### Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of photographs of Ms. Sarah Birtles, Rt. Rev W.W.H. Thomas D.D, the Thomas Smith farmhouse located northwest of Alexander, and a postcard containing a photograph of Westminster Abbey. Fonds also contains two biographical sketches written by William Birtles: one of Ms. Sarah Birtles - three pages - and one of Rt. Rev. W.W. H. Thomas D.D - six pages. Also includes the program of the Composite Lodge No. 64 G.R.M., A.F. & A.M. sixty-fifth Anniversary (Alexander, MB 1961).

Notes: CAIN No. 202569

Subject Access: Sarah Birtles  
Rt. Rev. W.W.H. Thomas D.D  
Thomas Smith  
Alexander  
Manitoba  
farmhouse  
masonic lodge

Storage Location: 2003 accessions

Storage Range: 2003 accessions



## Manitoba Genealogical Society fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4814>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 9-1998

GMD: textual records

Date Range: c.1880 to c.1980

Physical Description: 30 cm

History /

Biographical:

The Southwest Branch of the Manitoba Genealogical Society was established in 1978. The Branch was formed following a meeting with members of the Manitoba Genealogical Association formed in 1977. The organization was created to assist individuals interested in doing genealogical research through the provision of genealogical data and archival resources. Since its creation the Southwest Branch has also issued a newsletter and published a series of census summaries based on the 1901 Canadian census.

Custodial History:

These records were donated to the McKee archives in 1990 by J.D. Wall on behalf of the Southwest Branch of the Manitoba Genealogical Society.

Scope and Content:

Fonds includes transcripts of the records transcribed from cemetery headstones located in cemeteries throughout southwestern Manitoba. Each transcript includes details about the cemetery records and all details including names, dates, and inscriptions from each headstone. The collection includes a "Cemetery Transcript List" detailing those cemeteries for which transcripts exist. Transcripts include those for the following cemeteries: Alexander, Birdtail Sioux Indian Reserve, Blenheim Church, Glencoe, Boissevain, Brandon, Brandon Hills Church Cemetery, Brookdale, Carberry District, Coultervale, Elgin, Elkhorn, Humesville, Lauder, Kerfoot (Gregg Cemetery), Icelandic Gravesite (Tilston), History of Kingsley Cemetery near Somerset, Madford Cemetery, Old Medora Cemetery, Melgund, Millford Cemetery, Noble Cemetery, Methven, Millord Cemetery, Roseville Anglican Church Cemetery, St. Savior's Anglican Church, St. George's Anglican Church, Rounthwaite, Souris (Glenwood Cemetery), Skalholt, Wellwood, Woodville (Lund, Kola, Bennett, Two Creeks), Patterson (near Nesbitt), Sparling (near Justice), Tilston (near Sinclair), Royal Canadian Air Force Memorial (20 miles north of Rivers).

Notes: CAIN No. 202662

Subject Access: cemetery records

Genealogy

Brandon

Manitoba

Storage Location: 1998 accessions

Storage Range: 1998 accessions



## Strathclair Women's Institute fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4817>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 7-2002

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1942-1981

Physical Description: 19 cm

History /

Biographical:

The Strathclair Women's Institute was formed in 1925. The group's meetings had many interesting speakers over the years such as agricultural representatives, ministers, reeves and lawyers. The group arranged picnics, concerts, pot luck suppers and parties. The group also held learning sessions in various areas such as law. The Strathclair Women's Institute no longer exists. The closest Women's Institute to Strathclair is the Newdale Raven's Glen Women's Institute.

Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned in 2002 by the McKee Archives. Prior custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Fonds contains annual reports from 1942-1981, minutes from 1962-1964, standing committee reports c. 1962-1977 and resolutions c. 1960-80. A large part of the fonds includes information on Tweedsmuir competitions. Finally, the fonds includes correspondence, newspaper clippings and miscellaneous papers and pamphlets.

Notes: CAIN No. 202654. Description by Robyn Mitchell.

Subject Access: Verna Gamey

Strathclair Women's Institute

Manitoba Women's Institute

Town of Strathclair

rural women

women's organizations

Tweedsmuir competitions

newspaper clippings

Storage Location: 2002 accessions

Storage Range: 2002 accessions

Related Material: Related women's institute collections in the McKee Archives include:

Manitoba Women's Institute; Minnedosa Women's Institute; Cordova Women's Institute; Clanwilliam Women's Institute; Rathwell Women's Institute; Strathclair Women's Institute; Crocus Women's Institute; Southwest A Region - Manitoba Women's Institute; Douglas Women's Institute



## Harry "Hap" Fraser fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4818>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 6-1998

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1922-1936

Physical Description: 6 cm

History /

Biographical:

Harry "Hap" Fraser was born in Brandon, Manitoba on January 15, 1919. On February 12, 1945, he married Muriel Coleman of Virden. Fraser served in the RCAF during World War II, returning to Brandon in 1946. Harry Fraser was employed by Coca-Cola, Nutty Cup Candy Company and the Codville Company. Following a brief stint as manager of the North Hill IGA, Harry Fraser built an IGA grocery store on Victoria Avenue West. He operated this store until his retirement in 1972. Harry Fraser was a member of the Brandon Lion's Club from 1952 until his death. He also served a term on Brandon City Council. He passed away at his home in Brandon on April 2, 1991.

Custodial History:

This fonds came into the possession of Fred McGuinness, a Brandon writer and acquaintance of Hap Fraser's, after Fraser's death. McGuinness donated it to the McKee Archives in 1998.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of a single scrapbook containing articles and pictures of various personalities and events from the world of sports during the 1920s and 1930s. Hockey, baseball, basketball, wrestling, boxing, body building, bike racing, boat racing, track and field, swimming, diving, football, rugby, rifle shooting, tennis, bowling, horse racing, golf, soccer, and fishing are all featured in the scrapbook. The articles and pictures feature both local and internationally known sports figures. Fonds also contains pictures of celebrities, royalty, prominent military figures, inventors, and beauty queens from the same era.

Notes: CAIN No. 202646

Subject Access: spectator sports

mass media

social history

Storage Location: 1998 accessions

Storage Range: 1998 accessions



## Brandon Council of Women fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4823>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 34-1998  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1952-1973  
Physical Description: 66 cm textual records;  
6 photographs

### History /

#### Biographical:

The Brandon Council of Women (BCW) was active between 1895 and 1927, when it disbanded. Principally through the efforts of Mrs. Kaye Rowe of Brandon, the BCW was officially reestablished in 1952. The Brandon Council of Women remained active until c. 1973. It brought together fifty-two women's organizations in Brandon, representing 2600 women.

#### Custodial History:

The Brandon Council of Women fonds was transferred to the McKee Archives during the 1970s. It was accessioned in 1998.

#### Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of papers and photographs of the International Council of Women (ICW), the National Council of Women of Canada (NCWC), the Manitoba Council of Women (MCW), and the Brandon Council of Women (BCW). The ICW papers include meeting minutes. The NCWC papers include meeting minutes, resolution lists, pamphlets, newsletters, correspondence, financial records, yearbooks, and copies of Acts pertaining to women. The MCW papers contain copies of the MCW constitution, meeting minutes, resolution lists, correspondence, and committee reports. The BCW materials comprise the largest part of the fonds, and include meeting minutes, committee reports, financial records, correspondence, short course agendas, posters, pamphlets, memos, resolution lists, newspaper clippings, manuscripts, photographs, and scrapbooks.

Notes: CAIN No. 202626  
Subject Access: Mrs. Kaye Rowe  
Brandon  
Manitoba  
National Council of Women of Canada  
Manitoba Council of Women  
International Council of Women  
Feminism  
Women's organizations  
Storage Location: 1998 accessions  
Storage Range: 1998 accessions



## Mildred (Mollie) Kellet fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4834>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 8-1999  
GMD: textual records  
Date Range: 1918; 1941; 1944  
Physical Description: 2 cm

History /

Biographical:

Mildred (Mollie) Norton Kellet was born April 5, 1914, in Birmingham, England to Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Travers. At the age of 18, she joined the Cadbury Brothers Co. as a contometer. In 1942, she married George Crawford Kellet Jr. Mollie and George Kellet had two children together: Patricia (b. 1944) and Ian (b. 1949). In February of 1944, Mollie and her husband relocated to Manchester where George Kellet worked as an accountant.

Following World War II, the Kellets emigrated to Winnipeg, Canada. Mollie remained a mother and homekeeper until 1954, when she was hired as a secretary for Mitchell, Green, and Menouk Lawyers. She was also employed by The Bay and in the securities department of Montreal Trust Co, where she was the manager until 1966. She retired at age 65, but was recalled by the company to work until 1984, when she was 70 years old. In 1990, Mollie moved to Brandon to be closer to her daughter, Pat Alvested. Due to complications from surgery and a weak heart, Mollie Kellet passed away on January 31, 1999.

George Crawford Kellet Jr. was born to George Crawford Kellet Sr. and Lizzie Auld Halliday Kellet on July 16, 1911, in Glasgow, Scotland. An only child, he attended private school, and in 1933, at the age of 21, he was the youngest Chartered Accountant graduate in Britain. At some point between 1933 and his marriage to Mildred (Mollie) Norton in 1942, George joined the British army, while with the army his job was to receive the orders concerning army accounting and process them for soldiers in the field.

George left the army after the war and sailed with his wife and daughter on the Mauretania for Canada. Upon settling in Winnipeg he worked for Family Fair. In 1956 and 1957, he continued to work while setting up his own accounting firm, Kellet & Co. He was also diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis in 1956. In 1971, George's health forced him to retire. Mollie continued to work at this time. Five years later she was unable to care for him adequately and he moved to a nursing home. In 1985, at age 74, George Kellet passed away.

Custodial History:

In January 2000, Pat Alvestad, the Kellets' daughter, donated this fonds to the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

The records contained within the Mollie Kellet fonds are contributions from both Mollie and her husband George. Included are: a collection of handwritten recollections by Mollie Kellet concerning her experiences during the Second World War (Mollie had been living in London and experienced life under German bombing); a document from WWI, presumably from her father, who was a veteran of this war; and records acquired by George Kellet during his service in the Second World War concerning the practical arrangements made to support troops following the 1944 D-day invasion of Nazi Europe. Marked "top secret," these records set out procedures for paying and provisioning the invading army.

Notes: CAIN No. 202659

Subject Access: George Kellet  
World War I  
D-day  
memoirs  
World War II

Storage Location: 1999 accessions  
Storage Range: 1999 accessions