

# S. J. McKee Archives



## Elmer Travis interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14437>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH145.Tra

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: October 27, 1981

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:29:00]

Material Details: Sony HF60

### History /

#### Biographical:

Elmer A. Travis was born February 7, 1900 in the Rolla District of North Dakota. His family farmed sixteen miles east of Rolla, North Dakota. In May 1905, his family, which included his parents and seven children, and some friends, decided to move up to Canada as there was no wood source within 25 miles of their homestead. They also desired more range for their cattle. The group settled eighteen miles north of Roblin in the San Clara District, with a single quarter section of land, eventually expanding to five quarter sections of land. Due to their location the family often did their shopping in Togo, Saskatchewan, and shipped their grain from Mycroft, Manitoba. During his youth, he met a local girl named Mary Louise Lafournaise (1900-1993)

Travis married Mary Louise Lafournaise on May 3, 1921 in the San Clara District. After their marriage they settled on their own farm in the district. Elmer served as a blacksmith for the local area while farming, working as a mechanic, selling Rawleigh's goods, and hauling cream (1939-1940). In 1957, due to Mary's poor health, they moved to British Columbia for a year, before moving back to Elphinstone, Manitoba. They then moved to Souris in 1963, where they continued to live, except for another year in Creston, British Columbia from 1967-68. Elmer Travis died in 1995 and is buried in Souris-Glenwood.

#### Custodial History:

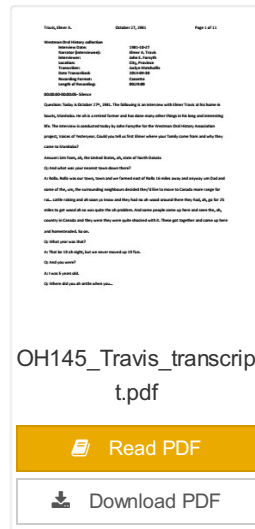
As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language 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 Elmer Travis about homesteading and rural community life. Contents include settlement at Roblin, Manitoba, schooling, farming practices, housing, social life in the area, Mr. Travis' musical talents, and his marriage to Mary Louise Lafournaise. In addition, there is content on the community working together on building, how to make lime from burning limestone, moving to BC and return to Manitoba, descriptions of the various jobs held by Mr. Travis, the installations of home telephones and hydro in his home district, Roblin hospital in the 1930's, and his hobbies at the time of the interview in 1981. Interviewer is John E. Forsyth.

Language Note: English

## Documents



<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14441>

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 Dorothy Broomhall primarily about the history of St. Mary's Anglican Church in Brandon, MB, although some autobiographical topics are covered at the beginning of the interview. Interviewer is Isabelle Heeney.

Notes: History/Bio information taken from Broomhall's obituary. Transcript by John Ball (2014). Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Audio Tracks

Documents

OH003\_Broomhall\_tran  
script.pdf

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Betty Gibson

Westman Oral History collection

Interview Date: 1981-1982  
Interviewed: Betty Gibson  
Interviewer: Isabelle Heeney  
Location: Brandon, Manitoba  
Accession Number: OH058  
Date Range: October 21, 1981  
Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:39:31]

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]

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\_transcript.pdf

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## Jean Lyall interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14443>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH070.Lya

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: April 21, 1981

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:36:37]

History /

Biographical:

Jean Eleanor Lyall (nee Cairns) was born on August 29, 1908 in the Ryerson District, north of Oak Lake, MB. She attended schools at Ryerson and Oak Lake before graduating from Regina General Hospital as a registered nurse in 1932. She nursed in the Kenton-Oak Lake area until until she married Thomas Williamson Lyall (1912-1967) of Kenton, MB in 1940. The couple had one son, Gordon and farmed in the Kenton district until Tom's death. Jean then moved into town, where she continued to live until her death. Jean loved to travel and was very active in the community, including the Leisure Club, UCW, women's institute and sports. Jean Lyall died on December 11, 1987 in Hamiota. She is buried at Greenwood 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 Jean Lyall about country nursing in the 1930s. Interviewer is Shirley Hunt.

Notes: History/bio information from the Kenton local history book "Cradle to combine, vol. 3" and Lyall's obituary in the Hamiota Echo. Transcript by Brianna Workman (2014). Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

### Audio Tracks

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### Documents

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## Gerald McLeod interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14444>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH095.McL

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: June 17, 1983

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:44:37]

History /

Biographical:

Gerald Norman McLeod was born on August 15, 1910 in Renfrew County, Ontario. As a boy his parents moved to Bounty, SK to try farming. In 1927, they moved to Pine Falls, MB where Gerald lived for a number of years and worked in many capacities for the Manitoba Paper Company. In 1943, he enlisted in the army and served overseas with the Royal Canadian Signal Corps until returning to Canada to marry Joan Louise (Woods) Woolverton (1912-2013) in 1946. Upon his return he got a job working with the National Film Board. In 1950, the couple moved to Glenboro, MB where they lived and raised their children: Gail Woolverton, David Woolverton, Sheldon McLeod and Ann McLeod. Gerald retired from the National Film Board in 1973. In retirement he continued activities in photography and gardening. He also canvassed for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Gerald McLeod died on October 8, 1995 in Glenboro, MB. He is buried at Pine Falls Community 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.

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Gerald McLeod, that he entitled "Root, Hog or Die." The interview covers various jobs Gerald held during his life, including various positions at a lumber mill, cutting firewood with his father, his time as an engineer's assistant, fighting forest fires as a volunteer and his first years working with the National Film Board. The interview also covers to great extent his political views during the 1930's and his association with the CCF. He also speaks a great deal about the financial destitution people faced during his time in Saskatchewan and later in Manitoba during the Depression. Interviewer is Irene Brown.

## Audio Tracks

[illegible]

<http://archives.bradoniu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14445>

[illegible]

## History /

### Biographical:

Emmaline "Emma" Garland Pratt was born on November 15, 1884 in Portage la Prairie, MB. She spent her early life in the village, approximately two miles down the river from Portage la Prairie. She received her education and studied music, voice and organ at the Portage Presbyterian Boarding School; while school age, she lived with white missionaries Mr and Mrs. Brown. She was adopted by the Garland family in Portage la Prairie.

Emma came to the then Oak River Reserve in 1904, to be with her mother following a family crisis. The same year, she married Matthew Tunkancekigana, who was later given the surname Pratt. The couple resided in Sioux Valley, where Matthew farmed and did farm work. Matthew died in 1951. Emma dedicated her life to her family and in service to her community, especially through her church St. Luke's Anglican Church at Sioux Valley, where she was church organist for 75 years. In 1961, she received life membership in the Women's Auxiliary of the Diocese of Brandon and in 1977, she received a Good Citizenship Award from the Lieutenant-Governor. The Pratts had eleven children, including Allan, Donald, Archie, Ina, Hilda, and Dorothy. Allan was a chief on the Sioux Valley Reserve, Donald was a Reverend with the Anglican Church. Three other children died of tuberculosis. Emma Pratt died in January 1989.

### 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 Emma Pratt about her childhood and early married years as a Sioux woman. Interviewer is Phyllis Cairns.

### Notes:

History/bio information taken from the records, and articles in The Brandon Sun reporting on Pratt's 100th birthday celebration (November 22, 1984) and her death (January 16, 1989). Transcript by Brianna Workman (2014). Description by Christy Henry.

### Language Note:

English

### Conservation:

Preservation copy created 2021 (R. Hess)

## Audio Tracks

## Documents

OH097\_Pratt\_transcript.pdf

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## Winnie North interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14446>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH158.Nor

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: April 13, 1984

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:16:30]

History /

Biographical:

Winifred North (nee Seaborn) was born December 13, 1920 in Burwash, Sussex, England. At the age of five, she moved to Manitoba, growing up in the Osprey and Mentmore districts, attending Osprey and Gordon schools. Winnie married Alfred James North (1917-1994) on October 16, 1948. Together they had three children: Bruce, Heather and Maureen. Alf served in the armed forces during the Second World War. Following the war he farmed in the Norman district until 1966, at which point the family moved to Brookdale. Alf then served as custodian for the Brookdale school before retiring in 1983. In Brookdale, Winnie worked at the post office, becoming postmistress. Winnie was a member of the Brookdale United Church, the Neepawa Legion Ladies Auxiliary and the Brookdale Belles and Beaux square dancing group. Winifred North died on January 13, 2018 in Neepawa, MB. She is buried at Neepawa 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:

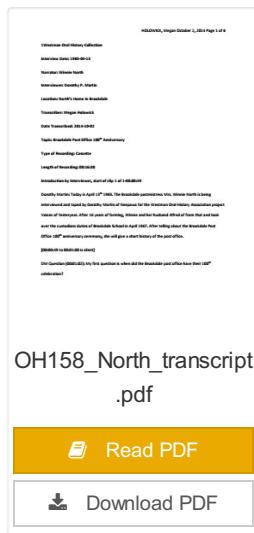
Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Winnie North about the 100th Anniversary of the Brookdale Post Office. Interviewer is Dorothy P. Martin.

Notes: History/bio information taken from the records and the Brookdale local history "Quest in Roots." Transcript by Megan Holowick (2014).  
Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

### Audio Tracks

### Documents



## Thomas Martin interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14447>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH159.Mar

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: November 11, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:31:06]

History /

Biographical:

Thomas Henry Martin was born December 23, 1904 in Brookdale, MB. From when he was born until 1965, Thomas lived in the Brookdale region and worked at farming and road building. He retired from farming in 1965, and moved to Neepawa, although he continued to help his son farm in the area. On October 25, 1933 he married Harriet North (1911-1986). Together they had two children: Mona and Vincent. Thomas Martin died on November 6, 1986 in Neepawa, MB. He is buried at Riverside 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 Thomas Martin about early road building and the 1930s. Between 1929 and 1931, Thomas and two of his neighbors were employed by the North Cypress Municipality to build roads in the district, and this is the subject of most of the interview. Thomas also discusses at length the equipment used in road building, how the equipment was used, and the work camps formed by the governments during the 1930's to create jobs for the unemployed. Interviewer is Dorothy Martin.

Notes:	History/bio information taken from the records and the Brookdale local history "Quest in Roots." Transcript by Richard Bee (2014). Description by Christy Henry.
Language Note:	English

## Audio Tracks

## Documents

[illegible]

## Clifford Clarke interview

<http://archives.bradonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14448>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level:	Item
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Item Number: OH167.Cla

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: March 11, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:30:16]

History /

Biographical:

Clifford McDonald Clarke was born on March 23, 1914 on section 8/12/29, near Elkhorn, MB. He married Margaret Eleanor Hayward (1918-2003) in 1937, and together they had four children: Larry, Donald, Rose Marie and Kaylynn. Cliffe was a farmer for many years (1937-1952) in the Mossgiel area. While in the Mossgiel district, Cliff served on the school board, was active in baseball and hockey, and was a member of the L.O.L. lodge. Cliff moved to Elkhorn in 1951, and in 1968 became the curator for the Elkhorn Automobile Museum. Prior to assuming the role of curator, Cliff was involved with the museum board, working with the first curator, Isaac Clarkson. While living in Elkhorn, Cliff served on the town council and was chairman of the Elkhorn Centennial Committee in 1970. Clifford McDonald Clarke died on August 17, 1989 in Virden, MB. He is buried at Elkhorn 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 Clifford Clarke about the Elkhorn Automobile Museum and its first curator, Isaac Clarkson. Interviewer is Elmer Armstrong.

- Notes:
- History/bio information taken from the records, the Elkhorn local history "Steel and Grass Roots" and Clarke's obituary. Transcript by John Ball (2014). Description by Christy Henry.
- Language Note:
- English
- Related Material:
- OH151 Clifford Clarke  
OH169 Clifford Clarke

Audio Tracks

Documents

OH167\_Clarke\_transcript.pdf

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Harold Medd interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14449>

- Part Of:
- Westman Oral History collection
- Description Level:
- Item
- Item Number:
- OH175.Medd
- Accession Number:
- 35-1998
- GMD:
- sound recordings
- Date Range:
- April 19, 1983
- Physical Description:
- 1 audio cassette [00:30:00]

## History /

### Biographical:

Harold Bertram Medd was born on July 21, 1912 in the Rural Municipality of Cornwallis on the family farm two miles south of Brandon, MB. Medd attended Cornwallis School and Brandon Collegiate Institute. Medd married Jean Stella Beresford (1914-2001) on April 25, 1936 and together they raised four children: William, Jack, Harold and Frances. The family moved to Brandon in 1947, and Medd continued to operate a successful farming operation. In his younger years, Medd was an avid hunter and conservationist, and an active member of the Brandon Wildlife Association. In the 1940s, he took up flying, and during his many trips around the countryside he recorded wildlife sightings, sharing them with the Provincial Wildlife branch; for many years he conducted official wildlife surveys for the province. Following retirement in 1961, he and his wife set up a ceramic studio in their home. Medd and his wife were members of the Baha'i faith and very active in that community. Harold Medd died on October 19, 2003 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 Harold Medd about his experiences in ceramics. Interviewer is Hazel Rose.

Notes: History/bio information taken from Medd's obituary. Transcript by Megan Holowick (2014). Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

## Audio Tracks

## Documents

OH175\_Medd\_transcript.pdf

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## Ethel Hall interview



<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14451>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH297.Hal

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: June 16, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:07:35]

History /

Biographical:

Ethel Maude Hall was born in the Cameron Municipality around 1901. She worked as a housekeeper and never married. Until 1965, she also farmed in the Millerway district northeast of Hartney with her brother William J "Bill" Hall (1899-1989), sister Mary E "Nellie" (1904-1983) and Joseph E. "Joe" Clark (1893-1981). When they sold the farm, the family moved to Hartney. Nellie and Ethel were active in a variety of organizations including the United Church, the Horticultural Society and the Willing Workers. The family all enjoyed travel as well as the Hart-Cam Centre and sports at the rink. Ethel Hall died on May 5, 1991 in Hartney, MB and is buried in the Elgin 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 Ethel Hall about threshing.

Interviewer is Mary Thomas.

Notes: History/bio information taken from the records and the RM of Cameron local history "A Community with Spirit: 1982-2002." Transcript by Nathan Qumsieh (2014). Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

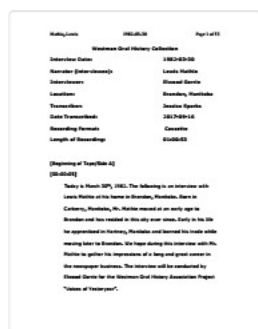
## Audio Tracks

## Documents

OH297\_Hall\_transcript.pdf

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## Lewis Mathie interview

<http://archives.bradonu.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

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Westman Oral History Collection

Interview Date

1981-03-30

Narrator (Interviewee)

Louis Mathie

Interviewer

Eleanor Dennis

Location

Brandon, Manitoba

Transcriber

Jessica Spivey

Date Transcribed

2012-09-16

Recording Format

Cassette

Length of Recording

01:00:53

(beginning of Tape 0316 A)

(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 great career in the newspaper business. The interview will be conducted by Eleanor Dennis for the Westman Oral History Association Project "Voices of Testimony".

OH035\_Mathie\_transcript.pdf

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Mathie, Alex

1982-02-13

Page 1 of 14

Westman Oral History Collection

Interview Date

1982-02-13

Narrator (Interviewee)

Alex McPhail

Interviewer

Frank Anderson

Location

Brandon, Manitoba

Transcriber

Alexa Davidson

Date Transcribed

2012-09-16

Recording Format

Cassette

Length of Recording

01:01:19

(00:00:01)

Today is February 13th, 1982. This interview is conducted with Alex McPhail of Brandon, at his residence 611 Elmore Street Brandon, MB. McPhail has had a long and distinguished career as an agricultural in the Brandon area, and also as manager of the Provincial Exhibition and the Manitoba Winter Fair. This interview is conducted by Frank Anderson for the Westman Oral History Association project "Voices of Testimony".

(00:00:07) Question: Alex, what do you know about the early McPhail history in Canada and when did they come to the (present) South Brandon area?

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

## Documents

OH206\_McPhail\_transcript.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.

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.

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.

Language Note: English

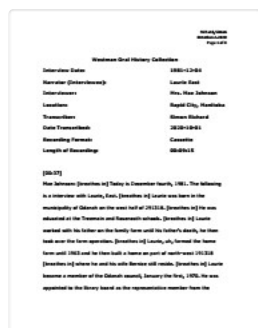
## Documents

OH010\_Wasylyshyn\_tra  
nscript.pdf

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Description Level:	Item
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Item Number: OH044.Eas  
Accession Number: 35-1998  
GMD: sound recordings  
Date Range: December 4, 1981  
Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:09:15]  
History /  
Biographical:

Laurence Overton "Laurie" East was born in the municipality of Odanah on the west half of 29-13-18, on March 13, 1911. He attended Tremaine and Roseneath schools and worked on the family farm, eventually leaving school to work due to his father's ill health and then taking over the operation in 1936, after his father died. Laurie retired from farming in 1976. Laurie married Bernice McDonald (1916-2006), a teacher, on July 4, 1942. They had no children. Laurie's hobbies were music, dancing and travel; he took part in local entertainment and taught square dancing classes. He was a member of the Hunterville United Church, serving on the board and volunteering as Sunday School Superintendent or teacher. In the 1940s, Laurie was part of local committees to secure telephone and postal service. From 1970-1983, he was a member of Elton Municipal Council. Shortly after joining the council, Laurie was appointed as a representative to the library board; he joined representatives from Minnedosa and Minto councils, as there was support in the region for the organization and establishment of a regional library. Laurie East died on April 18, 2003 in Brandon, MB and is buried at the Rapid City 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 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

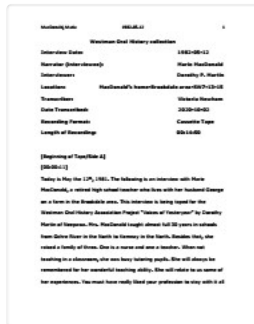
Westman Oral History Collection

Interview Date: 1981-12-04  
Narrator (Interviewee): Laurie East  
Interviewer: Mrs. Mae Johnson  
Location: Rapid City, Minnesota  
Transcriber: Simon Richard  
Date Transcribed: 2020-10-01  
Recording Format: Cassette  
Length of Recording: 00:09:15

[00:07]  
The following is a transcript of an interview with Laurie East, [unclear] Laurie was born in the municipality of Odanah on the west half of 29-13-18. [unclear] he was educated at the Tremaine and Roseneath schools. [unclear] Laurie worked with his father on the family farm until his father's death, he then took over the farm operation. [unclear] Laurie, only toward the home farm until 1936 and he then built a home on part of north-west 29-13-18. [unclear] where he and his wife Bernice still reside. [unclear] Laurie became a member of the Odanah church, January the 10th, 1936. He was appointed to the library board as the representative member from the

OH044\_East\_transcript.pdf

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## 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

1982-05-12

1

Westman Oral History collection

Interview Date:

1982-05-12

Narrator (Interviewee):

Marie MacDonald

Interviewer:

Donna P. Martin

Location:

MacDonald's home, Brandon, MB

Transcriber:

Victoria Neufeld

Date Transcribed:

2020-10-02

Recording Format:

Cassette Tape

Length of Recording:

00:14:00

(Beginning of Tape/Slide A)

(00:00:11)

Talks to Mary (the 12th, 1981). The following is an interview with Marie MacDonald, a retired high school teacher who lives with her husband George on a farm in the Brandon area. This interview is being taped for the Westman Oral History Association Project "History of Teachers" by Dorothy Martin of Winnipeg. Mrs. MacDonald taught almost 30 years in schools from Oliver River in the North to Kermoyan in the North. Besides that, she taught a variety of other things. She is a nurse and was a teacher. When not teaching in a classroom, she was busy tutoring people. She will always be remembered for her wonderful teaching ability. She will relate to us some of her experiences. You must have really shed your profession to stay with it all.

OH163\_MacDonald\_tra

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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\_transcr  
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Conley, Evelyn  
Interview Date: 1981-10-18  
Interviewer(s): Evelyn Conley  
Location: Brandon, Manitoba  
Transcript: Kyle Reed  
Date Transcribed: 2020-09-17  
Recording Format: Cassette  
Interview Length: 01:11:55

**Notes:**

Phyllis Long: This tape is from a cassette. The taping is a conversation with Mrs. Evelyn Conley of 1111 1st Street Brandon. She is the daughter of Mr. Conley and daughter of the multiple victims of the Conley family. It is a cassette tape (1981-10-18).

**Subjects:**

Phyllis Long: Mrs. Conley, when was the disaster engine in the Brandon and about how old was it then?

**Access:**

## Evelyn 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

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## Documents

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Conley, Evelyn 1981-08-18 Page 1 of 7

Interview Date: 1981-08-18

Interviewer: Phyllis Long

Interviewee: Evelyn Conley

Location: Brandon, Manitoba

Format: Audio

Date Transcribed: 2020-09-07

Recording Format: Cassette

Interview Length: 0:11:05

**Abstract:**


Phyllis Long: The topic is health services. I'm having a conversation with Mrs. Evelyn Conley of 2, 23 1/2 Street Brandon. She is the chairperson of the Brandon and district chapter of the multiple sclerosis society of Canada. It is October the 18th, 1981.


**Keywords:**

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

**Keywords:**

OH204\_Conley\_transcript.pdf

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## Alex Black interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14516>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH148.Bla

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: February 3, 1983

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

History /  
Biographical:

Alexander Hector Black was born on August 31, 1901 in Oak River, MB. Alex lived in the Oak River area his entire life, farming until he retired in 1976. He married Blanche Edith Paddock (1905-1985) on October 14, 1936 and together they had four children: Frank, Margaret, Melvin and Eileen. The couple moved into Oak River in 1976, and Alex remained in the home until 1997. Alex was active in the community as a member of the church board, treasurer of the church, and Sunday School Superintendent. He was also a member of the school board and the Pool Elevator board, as well as a director of the Agricultural Society (1925-1987). Alex Black died on April 1, 1999 in Hamiota, MB. He is buried at Oak River 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 Black about his life from crofter to a modern farmer. Interviewer is Stan Henry.


Notes: History/bio information from the records and Black's obituary. Transcript by Rhys Fletcher (2023). Description by Christy Henry.


Language Note: English

## Audio Tracks

## Documents

OH148\_Black\_transcript.pdf

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## Alice May interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14517>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH166.May

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: October 20, 1981

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:10:00]

History /

Biographical:

Alice May (nee Heal) was born August 13, 1910 in Strathclair, MB to Charles and Kristina Heal. Alice worked as a secretary and bookkeeper and then as a homemaker. She married Frank May (1901-1985) on November 16, 1932 and together they had two children: Frances and Arthur. The family moved to Strathclair in 1946. Alice May died on August 10, 2006 in Shoal Lake, MB. She is buried at Strathclair 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:

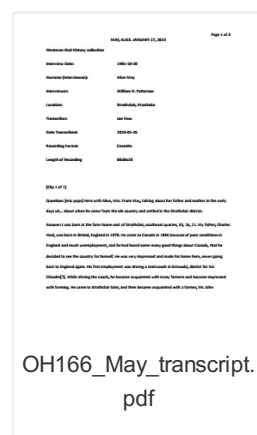
Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Alice May about the family history of the Heals. Interviewer is William R. Patterson.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and May's obituary. Transcript by Joe Haw (2023). Description by Christy Henry.


Language Note: English


## Audio Tracks

## Documents



OH166\_May\_transcript.  
pdf

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