

S. J. McKee Archives



Eileen McFadden interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14472>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH276.MacF

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: May 1983

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:02:01]

History /

Biographical:

Eileen May McFadden was born on July 6, 1930 on section 18-12-20 in the Rural Municipality of Daly. Eileen attended Rivers Consolidated School and then Wheat City Business College. In 1949, she enrolled at Brandon College, graduating with a BA in 1953. She completed her bachelor of library science degree from McGill University in 1954, and her MLS from the University of Toronto in 1978. In 1954-1956, she worked in the library at the University of Toronto and from 1956-1959, in the library at the University of Manitoba. In 1959, she was appointed Director of Library Services at Brandon College/Brandon University, a position she held until 1977. In 1978, she was appointed University Archivist, a position she held until her retirement in 1997. Active in provincial and national library organizations, Eileen was also involved in historical and women's organizations and was a long time member of the Order of the Eastern Star and the Manitoba Liberal Association. In 1990, she received the Women of Distinction award from YWCA. She never married. Eileen McFadden died on August 24, 2011 in Brandon, MB. She is buried at Rivers Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Eileen McFadden about the history of Brandon College, including Prairie College, from approximately 1880-1940. The interviewer is Effie McPhail.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and McFadden's obituary.
Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

Related Material: Brandon College fonds

Audio Tracks



E.H. Birkinshaw interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14468>

Other Title Info: E.A. Birkinshaw
Part Of: Westman Oral History collection
Description Level: Item
Item Number: OH132.Bir
Accession Number: 35-1998
GMD: sound recordings
Date Range: April 1982
Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:02:12]
History /
Biographical:

Ernest Arthur "Birk" Birkinshaw was born on November 24, 1908 in Rapid City, MB. He attended United College in Winnipeg, completing a degree in mathematics, before joining the faculty at Brandon College, later Brandon University, in 1931. A member of the Department of Mathematics his entire career, Birkinshaw took postgraduate studies at the Institute of Technology, Pasadena and the University of Toronto. He retired from Brandon University in 1975, and was granted the title of Professor Emeritus. Birkinshaw married Kathleen Egilsson (1916-1966) and they had one daughter, Sigrid. Ernest Birkinshaw died suddenly in North Delta, BC on November 24, 1986 and is buried at Victory Memorial Park in Surrey, BC.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with E.H. Birkinshaw about his career, experiences and memories at Brandon College. The interviewer is Bill Burgess.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Birkinshaw's obituary. Although Birkinshaw's given names were Ernest Arthur, the Voices of Yesteryear project labelled all of the documentation for this interview as E.H. Birkinshaw. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English
Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)
Related Material: Brandon College fonds

Audio Tracks



R. H. Hannah interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14499>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH131.Han

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: April 1, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:02:12]

History /

Biographical:

Richard Harold "Doc" Hannah was born on July 9, 1916 in Wakaw, SK. He obtained his BA in biology at McMaster University before joining the staff at Brandon College in 1948, teaching botany and zoology. In 1962, after completing a MSc degree at the University of Minnesota, he returned to Brandon College and was appointed head of his department. He served as faculty advisor to the Athletic Board for twenty years and for over 30 years, Doc was a coach, manager, trainer and the inspiration behind the Brandon College Cap and Brandon University Bobcat hockey teams. It was his involvement with College athletics that led to the nickname "Doc." When he retired in 1981, he was granted the title of Professor Emeritus. In 1993, Doc was inducted into the Brandon University Dick and Verda McDonald Sports Wall of Fame.

Doc married Reta Bernice (1914-2005) and they had three children: Richard, Sharon and Patrick. Doc was a member of the AF and AM (Tweed Lodge No. 113), the Royal Order of Scotland and Khartum Temple Shrine. He served as Grand Master of Manitoba (1984-1985). Richard Hannah died on September 6, 1990 in Brandon, MB. He is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Doc Hannah about his career at Brandon College/Brandon University. Subjects include: JRC Evans and faculty members; chapel services; the Literary Society; sports; campus buildings; university status; college life and operations. The interviewer is Bill Burgess.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and the Manitoba Historical Society website. Description by Christy Henry.

Access Restriction: Content Warning: This interview was recorded in the early 1980s, and contains some language that would now be considered racist in nature. Listener discretion is advised.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

Audio Tracks



Flora Cowan interview - part I

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14473>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH036a.Cow

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: May 1983

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:58:45]

History /

Biographical:

Flora C. Cowan (nee Cruickshanks) was born on July 15, 1902 in Edinburgh, Scotland. She immigrated to Canada with her family in 1913. Flora married Edgar Clarence Cowan (1894-1951) on August 15, 1922. The couple had two children: Franklin and Ruth. Edgar, who served in the First World War with the Royal Canadian Engineers, was employed as municipal engineer at Springfield, MB. In 1927, Edgar was appointed district engineer with the highways branch in Boissevain; a year later he was transferred to Brandon and the family moved to the city.

For much of her life, Flora was a leader in the Brandon community. During the Second World War, she mobilized Brandon's volunteer efforts and in 1953, she was appointed Dean of Women at Brandon College. In 1954, Flora became only the second woman ever elected to the Brandon City Council. She served on the council for 16 years and stepped down as Dean of Women in 1969. A champion for Fairview Personal Care Home, she chaired its board for more than 20 years. Flora Cowan Hall on the Brandon University campus is named in her honour. Flora Cowan died on September 25, 1986 in Brandon, MB. She is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Flora Cowan about her involvement in community and civic affairs in Brandon, 1927-1981. This first hour includes the following subjects: church involvement, including the union of the Methodist and Knox churches, the Women's Auxiliary and volunteer work; the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire (IODE); her recollections during her tenure as Dean of Women at Brandon College, including the death of JRC Evans, the official opening of the McKenzie Building, the expansion of campus, the layout of Clark Hall, social functions, the granting of the University charter, the retirement of John E. Robbins, the BJ Hales Natural History Museum and her retirement; her work as an alderman on Brandon City Council; and the history of Fairview Personal Care Home. The interviewer is Marjorie Fitton.

Notes: History/bio information from the records, the article reporting Edgar Cowan's death by drowning and Flora Cowan's obituary. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

Related Material: Brandon College fonds



Maria Nelson, Laura Cole and Alex McPhail interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14492>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH275.Nel

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: June 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:02:01]

History /

Biographical:

Maria Corlette Nelson (nee Grant) was born on December 29, 1900 on the family homestead at Forrest, MB. Maria attended Clark Hall Academy at Brandon College and continued her education until she received her BA in 1925, and her Certificate of Education from Toronto in 1927. Returning to the prairies, she spent the next six years teaching. In 1930, Maria married Wesley Gordon Nelson (1899-1981) and moved to the Nelson farm in the Sparling district. The couple had three daughters, Catherine, Helen and Marion, the latter who died at 3 years of age. In 1960, Maria entered Brandon College's teacher training course (TTC). Maria Nelson died on May 16, 1996 in Winnipeg, MB. She is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Ella Laura Cole was born on in 1897 in the RM of Elton in what is now the North End of Brandon, MB. She came to Brandon, MB in 1923 to attend business college. Laura worked for Hughes and Company for over 39 years, then worked for Gordon West until retiring in 1969. Laura was a member of Knox United Church. She never married. Laura Cole died on January 12, 1989 in Brandon, MB. She is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Peter Alexander (P.A.) Alex McPhail was born on July 11, 1897 in the RM of Elton in what is now the North End of Brandon, MB. Raised on the family farm in Forrest, MB, he was the eldest son of Archie and Mary McPhail who came to Manitoba from Ontario. Alex took over the farm in 1915, and farmed there until 1949, when he and his family moved to Brandon. During the First World War, Alex as a lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Air Force. He married Effie Irene Weir (1900-1999) in 1933 and together they raised four children: Ronald, Malcolm, Archie and Donna. Effie and Alex were both active members of their community. Alex was especially involved in the agricultural community and won many prizes over the years for his livestock. From 1954-1965, Alex was the General Manager for the Provincial Exhibition Association of Manitoba and the Manitoba Winter Fair. He also served one term as the president of the Canadian Association of Exhibitions. Additionally, Alex was on the Brandon General Hospital board, the Brandon College board, and was a member of the Kiwanis and Shriners clubs. He was also involved in local sports. Both Alex and Effie McPhail were active members of the United Church. Alex McPhail died on June 28, 1989 in Brandon, MB. He is buried at Humesville Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Maria Nelson, Laura Cole and Alex McPhail about the early days in the North End of Brandon, MB. The interviewer is Effie McPhail.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and obituaries for the interviewees. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

Audio Tracks



Marion Hannah interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14493>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH037.Han

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: April 6, 1983

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:19:16]

History /

Biographical:

Marion Catherine Hannah (nee Elliott) was born on August 19, 1904 in Boissevain, MB. She moved to Brandon in 1923, to study nursing at Brandon General Hospital (BGH), graduating in 1926. During the 1930s, Marion served as the first president of the Junior Hospital Aid. During the Second World War she assisted in setting up programs through the YWCA for wives of servicemen and organizing in the serviceman's canteen. In 1942, she opened the first Red Cross blood donor clinic in Brandon and supervised the work for three years. From 1947-1956, Marion was the evening supervisor at Brandon College; she also taught health classes to the first teacher training students (TTC) at Brandon College. Marion joined the Provincial Department in 1958, working in general health programs and later specializing in geriatric programs, where she set up the Brandon Civic Senior Citizens Inc. Drop-in Centre and the Christmas Cheer Bureau. She retired in 1970.

Throughout her life Marion served as president of a number of organizations: The Brandon Council of Women; Brandon General Hospital alumni; the Manitoba Association of Registered Nurses (District 2); the Brandon Civic Senior Citizens Inc.; and Hobbs Manor Resident's Council. She was a life member of St. John's Ambulance Society, the Manitoba Association of Registered Nurses, Brandon Civic Senior Citizens Inc. and the Baptist Women's Organization. In 1967, Marion was chosen Brandon's "Woman of the Year" for her long record of community service. In retirement Marion was heavily involved in the planning and building of Hobbs Manor. She was also a member of First Baptist Church for more than 70 years. Marion married Howard Eldon Hannah (1894-1977) in 1928. The couple had two daughters, Jean and Katherine. Marion Hannah died on November 12, 1997 in Calgary, AB. She is buried at the Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Marion Hannah about the origin of Park Community Centre, 1935-1946. The recording is a copy of an earlier interview conducted in the fall of 1976. The interviewer is Jack Senchuk.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Hannah's obituary.
Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

Audio Tracks



Molly Vance interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14698>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH111.Van

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: June 2, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [0:45:00]

History /

Biographical:

Edna Mary "Molly" Vance (nee Bell) was born on May 18, 1912 in Prince Albert, SK. After high school, Molly attended business college in Price Albert and teacher training in Saskatoon. She then Attended Brandon College from 1933-1935, with a one year absence to teach in Dry Gully, SK. In 1935, Molly moved to Kenton, MB, where she taught until her marriage to Garnet Vance (1912-1952) on December 31, 1938 in Brandon, MB. Molly stopped teaching to raise their sons, Alfred and Raymond, but returned to the classroom following her husband's death in 1952. She taught in Kenton until 1970 and then Hamiota until 1974, before retiring. In her free time Molly enjoyed travelling and art. Molly Vance died on September 18, 2001 in Hamiota, MB. She is buried at Greenwood Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Molly Vance about teaching in country schools. Interviewer is Shirley Hunt.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Vance's obituary.
Description by Christy Henry.

Audio Tracks



Andrew Mutter interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14509>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH161.Mut

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: November 9, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:39:44]

History /

Biographical:

Andrew Frederick "Fred" Mutter was born on January 7, 1913 in Brandon, MB. He was educated in Brandon, including at Brandon College. From 1942-1945, Fred served with the RCAF overseas. Fred returned to Brandon after the war, where he joined the family run grocery store, Mutter Brothers. He continued to operate the business until deciding to close in April 1975. In 1986, the contents of the store were donated by the Assiniboine Historical Society to the Daly House Museum. Fred never married. Fred Mutter died on July 3, 1984 in Brandon, MB. He is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Fred Mutter about the history of Mutter Brothers store. The interviewer is Hazel Rose.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Mutter's obituary.
Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

Audio Tracks



Maria Nelson interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14685>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH052.Nel

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: February 12, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [0:50:00]

History /

Biographical:

Maria Corlette Nelson (nee Grant) was born on December 24, 1900 in near Forrest, MB in the Humesville district. Maria took her high school at the Academy in Brandon, then graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from Brandon College in 1925. She took her teacher training in Toronto at the College of Education. Her first teaching post was in Kamsack, SK in 1926; it was followed by postings in Kinley and Saskatoon before Maria married Wesley Gordon Nelson (1899-1981) on December 25, 1930. Following the marriage, the couple resided on Wesley's farm south of Justice, MB. Together they had three daughters: Catherine, Helen and Marian.

Maria took additional teaching courses at Brandon University in her late 50s, completing the teacher training program. She also took a library course at Minneapolis. She then organized the library at Harrison High School in Brandon. Maria's other interests included membership in the Canadian Federation of University Women and the Brandon Council of Women, as well as her church women's group (WMS). Maria Nelson died on May 16, 1995 in Winnipeg, MB. She is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Maria Nelson about the education of rural children and the Christmas concert. Interviewer is Betty Gibson.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and articles from the Brandon Sun about the Nelson's anniversary in 1981 and BU Homecoming 1985.
Description by Christy Henry.

Audio Tracks



Florence Hinch interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14582>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH197.Hin

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: February 24, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:15:00]

History /

Biographical:

Florence Alice Hinch (nee Matthews) was born on October 21, 1898 in Charlottetown, PEI. She came to Brandon with her parents James Ewen and Deborah (Lowther) Matthews, as well as brother Ralph, in 1911. James Matthews served in the Canadian Parliament for a number of years. Florence received her education in Brandon, graduating from Brandon College. After teaching at Hunter and Hayfield schools, she married John S Hinch (1888-1954) in October 1926. Together they had two children: John and Howard. Florence and John farmed SE 2-10-20 in the RM of Whitehead. She was an avid supporter and player at the Roseland Curling Rink, and also participated in many school and church activities. Florence Hinch died on April 16, 1991 in Brandon, MB. She is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Florence Hinch about the history of J.E. Matthews and family. Interviewer is Effie McPhail.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Hinch's obituary. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Audio Tracks



Muriel Patmore interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14498>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH272.Pat

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: May 18, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:58:36]

History /

Biographical:

Muriel May Patmore was born on May 1, 1905 in Brandon, MB. She attended Brandon Collegiate Institute (BCI), and after graduation, trained as a teacher, teaching in various communities in Manitoba, including Rankin, Bloomsbury, Killarney and Elgin schools. Later, Muriel was employed by Brandon Creamery, the Fair Board office and managed the seed department for Patmore Nurseries. Actively involved in community organizations, Muriel was Vice-President of the Brandon Arts Club, a member of the Horticultural and Natural History Societies, an avid supporter of the Brandon School of Music, and a member of the Westman Philharmonic Choir. She also provided music scholarships for the Brandon College/Brandon University School of Music. Muriel was a long time member of St. George's Anglican Church, where she sang in the choir. She had a great interest in the history of Brandon and the Assiniboine Valley, environmental issues and world events. She never married. Muriel Patmore died on September 20, 1999 in Brandon, MB. She is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Muriel Patmore about her life and the Patmore story. The interviewer is Isabelle Heeney.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Patmore's obituary.
Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

Audio Tracks



John T. McGregor interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14659>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH069.MacG

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: March 2, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [1:00:00]

History /

Biographical:

John Taylor McGregor was born on January 6, 1904 in North Brandon, in the RM of Elton. He received his education at Grand Valley School, Brandon Collegiate Institute (BCI) and Brandon College. John began farming in 1926, and continued until 1969. During his farming years he also worked as a steam engineer at Shilo. He retired to Brandon. John was a member of Toastmasters No. 293, the Assiboine Historical Society and a founding member of the Manitoba Agricultural Hall of Fame. He also contributed to Daly House Museum and wrote many pioneer stories, some of which were published by the Brandon Sun. He was a member of First Presbyterian Church in Brandon.

John married Clara Louise Barber (1901-1965) in 1936. Following her death, he married Brandon school teacher Isabelle Johnston (1907-1989). There were no children for either couple. John McGregor died on December 21, 1988 in Brandon, MB. He is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with John McGregor about agriculture and the McGregor family history. Interviewer is Frank Anderson.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and obituaries for John, Isabelle and Clara McGregor. Description by Christy Henry.

Audio Tracks



Jean Cameron Mains and Myrna Hicks Dring interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14486>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH310.Mai

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: November 24, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:53:01]

History /

Biographical:

Jean Louise Mains (nee Cameron) was born on September 16, 1907 in Boissevain, MB. She attended school in Boissevain, one year at Brandon College and received her teaching certificate from the Brandon Normal School in 1926. She taught at Dunallen, Royal and Fairburn schools until her marriage to Clifford Mains (1890-1948) in 1937. The couple had three daughters: Barbara, Elizabeth and Susan. Clifford and Jean farmed until 1944, and then moved to Boissevain. Jean did hospital books until 1950, then moved with the children to Brandon for a year so she could take a secretarial course. Returning to Boissevain, she worked at the agricultural office for nine years then returned to school again, this time taking a business course at Red River College. For the next thirteen years Jean taught business at the Boissevain High School. A member of the Eastern Star, IODE, the UCW Group of St. Paul's United Church and the Beckonging Hills Activity Club, Jean enjoyed travelling and playing bridge. Jean Mains died on February 15, 2003 in Boissevain, MB. She is buried at Boissevain and Morton Cemetery.

Myrna Dring (nee Hicks) was born on May 18, 1944 in Ninga, MB. A part-time speech aide at Boissevain School in the early 1980s, she took her psychiatric nursing training in Brandon, Winnipeg and Ninette from 1962-1965. On July 31, 1965, Myrna married Ray Clinton Dring (1942-2005), and the couple adopted a daughter, Nancy. After the marriage, the family lived in Boissevain, where Ray was involved with the family business Dring Laminated Structures Ltd. In 1985, the Drings moved to Winnipeg. Myrna Dring continues to live in Winnipeg, MB.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Jean Cameron Mains and Myrna Hicks Dring about social life in the town of Boissevain from approximately 1900-1980. The interviewer is Bernice Pettypiece.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Mains' obituary. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

Audio Tracks



Flora Cowan interview - part II

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14645>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH036b.Cow

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: May 1983

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:22:46]

History /

Biographical:

Flora C. Cowan (nee Cruickshanks) was born on July 15, 1902 in Edinburgh, Scotland. She immigrated to Canada with her family in 1913. Flora married Edgar Clarence Cowan (1894-1951) on August 15, 1922. The couple had two children: Franklin and Ruth. Edgar, who served in the First World War with the Royal Canadian Engineers, was employed as municipal engineer at Springfield, MB. In 1927, Edgar was appointed district engineer with the highways branch in Boissevain; a year later he was transferred to Brandon and the family moved to the city.

For much of her life, Flora was a leader in the Brandon community. During the Second World War, she mobilized Brandon's volunteer efforts and in 1953, she was appointed Dean of Women at Brandon College. In 1954, Flora became only the second woman ever elected to the Brandon City Council. She served on the council for 16 years and stepped down as Dean of Women in 1969. A champion for Fairview Personal Care Home, she chaired its board for more than 20 years. Flora Cowan Hall on the Brandon University campus is named in her honour. Flora Cowan died on September 25, 1986 in Brandon, MB. She is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Flora Cowan about her involvement in community and civic affairs in Brandon, 1927-1981. This second cassette includes the following subjects: the War Services Centre, which operated during the Second World War; special events in the city, such as the visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip and Brandon's centennial year; and special awards bestowed on Flora Cowan. The interviewer is Marjorie Fitton.

Notes: History/bio information from the records, and Cowan's obituary.
Description by Christy Henry.

Audio Tracks

Edward McGill interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14558>



Part Of: Westman Oral History collection
Description Level: Item
Item Number: OH041.McG
Accession Number: 35-1998
GMD: sound recordings
Date Range: November 14, 1983
Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:00:00]

History /

Biographical:

Edward Robert McGill was born on September 21, 1912 in Vancouver, BC. The family returned to Manitoba in 1919, and settled in Brandon, MB. Ed received his schooling in Brandon, including one year at Brandon College before he enrolled at Queen's University. Graduating in 1934, with a Bachelor of Commerce, Ed was employed by Inco at Sudbury before enlisting in the RCAF in 1940. He was posted to No. 4 Service Flying School in Saskatoon and subsequently became a flying instructor. While in Saskatoon Ed married Marguarite Eve Shaw (1918-1992) on May 30, 1942. Together they had four children: Mickey, Douglas, Patricia and Frances. From Saskatoon, Ed was posted to No. 19 EFTS in Virden where he became C.S.D. In 1943, Ed was sent overseas with the City of Edmonton 418 Night Intruder Squadron. In 1944, he was appointed CO of "B" flight and promoted to squadron leader.

Ed returned to Brandon in 1946, where he was appointed secretary manager of the Brandon Flying Club. While in this position, Ed also served as chief flying instructor, airport manager, co-founder and president of Maple Leaf Aviation and helped to organize the Flying Farmers in Manitoba. Upon his retirement in 1971, the Brandon Airport was renamed McGill Field to honor his contribution to aviation in western Manitoba. In 1969, Ed was elected to the Manitoba Legislature as the member for Brandon West. He was re-elected in 1973 and 1977, then retired from active politics in 1981.

Ed was committed to community service, and was a past president of the Brandon Kinsmen Club, the Brandon Gegneral Hospital (BGH) board of directors, the Brandon Golf and Country Club and the Wasagaming Golf Club. He served as a member of the Brandon Police Commission and was appointed to the federal Civil Aviation Tribunal. Ed was a member of Tweed Lodge #113 AF & AM, a member of the Brandon Scottish Rite and past master of the Brandon Chapter of Rose Croix. Edward McGill died on December 3, 1996 in Brandon, MB.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

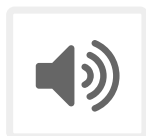
Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with the Honorable Edward McGill about his life history. Interviewer is Marjorie Lange.

Notes: History/bio information taken from the records and McGill's obituary.
Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Audio Tracks



J. Harvey Tolton interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14482>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH219.Tol

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: May 17, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:01:50]

History /

Biographical:

James Harvey Tolton was born on February 19, 1898 on section 11-11-24W near Oak Lake, MB. Harvey farmed at Oak Lake from 1918-1948, at which point he semi-retired.

Subsequently, he and his wife moved to Brandon and Harvey bought a half-section of land east of the city where he was able to dedicated himself to perfecting oat seed. Throughout his life as a pedigreed seed grower, Harvey received local, national and international acclaim; he won the World Championship for registered seed oats and the World Championship for field crops for three consecutive years at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto, and he became a favourite of the Quaker Oats Company. He was forced to retire from seed growing due to an accident and illness.

When he was not farming, Harvey was serving his community. He was a member of the Brandon College Board of Governors, the Oak Lake and Harding agricultural societies, the Manitoba Agricultural Society advisory board, the Manitoba Provincial Exhibition Association, the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair, the Canadian Shorthorn Cattle Association, the Manitoba Seed Growers' Association, the Manitoba Swine Breeders' Association, the Agriculture Institute of Canada, the Kiwanis Club and Big Brothers. He also served on the council of the RM of Woodworth and on local school boards, was active in church affairs and 4-H. The Tourist Convention Association of Manitoba gave Harvey the Good Citizenship Award for making Manitoba a better place to live, and in 1976, Brandon University awarded him an honorary doctor of laws degree. In 1991, he was inducted into the Manitoba Agricultural Hall of Fame. Harvey married Jennie Eleanor Titmus (1896-1982) on December 8, 1919 and together they had five children: Roland, Roma, Phyllis, Fern and Beverley. Harvey Tolton died on July 29, 1987 in Brandon, MB. He is buried at Rosewood Memorial Gardens.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Harvey Tolton about the history of the Tolton family, Harvey's life experiences and early agriculture. The interviewer is Frank Anderson.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Tolton's obituary.
Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

Audio Tracks



J. Harvey Tolton interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14632>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH220.Tol

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: May 1, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [0:30:00]

History /

Biographical:

James Harvey Tolton was born on February 19, 1898 on section 11-11-24W near Oak Lake, MB. Harvey farmed at Oak Lake from 1918-1948, at which point he semi-retired. Subsequently, he and his wife moved to Brandon and Harvey bought a half-section of land east of the city where he was able to dedicated himself to perfecting oat seed. Throughout his life as a pedigreed seed grower, Harvey received local, national and international acclaim; he won the World Championship for registered seed oats and the World Championship for field crops for three consecutive years at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto, and he became a favourite of the Quaker Oats Company. He was forced to retire from seed growing due to an accident and illness.

When he was not farming, Harvey was serving his community. He was a member of the Brandon College Board of Governors, the Oak Lake and Harding agricultural societies, the Manitoba Agricultural Society advisory board, the Manitoba Provincial Exhibition Association, the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair, the Canadian Shorthorn Cattle Association, the Manitoba Seed Growers' Association, the Manitoba Swine Breeders' Association, the Agriculture Institute of Canada, the Kiwanis Club and Big Brothers. He also served on the council of the RM of Woodworth and on local school boards, was active in church affairs and 4-H. The Tourist Convention Association of Manitoba gave Harvey the Good Citizenship Award for making Manitoba a better place to live, and in 1976, Brandon University awarded him an honorary doctor of laws degree. In 1991, he was inducted into the Manitoba Agricultural Hall of Fame. Harvey married Jennie Eleanor Titmus (1896-1982) on December 8, 1919 and together they had five children: Roland, Roma, Phyllis, Fern and Beverley. Harvey Tolton died on July 29, 1987 in Brandon, MB. He is buried at Rosewood Memorial Gardens.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Harvey Tolton about 4-H Clubs and the Kiwanis Club. Interviewer is Frank Anderson.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Tolton's obituary.
Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English



Ann Barter, Daisy Patmore and Muriel Patmore interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14521>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH030.Bar

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: April 27, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:60:00]

History /

Biographical:

Alice Ann Barter was born on June 27, 1908 in Brandon, MB. She worked at A.E. McKenzie Seeds Co. in various departments doing secretarial work. She never married. Ann Barter died on December 18, 1993 in Brandon, MB. She is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Mary Anne Alice "Daisy" Patmore was born on March 30, 1903 in Brandon, MB. She was the eldest of five children born to Henry Lewis Patmore and Alice Maud Mary Ball. Patmore purchased a tree nursery in Brandon in 1888, and was a leading exponent of shelterbelts and tree planting, as well as a leading figure in beautifying the city of Brandon. Daisy attended Brandon Collegiate Institute and the Brandon Normal School. She taught for one year and then joined the family business, Patmore Nurserview Ltd. and Patmore's Florists; Daisy owned and operated the floral part of the business and was a floral designer from 1934 until she retired in 1973. During these years, she was very active in the International School of Loral Design; she also spoke and gave demonstrations about floral arrangements for many clubs and associations. Daisy was a member of the Quota Club, the Natual History Society of Brandon and the Brandon Horitcultural Association, as well as a member of St. George's Anglican Church and the Anglican Church Women's Group. For many years she was the alternate organist for the Church and played at services at the Brandon Mental Health Centre and Fairview Personal Care Home. Daisy never married. Daisy Patmore died on August 21, 1999 in Brandon, MB. She is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Muriel May Patmore was born on May 1, 1905 in Brandon, MB. She attended Brandon Collegiate Institute (BCI), and after graduation, trained as a teacher, teaching in various communities in Manitoba, including Rankin, Bloomsbury, Killarney and Elgin schools. Later, Muriel was employed by Brandon Creamery, the Fair Board office and managed the seed department for Patmore Nurseries. Actively involved in community organizations, Muriel was Vice-President of the Brandon Arts Club, a member of the Horticultural and Natural History Societies, an avid supporter of the Brandon School of Music, and a member of the Westman Philharmonic Choir. She also provided music scholarships for the Brandon College/Brandon University School of Music. Muriel was a long time member of St. George's Anglican Church, where she sang in the choir. She had a great interest in the history of Brandon and the Assiniboine Valley, environmental issues and world events. She never married. Muriel Patmore died on September 20, 1999 in Brandon, MB. She is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Ann Barter, Daisy Patmore and Muriel Patmore about growing up in St. George's Anglican Church in Brandon, MB. Interviewer is Isabelle Heeney.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and the obituaries for Daisy and Muriel Patmore. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Audio Tracks



Betty Gibson interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14442>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH058.Gib

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: October 21, 1981

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:39:31]

History /

Biographical:

Betty Margaret Gibson was born on July 14, 1911 in Brandon, MB. She attended primary school in Alexandra and Park schools, and took her teachers education at the Brandon Normal School. She began her teaching career in 1929. Teaching first in Deloraine and Chater, in 1936, Gibson travelled to South Africa to be the headmistress at Kingsmead College, Johannesburg. She returned to Brandon ten years later to take up the post of Principal at Fleming School. During this time she completed a BA from Brandon College (1959). Attaining her Master's degree in Early Childhood Education, she taught at the University of Saskatoon and Brandon College/University. At Brandon University she was heavily involved with Indigenous teacher programs, including BUNTEP, PENT and IMPACT. She was briefly the Assistant Superintendent for the Brandon School Division (1967-1968). Gibson was active in the Children's Aid Society, co-created and appeared in a television show called "Common Sense About Reading" (CBC), and was the author of a children's book called "The Story of Little Quack." Gibson received the Centennial Medal in 1967, and the J.M. Brown Award (1974), for contribution to education in Manitoba. She was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Liberal Laws from BU in 1975, and even in retirement continued to teach education courses at BU and help children with reading disabilities. In 2003, she was inducted into Brandon University's Hall of Fame. Betty Gibson School in the Brandon School Division is named in her honor. Gibson never married. Betty Gibson died on February 23, 2001 in Brandon, MB. She is buried at Rosewood Memorial Gardens.

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Betty Gibson about her teaching career. Interviewer is JE Bateman.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy created 2021 (R. Hess)

Documents

Marie MacDonald interview
<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14457>

Description Level:	Item
Item Number:	OH163.MacD
Accession Number:	35-1998
GMD:	sound recordings
Date Range:	May 12, 1982
Physical Description:	1 audio cassette [00:14:50]

[illegible]

History /

Biographical:

Maude Marie MacDonald (nee Evans) was born on May 23, 1910 in Indian River, Ontario. In 1913, her family moved to Manitoba, settling in the Brookdale area. She attended school in Brookdale and at Brandon College, graduating with a BA in 1930. After graduating from Normal School in Saskatoon, she taught at Justice, Brookdale, Brandon, Kemnay, Ochre River and Carberry, before retiring in 1971. Marie married George MacDonald (1913-1989), who she met while teaching in Ochre River, in June 1937. The couple had three children: Janet, Karen and Donald. In 1951, Marie and George bought Maxhame, a farm near Brookdale. She continued to live on the farm after George died. Marie loved gardening and reading, and in her later years, she enjoyed travelling. Marie MacDonald died on January 25, 1996 in Winnipeg, MB and is buried in Carberry Plains Cemetery.

Custodial History:

As part of the Westman Oral History Collection, this collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. The original tapes from the Westman Oral History project were deposited in the Brandon Public Library. Copies of these originals were made by Margaret Pollex of the Brandon University Language Lab at the request of Eileen McFadden, University Archivist in the early 1990s. These copies compose the collection held in the McKee Archives.

Scope and Content:

Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Marie MacDonald about education in Manitoba, particularly her experiences as a teacher from 1931-1972. Interviewer is Dorothy P. Martin.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and MacDonald's obituary.
Transcript by Victoria Newham (2020). Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Audio Tracks

Documents

MacDonald, Marie (1910-1996)

Westman Oral History Collection

Interview Date: 1982-05-12

Interviewer: Dorothy P. Martin

Location: MacDonald's home-Brookdale area-2007-12-18

Transcript: Victoria Newham

Date Transcribed: 2020-10-02

Recording Format: Cassette Tape


Length of Recording: 00:14:00


(Beginning of Tape/Slide A)

(00:00:12)

Today is May the 12th, 1981. The following is an interview with Marie MacDonald, a retired high school teacher who lives with her husband George on a farm in the Brookdale area. This interview is being taped for the Westman Oral History Association project "Tales of Westman" by Christy Martin of Winnipeg. Mrs. MacDonald taught almost 35 years in schools from Ochre River in the North to Kemnay in the North. Besides that, she taught a variety of other things. She is a nurse and was a teacher. When not teaching in a classroom, she was busy taking pupils. She will always be remembered for her wonderful teaching ability. She will always be remembered for her wonderful teaching ability. She will always be remembered for her experiences. You must have really liked your profession to stay with it all.

OH163_MacDonald_tra
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