

S. J. McKee Archives

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McGuinness artifacts and sound recordings

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13682

Other Title Info: Title based on the contents of the series

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Series
Series Number: McG 7
Accession Number: 1-2015

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: c. 1985-1990

Physical Description: 17 artifacts

10 sound recordings

History / Biographical:

Artifacts in this series were collected by Fred McGuinness during the course of his lifetime as a community volunteer and newspaperman. Beginning in the mid-1930s through the Second World War, McGuinness worked with the Canadian Pacific Telegraph service in Brandon and Winnipeg. McGuinness frequently wrote about those early experiences in his newspaper columns, journals, and monographs.

In the early 1950s, while McGuinness worked as a publicist with the Unemployment Insurance Commission in Winnipeg, he volunteered with community organizations such as the Winnipeg Community Chest Drive. From 1953 to 1955, McGuinness worked as an organizer for the Province of Saskatchewan's 1955 Golden Jubilee.

After the Saskatchewan Jubilee, McGuinness worked with The Medicine Hat News as a journalist and publisher from 1955 to 1965. During that time, McGuinness became heavily involved with the Medicine Hat Chamber of Commerce. His community and business connections resulted in his appointment as a fundraiser for the Medicine Hat Junior College Library, a building project intended to see the City established with its own college.

After his work with the Saskatchewan Jubilee, McGuinness was asked to be a Regional Director for the Canadian Centennial Commission from 1965 to 1967. During that time, McGuinness returned to his hometown of Brandon in 1966, to start a 20-year career with the Brandon Sun as a publisher and vice-president. McGuinness' interest in local history, of which he often wrote, made him the recipient of local ephemera from his readers.

Custodial History:

Accession 1-2015 contains records created and collected over the course of McGuinness' career as a newspaper journalist and freelance writer. The Estate of Fred McGuinness donated the materials to the SJ McKee Archives circa 2011. The Archives accessioned the records in 2015.

Scope and Content:

This series contains artifacts collected by Fred McGuinness during the course of his lifetime as a community volunteer and newspaperman. The artifacts include one telegraph sounder, four letterpress blocks, five typesetter rulers, two patches, two buttons, one token, one tin box, and ten sound recordings.

The telegraph sounder and relay system was possibly a gift from Bill Flett, a CPR superintendent. In his story "Canadian Pacific" published in Letters from Section 17 (1999), McGuinness mentions receiving a package containing telegraph equipment while he was working at the Brandon Sun. The tin box in McGuinness' collection contained copies of telegraphs announcing the end of the war.

Two letterpress type blocks have the letters "WM" which may represent the initials of Fred McGuinness' father William McGuinness. J.R. Langford donated the "Colquhoun and Beattie" type plate to McGuinness, a known collector of Brandon local history. Mr. Beattie had gifted the plate to Lanford's father who worked as a barber in Brandon in 1906. The Brandon Sun letterpress is likely from the period when McGuinness worked at the Brandon Sun.

The five typesetter rulers come from a variety of typesetter and newspaper companies and include Teletypesetter (Chicago, IL), 6 Cutting Limited (Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg), Mergenthaler Linotype Company (Brooklyn, NY), and The Edmonton Journal.

The two buttons in the collection come from McGuinness' time as a community-volunteer in Winnipeg, Manitoba. One button is from the Community Chest Drive, the other button is a guest badge from the 1953 Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba.

The two patches are from the Saskatchewan Golden Jubilee (1955). Photographs of Saskatchewan Jubilee events and participants wearing the patch on their blazers can be found in the McGuinness photograph collection.

McGuinness saved a Medicine Hat College Official Opening Token from October 3, 1971. McGuinness was likely at the opening as he was originally involved in the establishment of the junior college in the 1960s.

The sound recordings in McGuinness' collection largely pertain to centennial events, which McGuinness helped organize. There is one box set containing four records of the Saskatchewan Golden Jubilee Choir. Tucked in this volume is an additional record of the Choir recorded at CKCK, Regina, Saskatchewan. Also stored within the box set was a copy "Canada, A Centennial Song."

Accruals: Closed

Finding Aid: A file level inventory is available

Storage Location: 2015 accessions

Arrangement:

Arrangement was artificially created by the Archives

Documents



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McGuinness library

http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13683

Other Title Info: Title based on the contents of the series

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Series
Series Number: McG 8
Accession Number: 1-2015

GMD: multiple media
Date Range: c. 1882-2010

Physical Description: Approximately 2 m

83 books and other materials (see Material Details Note)

Material Details: 49 booklets

3 maps

3 newsletters18 periodicals16 pamphlets

35 newspapers [oversize drawer]

History / Biographical:

The publications in this series were collected by Fred McGuinness during the course of his career as a newspaperman. McGuinness' personal library contained over 500 volumes pertaining to local history. He regularly consulted these materials when writing his radio broadcasts, newspaper columns, and monographs. McGuinness was known to file related materials (e.g., correspondence, newspaper clippings, invitations) between book covers of various titles.

McGuinness donated a substantial portion of his personal library to Brandon University's John E. Robbins Library when he moved to River Heights Terrace (Brandon, Manitoba). That collection can be found in BU's library catalogue under the McGuinness local history collection. The titles McGuinness retained upon his move were donated to the McKee Archives by his estate in 2011.

Custodial History:

Accession 1-2015 contains records created and collected over the course of McGuinness' career as a newspaper journalist and freelance writer. The Estate of Fred McGuinness donated the materials to the SJ McKee Archives circa 2011. The Archives accessioned the records in 2015.

Accession 20-2009 contain records created and collected by Fred McGuinness over the course of his career as a newspaper journalist and during the research and writing period of the Brandon history book, The Wheat City. Records remained in his possession at his home until their transfer to the McKee Archives on July 28, 2009.

Accession 6-2008 contains records created and collected during the writing of the Provincial Exhibition book, Pride of the Land. Fred McGuinness, who co-authored the book with Ken Coates, donated these records to the McKee Archives circa 1988. The materials relating to Souris, Manitoba, were given to McGuinness by Kay Sullivan in August 2007, and were subsequently deposited in the Archives.

Scope and Content:

This series contains publications collected by Fred McGuinness during the course of his lifetime as a newspaperman. McGuinness was a well-known local history enthusiast and frequently wrote about Brandon's local history. Many of his readers forwarded booklets and pamphlets for his consideration and review.

Materials in this series include books, booklets pamphlets, periodicals, newspapers and maps. Subjects include, but are not exclusive to: the city of Brandon, the town of Souris, memoirs, family histories, Canadian Pacific Railway, and local businesses.

Accruals: Closed

Finding Aid: A file level inventory is available

Storage Location: All library titles, except the newspapers in the McGuinness oversize

drawer, are located in Special Collections

Arrangement:

Arrangement was artificially created by the Archives.

McG 8 McGuinness library

McG 8.1 Books

McG 8.2 Booklets

McG 8.3 Maps, newsletters, and periodicals

McG 8.4 Pamphlets

McG 8.5 Magazines and newspapers (oversize)

