

# S. J. McKee Archives



## Margaret Doran Roberts collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4876>

Part Of:	RG 1 Brandon College fonds
Description Level:	Sub-series
Series Number:	MG 2 2.22
Accession Number:	18-2003, 27-2003
GMD:	multiple media
Date Range:	1901, 1915, 1924, 1932-1997; predominant 1936-1960
Physical Description:	24 cm textual records ca. 95 photographs memorabilia

### History /

#### Biographical:

Margaret (Peggy) Doran was born on May 27, 1919 in Brandon, Manitoba to parents Sol and Margaret (Honan) Roberts. Doran grew up in Brandon and was very active in theatre during her high school and college years. Her first theatrical success came at age 20, when she directed Brandon Little Theatre's production of "Send Her Victorious," which received top honours in the Manitoba Drama Festival.

Following her graduation from Brandon College in 1941, she trained as a nurse at Montreal's Royal Victoria Hospital during the Second World War and worked at Vancouver General Hospital for almost a year.

On August 25, 1945, Peg married Dennis Roberts, whom she had met in high school. Dennis, a music graduate from the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, became interested in psychology after serving overseas with the Royal Canadian Air Force, so the couple moved to Toronto so that he could pursue a psychology degree at the University of Toronto. After Dennis graduated in 1950, the family moved to Sudbury, where Dennis and Peg became actively involved with the education and cultural life of the city. Peg was especially involved with the Sudbury Little Theatre Guild (SLTG), which was founded in 1948.

Between 1950 and 1956, Peg directed or acted in five plays. Her directorial works included: *Blithe Spirit*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *The Glass Menagerie* and *Antigone*. Peg was recognized for her directing of *Antigone* when she won the Edgar Stone Trophy for Directing in the Dominion Drama Festival in 1955. For the 1956-1957 season, Peg assumed the role of President of the SLTG. During this time, she successfully petitioned the Dominion Drama Festival to create a new region and thus in 1957, the Quebec-Ontario Theatre Association (QUONTA) was founded and Peg acted as its first regional chairperson. Peg's further accomplishments included co-founding and serving on the board of directors of the Sudbury Theatre Centre, as well as acting as drama consultant for the Sudbury Secondary School Board.

Peg was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1997 and, shortly after, in 1998, she moved back to Toronto. She died there on April 2, 2003. Peg and Dennis had three children: Judith Marion (b. June 23, 1946), Steven John (b. September 8, 1950), and Patricia May (b. April 5, 1955).

Custodial History:

After Peg's death in April 2003, materials in the collection were gathered and donated to the S.J. McKee Archives by her children Judith, Steven and Patricia Roberts on July 19, 2003.

Scope and Content:

Collection consists of textual records, photographs and other material that belonged to Margaret Doran Roberts. The textual materials include various personal letters, yearbooks, newspaper articles, journals, graduation diplomas, playbills and other miscellaneous records. The collection also includes approximately 95 photographs, mostly personal photographs of weddings and family, but also professionally taken group photos of the play casts. Other materials in the collection include various artefacts kept by Peg throughout her life.

Notes:	Description and inventory by Ayn Lewandoski (2003).
Storage Location:	MG 2 Brandon College students 2.22 Margaret Doran Roberts
Related Material:	Additional archival material pertaining to Peg and Dennis Roberts is located in the archives at Laurentian University in Sudbury, Ontario.

Arrangement:

Inventory of the collection:

Pack of matches from Mona's Dress Shop  
Cigar that belonged to Sol Doran  
Water colour picture, in frame, of St. Paul's Cathedral by Ev Lindsay Hunt from Brandon (1930s)  
Earl Haig Graduation bracelet and Grade IX notebook belonging to Peg Doran  
Nursing diploma and various other memorabilia from Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal  
Unidentified pictures of war squadron, World War II  
RCAF Christmas card from Sergeant William S. Day  
Possible home economic project of Peg Doran filled with cake recipes  
Photograph: Gordon Savage and Edith Laycock, plus Royal Winnipeg Rifles locket given by Gordon Savage to Peg Doran (with pictures of Gordon and Peg inside)  
Francis Bernard Roberts' (Dennis' father) materials: correspondence with Mayo Clinic, photographs and negatives of Indian Chief etc.  
Shares belonging to F.B. Roberts  
Unidentified photos of children from Brandon (2)  
"Willa Cather and the West," essay by Dennis Roberts  
Various letters and memorabilia in letter case including:  
- personal letters  
- Brandon College Annual Arts Banquet programme 1941  
- Brandon College Annual Commencement programme 1941  
- Brandon College Alumni Dinner program 1941  
- Season ticket Manitoba Drama League Provincial Finals Festival 1939  
- Manitoba Medical College 4th Annual Ball dance card 1902  
- Postcard to Peggy - University of Manitoba Arts Building 1939  
- Various report cards from Brandon Collegiate  
- Brandon Little Theatre 1936 production "Hay Fever" programme  
- Shares from the Brandon Golf and Country Club 1968  
- Margaret Doran's United Church of Canada Member's certificate 1933  
Blue scribbler from Expression class, filled with various poems, stories, plays etc. belonging to Peg Doran  
Miscellaneous newspaper clippings ranging from 1940-1979 (when dated)  
Brandon Sun 75th Anniversary edition Saturday January 19, 1957  
Sol Doran's daily journal - 1963 (the year of his death)  
Picture of Bessie Scott, housekeeper to Sol and Margaret Doran  
Wedding photographs, Peg Doran and Dennis Roberts - one in glass frame  
"Through the Gateway to Yesteryear" written by Eric Wells and Gordon Tucker and Friends

through the Gateway to Yesterday - Winnipeg, Eric Flett and Gordon Robertson and friends,  
 with inside inscription from Una Johnston  
 Sheet music (11) of F.B. Roberts, father-in-law of Peg Doran  
 Sheet music (8) of May Roberts, mother-in-law of Peg Doran  
 Sheet music (4) of Peg (Doran) Roberts  
 Unidentified school project, possibly a rough copy of a play, maybe Peg Doran's handwriting  
 Photo of cast of play "Out to Sea" 1940  
 Tube containing various graduation diplomas of Dennis Francis Roberts  
 Peg Doran's graduation diploma, Brandon College 1941; letter and certificate recognizing the  
 change from Brandon College to Brandon University; recognition certificate of attendance to  
 50th Reunion (1991) as well as photographs from the event attended by Peg and one of her  
 Brandon friends, Jean Downing  
 Identification bracelet, probably belonging to May Roberts from hospital in London when  
 Dennis Roberts was born  
 Small glass from Smith Drug Store  
 Two teaspoons, with initials G.E.B.- George Edward Bennest - uncle of Doh (Doran) Bennest  
 Hammond, lawyer in Winnipeg (Doh's mother, Nell Doran, married Fred Bennest)  
 Sterling silver child's cup (Peggy) and baby spoon, both belonging to Peg Doran  
 Various photographs  
 Dennis Roberts RCAF memorabilia including a hat, epaulettes, brass buttons etc.  
 Dennis Roberts' Men's Handicap Singles tennis trophy 1932  
 L.W.G.A. trophy 1933-34, believed to be awarded to Margaret [Mrs. Sol] Doran, an avid golfer  
 Several pages of photographs of family holidays  
 - 1958 - to Cornwall, Ontario to look for Doran relatives before St. Lawrence Seaway flooded  
 low-lying graveyards  
 - 1959 - when family rented a cottage in Clear Lake  
 Two framed photos of Peg Roberts: as a baby and as a toddler  
 Wedding announcement of Peg Doran and Dennis Roberts  
 Dauphin Musical Society photograph 1924  
 Playbills: Othello (1943); Wonderful Town; and The King & I  
 Winnipeg Blue Bombers Annual Blue & Gold Football Game program 1959  
 Play scripts: "Symphony in Illusion;" "Buddy Speaks a Piece;" "At the Photographer's;" and "At  
 the Matinee"  
 YMCA Winnipeg song sheet  
 The New Era: 1937 & 1938  
 The Sickie: 1939, 1940 & 1941  
 The Quill: Vol. XXIX No. 4 (Oct. 26/38); Vol. XXIX No. 5 (Nov. 4/38); Vol. XXIX No. 6 (Nov.  
 9/38); Vol. XXXI No. 8 (Dec. 12/40)



## Clare Coburn collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions10229>

Part Of:	RG 1 Brandon College fonds
Description Level:	Sub-series
Series Number:	MG 2 2.35
Accession Number:	6-2010, 5-2014
GMD:	multiple media
Date Range:	c. 1953-1958
Physical Description:	1.5 cm
	1 scrapbook
	8 b/w photographs

Physical Condition: Script/music/lyrics: pages are somewhat foxed and dog-eared.  
Scrapbook: some items are fragile, torn or creased. Many items are loose within the pages of the scrapbook. Photographs: good.

History /

Biographical:

Clare Wallace Coburn was born in Winnipeg, MB on January 4, 1937. He attended Brandon College from 1954 to 1959, graduating with a science degree with the Class of 1959. During his years at Brandon College Coburn served as co-convenor of Freshie Week and the Freshie Parade, Manager of the Board of Publications, Class President, and Secretary of the Finance Board.

For the first three years after leaving the College he worked as a chartered accountant. Coburn then went into business with his father and brother manufacturing the Atom-Jet Humidifier; over time the focus of the company shifted to seeding and fertilizing equipment and seeding activity.

Clare Coburn married Dilys Pearce, with whom he had three children. Following his divorce from Pearce, Coburn married Darlene Wallin. Clare Coburn died on October 30, 2013 in Brandon, MB.

Custodial History:

Clare Coburn found the materials in accession 6-2010 a storage area in the basement of Clark Hall in 1957. There was some thought of re-staging the production so he took the script. In 2009 he re-discovered the script in a trunk in his house. Coburn gave the materials to Carla Eisler in Alumni Relations in July 2009. Eisler transferred them to the Archives on July 28, 2009.

Accession 5-2014 was donated to the McKee Archives on November 2, 2010.

Scope and Content:

Accession 6-2010 consists of a copy of the script, music and lyrics for Mr. College Spirit.

Accession 5-2014 consists of a scrapbook made by Coburn to document his years at Brandon College. Scrapbooks includes: freshie week (1954), athletic (Hockey team 1954-1955, Cheerleaders 1954-1955) and graduation (1956 class portrait in the Prince Edward Hotel; 1956 graduates portrait; 1958 class portrait in the Prince Edward Hotel; 1958 graduates portrait; 1958 Senior Stick Jack Jubenvill and Lady Stick Elaine Fraser at graduation banquet; 1958 Shirley Young and Clare Coburn at graduation banquet; 1958 faculty group portrait at graduation banquet) photographs; various programmes (Homecoming football game - Notre Dame Hounds vs. Brandon College Caps; 1955-1957 Annual Commencement; 1956-1959 Graduating Banquet; 1957 and 1959 Brandon College Teacher Training Course Graduating Banquet; 1956 Brandon College Graduation Exercises Normal School Teacher Training Course; Brandon College Literary Board - "Time Out for Ginger" (1955), "Life with Mother" (1956); dance cards (1957 and 1958 Graduating Banquet, 1957 Teacher Training Graduating Banquet); tickets (1957 and 1958 Graduation Banquet; 1957 Teacher Training Course Banquet; 1957 Valentine Valse at the Agricultural School); 1956-1957 Student Handbook; 1955-1956 student election ephemera; the original Class of 1958 yell composed by Dick Tingley and Keith Haskins; examination timetables (1955, 1956); "The Feather" newsletter (february 1959; 1955-1956 Color Night shield decoration; Coburn's 1954-1955 Athletic Board pass; Coburn's 1955-1956 class timetable; a sheet of Brandon College cheers; a copy of the Graduation Hymn (George Willis); a sheet of Brandon 75th Anniversary stationary; newspaper clipping re Graduation Banquet (1957); a letter to students written by Coburn as Manager of the Board of Publications re purchasing the annual yearbook (from 1957); three copies of the 1956 Sickle.

Notes:

History/Bio information provided by Clare Coburn via the Alumni Office and his obituary. Description by Christy Henry.

Name Access: Mr. College Spirit  
Clare Coburn  
George Willis

Storage Location: Textual records: 6-2010

Photographs: RG 5 photograph storage drawer (5-2014)



## Barbara Cooper collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4729>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: MG 2 2.9

Accession Number: 32-1999

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: ca. 1916-1967; predominant 1916-1921

Physical Description: 0.5 cm textual records  
5 photographs

Physical Condition: Excellent

### Custodial History:

These items were received from Ms. Cooper's father C.G. "Kelly" Stone , Class of 1921 and her mother Tena Turnbull, Class of 1921 and her aunts Jane Turnbull, Class of 1916 who later taught at the College and Bessie Turnbull , Class of 1918.

### Scope and Content:

Collection consists of 5 photographs; an article Campus News 1967 on "In memoriam Dr. Jane"; and a photocopy of a letter from the Governor General Lord Tweedsmuir (John Buchan) regarding Jane Turnbull's book "Essential Traits of French Canadian Literature". A note and xerox copy of a photograph of Ernestine Whiteside March 1914 to Jennie Turnbull.

### The photographs include:

1. one b/w photo 8 cm x 6 cm Initiation Brandon College 1916
2. one b/w photo 8 cm x 13.5 cm class of 1921
3. one b/w photo 5 cm x 8 cm Class of '21
4. one b/w photo 17 cm x 26 cm the College Band 1915-1916
5. one sepia photo 15 cm x 23 cm Class of 1919

Notes: Description available on CAIN under Charles G. Stone fonds.

Storage Location: MG 2 Brandon College Students  
2.9 Barbara Cooper



## Lawrence Skeoch collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4896>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: MG 2 2.19

Accession Number: 2-1999

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1931-1932

Physical Description: 3 cm textual records  
1 drawing

### History /

#### Biographical:

Lawrence Alexander Skeoch was born in 1910. After two years of teaching, he joined the Class of 1932 at Brandon College in 1929. While at Brandon College, Skeoch performed in "Disraeli" and was elected Senior Stick.

Skeoch taught Economics at Queen's University.

Lawrence Skeoch died on April 22, 2001.

#### Scope and Content:

Collection consists of the Brandon College Annual Commencement program 1931, the Brandon College Annual Graduating Banquet program 1931, the Brandon College Annual Graduating Banquet program 1932, the Brandon College Annual Commencement program 1932, Skeoch's placecards from the 1931 and 1932 Graduating Banquets, an invitation to a tea put on by Mrs. Hurd and Mrs. Westcott, Class of 1932 past history booklet (produced by the Brandon University Alumni Association in 1992), The Quill Vol. XXII, Nos. 1-8 and a drawing by Laurie Smith of Lawrence Skeoch in the role of "Disraeli."

Notes: Some editions of the Quill have been moved to RG 6, 14.5.3.1 (BUSU, Publications, The Quill, Editions). Description by Christy Henry.

Storage Location: MG 2 Brandon College Students  
2.19 Lawrence Skeoch



## Donald Freeman collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4923>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds  
Description Level: Sub-series  
Series Number: MG 2 2.25  
Accession Number: 5-2016  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1921, 1926-1927  
Physical Description: 1.5 cm textual records; 5 photographs (b/w)  
Physical Condition: The banquet programs are a little worn.  
Custodial History:

Accessioned in 2007 by the McKee Archives. Prior custodial history unknown.

### Scope and Content:

Collection consists of the Brandon College Annual Graduating Banquet programs for 1926 and 1927. The 1926 program contains the autographs of the graduating class members. The 1927 program contains a letter to Freeman from Gertrude Godley (Class of 1927).

The collection also includes a Souvenir Class of 1926 book made by Freeman. It contains the College yell; a drawing of the Class of 1926 badge; the Class of 1926 colours, motto and yell; the Class song; Brandon College student and faculty autographs (including Annie Wright, Harris MacNeill and J.R.C. Evans); the Class lit programme; and a list of winter parties. The souvenir book also contains five black and white photographs: one of Clark Hall and the Original Building, and four of what is probably various Class of 1926 members (one is labelled "Roland Christian"). Finally the book contains Donald Freeman's examination marks in Part 2 Matriculation for Arts from the University of Manitoba (1921).

Notes: Description by Christy Henry.  
Storage Location: 2016 accessions



## Olive Wilkins collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4305>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: MG 1 1.3

Accession Number: 2-2016

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1912-1925

Physical Description: 6 cm textual records  
photographs

### History /

#### Biographical:

A biography of Olive Agnes Cross Wilkins can be found under the RG 1 Brandon College fonds, BC 9 Clark Hall women's residence.

#### Custodial History:

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

#### Scope and Content:

Collection consists of records collected by Olive Wilkins during her tenure at Brandon College. The ephemera in the collection includes: play programmes; recital programmes; two photo postcards; invitations; dance cards; place cards; and a necklace. Collection also contains the Treasurer's Book for the Patriotic Committee (Clark Hall Literary Society 1917-1918) and departmental reports for Clark Hall, the Resident Master, the Music, Business, Academic, and Commercial departments.

Name Access: Olive Wilkins  
Thomas Wilkins  
T. Russell Wilkins  
Patriotic Fund  
Clark Hall Literary Society  
Memorial Gymnasium  
Spanish flu

Subject Access: recitals  
plays  
department heads  
dance cards

Finding Aid: Item level inventory available

Storage Location: 2015 accessions





## Margaret Hawley Speers collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions9831>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds  
Description Level: Sub-series  
Series Number: MG 2 2.32  
Accession Number: 19-2009  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1925, 1928  
Physical Description: 1 photograph  
1mm textual records

### History /

#### Biographical:

Margaret Hawley Speers was born on February 18, 1908 in Alexander, MB. She attended Alexander School, Brandon College (Class of 1928), the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Manitoba receiving Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Education degrees.

Speers had a lengthy teaching career, first as Principal of schools in Saskatchewan at Ravenscrag and Scotsguard, then in Manitoba at Basswood, Newdale and Miniota. In Winnipeg, she taught at Rupertsland Girls' School, and then in Winnipeg School District No. 1 at Cecil Rhodes, River Heights and Kelvin High School.

Following her retirement Speers enjoyed travelling and various forms of volunteer work, including that at the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature and the Winnipeg Art Gallery. She was also a member of St. Andrew's River Heights United Church.

Margaret Hawley Speers died September 26, 2008 at St. Boniface Hospital.

#### Custodial History:

Items came from the estate of Margaret Hawley Speers. They were donated to the McKee Archives by her cousin David Speers in July 2009.

#### Scope and Content:

Collection consists of a copy of the 1927-1928 Sickle and a photograph of the Brandon College Arts Class of 1928 taken in 1925.

Notes: Description by Christy Henry. History/Bio information taken from Speers' obituary which appeared in the September 29, 2008 edition of the Winnipeg Free Press.

Storage Location: Photograph: Oversize drawer 5  
BUPC 9.102

Sickle: RG 6 Brandon University fonds  
Series 14: BUSU  
14.5 BUSU publications  
14.5.1 The Sickle  
14.5.1.2 The Sickle - archival copies



## Georgina Matiation (Hill) collection

<http://archives.brandonu.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 validictorian 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 Westminister 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)



## Carole Paintin-Dence collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4068>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds  
Description Level: Sub-series  
Series Number: MG 2 2.12  
Accession Number: 8-1997  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1900-1964; predominant 1948-1964  
Physical Description: 85 cm textual records  
21 color slides

### History /

#### Biographical:

Carole Paintin-Dence was raised in Souris, Manitoba and attended Brandon College in the early 1960s. While at Brandon College she was active in the Glee Club, I.R.C. and French Clubs. She was also Quill reporter for the Music Department.

#### Scope and Content:

Collection consists of a small collection of Brandon College memorabilia and slides. The memorabilia includes programs from various Brandon College Student Association events, Alumni News, and a copy of "The New Brandon College School of Music" by Peggy Sharpe. The slide images include: the opening of the Music Building 1963 (3) - Sir Ernest MacMillan, Lady MacMillan and Lorne Watson; raising the class flag 1964 (2); the JRC Evans Lecture Theatre 1964 (1); Brandon College Original Building 1964 (1); Freshie Parade 1962 (1) - glee club float and 1963 (3) - "wedding of Jack & Jill"; French Immersion class Summer 1964 (4) - Mme Ragot, Neil Forsyth, Henri Francq; party for John 1963 (2) - Ken May, Morlene Sparrow, John Sushelnitsky, Norma Walmsley, Poppy Cumming, Chris Cassels, Pat Brake, Eleanor Riesberry; W.U.S. parties (4) - Joan Garnett, Norma Walmsley, Claude Paintin, Brian Foster, Rae Westcott, Clark Brownlee, Nina Kosakawiecz, Berth Paintin

Collection also includes school texts and pedagogical guides - forty-seven in total - dealing with reading, spelling, social studies and particularly music.

Notes: Description by Christy Henry.  
Name Access: World University Service  
Subject Access: freshie week  
building openings  
class flags  
convocations  
Storage Location: MG 2 Brandon College Students  
2.12 Carole Paintin-Dence  
Related Material: Paul Panton fonds



## Robert Troy Blair fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13300>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds  
Description Level: Sub-series  
Accession Number: 18-2013

GMD:	multiple media
Date Range:	September 1950 - June 1954
Physical Description:	2 scrapbooks (7.5 cm)
Physical Condition:	Excellent

Robert (Bob) Troy Blair was born on March 11, 1930 in Brandon, MB. His first six years were spent in Alexander, MB, where his father and uncle operated a grocery store. In 1936, his family moved to Souris, MB, where his father ran a grocery store. Blair received his primary and high school education, with the exception of Grade 12, in Souris.

Blair remembers his school years in Souris as mainly happy years. He was involved with both piano and organ music lessons. He was never interested in physical sports with the exception of golf. World War II broke out in September of 1939. Souris became the site of #17 SFTS and home base for the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan. Many of the service men came from England, Australia and New Zealand. Blair's mother always entertained at least two for dinner every Sunday. Rationing of sugar, tea and coffee, butter and meat became a way of life. Blair had the job every Saturday of pasting the ration coupons into booklets. It was also when he was in Grade 6, that Blair realized he was more attracted to boys than to girls. Perhaps it was because so many attractive airmen surrounded him!

In November of 1947, the Blair family relocated to Alexander where Bob Blair finished his Grade 11. This was not a good year due to bullying. In September of 1948, Blair moved to Winnipeg to attend United College for his Grade 12. Upon completion of Grade 12, Blair remained in Winnipeg until June 1950. He worked at a number of businesses - Gestetner, Eaton's Mail Order shoe department, Maple Leaf Milling, and the drug store in the Medical Arts Building. In September 1950, he entered Brandon College. Blair was very active in extra-curricular affairs while at Brandon College; particularly drama. Following his B.A. he enrolled in the Education Faculty, having decided to become a teacher.

Blair's teaching career spanned 34 years. All but one year was spent in the Brandon School Division. On his first day of teaching in the Division he met the man with whom he would spend the next 46 years. He was primarily a teacher of English and Music. A highlight of his career was exchange teaching in Sacramento, California in 1961. Orientation for exchange took place in August in Washington, D.C., where Blair had the opportunity to meet President J.F. Kennedy. He vividly recalls the morning that JFK was assassinated on November 22, 1963. In September 1965, Blair assumed the principalship of Park School and in September of 1969, the same position at George Fitton School where he remained until his retirement in 1989. He was a member of the Brandon Principals' Association, the National Association of Elementary School Principals, and served as President of the Brandon Teachers' Association. Among his major accomplishments during his time as principal were the introduction of a centralized school library in both Park and George Fitton Schools and the integration of special needs students into regular classroom situations wherever possible. He was made a Life Member of the Manitoba Teachers' Society (Brandon) in June 1990. Following his retirement Blair worked as a Library Automation Consultant (1989-1993).

Blair also had numerous community involvements during his time in Brandon. He was active in the Brandon Little Theatre (Best Actor Award, Manitoba Drama Festival for One Act Plays in 1963), the Brandon Festival of the Arts, the Eckhardt-Gramatte National Music Competition, and Arm Industries to name a few.

Following the death of his partner in 2001, Blair moved to Saskatoon to live with a younger gay couple. He has been active in volunteerism: as an Ambassador for the Saskatoon Airport Authority, assistant with the Saskatoon Health Region's Immunization Clinics, information clerk for the Festival of Trees, data entry clerk for the Saskatoon Music Festival, on the Board of the Saskatoon Jazz Society, and Hospitality Coordinator for the Saskatoon Jazz Festival.

As of October 2013, Bob Blair continues to live in Saskatoon, SK.

Custodial History:

Records were in Blair's possession until he donated them to the McKee Archives on Homecoming weekend October 2013.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of two scrapbooks containing 145 photographs and ephemera (play and graduation programs, tickets, pins, newspaper clippings) documenting Bob Blair's days at Brandon College. Social events and extra-curricular activities are heavily featured in the two scrapbooks. Also included are graduation portraits for the Classes of 1951, 1952 and 1953. Of the 145 photographs all are black and white except for two photos of the Class of '53 reconvoation (May 1993), and one from the Class of '53 reunion (2003).

Notes: History/Bio provided by Bob Blair (October 2013).

Name Access: Brandon College  
Angus Jackson  
Pat Magnacca  
Freshie Week  
Senior Stick  
Lady Stick  
Harvest Cabaret  
Sigma Mu  
Glee Club  
Bob Blair  
Jack Yeomans  
Walter Dinsdale  
Don Cronk  
Bob McPherson  
Lorne Watson  
Marg Sanderson  
Hazel Turnbull  
Claudia Dickey  
Gordon Bradley  
Terry Prysiazniuk  
Diane Lissaman  
Joan Garnett  
Doris Penstock  
Dianne Macdonald  
Ivey Graham  
Joyce Pickard  
Cathy Crawford  
Robertta Wilkie  
Marie Kullberg  
Isabel Lyon  
Shirley Pryce  
J.R.C. Evans  
Marjorie Kyles  
Jo Thordarson  
Ross George

Edward Perry  
Ernest Birkinshaw  
Barney Thordarson  
Fall Formal  
Variety Night  
Installation Night  
Paul McKinnon  
The Saga of Brandon  
Bill White  
Ron Bell  
Jerry Jerret  
Rosa Ziolkowski  
Murray Smith  
Class of 1951  
Harold Moffat  
Bill Sutherland  
Murray Coulthard  
Frank Adamski  
John McLean  
Jack Medd  
Jack Muir  
Bill Fraser  
Ken Morrison  
Clifford Kitson  
Ray Brown  
Mike Doig  
Ernie Shaw  
Jack Scott  
Doreen Dennison  
Lois Kennedy  
Lorna Prokaska  
Ferne Henderson  
Doreen Fedoruk  
Marg Leckie  
Freshie Parade  
Helen Batho  
Fred Calverly  
Jim Crawford  
Verda Peden  
Olga Evasko  
Betty Finch  
Fred Schwarok  
Jim Struthers  
Muriel Bedford  
John Brown



Freshie Royalty  
Booster Night  
Mary Jane Sexton  
Marilyn Rust  
Mildred McMurray  
Mary-Jane MacLachlan  
George Leask  
George Jakubowski  
Jack Purvis  
My Sister Eileen  
Edith Laycock  
Ivey Robbins  
Ken Campbell  
Mac Andrews  
Marion Simmons  
Arnold Minish  
Madeline Irving  
Ernie Criddle  
Don Dillistone  
Gordon Hunter  
Cathy Nelson  
Jim Kelleher  
Anne Kelleher  
Neil McKellar  
Ron Doupe  
Bruce Watson  
Neil MacKay  
Peter Prokaska  
Roger Ramsden  
Bill Bridgett  
Graham Hunt  
John Muirhead  
David Brodie  
Murray MacDonald  
Dr. Kidd  
Cam Finlay  
Blair MacRae  
Donna McPhail  
Louise Hoey  
Agnes Nicholson  
Jean Allan  
Joan Urie  
Royce Richardson  
Don Rousell  
Bill Black

Ken McNeeley  
Rosalie Prokopchuk  
Jean Morrison  
Jacice Forrest  
Fuzz Fedoruk  
Brian Davison  
Joan MacLachlan  
First International Relations Club Conference  
Minot Teachers' College  
International Peace Gardens  
Bruce McIlroy  
Jean Shingfield  
Campaign Week  
Sigma Mu Dance  
Arnold Wawruch  
Jack Meyers  
Jack Hilton  
Bev Francis  
Bert Gogol  
Dick McDonald  
Frank McKinnon  
Stuart Craig  
John Blackwood  
Norman Hedison  
Bob Hilton  
John Minions  
Kay Oliver  
Mary Jane MacLachlan  
Ben Ward  
Ken Gunning  
Trevor McNeely  
Hilton Stewart  
Jerry Graham  
Bette Mitchell  
Joan Curlock  
Faye Myers  
Jean Hannah  
Mary Babuick  
Mr. College Spirit  
John Augustus McGee  
Don Dillstone  
Flora Johnson  
Del Gusdal  
Color Night  
Don Burrows

Jim Casey Trophy  
Marj Kyles  
Prince Edward Hotel  
Class Day  
Dahl Harvey  
Shirley Mitchell  
Al Burton  
Irving Bateman  
Joyce Marie Thordarson  
Eileen McFadden  
Patricia Pope  
Louise Astle  
Ariel Genik  
Western Canada Student Teacher Conference  
Brandon College Glee Club  
Be Your Age  
Ike Prokaska  
Joan Hilton  
Fred Lynch  
Garth Kidd  
Ivy Robbins  
Joyce Dunham  
Shirley Popple  
Grand March  
Westley Wong  
Stewart Perdue  
H.V. Kidd  
J.E.M. Young  
Adelene Bailey  
Mrs. Evans  
Dennis Anderson  
Stanley Knowles  
Edward Schreyer  
Lou Visentin

Subject Access:	Student government initiations student activities dances basketball talent shows drama productions major productions Hockey graduations programs parades dorm rooms student housing literary "B's" college letters class flags banquets
Storage Location:	2013 accessions



## Ruth and Archie MacLachlan fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions10093>

Part Of:	RG 1 Brandon College fonds
Description Level:	Sub-series
Series Number:	MG 2 2.33
Accession Number:	23-2009
GMD:	multiple media
Date Range:	1930-1934
Physical Description:	27 cm textual records 13 b/w photographs
Physical Condition:	Very good. Some of the letters written in pencil are a little faded.

## History /

### Biographical:

Ruth Alverda Wade was born July 11, 1912 in Brandon, MB to James and Etta Alverda. She had two younger siblings: sister Gwen and brother Sherry. The Wade family resided at 1837 Princess Avenue, Brandon, MB. Ruth graduated from Brandon College with the Class of 1933.

During her time at Brandon College Ruth met Archie MacLachlan. Archibald James MacLachlan was born in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan in 1907. He had four brothers: Howard, Edgar, Bruce, Curly and Stirling. When Archie was quite young the MacLachlan family moved to Alberta. Archie came to Brandon c. 1930 to attend Brandon College. During the summers of his years at Brandon College Archie held pastoral charges in Alberta. The first two summers were spent in the Peace River Country and the second two in Etzikom in Southern Alberta. This is the period during which the letters in the fonds were written.

Ruth Wade married Archie MacLachlan on September 19, 1934 in Brandon, MB. Following the wedding the couple moved to Hamilton, ON. Archie graduated from McMaster University with his Bachelor of Divinity degree in 1937. During this period their daughter Joann Ruth was born. After his ordination as a Baptist Minister the family moved to North Bay where Archie was minister for four years. The next six years were spent in Vancouver as Archie worked as minister at Fairview Baptist Church in Vancouver. The couple's sons Archibald James and Lachlan Wade were also born during this period.

At the end of the Second World War Archie decided to go back to school. The family travelled to Brandon, where Ruth and the children remained for part of a year while Archie went ahead to Andover Newton to enroll and find a parish that would support him while he went to school. The family was reunited in Penacook, New Hampshire; they lived there for two years while Archie completed his Masters in Sacred Theology. After a brief additional period of study at Harvard University, the MacLachlan family returned to Canada, settling in Toronto while Archie finished his second Masters degree (Psychology) and held positions as interim minister and then assistant minister at York Minster Church. Following the two years in Toronto they moved to Winnipeg.

Eventually Archie left the church ministry and became Chaplain at the Hamilton Psychiatric Hospital. He also continued to train students in Pastoral Education through the courses he had begun at the Divinity College of McMaster University. He remained at the Hospital until his retirement.

During their married life Ruth was kept busy raising the couple's children and with her work as a minister's wife, particularly her work in the community. She sat on a number of community boards, including positions as President of the Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec and a member of the Board of Governors for McMaster University's Divinity School.

Ruth MacLachlan died on October 29, 1983 in Mississauga, ON.

Archie married Kathleen Marie (Green) French (b. January 22, 1908, d. June 1, 1998) on June 20, 1987. Archie MacLachlan died in December 1997.

### Custodial History:

Records were in the possession of Ruth and Archie MacLachlan until their deaths. At that time the records were inherited by their daughter Joann. Joann MacLachlan donated the records to the McKee Archives on October 24, 2009 at a donation event held as part of Homecoming 2009.

#### Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of approximately 197 letters written by Ruth and Archie to each other during the spring and summers of 1932, 1933 and 1934. The letters were written during the courtship of the couple and contain details not only on about their lives in Brandon and Alberta but also more personal information about their relationship, families and future plans. Because Ruth and Archie were students at Brandon College during this period the letters also often reflect on events and personalities related to the College, as well as their own personal studies.

Fonds also contains a scrapbook compiled by Ruth during her Brandon College years. It includes photographs, newspaper clippings, graduation cards, event programs, place cards and other ephemera. There are also a few miscellaneous documents - McMaster University examination papers, handwritten sheet music, postcards - that appear to have belonged to Archie. Fonds also contains a graduation photograph of Ruth.

Notes:	Description by Christy Henry. History/Bio information taken from Joann MacLachlan's book Ruth and Archie: Brandon and Brandon College 1932-1934.
Name Access:	Ruth Wade Ruth MacLachlan Archie MacLachlan Addrene Edwards Dorreene McGuinness Brandon Brandon College Trochu, Alberta Etzikom, Alberta First Baptist Church

Subject Access:	land vehicles Christianity city life rural life convocations Correspondence crime post-secondary education mountains pastoral activities postal service parsons religious officials Radio Broadcasts tennis rail transportation weather social events music clothing theology hobbies liberal arts horses road transportation travels touring depression era
Language Note:	Some of the letters contain German phrases.
Storage Location:	Textual records: 23-2009
Related Material:	Photographs: RG 5 photograph storage drawer Ruth and Archie's daughter Joann edited the letters into a book entitled Ruth and Archie: Brandon and Brandon College 1932-1934. A copy of the book is located in the Rare Book collection of the John E. Robbins Library, Brandon University. William Ridley Sheridan Wade collection (28-2007)
Arrangement:	<p>The letters are arranged in chronological order with all of Archie's letters to Ruth for a particular year grouped together, followed by Ruth's letters to Archie for that same year. For preservation purposes photographs in the scrapbook have been removed and placed in photograph storage, with their corresponding scrapbook page number noted on the back. Because of the fragile condition of the scrapbook a note has been made concerning the original location of many items that have become detached from their original location in the scrapbook. These items remain with the remnants of the scrapbook in one archival housing. Note that Ruth did not place items on every page so the numbering is not sequential for scrapbook items. Some items were loose at the back of the scrapbook and therefore have no corresponding page number.</p>

