

# S. J. McKee Archives



## 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>



## Bertha Leith (nee Clark) fonds

<http://archives.bradonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions3613>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds  
Creator: Bertha Clark  
Description Level: Sub-series  
Series Number: MG 2 2.31  
Accession Number: 7-2009  
GMD: graphic  
Date Range: 1925-1929  
Physical Description: 24 photographs (b/w)  
History /  
Biographical:

Bertha Miriam Clark was born on Prince Edward Island but attended public and high school in Brandon, MB. She was a member of the Class of 1929 and served as Lady Stick in her final year at Brandon College.

Clark married J. Scott Leith, Brandon College Class of 1928. Scott and Bertha Leith's son James Clark Leith is in the Canadian Who's Who.

### Custodial History:

Album was sent to Pat Britton, Brandon University Director of Alumni Relations, by Bertha Leith in April 1991. Britton then transferred it to the McKee Archives.

### Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of a small accordion style photograph album (7 x 10.5 x 3.5 cm) created by Bertha Clark during her years at Brandon College. The photographs, which measure 4" x 2.75", depict numerous people and events.

Notes: History/Bio information taken from the 1928-1929 Sickle.

Name Access:

Bertha Clark  
Ruth Bingham  
Professor Richards  
Lil Bullman  
Clark Hall  
Brandon College Building  
Jean Hitchings  
Lloyd Bowler  
Kay Underwood  
Scott Leith  
Denis Phillpots  
Donald Ritchie  
Harold Cairns  
Andrew Clark  
Isabel Hitchings  
A. Foster  
Rundle McLachlan  
Carl Wickland  
Doris Bingham  
Doris Dowling  
Ella Whitmore  
Meta Mischpeter  
Vera Ulinder  
Josh Thompson  
Doris Cochrane  
Frank Kerr  
Cyril Richards  
Thomas Russell Wilkins  
Flo Turnbull  
Esther Magoon  
Hilda Harrison  
Doris Ireton  
Mrs. Richards  
W.L. Wright  
Annie Evans Wright  
Miss Hatch  
Jennie Turnbull  
Mrs. MacNeill  
Mrs. C.G. Stone  
Helen Duncan  
Constance Lamontagne  
Marian Bulloch  
Mabel Craig

Subject Access: Class of 29'  
 Sports Day 1925  
 English Club  
 Graduation  
 Lake Percy  
 Arts 1929  
 CPR depot  
 Brandon College boys 1925-1927  
 al(l)-bums  
 "cat-chers"  
 Sykes  
 18th Street Hill  
 Class of 1928  
 Class of 1929  
 Class of 1930  
 Class of 1931  
 arts faculty outing

Storage Location: MG 2 Brandon College Students  
 2.31 Bertha Leith (nee Clark)

Related Material: Edward Lloyd Bowler collection (36-1999)



## Minutes

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4253>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: 8.3

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1919-1967, 1948-1965

Physical Description: 9 cm

Scope and Content:

These are the minutes of meetings of the Literary Board.

Subject Access: literary board

Storage Location: RG 1 Brandon College fonds  
 Series 8: Brandon College Students Association



## Albert Edward McKenzie

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4301>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: MG 1 1.7

GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1940?-1960?  
Physical Description: 39 cm textual records  
4 photographs

History /

Biographical:

A.E. McKenzie was born in Wilcox Lake, York County, Ontario in 1870 to F.B. and Maria (Carley) McKenzie. His family came to Manitoba in 1883. He was educated in Brandon, Manitoba and graduated from the Collegiate Institute at age 21. In 1897 he founded the Brandon Seed House. McKenzie was present at the cornerstone-laying ceremony of Brandon College on July 13, 1900. From that moment on, he was very involved in the College, first as an interested businessman, and later as a member of its Board of Directors. In 1902, McKenzie married Laura Bell in Port Arthur. They had two daughters, Marjorie Bell and Kathleen. In 1906 the Brandon Seed House was incorporated and from then on was known as the "A.E. McKenzie Co. Ltd.."

McKenzie became a member of the Brandon College Endowment Committee in 1918. The following year he was on the Finance Committee. By 1925, McKenzie was a member of the Board of Directors. In 1928, he was part of a syndicate that advised the Baptist Union that they were developing an endowment plan to provide continuing financial support to the College and talked the Union into providing \$10 000 towards the accumulated deficit.

In 1931, McKenzie organized the Brandon Board of Trade to help save Brandon College when the Baptists said they could no longer afford to keep the College. After the By-law failed, he helped to organize the Brandon Citizen's Campaign to raise enough money so that the College could open the following year.

When the Baptists withdrew support in 1938, McKenzie was one of the central figures on the Brandon Board of Trade that decided to save the College from closure. A representative delegation from Southwestern Manitoba of over 60 men descended upon Premier Bracken's office to try and convince him to help the College. On June 12, 1938 McKenzie said he would set up a \$100 000 endowment to Brandon College. He subsequently raised this amount to \$300 000. On August 1, 1938 the Board of Trade launched a campaign to raise \$15 000 to match what the government was prepared to offer the College. McKenzie was asked to provide Brandon College with \$3000 personally. In September of 1938, McKenzie upped his endowment once more to \$500 000. The fund raising worked however, and the charter establishing Brandon College Incorporated was assented to on April 17, 1939. On June 6, 1939 a by-law was again presented to the citizens of Brandon, and fortunately it passed.

In 1941, McKenzie received an honorary L.L.D. from the University of Manitoba. The A.E. McKenzie Foundation was created in 1945 by the provincial government, who had assumed 90% of the A.E. McKenzie Co. Ltd. stock.

On September 25, 1964 McKenzie died at the age of 94. He never retired, but worked full time until two weeks before his death. The funeral was held in the J.R.C. Evans Lecture Theatre. The Arts and Library Building at Brandon College was completed in 1960, and is known as the A.E. McKenzie building, in honour of the man who contributed so much time, effort and financial help to the College during a crucial period in its history.

Custodial History:

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



#### Scope and Content:

A.E. McKenzie's records in the Brandon College fonds are very useful from an administrative point of view. Because McKenzie was so involved in Brandon College from the very beginning until his death in 1964, it is easy to understand how the College Administration arrived at decisions. There is correspondence between McKenzie and various regarding College and Board of Director business. There are Brandon College financial statements and letters regarding the A.E. McKenzie Foundation. The records contain newspaper clippings, pamphlets and lists of names of members of various Brandon organizations. As well, McKenzie has letters regarding Building Expansion in the 1940's and minutes of Board of Director meetings. There are also several photographs. One photograph is the 1919 graduation picture of Zoe Hough. Another is tentatively identified as Frances Wolverton, also of the Class of 1919. There are two more photographs of unidentified young women.

Name Access:	A.E. McKenzie A.E. McKenzie Foundation Brandon College Zoe Hough Frances Wolverton
Subject Access:	Class of 1919 administration board of directors building expansion
Storage Location:	MG 1 Brandon College Teaching and Administration 1.7 Albert Edward McKenzie
Related Material:	RG 3 A.E. McKenzie Seeds Co. Ltd. fonds



## Edith Laycock fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4886>

Part Of:	RG 1 Brandon College fonds
Description Level:	Sub-series
Series Number:	MG 2 2.20
Accession Number:	12-1998
GMD:	multiple media
Date Range:	1934-1973
Physical Description:	24 cm textual records 12 photographs

#### History /

##### Biographical:

Edith Mary Laycock was born on June 25, 1913. She attended Brandon Collegiate from 1929 until her graduation in 1931. Ms. Laycock attended Brandon College from 1931-1934, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree. In 1935, she attended the Wheat City Business College and graduated from the Stenographic Course. Ms. Laycock was employed by the Canadian Pacific Railway as a stenographer for many years and belonged to the Canadian Pacific Expressmen's Mutual Benefit Society from 1939.

Edith Laycock was very interested in drama. While attending Brandon Collegiate and Brandon College she participated in school and college plays. She was involved in drama and theatre throughout her adult life. Edith Laycock directed many of Brandon College's major productions beginning in 1950. She was also the director of many of the plays put on by the Brandon Little Theatre from 1950. Ms. Laycock also performed in the Little Theatre productions when she was not directing.

Ms. Laycock was also involved in many other elements of Brandon life. She served alternatively as the vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and production manager of the Little Theatre throughout the 1940's and 1950's. She was the Social Manager for the Brandon Festival Committee in 1948, the Publicity Chairperson for the Brandon Music Festival Association in the 1950's, and the Secretary of the Brandon Overture Concert Association. Laycock also wrote play reviews for the Brandon Sun in the 1950's. She was the director of the Manitoba Delta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi. In the 1960's Laycock was a member of the Brandon Council of Women and Chairperson of its Arts and Letters Committee. She was also the Vice-President of the Brandon Art Club in 1960. Edith Laycock also held a 12-week class in creative dramatics for children at the Allied Arts Centre in the early 1960's.

Edith Laycock died in Brandon on December 17, 1987.

##### Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. Prior custodial history is unknown.

##### Scope and Content:

This fonds consists of memorabilia kept by Edith Laycock. A large part of the collection consists of programs from plays that Laycock performed in or directed during the 1950's and 1960's. There are also numerous newspaper clippings about Laycock's plays including reviews, pictures, and advertisements. This collection also includes a folder of programs from the Brandon Little Theatre productions in the 1950's, as well as clippings about the Little Theatre. There are also numerous articles about miscellaneous drama and art events throughout Brandon, Manitoba, and Canada. The fonds also includes Laycock's daybook from 1962, and travel notes from Laycock's 1952 trip to Great Britain and Europe. The latter contains a passenger list for the Empress of Scotland, August 5, 1952. The collection further includes Canadian Pacific Railway passes dating from 1947-1963 and a copy of the Canadian Pacific Pension Plan. Fonds also contains material from the various organizations that Laycock was involved with including the Brandon Council of Women and Beta Sigma Phi. Fonds includes 12 photos that appear to be family photos from Laycock's childhood. Finally, the fonds contains various copies of plays that Laycock performed in or directed.

##### Notes:

CAIN No. 202585

Subject Access: Edith Laycock  
Kaye Rowe  
Brian MacDonald  
J.R.C. Evans  
Brandon College  
Brandon College Literary Board  
Brandon Collegiate Dramatic Society  
Brandon College Students' Association  
Brandon Council of Women  
Brandon Little Theatre  
Canadian Pacific Railway  
Beta Sigma Phi  
drama  
plays  
travel  
playscripts

Storage Location: MG 2 Brandon College Students  
2.20 Edith Laycock



## Martin Johns fonds

<http://archives.bradonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions5087>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds

Description Level: Sub-series

Series Number: MG 1 1.11

Accession Number: 17-2007, 8-2009

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1939-1944

Physical Description: 0.5 cm textual records  
21 b/w photographs

## History /

### Biographical:

Martin Wesley Johns was born to missionary parents Alfred and Myrtle Johns in Chengtu, West China on March 23, 1913. The family returned to Canada in 1925. Johns attended high schools in Tacoma, Washington; Vancouver, BC; Brandon, Manitoba; and Exeter, Ontario. He studied at Brandon College from 1928-1931 before obtaining his B.A. (1932) and M.A. (1934) from McMaster University and his Ph.D. from the University of Toronto (1938). From 1937-1946, he taught physics at Brandon College. In 1972, Brandon University awarded him an honorary Doctor of Science degree.

Johns served in the Canadian Officers Training Corps (C.O.T.C.) in 1940-1941 doing research concerned with neutron physics at Chalk River. In 1947, he joined the Physics Department at McMaster University, where he remained for the remainder of his career.

Johns married Margaret Mary Hilborn on July 15, 1939. Together they have four children: Robert, Elizabeth, Kenneth and Kathryn. Following Margaret's death c. 1979, Johns was married to Elsie North for twenty years. At the age of 90, Johns fell in love with his sweetheart Marian Thompson.

Martin Wesley Johns died on September 18, 2008 at McMaster Hospital.

### Custodial History:

The notebooks in accession 17-2007 were in the possession of Wesley Wong, former member of the Physics Department at Brandon College, who mailed them to Martin Johns in 2002. Wong suggested Johns donate them to the McKee Archives, which he did on January 28, 2004. The photographs in accession 8-2009 were sent to Carla Eisler, Alumni Relations Officer, Brandon University by Ken Johns (Martin Johns' son) following Martin's death. Eisler transferred them to the Archives in February 2009.

### Scope and Content:

Accession 17-2007 contains two lab record notebooks used by Martin Johns while he was a member of Brandon College's Department of Physics. The notebooks record class lists, grades, absences, and seating charts for courses Johns taught, as well as regulations for lab reports and major assignments.

Accession 8-2009 contains twenty-one black and white photographs dealing with Brandon College students, faculty and buildings. There are a few photographs of Brandon, as well as one of the Queen Mother from her visit to Brandon in 1939.

Notes: History/Bio information taken from the Martin W. Johns bio file in the Archives reading room.

Subject Access: Brandon College  
faculty  
freshman initiation  
freshies  
Assiniboine bridge  
student elections  
Second World War  
C.O.T.C.  
classroom activities

Storage Location: MG 1 Brandon College Teaching and Administration  
1.11 Martin Johns

Photographs: MG photograph storage drawer

