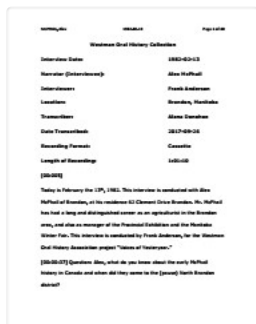


S. J. McKee Archives



Alex McPhail interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14454>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH206.McP

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: February 13, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:01:19]

History /

Biographical:

Peter Alexander (P.A.) Alex McPhail was born on July 11, 1897 in the RM of Elton. 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 was 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 Alex McPhail about his family history, agriculture, the Provincial Exhibition Association of Manitoba and the Manitoba Winter Fair. Interviewer is Frank Anderson.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and the description for the Effie and Alex McPhail collection at the Daly House Museum. Transcript by Alana Donohoe (2017). Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

Audio Tracks

OH206_Alex

1451614

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Westman Oral History Collection

Interview Date:

1983-02-13

Narrator (Interviewee):

Alex McPhail

Interviewer:

Frank Anderson

Location:

Brandon, Manitoba

Transcriber:

Alex Blackman

Date Transcribed:

2017-09-18

Recording Format:

Cassette

Length of Recording:

0:00:00

00:00:00

Today is February the 13th, 1983. This interview is conducted with Alex McPhail of Brandon, at his residence 611 Clement Drive Brandon, MB. McPhail has had a long and distinguished career as an agriculturalist in the Brandon area, and also as manager of the Provincial Exhibition and the Manitoba Winter Fair. This interview is conducted by Frank Anderson, for the Westman Oral History Association project "Voices of Yesterday."

00:00:15

Question: Alex, what do you know about the early McPhail history in Canada and when did they come to the (name) North Brandon area?

OH206_McPhail_transcript.pdf

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1451614_Alex

1451614

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Westman Oral History Collection

Interview Date:

1983-02-13

Narrator (Interviewee):

Alexander Black

Interviewer:

Stan Henry

Location:

Oak River, Manitoba

Transcriber:

Shay Paddock

Date Transcribed:

2018-02-07

Recording Format:

Audio Cassette

Length of Recording:

00:15:00

Questions

Today is February the 13th, 1983 the following is an interview at the home of Alex and Blanche Black in Oak River, Manitoba. Alex has lived in the district his entire life and most of his interview at Maple Street School and the residence in Oak River. He has spent the time since until retiring to Oak River in 1976 (2)

Answers

Q: Alex, how did you come to be settling your father's farm?

A: My father I would like to say went and he settled your father's farm. grandpa and all your dad and uncle came from Oak River before settling to Oak River.

Q: What are grandpa's name in Brandon, and I don't know much about the history of his mother and grandpa but just in case mother was Alex's father but his mother was an Indian name and the Black family lived

Alex Black interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14516>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH148.Bla

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: February 3, 1983

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

History /

Biographical:

Alexander Hector Black was born on August 31, 1901 in Oak River, MB. Alex lived in the Oak River area his entire life, farming until he retired in 1976. He married Blanche Edith Paddock (1905-1985) on October 14, 1936 and together they had four children: Frank, Margaret, Melvin and Eileen. The couple moved into Oak River in 1976, and Alex remained in the home until 1997. Alex was active in the community as a member of the church board, treasurer of the church, and Sunday School Superintendent. He was also a member of the school board and the Pool Elevator board, as well as a director of the Agricultural Society (1925-1987). Alex Black died on April 1, 1999 in Hamiota, MB. He is buried at Oak River 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 Alex Black about his life from crofter to a modern farmer. Interviewer is Stan Henry.

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Language Note: English