

S. J. McKee Archives



Errol Black collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions3992>

Part Of:	RG 6 Brandon University fonds
Description Level:	Sub-series
Series Number:	MG 3 1.1
GMD:	multiple media
Date Range:	1909-2010
Physical Description:	4.2 m textual records; 5 cassette tapes; 2 cd roms, 110 photographs (colour and b/w) various sizes

History /

Biographical:

Errol Black was born on September 8, 1939 in Brandon, Manitoba. He was the son of Thomas Alexander Black, who immigrated to Canada from Limerick, Ireland in 1929, and Roberta Jean (nee Groat) Black, a native of Chatham, New Brunswick. Black attended King George Elementary, Earl Haig Junior High, Brandon Collegiate Institute for Grade 10, and completed high school through correspondence courses for Grades 11 and 12. He left school in 1956 to work a variety of jobs in Brandon, Calgary and on the west coast. He spent a short time in the Royal Canadian Navy. Errol Black undertook post-secondary education at Brandon College (1963-1965, graduated with a B.A.), the University of Alberta (1965-1967, graduated 1973 with an M.A. in economics) and Warwick University (1975-1977). Black taught economics at Brandon University from 1970 until his retirement in 2002. Following retirement he was granted Professor Emeritus status in 2003.

Errol Black has published three books, as well as many articles and reports in leading academic journals. He has a longstanding interest in the history of organized labour and working-class politics in Brandon. These remain important themes in his research and writing. He served on the Executive of the Brandon University Faculty Association for many years, and was President of the Manitoba Organization of Faculty Associations for two years. Black is also a member of the Brandon District Labour Council, a founding member of the Manitoba branch of the Canadian centre for Policy Alternatives, and a board member of the Brandon Regional Health Authority (2000-2006). He was elected to Brandon City Council in 1998, and for a second term in 2001. In 1999 he was the federal NDP candidate for Brandon-Souris.

Black married Margaret Millard from Waskada, MB in 1961, with whom he had three sons: Sean, Dennis and Tom.

Custodial History:

Accession 17-1997 was originally owned by Jim Davis, brother to Communist activist Stanley Forkin. Taimi Davis, Jim Davis' wife, mailed the collection from her residence in Ontario to Errol Black in 1994. Professor Black donated the collection to the McKee Archives. Accession 02-2003 was donated to the Archives in November 2002 by Errol Black. Accession 15-2003 was donated to the Archives on April 30, 2003 by Errol Black. Accession 17-2003 was donated to the Archives on July 15, 2003 by Errol Black.

Scope and Content:

The collection consists of a number of accessions. Accession 17-1997, dating from 1935-1936, consists of twelve of the thirteen issues of the "Unemployed Worker," published in

Brandon in the 1930s. The "Unemployed Worker" was the organ of the Brandon Unemployed Workers' Council. This Council, like its counterparts in other communities, was created by Canadian Communist Party militants. The "Unemployed Worker" covered the activities of the Unemployed Workers' Council, the plight of Brandon's unemployed, efforts by the city's unemployed to improve their lives, and City Council decisions, specifically those regarding relief policy.

Accession 02-2003, dating 1917, 1936-1939, 1970-2002 (predominant 1970-2002), contains extensive correspondence from former Brandon University Economic Professor Don Wheeler to Errol Black. In addition, the accession contains an important body of correspondence received by Professor Black from Taimi Davis written by Pat Forkin and his wife Pheobe Forkin to family members in Canada during the years 1936-1939, while Pat was a Moscow based correspondent for the Canadian Communist Party Clarion. The accession also contains personal correspondence of Errol Black dating from ca. 1970, drafts of papers, newspaper clippings, pamphlets related to labour and labour political matters. Two publications of note include: "Labour in Brandon" published by the Brandon and District Labour Council and a student guide to labour law written by George MacDowell. The accession also contains several documents related to Black's involvement in the provincial Industrial Adjustment Committee.

Accession 15-2003, dating 1930-2002 (predominant 1930-1939; 1971-2002), contains extensive clippings from the Canadian Communist Party publications "The Worker" and the "Daily Clarion" from the years 1930-1939; twenty-one personal and family photographs (b/w 3x5) of the Forkin family of Brandon, many of whom were active in the Canadian Communist Party; various historical photographs (b/w 8x10) related to the history of labour in Brandon, Manitoba; personal files containing correspondence, letters and opinion pieces to various newspapers, course outlines, research materials and draft publications, arbitration awards and documents related to Black's involvement with the Manitoba Organization of Faculty Associations (MOFA).

Accession 17-2003, dating 1970-2002, contains correspondence, a manuscript of an autobiography written by Black's father Tom Black, research files, letters to the editor and draft publications by Errol Black.

Accession 3-2011, dating 1909-2010, contains an extensive record of newspaper clippings often of Professor Black's correspondence with the Brandon Sun from the early 1970s through to 2011. Clippings relate to civic issues, labour relations, social justice, economic questions. Documents (membership cards, cards of thanks, stamps) of various kinds, and photographs of Professor Black, family members, and various labour related events including parades and rallies, appear throughout these clippings. Collection includes miscellaneous files relating to the 75th Anniversary of the Winnipeg General Strike including the Brandon Sympathetic Strike of 1919, the Brandon Greys Baseball team, the Assiniboine College BMHC lobby campaign, Brandon and Area Environmental Council, the Brandon East NDP Constituency Association. Editions (1925-31) of the Sons of England - Official Organ of the Sons of England Benefit Society - published in Oshawa, Ontario, and copies of documents related to the Commission of Inquiry (1928) into labour issues at the Brandon Mental Hospital are included. Collection also contains extensive correspondence associated with Professor Black's activities as a department member, scholar, and activist in the Department of Economics at Brandon University. Collection contains as well research materials related to the Brandon labour movement, strikes at A.E. McKenzie Seed Company 1940s, cd roms containing research materials - clippings and images - for Labour Council Anniversary book (2006), and civic politics in Brandon. Records also contain research materials on various members of the Forkin family - in particular the Pat Forkin, Tom Forkin, and Stephen Forkin (aka Jim Davis) - who were active members of the Canadian Communist Party during their adult lives. A collection of family photographs and six tape cassettes containing accounts of the experiences of single unemployed men during the Great Depression and the funeral of Stephen Forkin (Jim Davis) and correspondence from Taimi Davis the widow of Stephen Forkin (Jim Davis) supplement the sources on the Forkin family.

Notes: Photographs of Joe Forkin, Pat Forkin, Stan Forkin, Jim Davis and other members of the Forkin family are contained in Box 3 (15-2003) and Box 10 (3-2011).

Name Access: Errol Black
Stanley Forkin
Stephem Forkin (a.k.a Jim Davies)
Assiniboine Community College
Brandon Greys Baseball Team
Brandon Mental Hospital
Brandon Unemployed Workers' Council
Canadian Communist Party
Brandon
Don Wheeler
Phoebe Forkin
Pat Forkin
Daily Clarion
A. E. McKenzie
The Worker
Industrial Adjustment Committee (Manitoba)
Manitoba Organization of Faculty Associations
Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives
Sons of England

Subject Access: The Great Depression
unemployment
radical press
Brandon
labour
Communism
industrial relations
collective bargaining

Accruals: Further accruals are expected.

Access Restriction: Some restrictions. Consult the University Archivist for access.

Repro Restriction: Researchers are responsible for observing Canadian copyright restrictions.

Storage Location: MG 3 Brandon University Teaching and Administration
1.1 Errol Black

Related Material: MG 3 1.12 contains additional records related to George MacDowell; RG 6, Series 15 (BUFA) contains additional records on the Brandon University Faculty Association; RG 6, Series 7, Sub sub series 7.1.5 (Department of Economics) contains additional records related to the Department of Economics at Brandon University; RG 6, Series 7, Sub-series 7.1 (Dean of Arts) contains files on Don Wheeler and George MacDowell.



Stanley Knowles collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4395>

Part Of: RG 6 Brandon University fonds
Description Level: Sub-series
Series Number: 1.1
Accession Number: 61-1997
GMD: multiple media
Date Range: ca. 1954 - ca. 1997
Physical Description: 30 photographs – 25 at 3.5" x 8" (color and b/w); 5 at 8" x 10" (b/w); 3 magnets; 1 plaque (8 x 3 cm)

History /

Biographical:

See RG 6, series 1 (Office of the Chancellor) for biographical information on Stanley Knowles.

Custodial History:

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

Scope and Content:

Collection contains photographs and memorabilia from Stanley Knowles' political career, and his time at Brandon University. Included are pictures of Knowles with Pierre Trudeau, Queen Elizabeth, Ed Broadbent, and other national political figures. However, the majority of the pictures have to do with the time Knowles spent at Brandon University later in his life, serving as Chancellor. These pictures depict Knowles addressing crowds and attending conferences. Of the three magnets included, two are pictures of Knowles late in life, while the third is a cartoonish representation of him. The plaque is a recreation of a campaign slogan from very early in Knowles' political career.

Notes: Description written by Mike White or Robyn Mitchell (2002).
Name Access: Stanley Knowles
Pierre Trudeau
Queen Elizabeth II
Ed Broadbent
Subject Access: politics
convocation
Brandon University
chancellor
Repro Restriction: Researchers are responsible for observing Canadian copyright restrictions.
Storage Location: RG 6 Brandon University fonds
Series 1: Office of the Chancellor



Cedric Vendyback collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions12708>

Part Of: RG 6 Brandon University fonds
Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 16-2011
10-2012
GMD: multiple media
Date Range: 1972-1978
Physical Description: 23 photographs (b/w)
140 photographs (color)
playbills and newspaper clippings

History /
Biographical:

Cedric Vendyback was born August 28, 1923 in Leeds, Yorkshire, England and was educated at Harehills Council School till the age of fourteen - then becoming a labourer. At the outbreak of World War II, he educated himself for aircrew duties and in 1942 came to Canada where he was trained as a fighter pilot and was commissioned as an officer in the Royal Air Force until demonbilisation in 1946. He flew as a Reservist pilot from 1948 to 1968.

After Training College, Vendyback became a teacher in 1948 and in 1953 began empirical training with Alex Baron as an actor and director until becoming appointed as Associate of the Drama Board, later a Licentiate of The Royal Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts. In 1963, he was elected a Member of the Guild of Drama Adjudicators.

In 1971, he was selected for and offered a position as a professor at Brandon University where he opened a new drama department in January 1972.

Vendyback retired in 1992 and currently (June 2012) lives in Kelowna, B.C., where he works as a free-lance director and lecturer.

Custodial History:

Records were in the possession of Cedric Vendyback from their creation until he donated them to the McKee Archives in 2011 and 2012.

Scope and Content:

Collection consists of records related to the activities of the Brandon University Drama Society (BUDS) and the Brandon University Drama Department collected by Cedric Vendyback during his years as head of the department. The Society performed plays in the then Drama Building, the J.R.C. Evans Lecture Theatre and the Westman Centennial Auditorium.

Accession 16-2011 (1972-1978) consists of a photograph album of photographs, playbills and related newspaper clippings for Brandon University Drama Society productions staged between 1972 and 1978.

Accession 10-2012 (1972-1985) consists of: production reviews from various newspapers and playbills for BUDS productions; a historical fact sheet provided by the donor regarding the Drama Department's service to the community; student evaluation extracts; and the course description for Play Production.

Notes: History/Bio provided by Cedric Vendyback. Description by Christy Henry.
Storage Location: 2011 accessions
Related Material: Brandon University Drama Society (RG 6, 7.1.15)

John Weldon Grant collection



<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions8219>

Part Of: RG 6 Brandon University fonds
Description Level: Sub-series
Series Number: MG 3 1.21
Accession Number: 3-2008
GMD: multiple media
Date Range: 1910; predominant 1961-1977.
Physical Description: 40 cm text; prints and art work.

History /

Biographical:

Professor John Weldon Grant was born 12 March 1919 in Sunnybrae, Nova Scotia, son of Alec and Linda Grant. He was raised in Sunnybrae and graduated from Pictou Academy in 1937. Prof. Grant entered Pine Hill Divinity School to study Theology. During his ministerial internship, he taught and preached in Rabbit Lake and Biggar, Saskatchewan. He graduated from Pine Hill in 1943 and entered the mission field with the United Church.

Professor Grant moved to Trinidad & Tobago in the 1940s. There he taught in both San Fernando and Siparia, towns located in the southwest tip of the island. Weldon Grant was the first head master of the Iere High School in Siparia when it opened in 1955. Professor Grant is recalled by Kenneth Ramchand in his *The West Indian Novel And Its Background* as "his beloved English teacher" reading from an early Sam Selvon novel in a "Saskatchewan version of Trinidad dialect." That he was teaching Selvon – a West Indian writer - testifies to Grant's cultural pluralism. See Kenneth Ramchand, *The West Indian Novel and its background* (London: Faber and Faber, 2001 edition).

Professor Grant and Bernice Emma Moats were married in Gray, Saskatchewan 30 June 1954. They adopted three children in Nova Scotia and returned to Trinidad.

In 1961, the Grants returned to Canada. Weldon taught for one year at Vincent Massey High School and then joined the English Department at Brandon University where he taught in the English department until his retirement on August 31, 1984.

During a sabbatical he spent six months exploring Ireland and the poets that had been inspired by its countryside. He also loved stories of the sea and read many varied authors, both factual and fiction.

Custodial History:

Records were collected by Weldon Grant during his teaching career in Trinidad and Canada.

Scope and Content:

In the course of his teaching career in Trinidad & Tobago and at Brandon University Professor Grant acquired and retained a number of items with cultural, scholarly and sentimental value. These include The First Folio of Shakespeare, prepared by Charlton Himan, [Academic ed.]. Imprint New York : W.W. Norton, 1968. xxvii, 928 p. : port. ; 37 cm. Mr. William Shakespeares comedies, histories, & tragedies. Published according to the true original copies. London, Printed by Isaac Iaggard, and Ed. Blount, 1623.

The facsimile is described as "an ideal copy in which each page represents the best page selected from one of the 29 most satisfactory copies of the 80 copies in the Folger Shakespeare Library."

1 Self pronouncing Holy Bible, Oxford 1910.

1 print 22.4" x 17," "Baking in a Clay Oven," by Trinidad artist David Moore, June 1977 printed in Trinidad by the College Press.

2 water colour paintings 17.5" x 12" by artist "AM." One titled San Fernando (1961) one titled Royal Palm, Trinidad (1960).

1 black and white portrait 10" x 13" of Governor general Roland Michener and his wife (No: A-2) copyright Karsh dated 1970.

1 Asian art work, 12.5" x 18" embroidery on silk.

Notes:	Weldon Grant history/bio from Weldon Grant obituary Brandon Daily Sun c. April 14, 1999.
Name Access:	Weldon Grant
Subject Access:	English Department
Storage Location:	MG 3 Brandon University Teaching and Administration MG 3 1.21 John Weldon Grant



SSHRC - specialized collection grant

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4952>

Part Of: RG 6 Brandon University fonds

Description Level: File

Series Number: 8.2.3

File Number: 14

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1983-1985

Physical Description: 2 files

Scope and Content:

Files consist of correspondence and other documents related to a SSHRC grant for the acquisition of the William S. Gray Research Collection in Reading for the E.L. Christie Education Library at Brandon University.

Storage Location: RG 6 Brandon University fonds

Series 8: Library Services

8.2 S.J. McKee Archives

Box 2



SSHRC - specialized collection application

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4953>

Part Of: RG 6 Brandon University fonds

Description Level: File

Series Number: 8.2.3

File Number: 15

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1983-1987

Physical Description: 2 files

Scope and Content:

Files consist of correspondence and other documents related to what appears to be two grant proposals, one for an arrangement and description backlog reduction cost-shared cooperative program through Public Archives Canada, the other a SSHRC grant for the Indians of the Northern Plains collection in the University library.

Storage Location: RG 6 Brandon University fonds

Series 8: Library Services

8.2 S.J. McKee Archives

Box 2



SSHRC - specialized collection draft proposal

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4951>

Part Of: RG 6 Brandon University fonds

Description Level: File

Series Number: 8.2.3

File Number: 13

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1985

Physical Description: 1 file

Scope and Content:

File consists of correspondence and other documents related to a (draft) SSHRC grant proposal that was never submitted.

Storage Location: RG 6 Brandon University fonds
Series 8: Library Services
8.2 S.J. McKee Archives
Box 2



SSHRC - special collections

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4948>

Part Of: RG 6 Brandon University fonds

Description Level: File

Series Number: 8.2.3

File Number: 10

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1981-1985

Physical Description: 1 file

Scope and Content:

File consists of correspondence regarding SSHRC grants and special collections at Brandon University

Storage Location: RG 6 Brandon University fonds
Series 8: Library Services
8.2 S.J. McKee Archives
Box 1



SSHRC - specialized collections

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4950>

Part Of: RG 6 Brandon University fonds

Description Level: File

Series Number: 8.2.3

File Number: 12

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1985

Physical Description: 1 file

Scope and Content:

File consists of correspondence and other documents related to a SSHRC grant proposal to develop the Manitoba Rural Studies collection.

Storage Location: RG 6 Brandon University fonds
Series 8: Library Services
8.2 S.J. McKee Archives
Box 2