

# S. J. McKee Archives



## Audrey Silvius collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4841>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 21-2000  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1959-1988; predominant 1963-1974  
Physical Description: 19 cm textual records; 4 photographs; 1 drawing  
History /  
Biographical:

Born on February 10, 1924, in Elgin, Manitoba, Audrey Ellen Silvius (nee Honeyman) was raised in Fairfax, Manitoba on the Honeyman homestead. In 1964, she received her Indian name, Blue Star. Silvius completed her high school education in Fairfax before moving to Winnipeg in 1943, to earn her Nursing degree from Grace Hospital. She later completed her post-graduate degree in Psychiatric Nursing at the Brandon Mental Health Centre. Married to Merritt W. Silvius, Audrey Silvius raised four children, David, Kay, Lorna (Downie) and Gail (Campos) while working in her chosen field. In addition to her family and her career, she was also involved with the Brandon Council of Women and the United Church in Brandon. Silvius was the first executive director of the Brandon Indian-Metis Friendship Centre, a founding member of the local branches of the Marquis Project and Amnesty International and initiated a project called Tools for Peace. She was also involved in various other peace and human rights organizations. In 1987, she received the Order of the Buffalo Hunt from the Province of Manitoba in recognition of her work relating to women's issues. In 1992, she was awarded a Confederation medal for community service.

### Custodial History:

The records found within the collection were collected by Audrey Silvius from a number of people, including Jean Halliday, Grace Godmaire and Norma Walmsley, involved in various projects with her throughout the years. Prior to their donation to the McKee Archives at Brandon University in October and November 2000, the records were stored at Mrs. Silvius' home.

### Scope and Content:

Collection consists of meeting minutes, agendas, speeches, correspondence, newsletters, brochures, written publications and newspaper clippings. Four photographs and one pencil drawing are also included within the collection.

The records deal with the creation, activities, and history of the Brandon Indian-Metis Friendship Centre, as well as the activities of its Board of Directors. In addition, materials located within the collection can be divided into two areas: (1) those that relate to various organizations associated with the Friendship Centre itself, such as the Council of Christians and Jews and the Brandon Council of Women; (2) materials related to projects of important individuals involved with the Friendship Centre, such as the South Western Manitoba Recreation Council and the 4F Club of Minnedosa. Other records deal with general aboriginal issues in Canada during the time frame of the Audrey Silvius collection.

Notes: CAIN No. 202607. Description by Christy Henry (2000).

Subject Access: Council of Christians and Jews  
Brandon Council of Women  
4F Club  
Brandon Indian-Metis Friendship Centre  
cross cultural relations  
Aboriginal issues  
community development

Storage Location: 2000 accessions

Storage Range: 2000 accessions

Arrangement:

The collection is divided into ten (10) series:

1. The Brandon Indian-Metis Friendship Centre
2. The Scout – Friendship Centre newsletter
3. The Brandon Council of Women
4. Council of Christians and Jews
5. Aboriginal Glee Club/Dancers
6. The South Western Manitoba Recreation Council
7. 4F Club of Minnedosa
8. Miscellaneous Publications related to Aboriginal Issues
9. Miscellaneous Newspaper Clippings related to Aboriginal Issues
10. Photographs and pencil drawing



## Brandon Business and Professional Women's Club fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4859>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 10-2002

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1932-1972

Physical Description: 20 cm

## History /

### Biographical:

The Business and Professional Women's Club of Brandon was created in November 1932. The club grew out of a meeting of business and professional women who were interested in forming an association. Guest speakers at the meeting were Miss Hilda Hesson, the Vice President of the Federation of Canadian Business and Professional Women's Clubs, and Miss F. Ingram, the President of the Winnipeg Business and Professional Women's Club. The objective of the Brandon club, according to its constitution, was the "promotion of educational, service, and social facilities for the business and professional women." The club consisted of active and associate members and belonged to the greater Canadian Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club. The first President of the club was Miss Margaret Gemmell, with approximately 80 women attended the club's first meeting. The club established sub-committees on a variety of subjects including current events, sports, bridge instruction, public speaking, dress making, photography, stitch craft, manual training, and physical culture. The club also put on exhibitions, participated in drama festivals, held rummage sales and an annual Christmas party. During the Second World War, it established a War Effort Department. This department organized activities such as sewing and knitting in support of the war effort. The War Effort Department also raised money for charities such as the Red Cross. During its meetings, the club often heard local and national speakers or watched films. Women of many different vocations joined the club including florists, teachers, salesclerks, nurses, and housewives. Over the years, additional departments were added to the club including those named poetry, pottery, woodcraft, and drama.

### Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 2002. Previous custodial history is unknown.

### Scope and Content:

Fonds contains three small scrapbooks, which cover the years 1932-1939, 1939-1949, and 1950-1959, respectively. The scrapbooks contain newspaper clippings from the Brandon Sun, the Winnipeg Free Press, and the Flin Flon Daily Miner. The scrapbooks also contain exhibition and meeting programs from the Brandon Club. Fonds also contains meeting minutes for the years 1932-1972.

Notes: CAIN No. 202576

Subject Access: Miss Margaret Gemmel  
Miss Marjorie McKenzie  
Dr. Jane Turnbull  
Miss Muriel Bowen  
Miss Jessie Crawford  
Mrs. Robert Darrach  
Miss Margaret Clay  
Hilda Hesson  
Miss Jenny Gemmell  
City of Brandon  
Business and Professional Women's Club of Brandon  
Canadian Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs  
women's organizations  
women's clubs  
Manitoba women  
scrapbooks

Storage Location: 2002 accessions

Storage Range: 2002 accessions

Related Material: Brandon Business and Professional Women's Club (10-2002);  
Minnedosa Business and Professional Women's Club (11-2002);  
Neepawa Business and Professional Women's Club (12-2002); Trillium  
Business and Professional Women's Club (2-2006).



## Brandon Women's Musical Club fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4810>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 13-2002

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1953-1965

Physical Description: 10 cm

### History /

#### Biographical:

The Brandon Women's Musical Club was formed in 1945 by Miss Peggy Sharpe and Miss Hilda Smith. Together with a group of women from around Brandon, they managed to form a large club for, according to the club's constitution, "the study of vocal and instrumental music, literature and related arts and the encouragement of promising Junior Artists under eighteen years of age." With these goals in mind, the club undertook to provide tuition for young music students and contributed to the formation of the Brandon Women's Musical Choral Club. The club held meetings during which club members listened to guest speakers and observed performances by local musical and dance groups, as well as some national musical stars. The group also sponsored performances of musicals, plays, and recitals, and held an annual Christmas party.

#### Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 2002. Previous custodial history is unknown.

#### Scope and Content:

Fonds is composed predominantly of two scrapbooks, one of which covers the years 1953-1960, the other the years 1960-1965. The scrapbooks contain newspaper clippings about the Musical Club's meetings and performances. There is also a file containing miscellaneous correspondence, the constitution and bylaws of the group, the club's membership lists from 1959-1964, and questionnaires about the Women's Musical Club.

Notes: CAIN No. 202589

|                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Subject Access:   | Peggy Sharpe<br>Hilda Smith<br>Lorne Watson<br>Eric Davies<br>Nona Mari<br>Isabelle Coghlin<br>Janine Theriault<br>Peggie Sampson<br>Howard Leyton-Brown<br>Norman Chapman<br>Peter Koslowsky<br>Nora Needham<br>Lucien Needham<br>Brandon Women's Musical Club<br>Brandon Women's Musical Choral Club<br>Baroque Trio of Montreal<br>Brandon College School of Music<br>Wilson Trio<br>City of Brandon<br>women's clubs<br>choral groups<br>musical clubs<br>scrapbooks |
| Storage Location: | 2002 accessions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Storage Range:    | 2002 accessions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |



## Keystone Centre development and construction fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4854>

|                       |                                             |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Part Of:              | RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection |
| Description Level:    | Collection                                  |
| Accession Number:     | 22-1998                                     |
| GMD:                  | textual records                             |
| Date Range:           | 1957-1974; predominant 1970-1974            |
| Physical Description: | 36 cm                                       |

#### History /

##### Biographical:

The idea of the Keystone Centre was first mentioned in 1958, at a meeting of the board of directors of the Manitoba Winter Fair. The Manitoba Winter Fair wanted a new facility because the old Wheat City Arena had a leaking roof and a deteriorating west wall. The old facility also had limited space and the Winter Fair felt it needed more space for expansion. The Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba also had problems with their facilities, such as old barns and poor display areas. The idea of the Keystone Centre was put on hold until 1969, when the boards of the Provincial Exhibition and the Manitoba Winter Fair joined together as the Provincial Exhibition Association of Manitoba and the Wheat City Arena was sold and demolished. The original estimate for the cost of the Keystone Centre facilities was \$4.5 million and funding would be proportioned so that the federal and provincial governments would each put in one-third of the money, with the rest coming from local donations. The financial campaign for the Keystone Centre began in 1970, and construction began in November 1970. The grand opening of the Centre was in March 1973, and coincided with the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair of that year.

##### Custodial History:

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

##### Scope and Content:

Fonds contains many folders full of correspondence, financial statements, meeting minutes and other documents relating to the development and construction of the Keystone Centre from 1970-1974, including those from the Keystone Executive Committee, as well as the Building Committee. Fonds also contains one folder that pertains to the Brandon Area Agricultural Development Survey from 1959. This folder contains the names and locations of all farmers in the Brandon area in 1959. The Brandon Area Agricultural Development Survey was created in 1959, in order to make farming in the Brandon area more profitable. The survey was aided by Doane Agricultural Service from St. Louis, Missouri, who had success creating agricultural development programs in the United States. Fonds also contains folders from the Provincial Exhibition with correspondence, pamphlets, estimates, and studies from the 1960's. There is also one folder belonging to the Manitoba Winter Fair, which contains correspondence and financial statements relating to the Wheat City Arena. Fonds also contains information pertaining to the proposals made in the 1960's, for the building of the Keystone Centre, as well as one folder about the Keystone campaign from 1970-73. There is also one folder about the opening of the Keystone Centre, which contains newspaper clippings and guest lists. Finally, the fonds contains information about a court case involving Albert Bobyk and Robert Stewart. Stewart was the project manager for the Building Committee and Bobyk worked on the Keystone Center. The fonds includes a report about the trial of the two men who were charged with fraud involving their work on the Keystone Centre.

##### Notes:

CAIN No. 202608

|                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Subject Access:   | Ray Forbes<br>Fred McGuinness<br>Brandon Area Agricultural Development Survey<br>Doane Agricultural Service Inc<br>Agricultural & Homemaking School of Brandon<br>Royal Manitoba Winter Fair<br>Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba<br>South-Western District Agricultural Society<br>4-H<br>Manitoba Department of Agriculture<br>City of Brandon<br>Keystone Committee<br>Keystone Building Committee<br>agriculture<br>architecture<br>exhibitions<br>swine farming<br>sheep farming<br>cereal grain farming<br>rural life<br>winter fairs |
| Storage Location: | 1998 accessions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Storage Range:    | 1998 accessions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |