

# S. J. McKee Archives



## George Thomas interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14593>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH245.Tho

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: April 29, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:26:00]

### History /

### Biographical:

George Thomas was born on December 24, 1888 in Birmingham, England. George married Beatrice Maud Taylor (1890-1970) on May 12, 1913 in Birmingham, England. The left for Canada a week later and settled in Neepawa where George's sister Alice already lived. In 1917, George started with the Canadian National Railway (CNR) as a Locomotive Foremans Clerk. George retired from the CNR in 1954, and promptly began a successful greenhouse. In his early days in Neepawa, George was Captain of the Neepawa Soccer Team, President of the CNR Recreation Association and also played cricket. He won numerous awards for his flowers in Neepawa, Brandon and Minnedosa, and was a life member of the Neepawa Horticultural Society, which he joined in 1916. He served on the Neepawa Parks Board for eighteen years and was made an Honorary Citizen of the Town of Neepawa in 1973. George and Beatrice had five children: Beatrice, Stanley, Jack, Mary and Roy. George Thomas died in 1985 in Neepawa, MB. He is buried at Neepawa Riverside 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 George Thomas about his life, especially his work with the railroad and in horticulture. Interviewer is Winnie Cheetham.

Notes: History/bio information from the records, the Neepawa local history "Heritage," Ancestry.ca and the Billion Graves website. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

## Audio Tracks



## Thomas Martin interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14447>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH159.Mar

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: November 11, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:31:06]

History /

Biographical:

Thomas Henry Martin was born December 23, 1904 in Brookdale, MB. From when he was born until 1965, Thomas lived in the Brookdale region and worked at farming and road building. He retired from farming in 1965, and moved to Neepawa, although he continued to help his son farm in the area. On October 25, 1933 he married Harriet North (1911-1986). Together they had two children: Mona and Vincent. Thomas Martin died on November 6, 1986 in Neepawa, MB. He is buried at Riverside 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 Thomas Martin about early road building and the 1930s. Between 1929 and 1931, Thomas and two of his neighbors were employed by the North Cypress Municipality to build roads in the district, and this is the subject of most of the interview. Thomas also discusses at length the equipment used in road building, how the equipment was used, and the work camps formed by the governments during the 1930's to create jobs for the unemployed. Interviewer is Dorothy Martin.

Notes: History/bio information taken from the records and the Brookdale local history "Quest in Roots." Transcript by Richard Bee (2014). Description by Christy Henry.


Language Note: English


## Audio Tracks

## Documents



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## Thomas Mitchell interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14732>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH065.Mit

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: December 13, 1982

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

History /

Biographical:

Tom Mitchell (Thomas Sidney) was born April 23, 1949 in Brandon, MB. He attended Brandon University, graduating with a B.A. in 1970. While an undergraduate Tom played for the Brandon University Bobcat hockey team. Tom obtained an M.A. (history) from the University of Manitoba in 1973, and from 1972-1973, he completed the Education Certification program at the Faculty of Education, Brandon University. During the 1970s, he taught high school in Brandon and at Brandon Collegiate Institute (BCI) and Neelin Composite High School. Following one year at Fleming School (grade five), in 1981, Tom became a Study Skills Specialist in Student Services at Brandon University. He served as Dean of Student Services from 1983-1989 and in 1991, he was appointed Registrar. Tom served in this position until 1996. From 1996 - 2011, Tom was University Archivist and taught courses in Canadian history under the auspices of the History Department at BU. Throughout his tenure at Brandon University Tom was engaged in research and publication of historical work dealing with the history of education, labour and the state. In retirement, Tom wrote and produced a series of historical documentaries with funding provided by MTS Stories From Home and continued to be pursue various academic writing projects small and large. He was named University Archivist Emeritus in 2012, and received a lifetime achievement award from Brandon University Senate in 2019. Tom married Bonnie Burns in 1973, and together they had two children, Jennifer and Drew.

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 Tom Mitchell about education in Brandon in the 1880s. Interviewer is Gordon Sefton.

Notes: History/bio information provided by Tom Mitchell. Description by Christy Henry.

Related Material: Tom Mitchell's films (IRBU)

### Audio Tracks

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## Thomas Seens interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14733>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH149.See

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: March 25, 1983

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [0:25:00]

### History /

#### Biographical:

Thomas Henry Seens was born on September 18, 1895 in the RM of Daly. He attended Tarbolton School. Thomas married Annie Mae Wood (1897-1997) on February 26, 1916 and together they had three children: George, Leslie, and Helen. In addition to farming, Thomas served as a councillor of the Rural Municipality of Daly for sixteen years, and its Reeve from 1940-1950. He was elected as a Progressive Conservative to the Manitoba Legislature at the 1949 general election but was defeated in 1953. Thomas was a member of Masonic Lodge No. 115. Thomas Seens died on November 26, 1989 in Brandon, MB. He is buried at Tarbolton 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 Thomas Seens about family history and his political career. Interviewer is K. Cochrane.

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

## Audio Tracks

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## Thomas W. Jeffrey interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14734>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH246.Jef

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: June 1, 1981

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [0:10:00]

History /

Biographical:

Thomas William Jeffrey was born on October 9, 1919 on 22-10-27 W in the RM of Wallace. He received his education at Boss Hill School. In 1938, he attended the Chicago Vocational Training Corp, graduating as a Diesel Automotive and Aero Engineer. Tom farmed until joining the Army in 1941, but returned to the farm following a medical discharge in 1942. He continued farming with his father, then his mother, until selling and moving to Virden in 1966. Initially, Tom ran the town grader, but then purchased a gravel truck. In 1975, he purchased Virden Machine Shop, which he operated until the time of his death. He never married. Tom enjoyed going to museums, looking at old machinery and cars, and attending threshermen's reunions. He was a member of the Roman Catholic Church, the Knights of Columbus, and for many years looked after the town clock in Virden. Thomas Jeffrey died on October 23, 1996 in Winnipeg, MB. He is buried at Virden 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 Thomas W. Jeffrey about electric power in Virden, Mr. Insul, drought, flood, churches and businesses in Virden, the Grieve family, Charlie Hyde, Johnny Cairns and Ed Newby. Interviewers are Marion Martin and Gladys Bray.

Notes: History/bio information from the records, the Virden local history "Hometown Virden," the Wallace-Woodworth local history "Binding Our Districts," and Jeffrey's obituary. Description by Christy Henry.

### Audio Tracks

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## Thomas W. Jeffrey interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14735>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH247.Jef

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: May 30, 1981

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [0:20:00]

History /

Biographical:

Thomas William Jeffrey was born on October 9, 1919 on 22-10-27 W in the RM of Wallace. He received his education at Boss Hill School. In 1938, he attended the Chicago Vocational Training Corp, graduating as a Diesel Automotive and Aero Engineer. Tom farmed until joining the Army in 1941, but returned to the farm following a medical discharge in 1942. He continued farming with his father, then his mother, until selling and moving to Virden in 1966. Initially, Tom ran the town grader, but then purchased a gravel truck. In 1975, he purchased Virden Machine Shop, which he operated until the time of his death. He never married. Tom enjoyed going to museums, looking at old machinery and cars, and attending threshermen's reunions. He was a member of the Roman Catholic Church, the Knights of Columbus, and for many years looked after the town clock in Virden. Thomas Jeffrey died on October 23, 1996 in Winnipeg, MB. He is buried at Virden 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 Thomas W. Jeffrey about the Jeffrey family homestead, farming 1882-1966 and the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Interviewer is Marion Martin.

Notes: History/bio information from the records, the Virden local history "Hometown Virden," the Wallace-Woodworth local history "Binding Our Districts," and Jeffrey's obituary. Description by Christy Henry.

### Audio Tracks

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