

# S. J. McKee Archives



## William Geiler interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14507>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH160.Gei

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: July 5 & 12, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:30:41]

### History /

#### Biographical:

William MacFarlane "Bill" Geiler was born on February 18, 1927 at Dauphin, MB. He came to live in Brandon when his father Felix formed Manitoba Motor Transit in September 1933. When his father passed away, Bill became President and General Manager of the company. He sold the business to Grey Goose Bus Line in 1969. Bill became a caretaker at Manitoba Public Insurance in 1978, retiring in 1992. Bill enjoyed, golfing, fishing and reading. He was a member of the United Commercial Travelers (UCT) and the Kinsmen Club. Bill married Jacqueline June Roberts (1929-2020) on February 7, 1949, and together they had three children: Phil, Linda and Nancy. William Geiler died on June 6, 2001 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 William Geiler about the history of Manitoba Motor Transit. The interviewer is Hazel Rose.

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

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

## Audio Tracks

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## William Sheridan interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14508>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH228.She

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: March 18, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:30:58]

History /

Biographical:

William Sheridan was born on December 14, 1909 in Hamiota, MB. William lived in Hamiota until 1938, spent a year in Alberta and then served overseas with the Calgary Highlanders during the Second World War. Up until 1939, William had been a handyman but while enlisted in the military he worked as service personnel. Following the war, William returned to the Hamiota district where he farmed until 1952. Moving to Brandon in 1964, he was then employed at CFB Shilo until retiring in 1974. William married Freda Josephine Fry (1913-1998) in Bexhill, England on August 6, 1942. The couple had four children: Terry, Michael, Carol and Kathy. William Sheridan died on April 7, 1983 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 William Sheridan about riding the "rods" during the Great Depression of the 1930s. The interviewer is Hazel Rose.

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

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

Related Material: OH 230 Molly Malinowski and Freda Sheridan interview

### Audio Tracks



## Brandon General Hospital interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14532>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH189.Bra

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: April 15, 1981

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

History /

Biographical:

Mary Ellen Birtles was born at Sheffield, England in 1858. She emigrated to Canada with her family in June 1883, settling in Winnipeg. In 1889, she was one of the first three graduates of the nurse training program at the Winnipeg General Hospital. During her nursing career, Mary Ellen worked in North Dakota, Medicine Hat, Brandon and Calgary. In Brandon she served first as a senior nurse (approximately 1892-1894), then returned in 1898 to become Matron of the Brandon General Hospital. She retired from that position in 1919. In 1935, Mary Ellen received the Order of the British Empire from the Governor General of Canada for her role in the pioneer nursing of Western Canada. She never married. Mary Ellen Birtles died on June 22, 1943 in Alexander, MB. She is buried at Alexander 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 Phyllis Long reading an article written by Mary Ellen Birtles in 1925, about the history of the Brandon General Hospital.

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

Language Note: English

### Audio Tracks

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## Kenneth Williams interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14664>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH216.Wil

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: June 18, 1981

Physical Description: 2 audio cassettes [1:05:00]

History /

Biographical:

Kendric Hambly Williams was born on November 16, 1900 on Section 14-3-27 W in the RM of Arthur. The family moved to Melita in 1906. Kendric attended Peninsula School and then school in Melita before the family returned to their farm in 1915. Kendric began farming full-time with his father John in 1917. When his father died in 1931, he continued to operate the farm for his mother, but due to condition in the Depression the Manitoba Farm Loans foreclosed on the property; he continued to rent the land until 1937, when we started to repurchase. He moved to Melita in 1954, and rented the farm, before selling the farm to Bill Tilbury and Corny Klassen. During this period he also worked as an inspector under the Prairie Farm Assistance Program. In retirement he volunteered a great deal of his time to the Antler River Historical Museum. He never married. Kendric Williams died on December 25, 1986 in Melita, MB. He is buried at Melita 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 Kendric Williams about growing up in southwestern Manitoba. Interviewer is WJL Kilkenny.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and the Melita local history "Our First Century." Description by Christy Henry. The records list Williams' first name as Kenneth. The local history entry, which was written by Williams, lists his full name as Kendric Hambly Williams.

### Audio Tracks

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## William Vallender interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14748>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH081.Val

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: June 18, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [0:40:00]

History /

Biographical:

William George Vallender was born on December 16, 1892 in Gloucestershire, England. He arrived in Oak Lake, MB in June 1913, and began working on farms in the area. During the First World War he trained at Camp Hughes and served overseas with the 107th Battalion, "Glen Campbell's Timberwolves." William married Edith Stoodley (1891-?) on September 12, 1918 at Horsley, Gloucestershire. The couple did not have children. Upon his discharge in 1919, the William and Edith returned to the Oak Lake area, where William continued as a farm hand until 1929, when he went to work for Adam Stewart as a mechanic. In 1936, he became the custodian for Oakwood School custodian. William was a member of Oak Lake Citizen's Band, the C.O.F. and a charter member of the Royal Canadian Legion #79. William Vallender died on March 9, 1987 in Brandon, MB. He is buried at Oak Lake 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 William Vallender about his life in a farming community and military service. Interviewer is Phillis Cairns.

Notes: History/bio information from the records, the Oak Lake local history "Ox Trials to Blacktop" and Vallender's obituary. Description by Christy Henry.

### Audio Tracks

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## William Hardwick interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14749>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH089.Har

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: February 4, 1982

Physical Description: 2 audio cassettes [2:00:00]

History /

Biographical:

George William Hardwick was born on December 1, 1891 near Nesbitt, MB. Bill received his schooling locally, then continued in Brandon. In 1916, he joined the Army and served overseas with the Canadian Expeditionary Force. Upon his discharge in 1919, he returned to the family farm where he remained for most of his life. Bill did not marry. William Hardwick died on May 1, 1996 in Brandon, MB. He is buried at Minnewawa 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 interview with William Hardwick about life at home and his experiences in World War One. Interviewer is Elsie Cory.

Notes: History/bio information from the records. Description by Christy Henry.

### Audio Tracks

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## William J. Montgomery interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14750>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH212.Mon

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: March 1, 1982

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

History /

Biographical:

William John Montgomery was born on March 5, 1903 in Elkhorn, MB. He was educated at McAlonen School. Bill married Elsie Sarah Elizabeth Leslie (1905-1998) in 1932, and together they had two sons, John Douglas and William Garry. The couple lived and farmed on section 24-11-28, until retiring to Elkhorn in 1974. Bill served as president of the Elkhorn fair and also as a municipal councillor. William Montgomery died in early 1989. He is buried at Elkhorn 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 William Montgomery about homsteading, pioneer life and the railroads. Interviewer is Elmer Armstrong.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and the Find A Grave website.  
Description by Christy Henry.

### Audio Tracks

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## William Jordan interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14751>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH079.Jor

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: May 25, 1982

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

History /

Biographical:

William John Jordan was born on September 19, 1899 on SW 18-10-24 northwest of Oak Lake, MB. He was educated at Blair School. As a young man he farmed for several years near Woodnorth, MB. Will married Cora Elizabeth Leech (1903-1990) on June 30, 1920 and together they had six children: Gladys, Muriel, Aubrey, Ralph, Faye and Garry. They also raised their nephew Harold. Will and Cora farmed, first at N 1/2 15-9-27, and then starting in June 1927, on the Jordan home farm. In later years, they spent their winters at Oak Lake. Following his retirement, Will lived in Oak Lake full time. Will was very active in the Oak Lake Seniors Group, enjoyed gardening and trips to the farm. William Jordan died on February 25, 1996 in Brandon, MB. He is buried at Johnston Cemetery at Oak Lake, 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 William Jordan about farm life in the early 20th Century. Interviewer is Phillis Cairns.

Notes: History/bio information from the records, the Oak Lake local history "Ox Trails to Blacktop," the Find A Grave website and obituaries for William and Cora Jordan. Description by Christy Henry.

### Audio Tracks

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