

S. J. McKee Archives



Ruby Miles collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4844>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection
Description Level: Collection
Accession Number: 14-2003
GMD: multiple media
Date Range: 1910-2003; predominant 1920-1945
Physical Description: 60 photographs (b/w) and 18 negatives; 3 cm textual records
History /
Biographical:

Rubina Isabella Miles (née McGregor) was born October 9th, 1909, in Maple Creek, Saskatchewan, the only child of Kate (née Rowe) and William McGregor. Her father, William Thom McGregor was a native of Scotland who, before coming to Canada, travelled to Australia and New Zealand, and served in the Boer War. Ruby Miles and her parents migrated to Australia in 1921. In 1925, the family moved to Papua New Guinea where Mr. McGregor was employed as Head Stockman on the Giligili Estate, part of the Commonwealth Copra Company. The family returned to Canada in 1929. In 1940, Ruby married Leonard "Len" Miles, a native of Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. Following the Second World War, they settled in Brandon, Manitoba. Ruby spent her adult life as a homemaker. She died in April 2003.

Custodial History:

The records came into Ruby Miles' possession through her husband (correspondence while he was overseas) and through the death of various family members. Following the death of Ruby Miles, the collection was donated to the S.J. McKee Archives by Errol Black, the executor of her estate.

Scope and Content:

Collection includes c. 15 letters from Kate McGregor, to her parents Mr. and Mrs. A.A. Rowe of Brandon, Manitoba. The letters were written in the years 1925-1929, when Mrs. McGregor and her family were living in Papua New Guinea. Collection also includes photographs and photographic negatives containing images of the Giligili Estate in New Guinea. Collection contains correspondence with Len Miles during his service overseas in the Second World War, as well as Len Miles' service record, death certificate and various memorabilia from his time in military service. Finally, the collection includes various news clippings, documents and correspondence received or retained by Ruby Miles.

Notes: CAIN No. 202595. Description by Mike White.

Name Access: Kate McGregor
 Ruby Miles
 Len Miles
 A.A.Rowe
 Papua New Guinea
 Brandon
 Manitoba
 Giligili Estate
 Commonwealth Copra Company Ltd

Subject Access: emigration
 Second World War
 plantation agriculture
 Boer war

Storage Location: 2003 accessions
 Storage Range: 2003 accessions



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
Robinville School District
Oakleigh school
Lothian School District
Rivers School District

Storage Location: 2007 accessions

Storage Range: 2007 accessions