

# S. J. McKee Archives



## Flora Cowan Hall

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions1477>

Part Of: Brandon University Photograph Collection  
Description Level: Item  
Series Number: 5  
File Number: 5.3.16  
Item Number: 5.3.16  
Date Range: c. 1965-67  
Physical Description: b/w, 6.5" x 7.25"  
Scope and Content:  
Flora Cowan Hall (?)



## Flora Cowan Hall

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4166>

Part Of: RG 6 Brandon University fonds  
Description Level: File  
Series Number: 14.4  
File Number: 34  
GMD: textual records  
Date Range: 1971, 1992  
Physical Description: 1 file  
Scope and Content:  
File consists of the Flora Cowan Hall constitution and an application for a BUSU grant.  
Storage Location: RG 6 Brandon University fonds  
Series 14: Brandon University Students Union  
14.4 BUSU clubs  
Box 1



## Flora Cowan Hall

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/artworks1058>

Artist:	Russel, Leon
Date:	no date
Form:	painting
Biographical Info:	Leon Russel was a Brandon University student. (1969 inventory)
Dimensions:	50.5 X 61 cm
Size Overall:	same as image
Medium:	oil
Condition:	Surface abrasion of paint around outside perimeter where it was attached to the frame.
Primary Support:	masonite
Secondary Support:	none
Accession Number:	0127



## Flora Cowan Hall

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions680>

Part Of:	Residences and dining rooms
Description Level:	Item
Series Number:	2.6
Item Number:	2.6.6
GMD:	graphic
Date Range:	c. 1967
Physical Description:	3.5" x 5.5" (colour)
Material Details:	Postcard

### Scope and Content:

Photograph is looking north northeast and shows the southside of Flora Cowan Hall, as well as a number of cars parked on Louise Avenue.

## Images

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## Flora Cowan Hall

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions746>

Part Of: Residences and dining rooms

Description Level: Item

Series Number: 2.6

Item Number: 2.6.29

GMD: graphic

Date Range: c. 1990s

Physical Description: 4" x 6" (colour)

Scope and Content:

Photograph is looking north northwest and shows the main entrance to Flora Cowan Hall.

### Images

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## Flora Cowan Hall

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions797>

Part Of: Residences and dining rooms

Description Level: Item

Series Number: 2.6

Item Number: 2.6.55

GMD: graphic

Date Range: c. 1965

Physical Description: 8" x 10" (b/w)

Scope and Content:

Photograph is looking southwest and shows the east entrance to the Main Dining Room, the link from the Dining Room to Flora Cowan Hall and Flora Cowan Hall.

### Images

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## Flora Cowan Hall

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions882>

Part Of: Residences and dining rooms

Description Level: Item

Series Number: 2.6

Item Number: 2.6.60

GMD: graphic

Date Range: c. 1966

Physical Description: 8" x 10" (b/w)

Scope and Content:

Photograph is looking west northwest and shows the south side of Flora Cowan Hall.

### Images

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## Flora Cowan Hall

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions885>

Part Of: Residences and dining rooms

Description Level: Item

Series Number: 2.6

Item Number: 2.6.11

GMD: graphic

Date Range: c. 1965

Physical Description: 3.5" x 4.25" (b/w)

Scope and Content:

Photograph is looking east northeast and shows the front of Flora Cowan Hall in winter.

### Images

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## Flora Cowan Hall

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions887>

Part Of: Residences and dining rooms

Description Level: Item

Series Number: 2.6

Item Number: 2.6.13

GMD: graphic

Date Range: c. 1965

Physical Description: 4" x 5" (b/w)

Scope and Content:

Photograph is looking east northeast and shows the front of Flora Cowan Hall.

### Images

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## Students Reading in Flora Cowan

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions1546>

Part Of: Brandon University Photograph Collection

Description Level: Item

Series Number: 5

File Number: 5.4.14A

Item Number: 5.4.14A

Date Range: c. 1970-71

Physical Description: b/w, 6.5" x 9.5"

Scope and Content:

Flora Cowan Hall (?) Student Events: hair-drying, reading news-paper



## Flora Cowan Hall painting

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions2582>

Part Of: RG 6 Brandon University fonds

Description Level: Item

Series Number: 16.3

Item Number: 32

Item Number Range: 32

Other Numbers: Brandon University Art Collection No.: 1994-07

GMD: graphic

Date Range: c. 1967

Physical Description: 24" x 20"

Scope and Content:

Item is an oil painting of Flora Cowan Hall.

Storage Location: RG 6 Brandon University fonds  
Series16: Brandon University/College artifacts  
16.3 Artifacts - other

Storage Range: Oversize drawer 8





## Flora Cowan Hall lounge

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions733>

Part Of: Residences and dining rooms

Description Level: Item

Series Number: 2.6

Item Number: 2.6.32

GMD: graphic

Date Range: c. 1968

Physical Description: 5" x 7" (colour)

History /

Biographical:

The Flora Cowan Hall lounge was located on the main floor on the north side of the building.

Scope and Content:

Photograph shows three women sitting in the Flora Cowan Hall lounge.

### Images

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## Flora Cowan Hall entrance

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions886>

Part Of: Residences and dining rooms

Creator: Photographer: Henry Kalen

Description Level: Item

Series Number: 2.6

Item Number: 2.6.12

Other Numbers: Proof (509 D3.3-1)

GMD: graphic

Date Range: c. 1963

Physical Description: 4" x 5.5" (b/w)

Material Details: Contact print

Scope and Content:

Photograph is looking north northwest and shows the entrance to Flora Cowan Hall.

Repro Restriction: Copyright restrictions apply



## Flora Cowan Hall entrance

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions889>

Part Of: Residences and dining rooms

Creator: Photographer: Henry Kalen

Description Level: Item

Series Number: 2.6

Item Number: 2.6.57

Other Numbers: 509 D3.3-2

GMD: graphic

Date Range: c. 1963

Physical Description: 8" x 10" (b/w)

### Scope and Content:

Photograph is looking west and shows the entrance to Flora Cowan Hall and the west side of the building. Also visible are portions of 20th Street and Louise Avenue before the construction of the Gymnasium or the Site Services Building.

Repro Restriction: Copyright restrictions apply.

### Images

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## Flora Cowan Hall entrance

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions890>

Part Of: Residences and dining rooms

Description Level: Item

Series Number: 2.6

Item Number: 2.6.59

GMD: graphic

Date Range: c. 1965

Physical Description: 8" x 10" (b/w)

Scope and Content:

Photograph is looking west northwest and shows the entrance to Flora Cowan Hall as well as a couple of houses on 20th Street where the present day Site Services Building stands.

### Images

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## 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

## Audio Tracks

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## 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

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## Girls talking in Flora Cowan Room

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions1519>

Part Of: Brandon University Photograph Collection

Description Level: Item

Series Number: 5

File Number: 5.3.50

Item Number: 5.3.50

Date Range: c. 1965-70

Physical Description: colour, 5" x 7"

Scope and Content:

Flora Cowan Hall (?) Student Activities: Girls talking in a room. Marj Fleming ? (blonde)



## Lower floor of Flora Cowan Hall

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions666>

Part Of: Residences and dining rooms

Description Level: Item

Series Number: 2.6

Item Number: 2.6.37

GMD: graphic

Date Range: c. 1966

Physical Description: 3.8" x 8" (b/w)

Scope and Content:

Photograph shows a number of female students watching TV in one of the residence common rooms.

### Images

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## Flora Cowan Hall residence room

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions675>

Part Of: Residences and dining rooms

Description Level: Item

Series Number: 2.6

Item Number: 2.6.45

GMD: graphic

Date Range: c. 1964

Physical Description: 8" x 10" (b/w)

Scope and Content:

Photograph shows a female student studying at her desk in her room.

### Images

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