

# S. J. McKee Archives

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## Basswood OddFellows fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4850>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 5-2000

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1910-1954

Physical Description: 12 cm

History /

Biographical:

The OddFellows has a long international history as a mutual assistance society for men. OddFellow Lodges were open to white males over the age of 21, who were in good health and possessed good moral character. Upon joining an OddFellow's Lodge, a member received social and financial benefits. The Constitution of the Subordinate Lodges in Manitoba, 1899, notes that OddFellows Lodges were obliged to teach the importance of fraternity. Under the organization's constitution, lodge members assumed five obligations: to visit the sick, to relieve the distressed, to bury the dead, to educate the orphan, and to aid the widow. The Progress Lodge of the Basswood OddFellows was created in 1910; it continued as a group until early 1955, when it amalgamated with the Minnedosa OddFellows. The Progress Lodge of the Basswood OddFellows included men of many different occupations and social classes including, farmers, merchants, ministers, teachers, agents, carpenters, grain buyers, clerks, and laborers.

Custodial History:

The records of the Basswood Oddfellows Lodge were in the possession of Donald McNabb, who for many years was an active member of the Minnedosa Oddfellows. He donated the records to the McKee Archives in June 2000.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of five books. The first book is a membership list from 1910-1948. The list includes the members' names and occupations, the date that they joined the lodge, and their status within the hierarchy of the lodge. The other four books consist of minutes for the years 1910-16, 1916-25, 1935-44, and 1945-54.

Notes: CAIN No. 202644

Subject Access: Basswood OddFellows

Progress Lodge

Basswood

Manitoba

International Order of OddFellows

Minnedosa

fraternal associations

mutual aid societies

Storage Location: 2000 accessions

Storage Range: 2000 accessions

Related Material: The Minnedosa OddFellows fonds is also located in the McKee Archives.



## Brandon Cinema Club fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4798>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 9-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1952-1956

Physical Description: 1 cm

History /

Biographical:

The Cinema Club of Brandon was formally created in May 1954, and operated for two and one-half years before dissolving due to lack of interest. The club was formed for the purpose of providing private screenings, on a non-profit basis, of films that normally would not have been exhibited in commercial theatres in Brandon. Films had to be assessed by the club membership as outstanding in quality. During its existence, the club sponsored the screening of two to three movies every second Sunday.

Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee archives in 1997. Prior custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Fonds includes a minute book that contains a record of each meeting held by the Brandon Cinema Club and a list of the elected executives. It also includes a file of newspaper clippings from the Brandon Sun about the Cinema Club.

Notes: CAIN No. 202661

Subject Access: R.A. Clement  
Steffan Kossak  
Beryl Burtnick  
Walter Richardson  
Brandon  
Manitoba  
associations  
film  
recreation

Storage Location: 1997 accessions

Storage Range: 1997 accessions



## Brandon Council of Women fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4823>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 34-1998

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: 1952-1973

Physical Description: 66 cm textual records;  
6 photographs

History /

Biographical:

The Brandon Council of Women (BCW) was active between 1895 and 1927, when it disbanded. Principally through the efforts of Mrs. Kaye Rowe of Brandon, the BCW was officially reestablished in 1952. The Brandon Council of Women remained active until c. 1973. It brought together fifty-two women's organizations in Brandon, representing 2600 women.

Custodial History:

The Brandon Council of Women fonds was transferred to the McKee Archives during the 1970s. It was accessioned in 1998.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of papers and photographs of the International Council of Women (ICW), the National Council of Women of Canada (NCWC), the Manitoba Council of Women (MCW), and the Brandon Council of Women (BCW). The ICW papers include meeting minutes. The NCWC papers include meeting minutes, resolution lists, pamphlets, newsletters, correspondence, financial records, yearbooks, and copies of Acts pertaining to women. The MCW papers contain copies of the MCW constitution, meeting minutes, resolution lists, correspondence, and committee reports. The BCW materials comprise the largest part of the fonds, and include meeting minutes, committee reports, financial records, correspondence, short course agendas, posters, pamphlets, memos, resolution lists, newspaper clippings, manuscripts, photographs, and scrapbooks.

Notes: CAIN No. 202626

Subject Access: Mrs. Kaye Rowe

Brandon

Manitoba

National Council of Women of Canada

Manitoba Council of Women

International Council of Women

Feminism

Women's organizations

Storage Location: 1998 accessions

Storage Range: 1998 accessions



## Georgina Matiation (Hill) collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4887>

Part Of: RG 1 Brandon College fonds

Description Level: Sub-series  
Series Number: MG 2 2.23  
Accession Number: 29-1998  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1954-1956  
Physical Description: 1 cm textual records  
3 photographs

History /

Biographical:

Georgina Bernice Matiation (Hill) was born in Virden, Manitoba on February 19, 1936, daughter of Gordon and Florence Hill. She received her education at Brandon College (1954-1956). Originally a student in Arts, she graduated from the Teacher Training program in 1956. During her time at Brandon College, Matiation participated in the College Glee Club as well as college track and field meets. She also acted as Junior Ladies Athletic Representative in 1955. In addition, Matiation was the President of her Normal School class.

Matiation began her teaching career in Hargrave and Melita, before taking a position at Prince Charles School in Portage la Prairie in 1960. She remained at that institution until her retirement in 1991. In addition to her teaching career, Matiation was a past president of the Portage Evening Ladies Curling Club, a past president of the La Prairie Lioness and a leader of CGIT. She was a lifelong member of the Lenore Presbyterian Church.

Georgina Hill married Zane Matiation in 1970. They had no children. Georgina Matiation died on October 28, 1995 in Portage la Prairie at the age of 59 years.

Custodial History:

This collection was donated to the McKee Archives by Bessie Marie Hill of Winnipeg on May 1, 1998.

Scope and Content:

The collection consists of items collected by Mrs. Matiation (Hill) during her years as a student at Brandon College. The collection contains a scrapbook of photos of students and activities at the College taken from 1954-1956. Fonds includes copies of speeches made by her at various school events, such as her validictorian speech at the Normal School Graduation in 1956. There is also an autograph book with messages to her from friends and classmates. Finally, the collection includes two photographs of students in the 1924-25 Brandon Normal School, and one photograph of the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Brandon.

Notes: CAIN No. 202616. Description by Christy Henry.

Subject Access: Georgina Matiation (Hill)  
Brandon College  
Brandon  
Manitoba  
Westminster Presbyterian Church of Brandon  
MB  
college life  
student life  
scrapbooks

Storage Location: MG 2 Brandon College Students  
2.23 Georgina Matiation (Hill)

The collection is located with MG 2 2.2 Gerald Brown. It was placed there as a result of space issues.



## Janette Donnelly collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4807>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 22-1999  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: 1890-1921; predominant 1917-1919  
Physical Description: 10 cm textual records;  
2 class portraits;  
and 1 small print

### History /

#### Biographical:

Stella and Gladys Sleigh were born and raised in Rosburn, Manitoba, and attended Normal School in Brandon, Manitoba, in the late 1910's and early 1920's. Both subsequently pursued teaching careers in Manitoba. Katherine McLean also attended Normal School in the early 1890's, and was from Virden, Manitoba.

#### Custodial History:

Janette Donnelly has donated this collection of material that belonged to her mother and aunt, Stella and Gladys Sleigh, respectively. Included in this collection is a booklet that belonged to Donnelly's great-aunt Katherine Sinclair (McLean). This collection was donated to the McKee Archives by Janette Donnelly of McGregor, Manitoba, on September 15, 1999.

#### Scope and Content:

Collection consists of portfolios and notebooks kept by Stella and Gladys Sleigh while attending Brandon Normal School. The portfolios contain drawings and projects that the women made. The notebooks contain information about education in Manitoba in the early 20th century. There is also a portrait taken of Gladys Sleigh around 1920 and two Normal School portraits included in this collection. The collection also includes a notebook kept by Katherine Sinclair (McLean), which describes lessons given to prospective teachers at the Virden Normal School in the early 1890's.

Notes: CAIN No. 202609 (under Stella and Gladys Sleigh fonds).

Name Access: Rembrandt Studio  
Winnipeg  
Manitoba

Subject Access: Katherine Sinclair (McLean)  
Stella Sleigh  
Gladys Sleigh  
Virden  
Manitoba  
Brandon Normal School  
education  
primary teachers  
sewing  
normal school

Storage Location: 1999 accessions  
Storage Range: 1999 accessions



## J.C. Cousins fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions5137>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection  
Description Level: Collection  
Accession Number: 26-2007  
GMD: multiple media  
Date Range: pre-1881 settlement era - 1940s  
Physical Description: 6 cm  
Physical Condition: Generally good, but tattered in some places.

### History /

#### Biographical:

John C. Cousins was the son of Thomas Cousins (b. August 17, 1882 in Truro, Nova Scotia - d. March 5, 1914) and Mary Margaret Craig (b. April 14, 1824 - d. April 25, 1903). He married Eunice Eliza Nixon from London Township, County of Middlesex, Ontario. Together they had three children: Eunice M., Eric O. and Kathleen. J.C. Cousins was Reeve of the Rural Municipality of Daly from 1905 to 1910 and Assessor for the Town of Rivers from 1931-1938.

#### Custodial History:

Record was accessioned in 2007 by the McKee Archives. Prior custodial history unknown.

#### Scope and Content:

This document is a rambling memoir of John C. Cousins' recollections of life in the Rural Municipality of Daly from the settlement era in the early 1880s, through to the 1940s. He touches on various themes, including: his family history; the activities of the R.M. of Daly and his role as Reeve; the history of school districts in the municipality (lists names of first teachers and early students); the history of churches in the municipality; tragedies in the municipality; lists members of the Council of the municipality for the years 1885-1946; and the devastating impact of the Spanish Influenza on Aboriginal people in the municipality.

In addition, the memoir includes documentary records, such as minutes and copies of letters. There are also many photographs of both events and individuals (virtually all of the photographs are labelled and names are provided). The memoir goes beyond a simple recounting of facts. Cousins is discursive and thoughtful, often making references to developments happening in other parts of North America and Canada. There is also a link to the Maritimes, from which his family originated.

Notes: Description by Christy Henry and Tom Mitchell.

|                   |                                    |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Subject Access:   | Pendennis                          |
|                   | Rivers                             |
|                   | Manitoba                           |
|                   | Harrow school                      |
|                   | Mayne School District              |
|                   | Hunter School District No. 571     |
|                   | Poplar Hill school                 |
|                   | Tarbolton School District          |
|                   | Wheatland School District          |
|                   | Westwood School District           |
|                   | Bradwardine School District        |
|                   | Ancrum or Wellwood School District |
|                   | Spring Valley School District      |
|                   | Aetna School District              |
|                   | Robinville School District         |
|                   | Oakleigh school                    |
|                   | Lothian School District            |
|                   | Rivers School District             |
| Storage Location: | 2007 accessions                    |
| Storage Range:    | 2007 accessions                    |





## Manitoba Genealogical Society fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4814>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 9-1998

GMD: textual records

Date Range: c.1880 to c.1980

Physical Description: 30 cm

History /

Biographical:

The Southwest Branch of the Manitoba Genealogical Society was established in 1978. The Branch was formed following a meeting with members of the Manitoba Genealogical Association formed in 1977. The organization was created to assist individuals interested in doing genealogical research through the provision of genealogical data and archival resources. Since its creation the Southwest Branch has also issued a newsletter and published a series of census summaries based on the 1901 Canadian census.

Custodial History:

These records were donated to the McKee archives in 1990 by J.D. Wall on behalf of the Southwest Branch of the Manitoba Genealogical Society.

Scope and Content:

Fonds includes transcripts of the records transcribed from cemetery headstones located in cemeteries throughout southwestern Manitoba. Each transcript includes details about the cemetery records and all details including names, dates, and inscriptions from each headstone. The collection includes a "Cemetery Transcript List" detailing those cemeteries for which transcripts exist. Transcripts include those for the following cemeteries: Alexander, Birdtail Sioux Indian Reserve, Blenheim Church, Glencoe, Boissevain, Brandon, Brandon Hills Church Cemetery, Brookdale, Carberry District, Coultervale, Elgin, Elkhorn, Humesville, Lauder, Kerfoot (Gregg Cemetery), Icelandic Gravesite (Tilston), History of Kingsley Cemetery near Somerset, Madford Cemetery, Old Medora Cemetery, Melgund, Millford Cemetery, Noble Cemetery, Methven, Millord Cemetery, Roseville Anglican Church Cemetery, St. Savior's Anglican Church, St. George's Anglican Church, Rounthwaite, Souris (Glenwood Cemetery), Skalholt, Wellwood, Woodville (Lund, Kola, Bennett, Two Creeks), Patterson (near Nesbitt), Sparling (near Justice), Tilston (near Sinclair), Royal Canadian Air Force Memorial (20 miles north of Rivers).

Notes: CAIN No. 202662

Subject Access: cemetery records

Genealogy

Brandon

Manitoba

Storage Location: 1998 accessions

Storage Range: 1998 accessions



## Marion Doig collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4852>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 28-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1941-1951

Physical Description: 10 cm

History /

Biographical:

Marion Margaret Hales Doig was the only child of B.J. Hales. She died in Brandon on June 8, 1961.

Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1997. Prior custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Fonds contains issues of two periodicals, "Northern Review" (1949-51), which reviews contemporary Canadian literature, and "The Keystone Province" (1941-45), a primarily economic look at Manitoba.

Notes: CAIN No. 202632

Subject Access: Northern Review  
The Keystone Province  
Manitoba  
Literary Review

Storage Location: 1997 accessions

Storage Range: 1997 accessions

Related Material: B.J. Hales fonds (31-1998)



## Martin Kavanagh fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4812>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 10-2004

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1971-1987

Physical Description: 12.5 cm

History /

Biographical:

Martin Kavanagh was born in Wicklow, Ireland in 1895. He was educated in Wexford, Dublin and London. Following his arrival in Canada in 1923, Kavanagh was employed as the Principal of Treherene High School. In 1929, he joined the staff of Brandon Collegiate Institute. He taught Latin and Geography at the Collegiate until 1963. In 1946, Kavanagh published *The Assiniboine Basin: A Study of Discovery, Exploration and settlement*. In 1963, he published *La verendrye - His Life and Times*. Martin Kavanagh died in 1987.

Custodial History:

Fonds remained in the possession of Kevin Kavanagh and James Wall following Martin Kavanagh's death. Wall donated his portion of the fonds to the McKee Archives in November 2004. Kevin Kavanagh donated his portion of the fonds in December 2004.

Scope and Content:

Fonds contains an unpublished autobiography written by Martin Kavanagh and several draft narratives for a slide presentation based on Kavanagh's biography of La Verendrye. Fonds also contains one file of business correspondence c. 1971.

Notes: CAIN No. 202577

Subject Access: Martin Kavanagh

La Verendrye

Manitoba

Brandon

New France

settlement

exploration

biography

Storage Location: 2004 accessions

Storage Range: 2004 accessions

Related Material: Martin Kavanagh is listed in the Westman Oral History collection (35-1998).



## Minnedosa Odd Fellows fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4836>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 4-2000

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1884-1991

Physical Description: 60 cm

History /

Biographical:

The Odd Fellow Lodge in Minnedosa was created in 1884. Membership was open to white males over the age of 21, who were in good health and had good moral character. The organization was established as a mutual friendly association to provide social and financial support to its members. According to its Constitution, OddFellow members have five duties: to visit the sick, to relieve the distressed, to bury the dead, to educate the orphan, and to aid the widow. The organization existed until 1991.

Custodial History:

This fonds was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 2000. Prior custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of minutes from Minnedosa Odd Fellow meetings from 1884-1991. There is also one book kept by the Sick Committee from 1924-1949, in which the committee kept track of sickness and injuries among members and what each sick or injured man received in wages lost from the lodge. The fonds also includes a roll call book from 1884-1920. There is also a member and visitor register for the years 1972-1980, and an envelope of approximately 40 completed application forms from the 1940's and 1950's. Finally, the fonds includes a minute book of the Patriarch Militant IOOF of Brandon, Manitoba, which covers the years 1909 to 1922.

Notes: CAIN No. 202635

Subject Access: Minnedosa OddFellows

Minnedosa

Manitoba

Patriarch Militant IOOF

Brandon

fraternal organizations

mutual aid societies

Storage Location: 2000 accessions

Storage Range: 2000 accessions

Related Material: The Basswood Odd Fellows Collection is also located in the McKee Archives.



## United Grain Growers collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4822>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 48-1997

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1922-1937

Physical Description: 3 cm

History /

Biographical:

The United Grain Growers, a farmer controlled co-operative elevator association, was established in 1917, with the amalgamation of the Grain Growers Grain Company (1906), and the Alberta Farmer's Co-operative Elevator company (1913). Its original purpose was to provide a co-operative alternative to privately owned grain elevators.

Custodial History:

This collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1997. Prior custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Collection includes copies of correspondence between T.A. Crerar, President of United Grain Growers and Colin Burnell, President, Manitoba Co-operative Wheat Producers (1925-26); correspondence directed to the Shareholders of United Grain Growers (1926-38); minutes of a meeting between representatives of the United Grain Growers and the provincial wheat pools (1937); as well as a variety of publications about the history and activities of the United Grain Growers (1917-18, 1927, 1929, 1951, 1956).

Notes: CAIN No. 202642. Description by Christy Henry.

Subject Access: T.A. Crerar  
Colin H. Burnell  
R.S. Law  
Grain Growers Guide  
Elevators  
Agriculture  
Manitoba

Storage Location: 1997 accessions

Storage Range: 1997 accessions



## Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium collection

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4848>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 1-1998

GMD: textual records

Date Range: 1966-1968

Physical Description: 6 cm

History /

Biographical:

The construction of the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium was considered first during a meeting of the Brandon City Council in 1953. In 1962, the City of Brandon was given permission by Manitoba Premier Duff Roblin to proceed with the construction of the auditorium as a centennial project to celebrate Canada's centennial in 1967. Constructed on the Brandon University campus, the auditorium was completed in early 1969.

Custodial History:

This collection was accessioned by the McKee Archives in 1998. Previous custodial history is unknown.

Scope and Content:

Collection consists of one scrapbook with newspaper clippings and pamphlets about the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium and its construction.

Notes: CAIN No. 202571

Subject Access: Princess Alexandra

Mr. D. R. MacKay

Mayor Magnacca

Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium

Brandon

Manitoba

centennial projects

auditoriums

Storage Location: 1998 accessions

Storage Range: 1998 accessions



## William J. Birtles fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions4813>

Part Of: RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection

Description Level: Collection

Accession Number: 7-2003

GMD: multiple media

Date Range: c. 1880; c. 1935-2001

Physical Description: 4 photographs;  
2 biographical sketches

### History /

#### Biographical:

William Birtles was born in Alexander, Manitoba in 1930. He received his early education at Alexander School. In 1948, he completed grade 12 at St. John's College School in Winnipeg. He undertook formal training in art, beginning in 1949, at the Winnipeg School of Art. In 1952, he graduated from the Manitoba Provincial Normal School. After teaching school in Winnipeg for three years, Birtles completed a Bachelor of Fine Arts with a major in Sculpture in 1958. He obtained a Bachelor of Education from the University of Manitoba in 1970. Throughout his adult years, Birtles taught in various Manitoba communities, was active as an artist, showing his work and winning awards. He was also active in the Manitoba Society of Artists and associated provincial organizations. Birtles is retired and is a resident of Winnipeg, Manitoba.

#### Custodial History:

All of the items in the fonds were in the possession of William Birtles until their donation to the McKee Archives in 2003.

#### Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of photographs of Ms. Sarah Birtles, Rt. Rev W.W.H. Thomas D.D, the Thomas Smith farmhouse located northwest of Alexander, and a postcard containing a photograph of Westminster Abbey. Fonds also contains two biographical sketches written by William Birtles: one of Ms. Sarah Birtles - three pages - and one of Rt. Rev. W.W. H. Thomas D.D - six pages. Also includes the program of the Composite Lodge No. 64 G.R.M., A.F. & A.M. sixty-fifth Anniversary (Alexander, MB 1961).

Notes: CAIN No. 202569

Subject Access: Sarah Birtles  
Rt. Rev. W.W.H. Thomas D.D  
Thomas Smith  
Alexander  
Manitoba  
farmhouse  
masonic lodge

Storage Location: 2003 accessions

Storage Range: 2003 accessions