

# S. J. McKee Archives



## T.R. Wilkins collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4298>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: MG 1 1.4

Accession Number: 3-2016

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1911?-1940

Physical Description: 7 cm

History /

Biographical:

Thomas Russell Wilkins was born in Toronto in 1891. He received his B.A. from McMaster University in 1912, and became the Science Master at Woodstock College the following year. In 1916, he and his wife Olive moved to Chicago, where Wilkins was an instructor of Physics at the University of Chicago. The next year he served as a master signal electrician in the U.S. Signal Corps. During World War I, Wilkins completed pioneer research for the United States Navy, which led to the development of pulse sonar devices in the 1920s. He had also been researching the possibilities of a wireless telephone.

Wilkins and his wife moved to Brandon in 1918, where he took up the position of Professor of Physics. During his time at Brandon College, Wilkins introduced the latest technology to classrooms, designed the original Science Building, and along with the Brandon Citizen's Committee, secured building funds for the Citizen's Science Building.

Receiving his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 1921, Wilkins resigned from Brandon College in 1925 to pursue postgraduate study at Cambridge University. In 1926, he began research at the University of Rochester, where he also took up the position of Professor of Physics. From 1930 to 1938, he acted as the Director of the Institute of Optics.

Widely known for his work in the fields of cosmic rays and atomic disintegration, in April 1939, Wilkins announced the perfection of a camera that was able to record the "footprints" of invisible atoms after they collide. In October 1939, he received a medal from the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain recognizing his work regarding the use of photographic emulsions in the study of radium. The following year, Wilkins perfected a camera that could determine the energy levels inside the nuclei of stable chemical elements. He received a grant from Sigma Xi, the National Society for the Promotion of Scientific Research, in November of 1940.

Wilkins married twice. The first marriage, to Olive Angles Cross took place on June 17, 1913. Olive Wilkins died suddenly on May 13, 1937, at the age of 45. Wilkins married Susan Gwendolyn Whidden, the daughter of former Brandon College president Dr. H.P. Whidden, in 1938.

Thomas Russell Wilkins died suddenly of a heart attack on December 10, 1940, on his way back to his laboratory after a faculty meeting. He was 49 years old.

#### Custodial History:

Records were accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. Prior custodial history is unknown.

#### Scope and Content:

T. Russell Wilkins' records contain correspondence between himself and Mrs. Wilkins and Dr. Whidden concerning their employment with Brandon College. There are letters between the two men regarding the building of the Science Building in 1920. There is also a copy of the Canadian Baptist. Besides programmes and a picture, there is also correspondence between various people. Dr. Wilkins kept the papers he had written for various classes at McMaster University in the years 1911 and 1912. There is a "toast to the ladies" that he delivered at a banquet of some sort, that gives an interesting view on how Wilkins, and possibly other men of his time, viewed women. There are numerous newspapers clippings, and several pages taken from journals such as Popular Mechanics, Popular Electricity and others. Dr. Wilkins was at the top of his field of study. He was an extremely bright man who managed to create some very useful tools of science. His papers are interesting and informative to read.

Notes:	History/Bio information taken from Campus News May 1990
Name Access:	Olive Wilkins Thomas Wilkins H.P. Whidden
Subject Access:	science building science scientific development
Storage Location:	2016 accessions



## Edith Laycock fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4886>

Part Of:	RG 1 Brandon College fonds
Description Level:	Sub-series
Series Number:	MG 2 2.20
Accession Number:	12-1998
GMD:	multiple media
Date Range:	1934-1973
Physical Description:	24 cm textual records 12 photographs

#### History /

##### Biographical:

Edith Mary Laycock was born on June 25, 1913. She attended Brandon Collegiate from 1929 until her graduation in 1931. Ms. Laycock attended Brandon College from 1931-1934, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree. In 1935, she attended the Wheat City Business College and graduated from the Stenographic Course. Ms. Laycock was employed by the Canadian Pacific Railway as a stenographer for many years and belonged to the Canadian Pacific Expressmen's Mutual Benefit Society from 1939.

Edith Laycock was very interested in drama. While attending Brandon Collegiate and Brandon College she participated in school and college plays. She was involved in drama and theatre throughout her adult life. Edith Laycock directed many of Brandon College's major productions beginning in 1950. She was also the director of many of the plays put on by the Brandon Little Theatre from 1950. Ms. Laycock also performed in the Little Theatre productions when she was not directing.

Ms. Laycock was also involved in many other elements of Brandon life. She served alternatively as the vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and production manager of the Little Theatre throughout the 1940's and 1950's. She was the Social Manager for the Brandon Festival Committee in 1948, the Publicity Chairperson for the Brandon Music Festival Association in the 1950's, and the Secretary of the Brandon Overture Concert Association. Laycock also wrote play reviews for the Brandon Sun in the 1950's. She was the director of the Manitoba Delta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi. In the 1960's Laycock was a member of the Brandon Council of Women and Chairperson of its Arts and Letters Committee. She was also the Vice-President of the Brandon Art Club in 1960. Edith Laycock also held a 12-week class in creative dramatics for children at the Allied Arts Centre in the early 1960's.

Edith Laycock died in Brandon on December 17, 1987.

##### Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. Prior custodial history is unknown.

##### Scope and Content:

This fonds consists of memorabilia kept by Edith Laycock. A large part of the collection consists of programs from plays that Laycock performed in or directed during the 1950's and 1960's. There are also numerous newspaper clippings about Laycock's plays including reviews, pictures, and advertisements. This collection also includes a folder of programs from the Brandon Little Theatre productions in the 1950's, as well as clippings about the Little Theatre. There are also numerous articles about miscellaneous drama and art events throughout Brandon, Manitoba, and Canada. The fonds also includes Laycock's daybook from 1962, and travel notes from Laycock's 1952 trip to Great Britain and Europe. The latter contains a passenger list for the Empress of Scotland, August 5, 1952. The collection further includes Canadian Pacific Railway passes dating from 1947-1963 and a copy of the Canadian Pacific Pension Plan. Fonds also contains material from the various organizations that Laycock was involved with including the Brandon Council of Women and Beta Sigma Phi. Fonds includes 12 photos that appear to be family photos from Laycock's childhood. Finally, the fonds contains various copies of plays that Laycock performed in or directed.

##### Notes:

CAIN No. 202585

Subject Access: Edith Laycock  
Kaye Rowe  
Brian MacDonald  
J.R.C. Evans  
Brandon College  
Brandon College Literary Board  
Brandon Collegiate Dramatic Society  
Brandon College Students' Association  
Brandon Council of Women  
Brandon Little Theatre  
Canadian Pacific Railway  
Beta Sigma Phi  
drama  
plays  
travel  
playscripts

Storage Location: MG 2 Brandon College Students  
2.20 Edith Laycock



## Brandon College Student Association records

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4262>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds  
Description Level: Sub-series  
Series Number: 8.12  
GMD: textual records  
Date Range: 1948-1957  
Physical Description: 1.5 cm

### Scope and Content:

Consists of the BCSA constitution, electoral procedure documents, nomination forms, the Brandon College Crests and Awards Board constitution, the Brandon College Finance Board constitution, the Brandon College Athletic Board/Athletic Council constitution, the Brandon College Board of Publications constitution, the Brandon College Literary Board constitution, the Sigma Mu constitution, and BCSA statistical summary of Committee meetings.

Subject Access: club constitutions  
Storage Location: RG 1 Brandon College fonds  
Series 8: Brandon College Students Association



## Bertha Leith (nee Clark) fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions3613>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds

Creator: Bertha Clark  
Description Level: Sub-series  
Series Number: MG 2 2.31  
Accession Number: 7-2009  
GMD: graphic  
Date Range: 1925-1929  
Physical Description: 24 photographs (b/w)

History /

Biographical:

Bertha Miriam Clark was born on Prince Edward Island but attended public and high school in Brandon, MB. She was a member of the Class of 1929 and served as Lady Stick in her final year at Brandon College.

Clark married J. Scott Leith, Brandon College Class of 1928. Scott and Bertha Leith's son James Clark Leith is in the Canadian Who's Who.

Custodial History:

Album was sent to Pat Britton, Brandon University Director of Alumni Relations, by Bertha Leith in April 1991. Britton then transferred it to the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of a small accordian style photograph album (7 x 10.5 x 3.5 cm) created by Bertha Clark during her years at Brandon College. The photographs, which measure 4" x 2.75", depict numerous people and events.

Notes: History/Bio information taken from the 1928-1929 Sickle.

Name Access:

Bertha Clark  
Ruth Bingham  
Professor Richards  
Lil Bullman  
Clark Hall  
Brandon College Building  
Jean Hitchings  
Lloyd Bowler  
Kay Underwood  
Scott Leith  
Denis Phillpots  
Donald Ritchie  
Harold Cairns  
Andrew Clark  
Isabel Hitchings  
A. Foster  
Rundle McLachlan  
Carl Wickland  
Doris Bingham  
Doris Dowling  
Ella Whitmore  
Meta Mischpeter  
Vera Ulinder  
Josh Thompson  
Doris Cochrane  
Frank Kerr  
Cyril Richards  
Thomas Russell Wilkins  
Flo Turnbull  
Esther Magoon  
Hilda Harrison  
Doris Ireton  
Mrs. Richards  
W.L. Wright  
Annie Evans Wright  
Miss Hatch  
Jennie Turnbull  
Mrs. MacNeill  
Mrs. C.G. Stone  
Helen Duncan  
Constance Lamontagne  
Marian Bulloch  
Mabel Craig

Subject Access:	Class of 29' Sports Day 1925 English Club Graduation Lake Percy Arts 1929 CPR depot Brandon College boys 1925-1927 al(l)-bums "cat-chers" Sykes 18th Street Hill Class of 1928 Class of 1929 Class of 1930 Class of 1931 arts faculty outing
Storage Location:	MG 2 Brandon College Students 2.31 Bertha Leith (nee Clark)
Related Material:	Edward Lloyd Bowler collection (36-1999)



## Harold Arthur Kinniburgh fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4230>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: MG 2 2.8

Accession Number: 11-2006

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1904-1906

Physical Description: 2 mm textual records  
1 b&w photograph (8x10)

Physical Condition: Excellent

History /

Biographical:

Harold Arthur Kinniburgh was born in New Zealand in 1883. He spent two years in Brandon working at the Experimental Farm during the summer and studying at Brandon College during the winter. After his years at Brandon College he worked in Canada in the dairy industry from two years and then returned to New Zealand for the balance of his life. He devoted his time to developing a dairy farm in New Zealand. Harold Kinniburgh died in 1953.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of copies of correspondence written by Kinniburgh to his mother in New Zealand while he was attending Brandon College. The photograph is a copy of the 1905 First Year Academic class at Brandon College.

Notes: Description by Christy Henry.

Name Access: Harold Kinniburgh

Subject Access: Brandon College 1905

Brandon College men's residence

Location Original: Kinniburgh's family in New Zealand  
contact: Jeanette Johnston  
10 Hampton Place  
Hamilton, New Zealand

Storage Location: MG 2 Brandon College Students  
2.8 Harold Arthur Kinniburgh



## Evan McDonald Whidden fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4228>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: MG 1 1.8

Accession Number: 1-2001, 8-2003, 9-2006

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1915-1936; predominant 1917-1922.

Physical Description: 6 cm. textual records; 1921 Brandon College Quill (Commencement Number); approx. 150 photographs



## History /

### Biographical:

Evan McDonald Whidden (1898-1980) was born in Galt, Ontario. He was educated at Brandon College. Following service in the Great War he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from McMaster University (Brandon College) in 1921. He obtained a Master of Arts in history (McMaster [n.d.]) and in 1928, a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Yale. Whidden married Frances Margaret Billington in 1941. Together they had three children: Howard John (b.1943), Roberta Katherine (b. 1945) and Eric Christopher (b. 1947).

Dr. Whidden served in Baptist churches in Saskatchewan and Manitoba before joining the faculty of Brandon College in 1936. In 1938, he was appointed Thomas J. Armstrong Professor of church history at Acadia University. He became Dean of the School of Theology at Acadia in 1954, and served in that capacity until 1963. He retired from the faculty of Acadia University in 1967. Dr. Whidden has written in the field of church history and education. He was awarded honorary degrees by the Pine Hill Divinity Hall, Halifax, N.S. (1950), McMaster University [n.d.] and Acadia University (1969).

### Custodial History:

Since his death in 1980, the fonds has been in the custody of his widow, Mrs. Frances Margaret Whidden. The first accession was donated to the McKee Archives in April, 2001; the second in 2003; and the third in May 2005.

### Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of Evan Whidden's reports to family members, in particular to his father and mother, on his experience as a member of the Canadian Expeditionary Force during the years 1917-1919. Records also include correspondence from his mother, Katherine Louise Whidden (nee Ganong), to Evan during these years. In these reports, Whidden records his impressions of military life through his training in Canada and England and his experience of war in Europe with the Canadian Expeditionary Force from 1917-1918. He was involved in the conflict only briefly at the conclusion of the war. His letters provide an account of life in France, Belgium and Germany in 1918.

The fonds also contains correspondence dating from the early 1920s from Chester New, a history professor at McMaster, who had previously taught at Brandon College. Fonds also contains correspondence from Whidden's father, Howard Primrose Whidden, President of Brandon College 1912-1922 and, from 1922-1949, Chancellor of McMaster University. This correspondence deals principally with the progress of Evan Whidden's education and his choice of a career in the church or the academic world.

Fonds contains several publications containing the work of Evan Whidden, mostly on religious themes. It also includes newspaper clippings and convocation programs dealing with Dr. Whidden's graduation from Yale and the presentation of honorary degrees to him at Pine Hill and Acadia. The fonds contains newspaper stories on the occasion of the retirement of Howard Primrose Whidden following his lengthy career as President of McMaster University. Death notices for Dr. H.P. Whidden and his wife are also to be found.

Finally, fonds contains approximately 150 b&w photographs of group portraits, individual portraits and activities at Brandon College and a copy of the 1921 Commencement Issue of the Brandon College Quill.

Name Access:	Evan Whidden Chester New Howard Whidden
Subject Access:	Brandon College 1920s
Storage Location:	MG 1 Brandon College Teaching and Administration 1.8 Evan McDonald Whidden

Related Material: Whidden's father, Howard Primrose Whidden served as President of Brandon College 1912-1922. His records are located in RG 1, series 2.2 (Brandon College fonds, Office of the President). Records from Evan Whidden's time as College Dean are located in RG 1, series 6 (Brandon College fonds, Office of the College Dean).



## Georgina Matiation (Hill) collection

<http://archives.bradonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4887>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds  
Description Level: Sub-series  
Series Number: MG 2 2.23  
Accession Number: 29-1998  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1954-1956  
Physical Description: 1 cm textual records  
3 photographs

### History /

#### Biographical:

Georgina Bernice Matiation (Hill) was born in Virden, Manitoba on February 19, 1936, daughter of Gordon and Florence Hill. She received her education at Brandon College (1954-1956). Originally a student in Arts, she graduated from the Teacher Training program in 1956. During her time at Brandon College, Matiation participated in the College Glee Club as well as college track and field meets. She also acted as Junior Ladies Athletic Representative in 1955. In addition, Matiation was the President of her Normal School class.

Matiation began her teaching career in Hargrave and Melita, before taking a position at Prince Charles School in Portage la Prairie in 1960. She remained at that institution until her retirement in 1991. In addition to her teaching career, Matiation was a past president of the Portage Evening Ladies Curling Club, a past president of the La Prairie Lioness and a leader of CGIT. She was a lifelong member of the Lenore Presbyterian Church.

Georgina Hill married Zane Matiation in 1970. They had no children. Georgina Matiation died on October 28, 1995 in Portage la Prairie at the age of 59 years.

#### Custodial History:

This collection was donated to the McKee Archives by Bessie Marie Hill of Winnipeg on May 1, 1998.

#### Scope and Content:

The collection consists of items collected by Mrs. Matiation (Hill) during her years as a student at Brandon College. The collection contains a scrapbook of photos of students and activities at the College taken from 1954-1956. Fonds includes copies of speeches made by her at various school events, such as her valedictorian speech at the Normal School Graduation in 1956. There is also an autograph book with messages to her from friends and classmates. Finally, the collection includes two photographs of students in the 1924-25 Brandon Normal School, and one photograph of the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Brandon.

Notes: CAIN No. 202616. Description by Christy Henry.

Subject Access: Georgina Matiation (Hill)  
Brandon College  
Brandon  
Manitoba  
Westminister Presbyterian Church of Brandon  
MB  
college life  
student life  
scrapbooks

Storage Location: MG 2 Brandon College Students  
2.23 Georgina Matiation (Hill)

The collection is located with MG 2 2.2 Gerald Brown. It was placed there as a result of space issues.

Related Material: Bessie Marie Hill (33-1999, 12-2001, 6-2003)



## William Whyte McCutcheon fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions8559>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: MG 1 1.12

Accession Number: 12-2008

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1942-2007; predominant 1950-80.

Physical Description: 12 cm textual records  
30 photographs

Physical Condition: Good

#### History /

##### Biographical:

Wilfred Whyte McCutcheon was born 20 April 1919 in Leeds Village, Quebec. McCutcheon attended Macdonald College at McGill University, graduating with a Bachelor of Agriculture in 1942. He completed a Bachelor of Science in 1943 at Concordia, a Bachelor of Arts in 1944, and a Bachelor of Education at Acadia in 1946. McCutcheon gained a Master's Degree in Economics from the University of Toronto in 1948 and completed his Doctoral studies at Cornell University in 1951. McCutcheon spent 1951-52 at the London Institute of Education engaged in postdoctoral studies.

McCutcheon was appointed the Dean of the Faculty of Education at Brandon College in 1955. He was the first Dean of Education at Brandon University. McCutcheon served as Dean until 1967.

With Ms. Joan Garnett, Co-ordinator of the Office of BU Alumni Relations, McCutcheon helped to establish many awards. With the collaboration of "Tommy" Douglas, Mrs. J.G. Diefenbaker, and Mr. D.L. Campbell, he assisted in the creation of the JRC Evans Student Loan Fund as a memorial tribute to Dr J.R.C. Evans, President of Brandon College 1928-1959.

From 1967 to 1974, McCutcheon taught at the Ottawa Teachers' College, later integrated into the Faculty of Education at the University of Ottawa.

McCutcheon authored over fifty academic articles. He was awarded a honorary Doctor of Education by Brandon University in 1989 and an honorary Doctor of Laws from Concordia University in 1996.

Wilfred Whyte McCutcheon died 31 March 2008. He was predeceased by his wife Phyllis Bishop in 2003.

##### Custodial History:

These records were in Dr. McCutcheon's possession until his death. They were donated to the S.J. McKee Archives by his estate executors and delivered to the archives by Mr. Gerald Brown on their behalf.

##### Scope and Content:

Fonds contains correspondence, pamphlets, publications, photographs, diplomas and certificates of standing, newspaper clippings, a report prepared by Dr. McCutcheon for the Canadian Governor General's Office concerning the Canadian honours system, a copy of Dr. McCutcheon's doctoral thesis - Cornell University, 1951- and miscellaneous materials related to Dr. McCutcheon's long and distinguished career in Canadian post secondary education and public service.

Name Access:	John E. Robbins
Subject Access:	Brandon College 1950s Faculty of Education
Storage Location:	MG 1 Brandon College Teaching and Administration 1.12 William Whyte McCutcheon



## Raymond R. Bailey fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4229>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds

Description Level: Sub-series  
Series Number: MG 2 2.7  
Accession Number: 10-2006, 11-2006.  
GMD: textual records  
Date Range: 1940-1944, 2005

Physical Description: 1 file (0.5 cm)  
1 book, 491 pp.(3.75 cm)  
3 yearbooks

Physical Condition: Very good

History /

Biographical:

Ray Bailey was born in Brandon Manitoba in 1922. A Bachelor of Science degree from Brandon College in 1944 completed his education there. Following a short stint as a Chemist he entered the University of Manitoba. There, in 1946, he earned a Diploma in Education. Subsequent study brought a Master of Education degree in 1966. In 1973, he was awarded a Canada Council grant for additional studies.

He began his teaching career at Killarney, MB in March 1946, teaching science. Later he held teaching and administrative positions in Melita, Morris and Seven Oaks School Divisions. He retired as Principal of Arthur E. Wright Elementary School in 1986. Bailey was active in the Manitoba Teachers Society and the Manitoba Library Trustees Association. In 1973, the city of Winnipeg gave him a community service award. In 2005, he was a recipient of the Brandon University Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni Award.

He married Joan Pettipher in 1949. They had four children, Ronald, Ann, Mary and Robert. Joan Bailey died in 1988. Raymond Bailey lived in Winnipeg with his wife Barbara until his death on July 23, 2015.

Custodial History:

Book was acquired at a book launch sponsored by Pennywise Books, Brandon, Manitoba in January 2006. The Brandon College documents were probably collected by Bailey during his time as a student in the early 1940s. He donated them to the McKee Archives in November 1994. The yearbooks were delivered to the Archives by Gerald Brown for Bailey in April 2008.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of an autographed copy of Bailey's book "tadpole to Little Frog (in a big pond)." It also includes three Brandon Collegiate Institute yearbooks the New Era for 1938-40, one file of Brandon College records, including eligibility lists for the Students' Association, a Physics IV test, a letter to Bailey excusing him from non-combat duty due to his work as an assistant in the Chemistry Department, a dance program for the Valentine Formal (1943), a freshman reception list and a program/invitation to a musical evening at the home of Martin Johns, Professor in the Physics Department.

Notes: History/Bio information taken from the author description in Bailey's book.  
Description by Christy Henry.

Name Access: Raymond Bailey

Subject Access: autobiography  
the Depression  
Manitoba history  
War years  
Brandon College

Location Copy: Photocopies of some of the lists are located in the file with the originals.

Storage Location: MG 2 Brandon College Students  
2.7 Raymond R. Bailey



## Dr. Robert Harvey fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4885>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds  
Description Level: Sub-series  
Series Number: MG 2 2.18  
Accession Number: 3-1998  
GMD: textual records  
Date Range: 1912-1980; predominant 1912-1950  
Physical Description: 1.08 m

### History /

#### Biographical:

Dr. Robert Harvey graduated from Brandon College in 1913 (McMaster Arts). He received a diploma in theology from Brandon College in 1915. Initially a minister in the Presbyterian Church, Dr. Harvey spent the greater part of his life as a minister in the service of the United Church of Canada.

#### Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. Prior custodial history is unknown.

#### Scope and Content:

This fonds consists of manuscripts written by Dr. Robert Harvey, various newspaper clippings, primarily from the Brandon Sun, featuring articles written by Harvey. Fonds also contains war-time publications from the Soviet Union, United States of America, and Canada. Topics include: the armistice, biographical accounts of war-time figures, the history of the church in Canada, human rights, communism and fascism.

Notes: CAIN No. 202618  
Subject Access: United Church of Canada  
Brandon Sun  
WW II  
Soviet Union  
Storage Location: MG 2 Brandon College Students  
2.18 Dr. Robert Harvey  
Related Material: Brandon College registration cards



## Martin Johns fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions5087>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds  
Description Level: Sub-series  
Series Number: MG 1 1.11  
Accession Number: 17-2007, 8-2009  
GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1939-1944  
Physical Description: 0.5 cm textual records  
21 b/w photographs

History /

Biographical:

Martin Wesley Johns was born to missionary parents Alfred and Myrtle Johns in Chengtu, West China on March 23, 1913. The family returned to Canada in 1925. Johns attended high schools in Tacoma, Washington; Vancouver, BC; Brandon, Manitoba; and Exeter, Ontario. He studied at Brandon College from 1928-1931 before obtaining his B.A. (1932) and M.A. (1934) from McMaster University and his Ph.D. from the University of Toronto (1938). From 1937-1946, he taught physics at Brandon College. In 1972, Brandon University awarded him an honorary Doctor of Science degree.

Johns served in the Canadian Officers Training Corps (C.O.T.C.) in 1940-1941 doing research concerned with neutron physics at Chalk River. In 1947, he joined the Physics Department at McMaster University, where he remained for the remainder of his career.

Johns married Margaret Mary Hilborn on July 15, 1939. Together they have four children: Robert, Elizabeth, Kenneth and Kathryn. Following Margaret's death c. 1979, Johns was married to Elsie North for twenty years. At the age of 90, Johns fell in love with his sweetheart Marian Thompson.

Martin Wesley Johns died on September 18, 2008 at McMaster Hospital.

Custodial History:

The notebooks in accession 17-2007 were in the possession of Wesley Wong, former member of the Physics Department at Brandon College, who mailed them to Martin Johns in 2002. Wong suggested Johns donate them to the McKee Archives, which he did on January 28, 2004. The photographs in accession 8-2009 were sent to Carla Eisler, Alumni Relations Officer, Brandon University by Ken Johns (Martin Johns' son) following Martin's death. Eisler transferred them to the Archives in February 2009.

Scope and Content:

Accession 17-2007 contains two lab record notebooks used by Martin Johns while he was a member of Brandon College's Department of Physics. The notebooks record class lists, grades, absences, and seating charts for courses Johns taught, as well as regulations for lab reports and major assignments.

Accession 8-2009 contains twenty-one black and white photographs dealing with Brandon College students, faculty and buildings. There are a few photographs of Brandon, as well as one of the Queen Mother from her visit to Brandon in 1939.

Notes: History/Bio information taken from the Martin W. Johns bio file in the Archives reading room.

Subject Access: Brandon College  
faculty  
freshman initiation  
freshies  
Assiniboine bridge  
student elections  
Second World War  
C.O.T.C.  
classroom activities

Storage Location: MG 1 Brandon College Teaching and Administration  
1.11 Martin Johns

Photographs: MG photograph storage drawer