

# S. J. McKee Archives

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## 10 Mile Dam

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13716>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Item

Series Number: McG 9

Item Number: 20-2009.26

GMD: graphic

Date Range: 1900-1924

Physical Description: 4.25" x 2.5" (b/w)

History /

Biographical:

Situated in the R.M. of Whitehead on the Little Saskatchewan River, the 10 Mile Dam was a 14 kilometer transmission line that supplied the city of Brandon with power. The Brandon Electric Light Company built the dam in 1900 and it is considered Manitoba's first hydroelectric power generating station. The dam spanned approximately 80 meters and was constructed from timber and reinforced with clay and stone. The station was decommissioned in 1924.

Scope and Content:

Photograph shows 10 Mile Dam, also known as the Brandon Dam or Minnedosa River Hydro Plant.

Notes: Writing on the back of the photograph reads: "10 mile dam". Biographical information obtained from Manitoba Historical Society.

Name Access: 10 Mile Dam  
Ten Mile Dam  
Brandon Dam  
Minnedosa River Hydro Plant  
Brandon Electric Light Company  
Little Saskatchewan River

Subject Access: dams  
Rivers  
hydroelectric dams  
hydroelectric generation

Storage Location: RG 5 photograph storage drawer 2 (hanging photos)

## Images

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## 10 Mile Dam



<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13784>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Item

Series Number: McG 9

Item Number: 20-2009.95

Accession Number: 20-2009

GMD: graphic

Date Range: 1900-1924

Physical Description: 4.25" x 2.5" (b/w)

History /

Biographical:

Situated in the R.M. of Whitehead on the Little Saskatchewan River, the 10 Mile Dam was a 14 kilometer transmission line that supplied the city of Brandon with power. The Brandon Electric Light Company built the dam in 1900 and it is considered Manitoba's first hydroelectric power generating station. The dam spanned approximately 80 meters and was constructed from timber and reinforced with clay and stone. The station was decommissioned in 1924.

Scope and Content:

Photograph shows 10 Mile Dam, also known as the Brandon Dam or Minnedosa River Hydro Plant. The dam's timber construction is quite evident in the picture.

Notes: Writing on the back of the photograph reads: McGuinness (Manitoba Hydro), on Little Saskatchewan.

Name Access: 10 Mile Dam  
Ten Mile Dam  
Brandon Dam  
Minnedosa River Hydro Plant  
Brandon Electric Light Company  
Little Saskatchewan River

Subject Access: dams  
Rivers  
hydroelectric dams  
hydroelectric generation

Storage Location: RG 5 photograph storage drawer 2 (hanging photos)

Related Material: Lawrence Stuckey collection 1-2002.3.1J1

## Images

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## Alexander MacPhail collection

<http://archives.bradonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4541>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 26-2006

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1901-1963

## History /

### Biographical:

ALEXANDER MACPHAIL (14 July 1900 - 29 July 1986)

Alex was born in Vista, MB on July 14, 1900, son of John and Catherine MacPhail. He married Florence Turner (d. 1977) at Winnipeg on December 22, 1948 and together they farmed the family farm at Vista. In 1965 they purchased a house in Shoal Lake but continued to farm in Vista until Alex's retirement in 1973, when he sold the farm.

Alex was involved in the 4-H Club at Vista and was a member of the Grain Growers Association. He was also very interested in Wildlife Conservation, an interest which led him to donate a 1/4 section of land to them. Alex also started a museum in Shoal Lake, which in time he turned over to the Village. He was a school trustee for Islay School Board at Vista from 1937-1939 and took the position of Chairman from 1939, until the school closed on 1968. During his years of farming he was a registered Seed Grower and in 1957 was awarded the Robertson Certificate. As a hobby he was a beekeeper. Alexander MacMillan MacPhail passed away at the Shoal Lake-Strathclair Health Centre on Tuesday, July 29, 1986 at the age of 86 years.

MARION (MACPHAIL) MCCORMACK (1903 - 10 February 1988)

Marion attended Islay School and Rosburn Collegiate. Upon graduation, she attended Manitoba Normal School, and became a teacher. She worked at Perth, Islay (1927-1934), Plumas, Strathclair and Minnedosa.

She met and married Coll McCormack (d. 1973) in 1952, and they lived in Minnedosa. She retired from teaching in 1967. Marion McCormack passed away on February 10, 1988.

IAIN MACPHAIL (1912-1937)

Iain MacPhail was born in Vista, MB in 1912. During the years that he was attending high school, he took a keen interest in farming. After he completed his Grande XII, some of the farm projects were expanded, including bee keeping. It was while attending a Bee-Keepers Course at the University of Manitoba that Iain took ill and passed away in 1937.

JOHN ARMSTRONG (6 May 1930 - 21 June 2005)

John Armstrong was born May 6, 1930, the second son of Kate (McKinnon) and William Armstrong. He attended Perth school for his elementary grades, then Vista and Rosburn where he finished high school. John farmed with his dad and brother Hugh, except for one year of permit teaching on the Daupin River Reserve, which was accessible by canoe.

John lived at home with his parents and cared for them until his dad's passing in 1972 and his mother's in 1982. At one time John was a leader of the 4-H Seed Club and was able to help members with his weed and plant identification skills. He did some secretarial work for 4-H and the Argyle Presbyterian Church. John William Armstrong of Rosburn passed away June 21, 2005 at the Shoal Lake-Strathclair Health Centre.

### Custodial History:

The records in this collection were accumulated in the residence of Alexander MacPhail from various family members. The materials were discovered in the attic of MacPhail's house on the MacPhail land in Vista, MB in 2005. Subsequently they were given to Gerald R. Brown by the family living in the MacPhail house. They resided in Brown's home until their donation to the McKee Archives in September 2006.

#### Scope and Content:

The collection consists of teaching materials and textbooks used by members of the MacPhail family - Alex, Marion and Iain. It has been divided into two sub-series, including: (1) Textbooks; and (2) Teaching materials.

Notes: Biographical notes were written by Gerald R. Brown and were taken from his "Vista Tales . . . from Islay School District No. 733 in Vista, Manitoba." Description by Christy Henry.

Name Access: Alexander MacPhail  
Marion MacPhail  
Marion McCormack  
Iain MacPhail  
John Armstrong  
Manitoba Normal School

Storage Location: 2006 accessions

Storage Range: 2006 accessions

Related Material: Gerald R. Brown fonds (MG 2 Brandon College Students, 2.2 Gerald R. Brown).



## Fishing at 10 Mile Dam

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions13731>

Part Of: Fred McGuinness collection

Description Level: Item

Series Number: McG 9

Item Number: 20-2009.41

Accession Number: 20-2009

GMD: graphic

Date Range: 1906?

Physical Description: 6.5" x 4.75" (b/w)

Material Details: reproduction

#### History /

#### Biographical:

Situated in the R.M. of Whitehead on the Little Saskatchewan River, the 10 Mile Dam was a 14 kilometer transmission line that supplied the city of Brandon with power. The Brandon Electric Light Company built the dam in 1900 and it is considered Manitoba's first hydroelectric power generating station. The dam spanned approximately 80 meters and was constructed from timber and reinforced with clay and stone. The station was decommissioned in 1924.

Alonzo Archibald Rowe (b. 1862, London, ON; d. 22 Oct 1951, Brandon). The Rowes were considered Brandon area pioneers. Alonzo's father, Alonzo L. Rowe, came to Brandon with his family in 1881, where the family had a furniture and undertaker business on the west side of 10th Street between Rosser and Princess Avenues. In 1885, the family began farming west of Brandon and Alonzo Archibald served as a councilor and then a reeve in the R.M. of Whitehead. He returned to Brandon in 1907 and served with the Brandon Police Department until 1910, when he returned to farming, this time in Arrow River. A.A. Rowe returned to Brandon in 1915 to work as a Provincial Licenses Inspector, a position he held until 1938. (Source: Obituary, Brandon Daily Sun 22 Oct 1951)

#### Custodial History:

Photograph was in possession of Mrs. Ruby Miles, who passed the image on to Fred McGuinness. McGuinness makes reference to Mrs. Miles and this photograph in his Sunbeams column (Source: F.A. Rosser, "Another interesting chat with a daughter of the plains," Brandon Sun 18 Aug 1981).

#### Scope and Content:

Photograph shows four fishermen at 10 Mile Dam, also known as the Brandon Dam or Minnedosa River Hydro Plant. The fishermen in the photo are identified as George H. Rowe and his father A.A. Rowe, Dr. Wilfred Bigelow, and Al Collins.

Notes:	Writing on the back of the photograph reads: at Brandon Dam, [right to left] son and father - George H. ROWE, Mr. A.A. ROWE, Dr. BIGELOW, Al COLLINS (dam?, 1906?, George born March 1897); Jerrett's Photo-Services, May 7 1938.
Name Access:	10 Mile Dam Ten Mile Dam Brandon Dam Minnedosa River Hydro Plant Brandon Electric Light Company Little Saskatchewan River George H. Rowe A.A. Rowe Dr. Bigelow Al Collins
Subject Access:	dams Rivers fishing
Storage Location:	RG 5 photograph storage drawer 2 (hanging photos)
Related Material:	Ruby Miles collection 14-2003

#### Images

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