

S. J. McKee Archives



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



Audrey Silvius collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4841>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection
Accession Number: 21-2000
GMD: multiple media
Date Range: 1959-1988; predominant 1963-1974
Physical Description: 19 cm textual records; 4 photographs; 1 drawing

History /

Biographical:

Born on February 10, 1924, in Elgin, Manitoba, Audrey Ellen Silvius (nee Honeyman) was raised in Fairfax, Manitoba on the Honeyman homestead. In 1964, she received her Indian name, Blue Star. Silvius completed her high school education in Fairfax before moving to Winnipeg in 1943, to earn her Nursing degree from Grace Hospital. She later completed her post-graduate degree in Psychiatric Nursing at the Brandon Mental Health Centre. Married to Merritt W. Silvius, Audrey Silvius raised four children, David, Kay, Lorna (Downie) and Gail (Campos) while working in her chosen field. In addition to her family and her career, she was also involved with the Brandon Council of Women and the United Church in Brandon. Silvius was the first executive director of the Brandon Indian-Metis Friendship Centre, a founding member of the local branches of the Marquis Project and Amnesty International and initiated a project called Tools for Peace. She was also involved in various other peace and human rights organizations. In 1987, she received the Order of the Buffalo Hunt from the Province of Manitoba in recognition of her work relating to women's issues. In 1992, she was awarded a Confederation medal for community service.

Custodial History:

The records found within the collection were collected by Audrey Silvius from a number of people, including Jean Halliday, Grace Godmaire and Norma Walmsley, involved in various projects with her throughout the years. Prior to their donation to the McKee Archives at Brandon University in October and November 2000, the records were stored at Mrs. Silvius' home.

Scope and Content:

Collection consists of meeting minutes, agendas, speeches, correspondence, newsletters, brochures, written publications and newspaper clippings. Four photographs and one pencil drawing are also included within the collection.

The records deal with the creation, activities, and history of the Brandon Indian-Metis Friendship Centre, as well as the activities of its Board of Directors. In addition, materials located within the collection can be divided into two areas: (1) those that relate to various organizations associated with the Friendship Centre itself, such as the Council of Christians and Jews and the Brandon Council of Women; (2) materials related to projects of important individuals involved with the Friendship Centre, such as the South Western Manitoba Recreation Council and the 4F Club of Minnedosa. Other records deal with general aboriginal issues in Canada during the time frame of the Audrey Silvius collection.

Notes: CAIN No. 202607. Description by Christy Henry (2000).

Subject Access: Council of Christians and Jews
Brandon Council of Women
4F Club
Brandon Indian-Metis Friendship Centre
cross cultural relations
Aboriginal issues
community development

Storage Location: 2000 accessions

Storage Range: 2000 accessions

Arrangement:

The collection is divided into ten (10) series:

1. The Brandon Indian-Metis Friendship Centre
2. The Scout – Friendship Centre newsletter
3. The Brandon Council of Women
4. Council of Christians and Jews
5. Aboriginal Glee Club/Dancers
6. The South Western Manitoba Recreation Council
7. 4F Club of Minnedosa
8. Miscellaneous Publications related to Aboriginal Issues
9. Miscellaneous Newspaper Clippings related to Aboriginal Issues
10. Photographs and pencil drawing



Verna Gamey collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4868>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 5-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1917-1991

Physical Description: 90 cm

History /

Biographical:

In July 1928, Verna Althea Whitfield married William Arthur Gamey (b. 1892) in Winnipeg. For the first year of their marriage they both taught at Lockport, before moving to Winnipeg in 1929. Their only child, William Roy, was born there. In 1933, the Gameys moved to the Gamey family farm located at N1/2 12-16-22, near Strathclair. Verna's nephew Robert Kerr, from Kelowna, B.C. joined the family in 1949. Art and Verna left the farm in the spring of 1956, and moved into the house formerly owned by an aunt, Miss Bella Gamey. Art Gamey was a staunch supporter of the Co-operative movement and the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF). He died in January 1968.

Custodial History:

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

Scope and Content:

Fonds contains documents relating to the Manitoba Farmer's Union, including copies of its publication "The Voice of the Farmer" (1961); the United Church of Canada, primarily Strathclair (1960-1989); the Manitoba Women's Institute and the National Institute for the Blind (1959-1976); the Manitoba Federation of Agriculture (1945-1961); the Birtle Presbyterian Church (1986-1989); the Social Credit League in Manitoba and B.C. (1947, 1953); the Manitoba Provincial Council of Women (1958-1959); the Manitoba Centennial Corporation (1966-1968); and the Shoal Lake Fair and Hamiota Exhibition (1949-1981).

Fonds also contains diaries (1923-1926); various political publications, newspaper clippings, and correspondence, primarily concerning the CCF and the New Democrats (1945-1971); the Cooperative Union of Canada (1949-1964); and the Manitoba Farm Forum (1942-1963). Included as well, are clippings from the Brandon Sun dealing with a wide variety of topics (1970-1991); publications on home/farm/highway safety (1949-1975); and the Manitoba Pool Elevators (1950-1955).

Fonds also contains correspondence to and from both Verna and Art Gamey.

Notes:	History/Bio information taken from "Our Story to 1970" published by the R.M. of Strathclair and compiled by The Centennial History Committee (pp. 255-257).
Subject Access:	W.A. Gamey CCF New Democrats Social Credit League Manitoba Farmers Union Agriculture United Church Manitoba Federation of Agriculture Manitoba Provincial Council of Women
Storage Location:	1997 accessions
Storage Range:	1997 accessions
Related Material:	RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevators; Women's Institute collections: Manitoba (8-2002), Strathclair (7-2002), Rathwell (6-2002), Minnedosa (2-2002), Cordova (4-2002), Clanwilliam (3-2002), Crocus (5-2002), Douglas (20-2006), Binscarth (12-1997), Southwest A Region (26-1997); and the Greenway Fair (35-2006).