

# S. J. McKee Archives



## Lewis Mathie interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14452>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH035.Mat

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: March 30, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:02:19]

History /

Biographical:

Lewis Mathie was born November 8, 1889 in Carberry, MB. His family moved to Brandon in 1890. After completing schooling at Central and Park schools, he apprenticed as a printer with his uncle, Walpole Murdoch, publisher of the Hartney Star. After brief stints with a printing plant and The Brandon Times, Mathie joined the staff of The Brandon Sun as a printer. In 1916, Mathie enlisted in the 181st (Brandon) Battalion and served overseas as a signaler with the 52nd (Port Arthur) Regiment. He returned to Brandon after his discharge in 1919, and re-joined the staff of The Brandon Sun. Beginning in 1939, Mathie was foreman of the composing room. Although he retired in 1956, he continued to work part-time for the paper from 1956-1972. Mathie married Rosetta Mills (1903-1995) in 1926, and together they had two sons: Thomas and Frank. He was a founding member of Local 700 of the ITU. Lewis Mathie died on March 13, 1985 in Brandon, MB.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Lewis Mathie about his experiences as a printer at The Brandon Sun, 1911-1956, although the first half of the interview covers Mathie's childhood years and apprenticeship in Hartney. Interviewer is Elwood Gorrie.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Mathie's obituary. Transcript by Jessica Spark (2017). Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

## Audio Tracks

## Documents

Mathie, Louis

1981-03-30

Page 1 of 11

Westman Oral History Collection

Interview Date

1981-03-30

Narrator (Interviewee)

Louis Mathie

Interviewer

Edward Morris

Location

Brandon, Manitoba

Transcriber

Jessica Spurr

Date Transcribed

2012-09-16

Recording Format

Cassette

Length of Recording

01:00:55

(beginning of Tape 01A.1)

[00:00:01]

Today is March 30th, 1981. The following is an interview with Louis Mathie at his home in Brandon, Manitoba. Born in Carleton Place, Ontario, Mr. Mathie moved at an early age to Brandon and has resided in this city ever since. Early in his life he apprenticed in Hartney, Manitoba and learned his trade while moving later to Brandon. His hope during the interview with Mr. Mathie is to gather the experiences of a long and good career in the newspaper business. The interview will be conducted by Edward Morris for the Westman Oral History Association Project "Voices of Yesterday".

OH035\_Mathie\_transcript.pdf

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Mathie, Louis

1981-03-30

Page 1 of 11

Westman Oral History Collection

Interview Date

1981-03-30

Narrator

Clarence B.L. Spurr

Interviewer

Edward Morris

Location

Brandon, Manitoba

Transcriber

Jessica Spurr

Date Transcribed

September 26, 2012

Recording Format

Digital MP3

Length of Recording

00:59:55

(beginning of Tape 01A.1)

Question: When did you ever decide to enter staff life...

Answer: I did not enter it at the opening of the war on account of wanting to get married waiting in the line. He asked them to marry it would come on during... this is the way. [Interviewer says, "Right?"] After waiting we were in Camp Hughes for five... for the summer and toward time, he asked him... who... he went out and worked toward in the Saskatchewan in his house... [Interviewer says, "all of the waiting and the waiting with the standing with while you were toward toward... After which we stayed in camp until November, reporting to government of 14, but instead we were toward to higher place we moved in the winter for building with them. November until around until March, in March we started back by train with around the North River side coming in Ottawa only in the morning and started up the river down to the government buildings and they then back

Clarence B. Spurr interview

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14453

Part Of:

Westman Oral History collection

Description Level:

Item

Item Number:

OH053.Spu

Accession Number:

35-1998

GMD:

sound recordings

Date Range:

October 28, 1981

Physical Description:

1 audio cassette [00:59:55]

History /

Biographical:

Clarence Benjamin Graham? Spurr, was born in on February 13, 1891 in Bancroft, Ontario. Spurr began working for the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1914 as a station agent at Rocanville, SK and spent many years as an agent in various communities in Saskatchewan and Manitoba before retiring in 1955. In 1923, he married Elizabeth Wallace Lindsay (1893-1979) and they raised three children, sons Ewart and Delbert and adopted niece Verna Spurr. Clarence and Elizabeth moved to Brandon, MB following his retirement. Spurr joined the Canadian military in 1915, and was initially sent to Camp Hughes. A signaler and runner, he spent 1916-1918 overseas. Clarence Spurr died on December 21, 1982 in Brandon, MB. He is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

## Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Clarence B.G. Spurr about his experiences during World War I. Spurr discusses and reminisces about details of the Great War and some of the major turning points within it from Vimy Ridge, Lamont, Mons, Neuville-Saint-Vaast and the Armistice that ended the war on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day in November from the perspective of a Canadian soldier. Interviewer is Delbert Spurr.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Spurr's obituary. Transcript by Whitney Hodgins (2017). Description by Christy Henry.

Access Restriction: Content Warning: Some of the material discussed in the interview is sensitive in nature, dealing with the war and some of the gruesome acts that go with it. Listener discretion is advised.

Language Note: English

## Audio Tracks

## Documents

OH053\_Spurr\_transcript.pdf

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OH053\_Spurr\_transcript.pdf

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## Alex McPhail interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14454>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH206.McP

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: February 13, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:01:19]

## History /

### Biographical:

Peter Alexander (P.A.) Alex McPhail was born on July 11, 1897 in the RM of Elton. Raised on the family farm in Forrest, MB, he was the eldest son of Archie and Mary McPhail who came to Manitoba from Ontario. Alex took over the farm in 1915, and farmed there until 1949, when he and his family moved to Brandon. During the First World War, Alex was a lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Air Force. He married Effie Irene Weir (1900-1999) in 1933 and together they raised four children: Ronald, Malcolm, Archie and Donna. Effie and Alex were both active members of their community. Alex was especially involved in the agricultural community and won many prizes over the years for his livestock. From 1954-1965, Alex was the General Manager for the Provincial Exhibition Association of Manitoba and the Manitoba Winter Fair. He also served one term as the president of the Canadian Association of Exhibitions. Additionally, Alex was on the Brandon General Hospital board, the Brandon College board, and was a member of the Kiwanis and Shriners clubs. He was also involved in local sports. Both Alex and Effie McPhail were active members of the United Church. Alex McPhail died on June 28, 1989 in Brandon, MB. He is buried at Humesville Cemetery.

### Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

### Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Alex McPhail about his family history, agriculture, the Provincial Exhibition Association of Manitoba and the Manitoba Winter Fair. Interviewer is Frank Anderson.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and the description for the Effie and Alex McPhail collection at the Daly House Museum. Transcript by Alana Donohoe (2017). Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)


## Audio Tracks


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## Documents

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OH206\_McPhail\_transc  
ript.pdf

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## Irene Wasylyshyn interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14455>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH010.Was

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: June 28, 1983

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:15:00]

History /

Biographical:

Winifred Irene Wasylyshyn (nee Stevens) was born on September 22, 1923 at Deloraine, MB. The daughter of Fletcher and Grace Stevens, the family had a long tradition of camping at Lake Metigoshe going back to Irene's paternal grandparents, who began camping there in 1908. Irene, who was a florist, married Jake Wasylyshyn (1916-?) on May 19, 1956. They had one daughter, Donna. Irene Wasylyshyn died on March 25, 2005 in Deloraine, MB.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Irene Wasylyshyn about the development of Lake Metigoshe. Spanning the international border into North Dakota, Lake Metigoshe is twenty miles south of Deloraine and part of a collection of lakes in the Turtle Mountains. Lake Metigoshe became the hub of a cluster of cottage developments, which boasted a local store with grocery and café services, golf course, and other recreational facilities over the years. In her interview Irene relates stories of fishing, boat rides, campfires and sing songs with neighbors who became long term family friends. She described the establishment of different local stores over the years, who owned them or worked there and for how long. She details the growth of the different cottage developments, along with both Investment and Improvement Associations, which worked to balance the growth. Through the entire interview Irene describes her love for the beauty and serenity of the lake itself and how much it came to mean to generations of her family. Interviewer is Eva Cassils.

Notes: History/bio information from the records. Transcript by Sharon Munroe (2020). Description by Christy Henry.

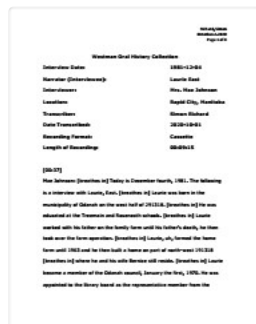
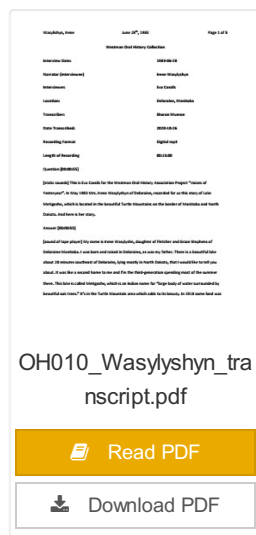
Language Note: English

### Audio Tracks

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### Documents

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## Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Laurie East about the Minnedosa Regional Library. Interviewer is Mae Johnson.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and East's obituary. Transcript by Simon Richard (2020). Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

## Audio Tracks

## Documents

Westman Oral History Collection

Interview Date: 1982-12-04

Interviewer: Mae Johnson

Interviewee: Laurie East

Location: Rapid City, Manitoba

Transcriber: Simon Richard

Date Transcribed: 2020-08-05


Recording Format: Cassette


Length of Recording: 00:00:13

[00:17]

Mae Johnson: [Interviewee's] Today is December fourth, 1982. The following is a transcript of Laurie East. [Interviewee's] Laurie was born in the municipality of Oshawa on the west half of 232.03. [Interviewee's] She was educated at the Tremaine and Rossmore schools. [Interviewee's] Laurie worked with her father on the family farm until her father's death, he then took over the farm operations. [Interviewee's] Laurie, in, worked the home farm until 1953 and he then built a home on part of north-west 192.03. [Interviewee's] where he and his wife Berneice still reside. [Interviewee's] Laurie became a member of the Oshawa branch, January the first, 1976. He was appointed to the library board as the representative member from the

OH044\_East\_transcript.pdf

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Westman Oral History Collection

Interview Date: 1982-05-12

Interviewer: Marie MacDonald

Interviewee: Marie MacDonald

Location: MacDonald's home (Rapid City area) (00:14:50)

Transcriber: Victoria Hancock

Date Transcribed: 2020-08-05

Recording Format: Cassette Tape

Length of Recording: 00:14:50

[Beginning of Transcript 02]

[00:00:12]

Today is May the 12th, 1982. The following is an interview with Marie MacDonald, a retired high school teacher who lives with her husband George on a farm in the Rapid City area. This interview is being taped for the Westman Oral History Collection Project "Tales of Yesterday" by Dorothy MacKay of Winnipeg. Mrs. MacDonald is nearly 80 years of age. From before Marie was 10 years of age to the time she was 18, she lived a family of three. She is a nurse and was a teacher. When not working in a classroom, she was busy taking care of her. She will always be remembered for her wonderful teaching skills. She will always be an asset of her experiences. She must have really liked your profession to stay with it all

## Marie MacDonald interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14457>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH163.MacD

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: May 12, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:14:50]

## History /

### Biographical:

Maude Marie MacDonald (nee Evans) was born on May 23, 1910 in Indian River, Ontario. In 1913, her family moved to Manitoba, settling in the Brookdale area. She attended school in Brookdale and at Brandon College, graduating with a BA in 1930. After graduating from Normal School in Saskatoon, she taught at Justice, Brookdale, Brandon, Kemnay, Ochre River and Carberry, before retiring in 1971. Marie married George MacDonald (1913-1989), who she met while teaching in Ochre River, in June 1937. The couple had three children: Janet, Karen and Donald. In 1951, Marie and George bought Maxhame, a farm near Brookdale. She continued to live on the farm after George died. Marie loved gardening and reading, and in her later years, she enjoyed travelling. Marie MacDonald died on January 25, 1996 in Winnipeg, MB and is buried in Carberry Plains Cemetery.

### Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

### Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Marie MacDonald about education in Manitoba, particularly her experiences as a teacher from 1931-1972. Interviewer is Dorothy P. Martin.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and MacDonald's obituary.  
Transcript by Victoria Newham (2020). Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

## Audio Tracks

## Documents

MacDonald, Marie (1910-1996)

Westman Oral History Collection

Interview Date: 1982-05-12

Interviewer: Dorothy P. Martin

Location: MacDonald's home-Brookdale area (2071-21-08)

Transcriber: Victoria Newham

Date Transcribed: 2020-10-02

Recording Format: Cassette Tape


Length of Recording: 00:14:00


(Beginning of Tape/Slide A)

(00:00:12)

Today is May the 12th, 1982. The following is an interview with Marie MacDonald, a retired high school teacher who lives with her husband George on a farm in the Brookdale area. This interview is being taped for the Westman Oral History Association Project "Tales of Yesterday" by Christy Henry of Winnipeg. Mrs. MacDonald taught almost 35 years in schools from Ochre River in the North to Kemnay in the North. Besides that, she taught in a variety of places. She is a nurse and was a teacher. When not teaching in a classroom, she was busy looking after people. She will always be remembered for her wonderful teaching ability. She will relate to us some of her experiences. You must have ready that your presence to stay with it all.

OH163\_MacDonald\_tra  
nscript.pdf

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## Janet Seward interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14458>





Part Of: Westman Oral History collection  
Description Level: Item  
Item Number: OH196.Sew  
Accession Number: 35-1998  
GMD: sound recordings  
Date Range: March 23, 1981  
Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:12:20]

History /

Biographical:

Janet Mortimer Seward (nee Anderson) was born on May 5, 1898 at Crown Hill, near Barrie, ON. She graduated with her RN from the Royal Victoria Hospital in Barrie in 1921. Coming to Brandon in 1927, she became a graduate of the first post-graduate class in psychiatric nursing at the Brandon Mental Hospital. In 1929, she became superintendent of nurses at that same institution. She stepped down from her position when she married Ernest Seward (1877-1949), a widower, in 1934, but following her husband's death, she resumed her nursing career, finally retiring in 1966. The couple had no children. An active member of St. George's Anglican Church, she also volunteered for the Red Cross. Janet Seward died on June 14, 1991 in Brandon, MB. She is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Janet Seward about health care and her experiences as a nurse. Subjects discussed include the working conditions in hospitals, medication and treatment that were done, patient care, and the doctors who worked in Brandon, including doctors Barager, Davidson, Goulden, Evans, Cromary, Peters, Bigelow, Shultz and Purdy. Postgraduates Miss Steward and Miss Cansfield are also mentioned. Interviewer is Phyllis Long.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Seward's obituary.  
Transcript by Leah Stephens (2020). Description by Christy Henry.  
Language Note: English

## Audio Tracks

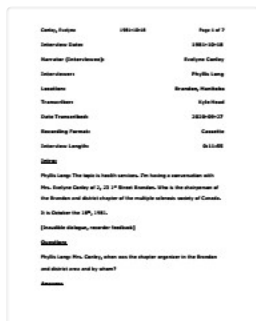
## Documents



OH196\_Seward\_transcript.pdf

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## Evelyne Conley interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14459>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH204.Con

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: October 18, 1981

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:11:55]

History /

Biographical:

Mary Evelyn Conley (nee Dixon) was born on November 30, 1919 in Carievale, SK. She lived in Carievale until 1940, at which point she moved to Brandon, MB. In Brandon she received her nurses training, graduating as an RN in 1943, and then working at Brandon General Hospital (BGH). In 1945, she moved to Toronto where she continued working as a nurse and also married Murray Ross Conley (1919-1998) on April 21, 1945. The couple had three children: Judith, Sharon and Bradley. After a year in Toronto, Evelyn returned to Brandon to raise her family and work as a private nurse at BGH. She retired from Fairview Personal Care Home in 1971, to care for her son, who developed multiple sclerosis (MS) in his 20s. This experience precipitated Evelyn's involvement with the MS Society. Evelyn Conley died on September 3, 2013 in Brandon, MB. She is buried at Rosewood Memorial Gardens.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Evelyn Conley about health services, specifically the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada. The interview includes a brief history of the MS Society, the trials and tribulations of funding, and Evelyn's personal ties to the organization. In particular she discusses the Prairie Division and the Brandon chapter.

Interviewer is Phyllis Long.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Conley's obituary. Transcript by Kyle Head (2020). Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

## Audio Tracks

## Documents

Conley, Phyllis  
Interview Date: 1981-09-18  
Narrator (Interviewee): Phyllis Conley  
Interviewer: Phyllis Long  
Location: Brandon, Manitoba  
Transcript: Phyllis Long  
Date Transcribed: 2020-09-27  
Recording Format: Cassette  
Interview Length: 0:11:05

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Phyllis Long: The tape is health services. It's having a conversation with Mrs. Phyllis Conley of 1,111 1/2 Street Brandon. It's the interview of the Brandon and district chapter of the multiple sclerosis society of Canada. It is October the 18th, 1981.

[Unintelligible dialogue, recorder feedback]

**Questions:**

Phyllis Long: Mrs. Conley, when was the chapter organized in the Brandon and district area and by whom?

**Answers:**

OH204\_Conley\_transcript.pdf

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Lazenby, Herb  
Interview Date: 1981-09-18  
Narrator (Interviewee): Herb Lazenby  
Interviewer: Shyanne Bear  
Location: Brandon, Manitoba  
Transcript: Shyanne Bear  
Date Transcribed: 2020-09-28  
Recording Format: Tape Recording  
Length of Recording: 00:11:35

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**Westman Oral History collection**

**Notes:** This interview was made as a recording, and the interviewee and interviewer are the same person. Therefore, limited amount of questions.

**Interviewer:**

[00:00:00] [Unintelligible] Location of the early western landrills, landrills.

[00:00:00] Herb Lazenby came and from England in 1885 from Lincolnshire. And on the way on about 10-12 years old when he came into.

[00:00:00] [Unintelligible name]

Herb Lazenby interview

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14460

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH207.Laz

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: May 21, 1981

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:11:35]

History /

Biographical:

Herbert "Herb" Lazenby was born in 1885 in Lincolnshire, England. He immigrated to Canada in 1903, making his way to Reston, MB. He was a farmer who married Elsie Mae Wilson (1890-1971). Together they had three children: George, Alvin and a daughter who died at birth. Herb Lazenby died in 1949 and is buried in the Reston Cemetery. The narrator, Irene Luella Smeltz Lazenby (1915-1998), was the wife of Herb and Elsie's son George. They married in 1942.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing information about the life of Herb Lazenby and farming in the 1880s, narrated by his daughter-in-law Irene Lazenby.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Conley's obituary. Transcript by Shyanne Bear (2020). Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Audio Tracks

## Documents

OH207\_Lazenby\_transcript.pdf

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## Jack and Jessie Blatchford interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14461>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection  
Description Level: Item  
Item Number: OH266.Bla  
Accession Number: 35-1998  
GMD: sound recordings  
Date Range: April 5, 1983  
Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:13:25]

Edward John "Jack" Blatchford was born on the family farm near Bradwardine, MB on July 1, 1904. He remained at home to help with farm duties after attending Bradwardine School. In 1930, he rented a farm, but also worked odd jobs plowing the town gardens, hauling freight and coal, taking care of the rink and butchering for the mink ranch in Hamiota and the beef ring. Jack married Jessie Bowyer Mawer on August 6, 1931 in Winnipeg.

Jessie was born on July 14, 1910 in the Tarbolton district of the RM of Daly and attended schools in Spring Valley, Tarbolton and Bradwardine. Her nursing training at the Brandon Mental Hospital was not completed when she married in 1931. After the marriage, the couple farmed north of Bradwardine before moving into the village in 1944, when Jack changed his occupation; he started a trucking business hauling grain for farmers and also working for Good Roads. Jack was also employed with Canadian Comstock at Rivers, Brandon and Carberry-Portage before being hired in the C.E. Section of the Department of National Defence at Rivers CFB. He held this position from 1959 until his retirement.

Jack was an avid sportsman, playing hockey, football, broomball, curling, baseball, softball, as well as speed skating. He also enjoyed hunting. In Bradwardine, Jessie provided care for the sick, as well as maternity care, but also worked in the local grocery and hardware store, and was Postmistress from 1969-1972. Jessie was active in her community as a member of the United Church, Forester's Lodge, Hospital Guild, and 50 Plus Club. The couple moved to Hamiota in 1984, and then Rivers the following year. Jack and Jessie Blatchford had no children. Jack Blatchford died on November 7, 1992. Jessie Blatchford died on May 16, 2008. They are both buried in Saint Matthew Anglican Cemetery in Bradwardine, MB.

#### Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

#### Scope and Content:

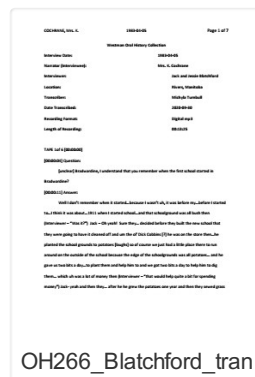
Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Jack and Jessie Blatchford about early schooling and home nursing in the 1930s. The interviewer is Mrs. K. Cochrane.

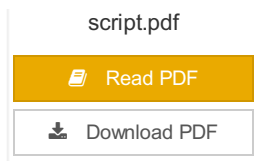
Notes: History/bio information from the records, the Bradwardine local history and Jessie Blatchford's obituary. Transcript by Michyla Turnbull (2020). Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

## Audio Tracks

## Documents





## Albert Leronowich interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14462>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH178.Ler

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: June 9, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:02:12]

### History /

#### Biographical:

Albert Leronowich was born on March 18, 1894 in Poland. He immigrated to Canada in 1912 and spent time in Calgary, AB and Oak Lake, MB before settling in Brandon, MB. Albert spent some time farming, before holding a number of positions with the Canadian Pacific Railway, including rail section man, fireman, and brakeman; he retired as a CPR boilermaker in 1959. Following retirement, Albert spent a few years as gardener of the Brandon City Hall grounds. He was a member of the Brandon Horticultural Society and was avidly interested in growing flowers, winning many trophies and prizes for his efforts. Albert married Stella Polnick (1903-1975) and together they had six children: Mark, Charles, Edward, Donald, Anne and Gladys. Albert Leronowich died on March 20, 1988 in Brandon, MB. He is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

#### Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

#### Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Albert Leronowich about his life, gardening and horticulture. The interviewer is Hazel Rose.

Notes: History/bio information taken from the records and Leronowich's obituary.  
Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

## Audio Tracks

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## Alvie Spafford interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14463>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH064.Spa

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: December 3, 1981

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:52:40]

History /

Biographical:

Alva Redell "Alvie" Spafford was born on March 15, 1891 at Enterprise, MB. He attended school at Victoria Lake and Henderson schools. Alvie left Enterprise in 1902, and moved to Bannerman, MB, where he farmed until 1936. He later moved to Boissevain, where he worked as a Rawleigh salesman, and then in 1942, he moved to Brandon and was employed as a conductor for the Canadian National Railway (CNR) until his retirement. Alvie married Frances Ethel Harrison (1895-1979) and they had three children: Carl, Edna and Raymond. Alvie Spafford died on August 25, 1985 in Brandon, MB. He is buried at Killarney and District Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Alvie Spafford about his life, and early days in Manitoba. The interviewer is Effie McPhail.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Spafford's obituary.  
Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

Related Material: Fred McGuinness collection (1-2015)

### Audio Tracks

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## Arlie Hogg interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14464>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH018.Hog

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: September 15, 1981

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:31:09]

History /

Biographical:

Arlie Emma Hogg (nee Harrison) was born August 25, 1895 on section 36-9-24, near Oak Lake, MB. She was educated at, and lived all but the last six months of her life in, Oak Lake. She married Russell Ivan Hogg (1895-1961), a longtime editor of the Oak Lake newspaper, on January 7, 1919. Together they had three daughters: Eileen, Lila and Rubie. A homemaker, Arlie was also actively involved with her husband in publishing the paper. She was also a painter, who received awards and recognition for her works, which included landscapes, flowers, plant and animal life. She was a lifetime member of St. Alban's Anglican Church, active in the ACW and a charter member of the Eastern Star. Arlie Hogg died on May 2, 1986 in Virden, MB. She is buried at Oak Lake Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Arlie Hogg about her life, including her painting, and pioneer days and activities. The interviewer is Wilma Hatch.

Notes: History/bio information from the records, Hogg's obituary. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

Related Material: Fred McGuinness collection (1-2015)

### Audio Tracks





## Catherine Dennis and Evelyn MacKenzie interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14465>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH066.Den

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: April 26, 1983

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:02:57]

History /

Biographical:

Catherine Elizabeth "Kay" Dennis was born on November 26, 1916 at Brandon, MB. She attended school in Brandon and received her Psychiatric Nursing degree at the Brandon Mental Health Centre (BMHC) in 1938. Kay worked at the BMHC for 42 years. Her hobbies included natural history, bird-watching and summers at Clear Lake. She never married. Catherine Dennis died on December 16, 2003 in Brandon, MB. She is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Evelyn MacKenzie was born on September 29, 1905 at Craggie Inn, Daviot, County of Inverness, Scotland. She came to Canada with her parents in 1909, first to Winnipeg and then to Balmoral in 1911. Evelyn came to Brandon in 1924 or 1925 to take her nurses training at the Brandon Mental Hospital, graduating with a diploma in Psychiatric Nursing in 1927. From 1927-1942, she worked on BMHC wards, before being promoted to Acting Superintendent of Nurses. Evelyn enlisted in the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service (WRENS) during the Second World War, and was stationed at Halifax. Following the war, she returned to the BMHC where she was Assistant Superintendent of Nurses until her retirement in 1970. Evelyn enjoyed golfing, curling and bowling, was a member of the Brandon Golf and Country Club, an honorary charter member of the Brandon Quota Club, a member of Ex-WRENS Association (Chippawa Division) and a member of First Presbyterian Church. Evelyn never married. Evelyn MacKenzie died on April 19, 1993 in Brandon, MB. She is buried at Stonewall Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Catherine Dennis and Evelyn MacKenzie about the Brandon Hospital for Mental Diseases, and their experiences as students and nurses there. The interviewer is A. Lloyd Henderson.

Notes: History/bio information from the records, Dennis' obituary and MacKenzie's obituary. Description by Christy Henry.

Access Restriction: Consult University Archivist for access

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

### Audio Tracks

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## Daisy Patmore interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14466>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH029.Pat

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: March 12, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:01:52]

History /

Biographical:

Mary Anne Alice "Daisy" Patmore was born on March 30, 1903 in Brandon, MB. She was the eldest of five children born to Henry Lewis Patmore and Alice Maud Mary Ball. Patmore purchased a tree nursery in Brandon in 1888, and was a leading exponent of shelterbelts and tree planting, as well as a leading figure in beautifying the city of Brandon. Daisy attended Brandon Collegiate Institute (BCI) and the Brandon Normal School. She taught for one year and then joined the family business, Patmore Nurservew Ltd. and Patmore's Florists; Daisy owned and operated the floral part of the business and was a floral designer from 1934 until she retired in 1973. During these years, she was very active in the International School of Floral Design; she also spoke and gave demonstrations about floral arrangements for many clubs and associations. Daisy was a member of the Quota Club, the Natual History Society of Brandon and the Brandon Horitcultural Association, as well as a member of St. George's Anglican Church and the Anglican Church Women's Group. For many years she was the alternate organist for the Church and played at services at the Brandon Mental Health Centre and Fairview Personal Care Home. Daisy never married. Daisy Patmore died on August 21, 1999 in Brandon, MB. She is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Daisy Patmore about the H.L. Patmore Nursery business in Brandon, MB, as well as the florist shop and her operation of same. The interviewer is Isabelle Heeney.

Notes: History/bio information from the records, Patmore's obituary and the Manitoba Historical Society website. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

### Audio Tracks

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## David Brown interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14467>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection  
Description Level: Item  
Item Number: OH068.Bro  
Accession Number: 35-1998  
GMD: sound recordings  
Date Range: February 9, 1982  
Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:56:45]

History /

Biographical:

David Andrew Brown was born on October 30, 1894 near Dumfries, Scotland. His family arrived in Canada in 1908 and settled on a farm east of Deloraine, MB in the Hazeldean district. David attended Manitoba Agriculture College, graduating in 1920. Following graduation he was appointed assistant to the professor of horticulture and was given responsibility for directing all the experimental work with vegetables, fruits and flowers, as well as upkeep of the College campus. He briefly accepted a teaching position in botany in the Teulon, Gunton and Balmoral high schools, before becoming the assistant superintendent of the Federal Government Station in Morden, MB in 1922. David married Edith Merle McKenzie (1900-1995) on July 22, 1922 and together they had three children: Ian, Dorothy and Shirley.

In 1928, David moved from the Morden Experimental Farm to take the position of supervisor of illustration stations at the Brandon Experimental Farm. In this role he travelled the province planting experimental cereal crops and working to reclaim soil lost to erosion during the draught of the 1930s. In 1947, he became the assistant superintendent, a position he held until his retirement in 1959. Following his retirement, David was instrumental in establishing the Agricultural Hall of Fame. He was very active in this organization until he was involved in an accident in March 1988. David was a life member of the Agricultural Institute of Canada and served terms as the president of the Manitoba Institute of Agrologists and the Manitoba Horticultural Society. He was also a well-known landscape planner for many Brandon residents and rural homesteads, a judge at local summer horticultural fairs and a member of Knox United Church, where he served as a choir member, an elder on the church board and as clerk of session. In 1977, the University of Manitoba conferred the honorary degree of L.L.D. upon him to acknowledge his outstanding contribution to agriculture in Manitoba. David Brown died on July 4, 1990 in Brandon, MB. He is buried at Rosewood Memorial Gardens.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with David A. Brown, about his life and career, as well as the early history of Manitoba agriculture. The interviewer is Frank Anderson.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Brown's obituary.  
Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

## Audio Tracks

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## E.H. Birkinshaw interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14468>

Other Title Info: E.A. Birkinshaw  
Part Of: Westman Oral History collection  
Description Level: Item  
Item Number: OH132.Bir  
Accession Number: 35-1998  
GMD: sound recordings  
Date Range: April 1982  
Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:02:12]  
History /  
Biographical:

Ernest Arthur "Birk" Birkinshaw was born on November 24, 1908 in Rapid City, MB. He attended United College in Winnipeg, completing a degree in mathematics, before joining the faculty at Brandon College, later Brandon University, in 1931. A member of the Department of Mathematics his entire career, Birkinshaw took postgraduate studies at the Institute of Technology, Pasadena and the University of Toronto. He retired from Brandon University in 1975, and was granted the title of Professor Emeritus. Birkinshaw married Kathleen Egilsson (1916-1966) and they had one daughter, Sigrid. Ernest Birkinshaw died suddenly in North Delta, BC on November 24, 1986 and is buried at Victory Memorial Park in Surrey, BC.

### Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

### Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with E.H. Birkinshaw about his career, experiences and memories at Brandon College. The interviewer is Bill Burgess.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Birkinshaw's obituary. Although Birkinshaw's given names were Ernest Arthur, the Voices of Yesteryear project labelled all of the documentation for this interview as E.H. Birkinshaw. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English  
Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)  
Related Material: Brandon College fonds

## Audio Tracks

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## Edith Vallender interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14469>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH084.Val

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: June 18, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:50:53]

History /

Biographical:

Edith Mary Vallender (nee Stoodley) was born on November 27, 1891 in Swansea, South Wales. She arrived in Canada on July 14, 1919, and settled in the Oak Lake, MB area where she lived until her death. Edith was a housewife, who married William George Vallender (1882-1957) on September 12, 1918 at Horsley, Gloucestershire, England. Vallender had immigrated to Canada in 1913 and worked on a farm north of Oak Lake before enlisting in the 107th Battalion. The couple were married while he was on leave. They had no children. In Oak Lake, Edith was a life member of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Royal Canadian Legion #79 and a charter member of the same. She was also a life member of the United Church Women's group and a dedicated worker for the Red Cross in World War II. For years, Edith was a prize winner at the Oak Lake Fair in baking, fancywork and other classes. Edith Vallender died on May 10, 1989 in Virden, MB. She is buried at Oak Lake Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Edith Vallender about her life experiences, including Red Cross work, life in Oak Lake, the Spanish flu, Oak Lake exhibitions and impressions of Canada. The interviewer is Phillis Cairns.

Notes: History/bio information from the records, the RM of Sifton local history "Ox Trails to Blacktop," and Vallender's obituary. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

### Audio Tracks



## Edythe May Wood interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14470>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH046.Woo

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: March 9, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:26:41]

History /

Biographical:

Edythe May Wood was born on May 24, 1904 in Scarborough, Yorkshire, England and came to Canada with her family in 1911, settling in Medora, MB. Edythe attended Brandon Normal School and then taught for a number of years, primarily in Brandon. During the Second World War she took over as Principal of Fleming School. In 1949, Edythe left teaching for real estate. In the summer she worked for McMorran Agencies in Clear Lake, later buying the agency when McMorran retired. She also managed Rainbow Cabins and the Elkhorn Ranch for R.O. Gregorson. During the winter, starting in 1960, Edythe was the administrator of the Brandon Allied Arts Center. She was forced to retire from the position in 1970 due to vision impairment. Edythe was a member of the Business Professional Group and the Council of Women. She was also instrumental in bringing a CNIB presence to Brandon. Edythe never married. Edythe May Wood died on March 9, 1998 in Erickson, MB. She is buried at Rosewood Memorial Gardens.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Edythe May Wood about her life experiences in the Westman region. Subjects include her schooling, teaching and business careers, her public service activities and coping with visual impairment. The interviewer is Marjorie Fitton.

Notes: History/bio information from the records, Woods' obituary and the Manitoba Historical Society website. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

### Audio Tracks



## Effie McPhail interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14471>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH241.MacP

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: February 20, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:00:20]

History /

Biographical:

Effie Irene McPhail (nee Weir) was born on October 31, 1900 in Rossland, BC. In 1903, her family moved to Manitoba and Effie spent the rest of her life in Brandon and the surrounding area. Growing up in the Hunter district northwest of Brandon, she attended school there and then in Brandon. A graduate of the Brandon Normal School, Effie began teaching at the age of 16, and taught at Roseland School and in Rapid City and Rivers. Effie married Alex McPhail (1897-1989) on March 29, 1923. The couple farmed in the Forrest district and raised four children: Ronald, Malcom, Archie and Donna. The McPhails were both very active in many community, church, sports, agricultural and political organizations. Effie was involved in the Brandon Council of Women, the United Church Women, the Liberal Party, and the Assiniboine Historical Society. She was also one of the founding members of the Daly House Museum. Effie was the Chair of the Westman Oral History Association's "Voices of Yesteryear" project, which produced a collection of audio recordings of Westman-area residents. She herself interviewed a number of individuals and was interviewed twice, once on her family history and life experiences and the other on early church development in Brandon. Effie McPhail died on July 7, 1999 in Brandon, MB. She is buried at Humesville Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Effie MacPhail about her family history and community activities, as well as pioneer days. The interviewer is Edith Poole.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and McPhail's obituary.  
Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

Related Material: OH232.MacP Effie McPhail  
OH206.MacP Alex McPhail

### Audio Tracks

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