

# S. J. McKee Archives



## Angus and Ethel McPherson; Johnston and Ella McPherson; Hattie McPherson

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4529>

Part Of:	Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection
Description Level:	Box
File Number:	6.1 - 6.20
Accession Number:	21-2006
Other Numbers:	Box F
GMD:	textual records
Date Range:	1895-1972

Angus Sellers McPherson, son of Hugh and Margaret (Sellers) McPherson, was born March 1, 1884 in Brandon Hills, MB. He died on September 5, 1953 in Brandon, MB. Angus married Ethel Pentland on July 16, 1913. Together they had three sons: Howard Johnston McPherson (m. Jessie Walsh); Alfred Angus Murray McPherson (m. Margaret Raven); and Kenneth George McPherson (m. Mary Spratt).

Ethel (Pentland) McPherson was born May 7, 1890 to Thomas (T.J.) and Annie Isabel (McVety) Pentland. Raised at Justice, MB, Ethel was a graduate of the Winnipeg Normal School; she taught for a number of years at Orange Hall and Brandon Hills. After her husband's death, Ethel remained on the family farm with her sons until she moved to Brandon in 1957. She died on September 20, 1976, in Brandon, MB.

Johnston McPherson, son of Hugh and Margaret (Sellers) McPherson, was born February 7, 1879 in Nova Scotia. He died on September 17, 1966 in Brandon, MB (Johnston McPherson was the last of the original party that settled the Brandon Hills). From 1896 until 1914, he farmed at Brandon Hills. Johnston married Ella Harvey McKay on July 26, 1918. They had no children.

Ella Harvey McKay, daughter of Simon and Sarah McKay, was born September 5, 1885 at Brandon Hills. Her family moved to Alberta and then British Columbia sometime after her birth. Ella worked in Trail, B.C. for Consolidated Mining and Smelting, before her marriage to Johnston "Jack" McPherson. She died on November 25, 1971 in Brandon, MB.

Harriet (Hattie) McPherson Morrison, daughter of Hugh and Margaret (Sellers) McPherson, was born at Watervale, NS in 1877. She attended Brandon Hills and Central School in Brandon before receiving her teacher training; she taught school at Chatfield and Dunrea. Hattie married Robert Morrison at Brandon Hills in 1920 and together they had two children: Robert Morrison Jr. (m. Lila Berdux) and Margaret Morrison (m. George Walton). The family owned a farm at Rounthwaite until 1964, at which point Hattie and Robert moved to Brandon. Hattie died in Brandon, MB in 1965.

Scope and Content:

Contains the following files:

- 6.1 Angus McPherson financial records 1909-1955
- 6.2 Angus McPherson greeting postcards
- 6.3 Angus McPherson non-greeting postcards
- 6.4 Ethel McPherson ration cards [1939-1945]
- 6.5 Ethel McPherson non-greeting postcards
- 6.6 Ethel McPherson insurance documents 1959-1968
- 6.7 Angus McPherson financial documents 1912-1962
- 6.8 Ethel McPherson correspondence 1914-1972 (some undated)
- 6.9 Angus McPherson correspondence 1899-1957 (some undated)
- 6.10 Johnston McPherson correspondence 1895-1970
- 6.11 Johnston McPherson financial records 1907-1928
- 6.12 Johnston McPherson non-greeting postcards
- 6.13 Johnston and Ella McPherson correspondence 1918-1956
- 6.14 Johnston and Ella McPherson correspondence 1957-1959 (some undated)
- 6.15 Ella McPherson correspondence 1920-1971
- 6.16 Hattie McPherson correspondence 1908-1919
- 6.17 Hattie McPherson/Mrs. Robert Morrison correspondence 1920-1935
- 6.18 Hattie McPherson greeting postcards
- 6.19 Ethel McPherson Normal School notebook
- 6.20 Ethel McPherson diaries

Notes:	Part of the Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection.
Storage Location:	Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection
	Box 4 (6.1 - 6.12)
	Box 5 (6.13 - 6.20)



## Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection miscellaneous

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4536>

Part Of: Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection

Description Level: Box

File Number: 13.1 - 13.8

Accession Number: 21-2006

Other Numbers: Box M

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1883-1952

Physical Description: 25 cm

Scope and Content:

Contains the following files:

13.1 Georgina McPherson newspaper clippings 1897-1949 (arranged by Margaret McPherson in 1952)

13.2 Angus McPherson autograph album 1901

13.3 Ella McKay McPherson 1903

13.4 Jessie Sellers autograph album 1883

13.5 Postcard albums [early 1900's] - some are loose

13.6 Souvenir cards and photo album

13.7 Angus and Ethel McPherson photograph album 1909-1915

13.8 Photograph album [turn of the 20th century] - many of the photographs appear to be of Roseland, B.C.

Notes: Part of the Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection.

Storage Location: Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection

Box 10 (13.1)

Box 11 (13.2 - 13.8)



## Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection miscellaneous

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4540>

Part Of: Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection

Description Level: Box

File Number: 17.1 - 17.30

Accession Number: 21-2006

Other Numbers: Box Q

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1862 - ca.1970

Scope and Content:

Contains the following files:

- 17.1 Trail B.C. advertisement 1911
- 17.2 Angus McPherson beaver license 1900's
- 17.3 "The Angels of Mons" by Lieutenant Dougald MacEchern
- 17.4 Brandon General Hospital school graduation invitations 1925 and 1927
- 17.5 Machinery catalogues [1909-1928]
- 17.6 Watkins Stock Raisers manual [1920's]
- 17.7 List and map of Indian Reserves and Metis communities 1959
- 17.8 Wes Pentland Orange Lodge documents and materials 1862-1940
- 17.9 Brandon Collegiate reunion ribbon October 9, 1908
- 17.10 Victory Loan documents 1943-1945
- 17.11 Boys and Girls Service Clubs exhibit ribbons 1927
- 17.12 Prize lists for Justice Boys and Girls Clubs 1923-1926
- 17.13 Voluntary War Aid bulletin #12 [World War One]
- 17.14 "Canada's War Record" July 1942
- 17.15 Douglas war memorial unveiling ceremony programme November 17, 1922
- 17.16 Travel: Waghorns Guide 1898; Manitoba Driver's Guide 1935; southland Chicago-Florida train route and schedule 1916-1917; Manitoba road map 1941-1942; CPR western lines timetables 1918
- 17.17 Movie programme for "Gone with the Wind" [1939]
- 17.18 Magazine insert of funeral of Edward VII from Illustrated London News May 24, 1910
- 17.19 Manitoba Telephone Systems directory with provincial exchanges March 1930
- 17.20 Brandon Sun articles re: Brandon Hills picnic 1963
- 17.21 "The Academy Critic" December 1909
- 17.22 Weldon's Famous Dress catalogue [1920's]
- 17.23 Alex M. Brown, Pharmacist calendar 1935
- 17.24 Empire contest from the Winnipeg Free Press (undated)
- 17.25 Annie I. Pentland speech re: Barbara Heck
- 17.26 Electoral division of Landsdowne Municipality map 1949
- 17.27 Speech on wheat sales (author unknown)

17.28 Site and situation project on Brandon history (author unknown) [1970's]

17.29 Annual report from Protestant Orphans' Home 1937

17.30 Orange Lodge memorabilia (gavel, pin) 1881-1933

Notes: Part of the Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection.  
Storage Location: Margaret McPherson family fonds  
Box 14 (Files 17.1-17.29)  
Box 15 (File 17.30 and Orange Lodge ribbons and certificates)



## Georgie McPherson

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4527>

Part Of: Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection  
Description Level: Box  
File Number: 4.1 - 4.13  
Accession Number: 21-2006  
Other Numbers: Box D  
GMD: textual records  
Date Range: 1906-1939

History /

Biographical:

Georgina Jane McPherson, daughter of Hugh and Margaret (Sellers) McPherson, was born in 1875 in Nova Scotia. Georgie never married and lived at home most of her life. She was a loyal member and supporter of the Women's Missionary Society, the Busy Bees and Brandon Hills Church. Due to ill health she lived for a time in the 1940s at Ninette Sanatorium. During her last years she resided with her sister Hattie Morrison, at Rounthwaite. Georgie died in Brandon, MB in 1953.

Scope and Content:

Contains the following files:

4.1 Chattel mortgage documents 1906-1939 (includes 1906 Land Title and 1919 Agreement for land sale)

4.2 Greeting postcards

4.3 Non-greeting postcards

4.4 Undated correspondence

4.5 Correspondence 1939-1946

4.6 Correspondence 1937

4.7 Correspondence 1936

4.8 Correspondence 1935

4.9 Correspondence 1934

4.10 Correspondence 1933

4.11 Correspondence 1932

4.12 Correspondence 1931

4.13 Correspondence 1918-1930

Notes: Part of the Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection.

Storage Location: Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection  
Box 3 (4.1 - 4.12)  
Box 4 (4.13)



## Hugh and Margaret McPherson; Libby Sellars; Kitty and Winnie Prowse

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4528>

Part Of: Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection

Description Level: Box

File Number: 5.1-5.15

Accession Number: 21-2006

Other Numbers: Box E

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1871-1936

## History /

### Biographical:

Hugh McPherson was born January 25, 1845 at West River, Nova Scotia. He married Margaret Esther Sellers (b. March 18, 1849 at Six Mile Brook, Nova Scotia) on February 5, 1875 at Six Mile Brook, Nova Scotia. The couple moved to Brandon Hills, MB c. 1880. Together they had four children: Georgina (Georgie) Jane; Harriet (Hattie); Johnston (Jack); and Angus.

The couple lived at Watervale, NS until they moved to Manitoba with the Brandon Hills settlers. Hugh travelled to Brandon Hills with the Roddick group in 1879, leaving his wife and three children in Nova Scotia. He selected the N.E. 1/4 of section 10, township 9, range 18 as his homestead. Margaret and the children joined Hugh in 1880.

Situated as it was just north of the river and slightly to the east of the end of the hills, the McPherson home became a stopping house for travellers from the south making their way to and from Grand Valley and later Brandon. The family records show that literally scores of people stayed with the family during the early years. The fee charged for a meal for the driver plus feed for a team was thirty-five cents. Nellie McClung later described the farm and the stopping-house in one of her early books.

Hugh McPherson died at Brandon Hills, MB on March 7, 1916. Margaret Esther Sellers McPherson died at Brandon Hills, MB on July 13, 1935.

In the fall of 1892, Margaret's brother, Angus Sellers and his family arrived at the McPherson home. Included in this party was Margaret's two sisters Jessie Murray and Libby Sellers. The Sellers family remained with the McPherson's until mid-summer of 1893, when they moved to their new farm at Bunclody.

In 1902, after the death of his wife Blanche, Arthur Prowse accepted Margaret McPherson's offer to foster his daughters Winnie and Kitty. The girls stayed with the McPherson's until their marriages; Winnie to Alex Brown and Kitty to Frank Albright.



Scope and Content:

Contains the following files:

- 5.1 Margaret McPherson correspondence 1903-1926
- 5.2 Margaret McPherson correspondence 1927-1931
- 5.3 Margaret McPherson correspondence 1932-1935
- 5.4 Margaret McPherson correspondence (undated)
- 5.5 Margaret McPherson burial/marriage notices 1895-1924
- 5.6 Margaret McPherson greeting postcards
- 5.7 Mr. and Mrs. H. McPherson non-greeting postcards
- 5.8 Margaret McPherson non-greeting postcards
- 5.9 Hugh McPherson notebook 1871
- 5.10 Hugh McPherson financial records 1913-1918
- 5.11 Hugh McPherson postcards
- 5.12 Libby Sellers non-greeting postcards
- 5.13 Libby Sellers greeting postcards
- 5.14 Libby Sellers correspondence 1882-1936 (some undated)
- 5.15 Kitty and Winnie Prowse correspondence and postcards 1916-1923

Notes: Part of the Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection

Storage Location: Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection  
Box 4



## George Thorman collection

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

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: MG 2 2.15

Accession Number: 11-1999

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1801-1940, 1994; predominant 1880-1940

Physical Description: 11 m (823 items); 1 diploma; 1 certificate

History /

Biographical:

George E. Thorman was born in Vancouver, British Columbia on September 17, 1913. His public school education began in Rivers, Manitoba and was completed, along with his high

school and part of his university education in Brandon, Manitoba. After completing his Bachelor of Arts General at Brandon College, Thorman attended the College of Education in Toronto for one year before beginning his teaching career at Essex High School, Essex, Ontario in 1935. After four years in Essex, Thorman transferred to the St. Thomas Collegiate Institute (STCI) in St. Thomas, Ontario.

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

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

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

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

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

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

As well, George Thorman was a founding member and served on the executive committee of the Elgin Military Museum since its inception in 1982 until the late 1990's. He contributed greatly to the library and files of this museum, particularly in the field of the War of 1812 and the Fenian Raid. The reference library of this small museum rates high in this country, largely through the efforts of George Thorman. Thorman's book collection was one of the finest and

most extensive in Western Ontario. His personal library contained a wealth of information with particular emphasis on material relating to Elgin County, the City of St. Thomas and The Hudson's Bay company. His G.A. Henty collectio was nearly complete.

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

For serveral years, ca. 1975 to the mid 1990's, Thorman hosted a TV talk show on local television interviewing persons connected to the history of St. Thomas and Elgin County. Many older residents, who have since passed away, were interviewed and the resulting tapes are an invaluable source of historical information.

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

#### Custodial History:

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

#### Scope and Content:

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

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

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

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



## George Thorman Order of the Sheaf

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions10248>

Part Of: BUPC 11 Documents, diplomas and certificates

Description Level: Item

Series Number: 11

Item Number: 11.16

GMD: textual records

Date Range: [1990s]

Physical Description: 21.5 cm x 28 cm

History /

Biographical:

See MG 2 Brandon College Students, 2.15 George Thorman for biographical information.

Scope and Content:

The item is George E. Thorman's Order of the Sheaf, Clark Hall Guild.

Storage Range: Oversized drawer 2



## George Thorman Bachelor of Arts diploma

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions10249>

Part Of: BUPC 11 Documents, diplomas and certificates

Description Level: Item

Series Number: 11

Item Number: 11.17

GMD: textual records

Physical Description: 56 cm x 43 cm

History /

Biographical:

See MG 2 Brandon College Students, 2.15 George Thorman for biographical information.

Scope and Content:

Item is George Thorman's Bachelor of Arts degree (1934) from Brandon College (McMaster University).

Language Note: Diploma is in Latin, although liberties have been taken with the language, particularly in the case of names.

Storage Range: Oversized drawer 2



## McPherson scrapbooks

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4535>

Part Of: Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection  
Description Level: Box  
File Number: 12.1 - 12.7  
Accession Number: 21-2006  
Other Numbers: Box L  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1879 - ca.1947  
Physical Description: File 12.6 is very fragile and has some water damage that has warped the pages, but hasn't damaged the clippings.  
Physical Condition: 12.5 cm

### History /

#### Biographical:

For biographical information on Angus and Ethel McPherson see the description for Box 6 of the Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection. For biographical information on Annie I. McVety (Pentland) see the description for Box 10 of the Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection.

#### Scope and Content:

Contains the following files:

12.1 Angus McPherson album (clippings, poems, etc.) - MISSING

12.2 Ethel McPherson scrapbook 1920-1942

12.3 Ethel McPherson scrapbook 1942-1947

12.4 Ethel McPherson scrapbook 1941-1954 (loose entries)

12.5 Ethel McPherson scrapbook (loose entries)

12.6 Annie I. McVitie scrapbook (poems etc. on an old school register)

12.7 Annie I. McVitie poetry 1879

Notes: Part of the Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection.  
Storage Location: Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection  
Box 10



## Johnston and Ella McPherson and miscellaneous

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4524>

Part Of: Alfred Angus Murray McPherson collection  
Description Level: Box  
File Number: 1.1 - 1.18  
Accession Number: 21-2006  
Other Numbers: Box A

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1884-1968

Scope and Content:

Contains the following files:

- 1.1 Johnston McPherson's drivers licenses and membership cards 1923-1963 (includes 2 photos)
- 1.2 Miss Ella McKay/Mrs. Johnston McPherson correspondence 1903-1919
- 1.3 Mrs. Johnston McPherson miscellaneous [1903-1968]
- 1.4 Mr. and Mrs. Johnston McPherson correspondence 1960 (includes "Story of the Brandon Hills" and "Fun and Happiness on Treasure Trail"
- 1.5 Mr. and Mrs. Johnston McPherson correspondence 1961
- 1.6 Mr. and Mrs. Johnston McPherson correspondence 1962-1963
- 1.7 (Possibly Johnston McPherson) hay account book 1902; same volume contains a travel diary
- 1.8 Johnston McPherson - Land Title (1910) and correspondence re: land purchase (1909)
- 1.9 Transcript of History of Justice, Manitoba 1956
- 1.10 Brandon Hills Busy Bees account book 1927-1934
- 1.11 Basil McDonald's land patent 1884
- 1.12 List of electors 1938
- 1.13 Brandon Hills School teacher's notebook 1927
- 1.14 List of electors in Glenwood [1915-1941] and Blanchard 1933
- 1.15 Unidentified correspondence [1902-1929]
- 1.16 Ella McPherson unsorted correspondence 1915-1952
- 1.17 Address book with newspaper clippings ca. 1940 (the bigger of the two address books)
- 1.18 Ella McPherson address book 1913-1939 (includes 2 photographs; was given to Ella McPherson by Ethel McPherson in 1913; the smaller of the two address books).

Storage Location: Margaret McPherson family fonds  
Box 1