

S. J. McKee Archives



Harry Brindle interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14605>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH143.Bri

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: December 15, 1981

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

History /

Biographical:

Harry Edwin Brindle was born on June 13, 1913 in Souris, MB. Educated in Souris, Harry worked for Safeway from 1933-1939. He married Isabel Mary Barlow (1915-2009) on May 2, 1938. The couple had two children: Geraldine and Larry. Shortly after the wedding, the family moved to Estevan, Regina and then to Fort William, where Harry worked for Canada Car Foundry. The family then briefly moved to Montreal and then to Winnipeg. In Winnipeg, Harry joined the army and served with the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. While in the Service, Harry attended radio school in Winnipeg, then used his Service gratuity to continue his education. Following the Second World War, the family moved back to Souris, and Harry opened an appliance store for Box's Hardware called The Electric Shop. A fire in 1951, forced a move to Box's Hardware and then in 1957, Harry opened his own radio and TV repair shop. Harry sold Brindle's Radio and TV in 1976 and retired. Passionate about music, Harry spent his free time playing in dance bands, the city band and a German band, as well as on many occasions in the community. He also served on the committees that built the Legion Club and the swimming pool. Harry Brindle died on January 5, 2012 in Souris, MB. He is buried at Souris Glenwood Cemetery.

Carter Hawkins Brindle was born in Blackburn, England on November 23, 1867. He came to Canada with his family in 1884, and they homesteaded near Virden, MB before moving to Souris, MB in 1887. Until 1892, Carter was employed as a stage coach driver on the Plum Creek* Trail between Souris and Brandon. By 1900, he was working as a sign painter, carpenter, architect and builder in Souris. Carter designed many of the brick commercial buildings along Crescent Avenue. A member of the Manitoba Association of Architects after 1910, Carter continued to practice until the late 1930s. Carter married Ida Lora Lawson (1879-1959) on June 30, 1903. Together they had five children: Susie Marion Gwendoline, Hattie Martha, Harry Edwin, Edith and Ida. Carter Brindle died on July 23, 1957 in Souris, MB. He is buried at Souris Glenwood Cemetery.

*Plum Creek is the old name for what is now Souris, MB. The Plum Creek stage travelled between Brandon and Plum Creek daily from approximately 1886-1892.

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 Harry Brindle. The first part of the recording is a narration Harry reads from his father Carter Brindle's diary about his experiences arriving in Canada and buildings he designed in Souris, MB. The second part of the recording discusses Harry Brindle's life, particularly his experiences in radio and TV.

Interviewer is John Forsyth.

Notes: History/bio information from the records, the local history "The People of Souris and Glenwood," the Find A Grave website, Harry Brindle's obituary, a Brandon Sun article about the Plum Creek Trail (July 11, 2005) and the Manitoba Historical Society entry for Carter Brindle. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Audio Tracks



George Thorman collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4725>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds
Description Level: Sub-series
Series Number: MG 2 2.15
Accession Number: 11-1999
GMD: textual records
Date Range: 1801-1940, 1994;predominant 1880-1940
Physical Description: 11 m (823 items); 1 diploma; 1 certificate

History /

Biographical:

George E. Thorman was born in Vancouver, British Columbia on September 17, 1913. His public school education began in Rivers, Manitoba and was completed, along with his high school and part of his university education in Brandon, Manitoba. After completing his Bachelor of Arts General at Brandon College, Thorman attended the College of Education in Toronto for one year before beginning his teaching career at Essex High School, Essex, Ontario in 1935. After four years in Essex, Thorman transferred to the St. Thomas Collegiate Institute (STCI) in St. Thomas, Ontario.

In 1941, Thorman joined the Canadian Army at Brandon as a gunner in the 59th Field Battery and after five years, having served in England, Italy and Western Europe, he retired with the rank of Captain. Following the Second World War, in 1945, Thorman taught in a high school for Fifth Division in Gronigen, Netherlands before moving on to teach first year university English at Kahki College in England in 1946. That same year he returned to Canada and rejoined the staff at STCI. Two years after his return George Thorman married the former Margaret Gliddon of St. Thomas and in 1953 returned to Europe where he taught in Scotland for one year on a teacher's exchange.

During the 1960's, Thorman's career reached its peak. In 1964, he became the Vice-Principal of STCI and in 1967, he attained the same position at Parkside Collegiate Institute before becoming its Principal in 1969. Three years later in 1972, Thorman retired as Principal of PCI and from his teaching career. Throughout his career Thorman's primary interests were in English and History, however he also taught Mathematics, Geography and Science. In addition to his classes following WWII, Thorman was an active instructor of the Cadet Corps, as well as a coach for various volleyball, basketball and track and field teams during his years at STCI.

Aside from being an educator, George Thorman had many other interests. He and his wife Margaret were active in the formation of the Elgin Theatre Guild in 1948 and together and separately they performed and directed several productions in the early years of that organization. Thorman was also largely responsible for the development of a local history course in the Elgin Secondary Schools in the early 1960's. In 1966, with his fellow history teacher Ralph Parker, he published a booklet to serve as an outline for teachers on the history of Elgin County.

That same year, 1966, Thorman, as the prime instigator in the re-formation of the Elgin Historical Society, became its first president and in 1971, he was elected Honorary President of the Society for life. This was followed by a further two-year term as elected president. The re-organization marked the beginning of Thorman's continuous active involvement with the EHS, including several lectures he presented to its members and many years as a Trustee. In 1985, he received the Ontario Volunteer Service Award for over 15 years of continuous service to the Society before retiring from the EHS in 1995.

In addition to the EHS, Thorman served on the St. Thomas Public Library Board from 1979 until 1991, and was a Chairman of the Board's Personnel Committee. He was also a member of the Ontario Historical Society. From 1975 to 1978, Thorman served as an elected member of the Elgin County Board of Education and in 1979, he received from the City of St. Thomas the St. Thomas Civic Award for outstanding citizens. George Thorman was also a life member (1936) of Central Lodge No. 402, A.F. and A.M. (Masonry) of Essex, Ontario and had been an active member of the St. Thomas Duplicate Bridge Club since 1985.

As an authority on historical research relating to The Hudson's Bay Company, Thorman gave lectures and printed articles on the topic in "The Beaver" publication of The Hudson's Bay Company. In regards to the HBC he also did excavation work at Fort Albany with Walter Kenyon during several summers in the 1960's and 1970's.

As well, George Thorman was a founding member and served on the executive committee of the Elgin Military Museum since its inception in 1982 until the late 1990's. He contributed greatly to the library and files of this museum, particularly in the field of the War of 1812 and the Fenian Raid. The reference library of this small museum rates high in this country, largely through the efforts of George Thorman. Thorman's book collection was one of the finest and most extensive in Western Ontario. His personal library contained a wealth of information with particular emphasis on material relating to Elgin County, the City of St. Thomas and The Hudson's Bay company. His G.A. Henty collection was nearly complete.

As an author Thorman contributed ten entries in The Dictionary of Canadian Biography on Aboriginal and Metis peoples, co-authored "St. Thomas 100 Years a City," the centennial history of the city of St. Thomas. In 1989, he edited "Frank Hunt, Essays on Elgin County" as well as wrote and privately printed "A Brief History of Secondary Education in St. Thomas" as his contribution to the STCI Reunion, at which he was one of the honorees. In the early 1990's, Thorman co-edited "Garret Oakes, Tales of a Pioneer," authored and privately printed "Letters and Petitions and other Papers Concerning the Militia Companies of Middlesex for 1839" and "The Chisholm Family in Elgin County: Myth and Reality."

For several years, ca. 1975 to the mid 1990's, Thorman hosted a TV talk show on local

television interviewing persons connected to the history of St. Thomas and Elgin County. Many older residents, who have since passed away, were interviewed and the resulting tapes are an invaluable source of historical information.

Thorman and his wife lived in the historic section of St. Thomas and in the summer months spent their time in Port Stanley. In addition, for several years in the early 1990's, Thorman traveled annually to England - each time visiting a different area of the country. As well, Thorman was also interested in the lives and activities of his former students and was available and eager to assist any student or former student who asked for his guidance. George E. Thorman passed away on January 11, 1997.

Custodial History:

The Order of the Sheaf and Thorman's Bachelor of Arts degree were transferred to the McKee Archives by Rudi Denham, Chief Librarian, St. Thomas Public Library in August 2007. George Thorman had placed his papers with the St. Thomas Public Library at some point prior to his death; the Library had decided to deaccession the records and offered them to interested institutions.

Scope and Content:

The collection consists of textbooks covering the subject areas of: Agriculture, Art, Business education, Economics, Composition, Grammar, Rhetoric, Literature, Plays, Poetry, Prose, Readers, Spelling, Phonics, Stories, Geography, Health, History, French, German, Greek, Italian, Latin, Algebra, Arithmetic, Geometry, Trigonometry, General mathematics, Music, Philosophy, Logic, Psychology, Religion, Research, Methods, Manuals, Astronomy, Botany Chemistry, Physics, General science, Zoology, Cooking and Gardening. It also includes two notebooks.

The works found in the collection were published primarily between 1880-1940, although they range from 1801-1967, with an emphasis on history, all areas of mathematics, research and topics related to english or language arts. There are a number of works published in the nineteenth century dealing with most of the collection's subject areas. The majority of the collection focuses on public and high school textbooks, particularly in relation to the province of Ontario, with some attention to university education.

Also included is George Thorman's Order of the Sheaf, Clark Hall Guild certificate awarded to him in recognition of his outstanding contribution toward the betterment of Brandon University and Thorman's Bachelor of Arts degree from Brandon College (McMaster University).

Notes:	An inventory of the collection has been created. Also, the items have been added to the Brandon University Library catalogue. Description and inventory by Christy Henry (1999).
Language Note:	Thorman's Bachelor of Arts degree is in Latin.
Storage Location:	MG 2 Brandon College Students 2.15 George Thorman

Betty Gibson interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14442>

Part Of:	Westman Oral History collection
Description Level:	Item
Item Number:	OH058.Gib
Accession Number:	35-1998
GMD:	sound recordings



Date Range: October 21, 1981

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:39:31]

History /

Biographical:

Betty Margaret Gibson was born on July 14, 1911 in Brandon, MB. She attended primary school in Alexandra and Park schools, and took her teachers education at the Brandon Normal School. She began her teaching career in 1929. Teaching first in Deloraine and Chater, in 1936, Gibson travelled to South Africa to be the headmistress at Kingsmead College, Johannesburg. She returned to Brandon ten years later to take up the post of Principal at Fleming School. During this time she completed a BA from Brandon College (1959). Attaining her Master's degree in Early Childhood Education, she taught at the University of Saskatoon and Brandon College/University. At Brandon University she was heavily involved with Indigenous teacher programs, including BUNTEP, PENT and IMPACT. She was briefly the Assistant Superintendent for the Brandon School Division (1967-1968). Gibson was active in the Children's Aid Society, co-created and appeared in a television show called "Common Sense About Reading" (CBC), and was the author of a children's book called "The Story of Little Quack." Gibson received the Centennial Medal in 1967, and the J.M. Brown Award (1974), for contribution to education in Manitoba. She was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Liberal Laws from BU in 1975, and even in retirement continued to teach education courses at BU and help children with reading disabilities. In 2003, she was inducted into Brandon University's Hall of Fame. Betty Gibson School in the Brandon School Division is named in her honor. Gibson never married. Betty Gibson died on February 23, 2001 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 Betty Gibson about her teaching career. Interviewer is JE Bateman.

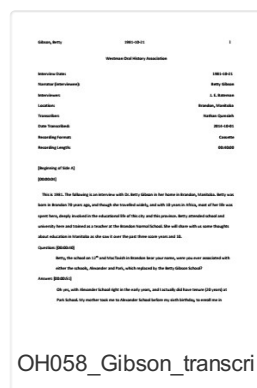
Notes: History/Bio information taken from the Manitoba Historical Society, The Brandon Sun and the records. Transcript by Nathan Qumsieh (2014).
Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy created 2021 (R. Hess)

Audio Tracks

Documents



OH058_Gibson_transcri

pt.pdf

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Bill Turner interview tape log

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14608>

Part Of: Music and the Brandon community collection

Creator: Richard Bee

Description Level: Item

Item Number: 8-2015.5b

Accession Number: 8-2015

GMD: electronic records

Date Range: Summer 2015

Physical Description: 5 pages

Material Details: PDF

History /

Biographical:

A tape log was created by Richard Bee for each of the interviews he conducted as part of the Music and the Brandon community project.

Custodial History:

Item was in Richard Bee's possession until he donated it to the McKee Archives in 2015.


Scope and Content:


Item is the tape log Richard Bee created for his interview with Bill Turner. The log provides a time breakdown for the interview, along with more details about the subjects discussed.

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Documents

8-2015.5b_Bill Turner
log2.pdf

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The MacNeill teaching controversy

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions12736>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds
Description Level: File
Series Number: 6.1
File Number: 2
Other Numbers: RG 81-30, Series 1, Subseries 4B, 1921-1925, Box 2, File 2
GMD: textual records
Date Range: 1921-1922
Physical Description: 1 file
History /
Biographical:

Dr. MacNeill was the central figure in the scandal involving Brandon College in the early 1920's. The Fundamentalist Baptists accused Brandon College, and Dr. MacNeill especially, of teaching Modernist views. He was absolved of any charges at the 1924 Baptist Convention in Chicago.

For history/bio information for H.L. MacNeill, see RG 1 Brandon College fonds, BC 6: Office of the college dean.

Scope and Content:

File consists of correspondence to Howard Whidden, President of Brandon College, and various regarding Dr. MacNeill and his teachings (October 1921 - January 1922). It also contains a copy of "An Abstract of the Report of the Brandon College Commission" prepared by Rev. H.H. Bingham regarding Dr. MacNeill and his teachings.

Name Access: H.L. MacNeill
Subject Access: fundamentalist/modernist debate
religious education
Storage Location: RG 1 Brandon College fonds
Series 6: Office of the College Dean
6.1 MacNeill
Box 1

Documents



MacNeill Box 1 File
2.pdf

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