

# S. J. McKee Archives



## Audrey Silvius collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4841>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 21-2000  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1959-1988; predominant 1963-1974  
Physical Description: 19 cm textual records; 4 photographs; 1 drawing  
History /  
Biographical:

Born on February 10, 1924, in Elgin, Manitoba, Audrey Ellen Silvius (nee Honeyman) was raised in Fairfax, Manitoba on the Honeyman homestead. In 1964, she received her Indian name, Blue Star. Silvius completed her high school education in Fairfax before moving to Winnipeg in 1943, to earn her Nursing degree from Grace Hospital. She later completed her post-graduate degree in Psychiatric Nursing at the Brandon Mental Health Centre. Married to Merritt W. Silvius, Audrey Silvius raised four children, David, Kay, Lorna (Downie) and Gail (Campos) while working in her chosen field. In addition to her family and her career, she was also involved with the Brandon Council of Women and the United Church in Brandon. Silvius was the first executive director of the Brandon Indian-Metis Friendship Centre, a founding member of the local branches of the Marquis Project and Amnesty International and initiated a project called Tools for Peace. She was also involved in various other peace and human rights organizations. In 1987, she received the Order of the Buffalo Hunt from the Province of Manitoba in recognition of her work relating to women's issues. In 1992, she was awarded a Confederation medal for community service.

### Custodial History:

The records found within the collection were collected by Audrey Silvius from a number of people, including Jean Halliday, Grace Godmaire and Norma Walmsley, involved in various projects with her throughout the years. Prior to their donation to the McKee Archives at Brandon University in October and November 2000, the records were stored at Mrs. Silvius' home.

### Scope and Content:

Collection consists of meeting minutes, agendas, speeches, correspondence, newsletters, brochures, written publications and newspaper clippings. Four photographs and one pencil drawing are also included within the collection.

The records deal with the creation, activities, and history of the Brandon Indian-Metis Friendship Centre, as well as the activities of its Board of Directors. In addition, materials located within the collection can be divided into two areas: (1) those that relate to various organizations associated with the Friendship Centre itself, such as the Council of Christians and Jews and the Brandon Council of Women; (2) materials related to projects of important individuals involved with the Friendship Centre, such as the South Western Manitoba Recreation Council and the 4F Club of Minnedosa. Other records deal with general aboriginal issues in Canada during the time frame of the Audrey Silvius collection.

Notes: CAIN No. 202607. Description by Christy Henry (2000).

Subject Access: Council of Christians and Jews  
Brandon Council of Women  
4F Club  
Brandon Indian-Metis Friendship Centre  
cross cultural relations  
Aboriginal issues  
community development

Storage Location: 2000 accessions

Storage Range: 2000 accessions

Arrangement:

The collection is divided into ten (10) series:

1. The Brandon Indian-Metis Friendship Centre
2. The Scout – Friendship Centre newsletter
3. The Brandon Council of Women
4. Council of Christians and Jews
5. Aboriginal Glee Club/Dancers
6. The South Western Manitoba Recreation Council
7. 4F Club of Minnedosa
8. Miscellaneous Publications related to Aboriginal Issues
9. Miscellaneous Newspaper Clippings related to Aboriginal Issues
10. Photographs and pencil drawing



## Verna Gamey collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4868>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 5-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1917-1991

Physical Description: 90 cm

History /

Biographical:

In July 1928, Verna Althea Whitfield married William Arthur Gamey (b. 1892) in Winnipeg. For the first year of their marriage they both taught at Lockport, before moving to Winnipeg in 1929. Their only child, William Roy, was born there. In 1933, the Gameys moved to the Gamey family farm located at N1/2 12-16-22, near Strathclair. Verna's nephew Robert Kerr, from Kelowna, B.C. joined the family in 1949. Art and Verna left the farm in the spring of 1956, and moved into the house formerly owned by an aunt, Miss Bella Gamey. Art Gamey was a staunch supporter of the Co-operative movement and the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF). He died in January 1968.

Custodial History:

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

#### Scope and Content:

Fonds contains documents relating to the Manitoba Farmer's Union, including copies of its publication "The Voice of the Farmer" (1961); the United Church of Canada, primarily Strathclair (1960-1989); the Manitoba Women's Institute and the National Institute for the Blind (1959-1976); the Manitoba Federation of Agriculture (1945-1961); the Birtle Presbyterian Church (1986-1989); the Social Credit League in Manitoba and B.C. (1947, 1953); the Manitoba Provincial Council of Women (1958-1959); the Manitoba Centennial Corporation (1966-1968); and the Shoal Lake Fair and Hamiota Exhibition (1949-1981).

Fonds also contains diaries (1923-1926); various political publications, newspaper clippings, and correspondence, primarily concerning the CCF and the New Democrats (1945-1971); the Cooperative Union of Canada (1949-1964); and the Manitoba Farm Forum (1942-1963). Included as well, are clippings from the Brandon Sun dealing with a wide variety of topics (1970-1991); publications on home/farm/highway safety (1949-1975); and the Manitoba Pool Elevators (1950-1955).

Fonds also contains correspondence to and from both Verna and Art Gamey.

Notes:	History/Bio information taken from "Our Story to 1970" published by the R.M. of Strathclair and compiled by The Centennial History Committee (pp. 255-257).
Subject Access:	W.A. Gamey CCF New Democrats Social Credit League Manitoba Farmers Union Agriculture United Church Manitoba Federation of Agriculture Manitoba Provincial Council of Women
Storage Location:	1997 accessions
Storage Range:	1997 accessions
Related Material:	RG 4 Manitoba Pool Elevators; Women's Institute collections: Manitoba (8-2002), Strathclair (7-2002), Rathwell (6-2002), Minnedosa (2-2002), Cordova (4-2002), Clanwilliam (3-2002), Crocus (5-2002), Douglas (20-2006), Binscarth (12-1997), Southwest A Region (26-1997); and the Greenway Fair (35-2006).



## Cordova Women's Institute fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4861>

Part Of:	RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection
Description Level:	Collection
Accession Number:	4-2002
GMD:	textual records
Date Range:	1961-1978
Physical Description:	13 cm

## History /

### Biographical:

The Women's Institute was founded in 1897, in Stoney Creek, Ontario by Adelaide Hoodless. By 1913, institutes were established in every Canadian province. In 1919, provincial representatives met in Winnipeg to form the Federated Women's Institute of Canada. The Women's Institute was designed to promote quality of life in rural Canada and to foster the advancement of rural women. The first Women's Institute in Manitoba was organized in 1910, in Morris, Manitoba. The Cordova Women's Institute was formed on April 28, 1961. The group met in member's homes until 1966, when it began to meet in the recently closed school. The Institute raised money for scholarships and charities by holding teas, bake sales and raffles. The group also held courses for its members to learn about various subjects of interest to rural women. The Cordova Women's Institute disbanded in 1978.

### Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned in 2002 by the McKee Archives. Prior custodial history is unknown.

### Scope and Content:

Fonds contains the Cordova Women's Institute's Annual Reports from 1961-1978. It also contains the minutes from the group's meetings from 1961-1978. The financial records of the Institute from 1961-1978 are included in the fonds.

Notes: CAIN No. 202636. Description by Robyn Mitchell.

Subject Access: Joyce Cameron  
Doreen Jenner  
Merle Guyer  
Margaret Wilson  
Allison Ellis  
Margaret Anstett  
Lois Cameron  
Dorothy Curle  
Astrid Treloar  
Lillian Ritchie  
Eleanor Robinson  
Alice Cameron  
Shirley Davidson  
Cordova Women's Institute  
Village of Cordova  
Manitoba Women's Institute  
rural women  
women's organization

Storage Location: 2002 accessions

Storage Range: 2002 accessions

Related Material: Related women's institute collections in the McKee Archives include:  
  
Manitoba Women's Institute; Minnedosa Women's Institute; Cordova Women's Institute; Clanwilliam Women's Institute; Rathwell Women's Institute; Strathclair Women's Institute; Crocus Women's Institute; Southwest A Region - Manitoba Women's Institute; Douglas Women's Institute

