

# S. J. McKee Archives



## Frank Ernest Ellis interview - part I

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14474>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH096a.Eli

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: July 10, 1981

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:00:32]

History /

Biographical:

Frank Ernest "Ernie" Ellis was born on April 3, 1915. He lived and farmed all his life just north of Wawanesa, MB, and established a seed cleaning and fertilizer business entitled Ellis Farm Supplies on the south side of Wawanesa. Ernie married Margaret Alyce Viola Medd (1922-2022) in 1946 and together they had five children: Margaret, Brenda, Kathryn, Jennifer and Warren. In 1985, Ernie and Alyce moved to Winnipeg and their son Warren took over the farm.

Ernie was active in his community, local politics and the agriculture and health care sectors. His commitment to land conservation and a love of nature, led him to serve on the boards of many farming organizations, including the Wawanesa Crop Improvement Club, the Wawanesa Cooperative Elevator Association, and the Wawanesa Consumers Co-op Association. He was also one of the founders of the Manitoba Stock Growers' Association, which became the Manitoba Beef Growers' Association. Additionally, Ernie served on the board of the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair, was a member of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association, served terms as president for both the Brandon-Souris Liberal Association and the Souris-Killarney Association, ran as the MLA Liberal candidate for the Souris-Lansdowne constituency and served on the Oakland Council for 11 years. He was also elected chairman of the first Board of Directors for the Wawanesa & District Recreation Centre, was a trustee of the governing board of the Wawanesa & District Hospital, including 12 years as chairman. He was elected to the Board of Directors of the Manitoba Health Organization, where he advocated for health care in Wawanesa and rural areas. Ernie wrote two newspaper columns, "The Rural Scene" for the Wawanesa Optimist, and "On the Manitoba Range" for The Canadian Cattleman, and along with his wife Alyce, did much of the research and writing for the Wawanesa centennial local history book. Aside from writing, Ernie was also passionate about music, and played the trombone in the Wawanesa Band.

When he became ill in 2010 the Ellis' left Winnipeg; Ernie moved to the Personal Care Home in Wawanesa and Alyce moved to the Wawanesa Valley Lodge. Ernie Ellis died on February 16, 2011 in Wawanesa, MB.

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 Ernie Ellis. This first hour of the interview covers the history of the Ellis and Criddle families. The interviewer is John Moore.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and obituaries for both Ernie and Alyce Ellis. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

#### Audio Tracks

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### Fred Courtice interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14475>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH172.Cou

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: [1981-1984]

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:55:22]

#### History /

#### Biographical:

Frederick Clayton Courtice was born on September 7, 1901 in Wawanesa, MB. Raised in Brandon, he attended Alexander, King George, and Central schools, as well as Brandon Collegiate Institute (BCI). He began his career as a bookkeeper in the Merchants Bank in 1916, later becoming an accountant in the Bank of Montreal. He then worked as the office manager for Frank Massin for twenty-one years, before resigning due to his health. Frank then formed a partnership with Clarence Baker as farm dealers for Imperial Oil. He remained with this business until 1954. He served one term (1955-1956) as an alderman on the Brandon City Council, and then became the manager of the Wheat City Arena. Starting in 1957, when the city took over operations of the public transit system, he became the first manager of the Brandon transit department. In retirement, Fred focused on woodworking, especially building grandfather clocks. Fred served on the Brandon housing and parking authority, as well as the Brandon University Board of Governors. He was a charter member of the Brandon Kinsmen Club, which was founded in 1925, a member of the Navy League during World War II, and a member of the Masonic Lodge for over sixty years. Fred married Thelma Irene Smith (1903-1976) in 1925 and together they had three children: James, Noel and Norma Elaine. Fred Courtice died on September 3, 1987 in Brandon, MB. He 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 Fred Courtice about his life story and the early days of Brandon. Subjects include: early places, people and businesses, such as Reesors, Sifton house, Senator Kirkhoffer's home, Billie Muir's store, the construction of the Prince Edward Hotel, Caledonian rink, Trotter Brothers, Massin's, various hotels; the street railway; prohibition; the Brandon Electric Light Company; and more. The interviewer is Terry Penton.

Notes: History/bio information from the records, and Courtice's obituary.  
Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

#### Audio Tracks

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## Fred and Isabelle Heeney interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14476>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH222.Hee

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: February 17, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:02:09]

History /

Biographical:

Frederick John Kingsley "Fred" Heeney was born on August 15, 1900 in Danford Lake, Quebec. The family left Quebec in 1906, and moved to Girvin, SK, then relocated to section 23-11-19 in the RM of Elton. Fred farmed section 29-11-19 at Forrest, MB until retiring in 1965.

Isabelle Burton Allan was born on May 11, 1902 on section 7-11-18 in the RM of Elton, north of Brandon, MB. Initially a public school teacher who taught in Kemnay, Oak Lake, Starbuck and in Brandon at David Livingstone School, Isabelle stayed home after her marriage to Fred Heeney on October 21, 1931. The couple had two children: Dennis and Margaret.

Following Fred's retirement, the couple moved to Brandon. Isabelle was active in both community and church organizations, taking a special interest in the 4-H Club and the Daly House Museum. Isabelle Heeney died on June 2, 1996 in Brandon, MB. Fred Heeney died on January 19, 2003 in Brandon, MB. They are both 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 Fred and Isabelle Heeney about their lives, before and after their marriage, as well as early agriculture and the North End of Brandon. The interviewer is Frank Anderson.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and their obituaries. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

### Audio Tracks



## G. Albert Hodson interview - part I

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14477>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH168a.Hod

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: February 22, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:58:11]

History /

Biographical:

George Albert Hodson was born in 1910 on his father's farm, just south of Elkhorn, MB. He attended Buckingham School and worked on the farm with his father until his father's retirement, at which point Albert took over the farm. Albert married Evelyn Bolam on December 17, 1939 and they had four children: Leland, Valerie, Sherryl and Tannis. The couple moved into Elkhorn in 1967, and Albert retired from farming in 1978. Active in his community, Albert served as a trustee for the Buckingham School District, on the United Church Board, and was a member of the Agricultural Society and the Curling Club. He also served 34 years on the local Manitoba Pool Elevator board, eleven of which he was chairman of Sub-District No. 502. In 1996, Albert was recognized as an outstanding volunteer by the Manitoba Association of Agricultural Societies. Albert Hodson died on September 18, 2009 in Elkhorn, MB. He is buried at Elkhorn 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 Albert Hodson about pioneering, grain, grain elevators and Elkhorn history, including the Elkhorn Auto Museum. The interviewer is Elmer Armstrong.

Notes: History/bio information from the records, the Elkhorn local history "Steel and Grass Roots" and Hodson's obituary. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

### Audio Tracks

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## G.M. Smith interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14478>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH093.Smi

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: June 14, 1983

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:02:52]

### History /

#### Biographical:

Guy Masson "Bay" Smith was born on June 7, 1899 in Glenboro, MB. He graduated from Glenboro High School and then relieved his father in the post office while the latter served on a Military Tribunal. Bay enlisted with the Royal Air Force in 1918. For a short time he was the manager of a cream buying station in Glenboro before moving to Corning, SK in 1924, where he was an agent for Imperial Oil. In 1929, Bay returned to Glenboro to take over the Post Office duties from his mother, Elizabeth Alice Smith. Smith was appointed postmaster in 1950, and continued in that position until he retired in 1965. Under his leadership, a new post office was built in 1954; upon his retirement he sold the Smith Block and Post Office building. Smith married Mayme McKnight (1899-1977) in December 1923 and together they raised two children: Tannys and Robert.

Bay was active in community life. He was a charter member of the local Kiwanis Club and a member of the Masonic Lodge. He served long tenures on the Rink Committee, the Glenboro branch of the Red Cross and the Glenboro Board of Trade. He was a past president of the Junior and Senior Bands, was Secretary of the South Cypress Centennial Committee, and treasurer of the annual Fun Fair. He was a founding member of and helped design the local course at the Glenboro Golf Club. Bay Smith died on September 16, 1997 in Glenboro, MB.

#### 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 Bay Smith about his family history, his life and career and his community involvement in the town of Glenboro. The interviewer is Irene Brown.

Notes: History/bio information from the records, the Glenboro local history "Beneath the long grass" and Smith's obituary. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

### Audio Tracks

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## Harold E. Watson interview - part I

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14479>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH102a.Wat

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: August 7, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:00:05]

History /

Biographical:

Harold Ernest Watson was born on April 14, 1905 on section 4-11-24 in the RM of Woodworth. The family moved to Brandon, MB in 1911. As a young man, Harold worked for many years as a carpenter with his father. He was then employed for a few years with the Canadian National Railway (CNR) before becoming a carpenter and carman with the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) for thirty-five years. Harold married Winifred Elizabeth Schiedel (1916-1982) in 1939 and together they had six children: Eldine, Marjorie, David, Dale, Mildred and Ralph. A keen conservationist, Harold was a member of the Manitoba Naturalist Society. He also enjoyed gardening, bird watching, fishing, hunting, woodworking, reading, typing and cribbage, and possessed an excellent knowledge of the history of Brandon and surrounding area. Harold Watson died on November 30, 1994 in Brandon, MB. He 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 Harold Watson about the history of the East End of Brandon, including its early residents, buildings and activities. The interviewer is Lillian Mummery.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Watson's obituary.  
Description by Christy Henry. Fred McGuinness wrote about Harold Watson in his November 4, 2004 "The Notebook" column in The Brandon Sun.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

### Audio Tracks

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## Harriet Roddick McCall interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14480>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH191.MacC

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: June 27, 1981

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:43:59]

History /

Biographical:

Harriet Edna Aleta McCall (nee Roddick) was born October 25, 1910 at Brandon Hills, MB. She attended business college, worked a summer as saleswoman at Creelman's Shoe Store, before joining Yaeger's Fur Store in 1929. A saleswoman, Harriet also worked on the fair exhibits for the store. She met her husband Albert Eugene McCall (1907-1955) in 1943, but they did not marry until the fall of 1948, at which point she left her position at Yaeger's. At some point after 1948, but before 1955, the couple moved to Carthage, Texas. After her marriage, Harriet worked with her husband for Old English Lavender, and together they displayed at various fairs and exhibitions in North America. During the Christmas season they also worked with Hudson's Bay Company in their western Canadian stores. Harriet retired in 1973, after which she spent her winters in Texas and her summers in Brandon. Harriet Roddick McCall died on May 23, 1993 in Carthage, Texas.

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 Harriet Roddick McCall about her family history and the Brandon Hills story. The interviewer is Effie McPhail.

Notes: History/bio information from the records. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

### Audio Tracks

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## Howard Bedford interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14481>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH297.Bed

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: June 29, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:34:08]

History /

Biographical:

Howard Russell Bedford was born on September 27, 1889 in Blythe, ON. His family lived in Huron County, Ontario until coming to Killarney, MB in 1900. Howard spent the rest of his life in the Killarney area, except for military absences. In 1919, Howard took over the family farm when he returned from World War I. That same year, Howard married Elinborg Einarson (1895-1978), and together they had four children: Russell, Edmund, Ellen and Mervin. In 1940, Howard enlisted again, this time with the Veterans Guard of Canada; he was gone for just over five years. The family left the farm when Howard re-enlisted, so upon his return to civilian life, he worked as a carpenter until 1952. Howard Bedford died on June 24, 1995 in Killarney, MB. He is buried at Killarney and District 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:

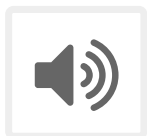
Item is an audiocassette tape containing an interview with Howard Bedford about his life experiences in the Killarney, MB area, including his war experiences. The interviewer is Tom Wilkins.

Notes: History/bio information from the records, the Killarney local history book "Reflections," and Bedford's obituary. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

### Audio Tracks



## J. Harvey Tolton interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14482>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH219.Tol

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: May 17, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:01:50]

History /

Biographical:

James Harvey Tolton was born on February 19, 1898 on section 11-11-24W near Oak Lake, MB. Harvey farmed at Oak Lake from 1918-1948, at which point he semi-retired.

Subsequently, he and his wife moved to Brandon and Harvey bought a half-section of land east of the city where he was able to dedicated himself to perfecting oat seed. Throughout his life as a pedigreed seed grower, Harvey received local, national and international acclaim; he won the World Championship for registered seed oats and the World Championship for field crops for three consecutive years at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto, and he became a favourite of the Quaker Oats Company. He was forced to retire from seed growing due to an accident and illness.

When he was not farming, Harvey was serving his community. He was a member of the Brandon College Board of Governors, the Oak Lake and Harding agricultural socieites, the Manitoba Agricultural Society advisory board, the Manitoba Provincial Exhibition Association, the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair, the Canadian Shorthorn Cattle Association, the Manitoba Seed Growers' Association, the Manitoba Swine Breeders' Association, the Agriculture Institue of Canada, the Kiwanis Club and Big Brothers. He also served on the council of the RM of Woodworth and on local school boards, was active in church affairs and 4-H. The Tourist Convention Association of Manitoba gave Harvey the Good Citizenship Award for making Manitoba a better place to live, and in 1976, Brandon University awarded him an honorary doctor of laws degree. In 1991, he was inducted into the Manitoba Agricultural Hall of Fame. Harvey married Jennie Eleanor Titmus (1896-1982) on December 8, 1919 and together they had five children: Roland, Roma, Phyllis, Fern and Beverley. Harvey Tolton died on July 29, 1987 in Brandon, MB. He is buried at Rosewood Memorial Gardens.

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 Harvey Tolton about the history of the Tolton family, Harvey's life experiences and early agriculture. The interviewer is Frank Anderson.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Tolton's obituary.  
Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

## Audio Tracks

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## Jack Naismith interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14483>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH087.Nai

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: December 31, 1981

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:00:13]

History /

Biographical:

Jack Fenton Naismith was born on June 9, 1908 in Heward, SK. When he was three months old his family moved to Wawanese and the Northfield district. Jack began farming the family farm in 1932, but successive crop failures convinced him to move to Edmonton, AB where he began working in the life insurance business. While in Edmonton, Jack married Erica "Erie" Hugo (1913-2000) on January 7, 1939 and together they had two daughters, Dell and Arlie. In 1950, the family moved to the West Coast where he entered the general insurance and real estate business. For many years the family farm was rented to Jack Mooney; Mooney bought the farm in 1964 and married Dell Naismith two years later. For a time after retiring, Jack and Erie spent their winters in Victoria, BC and their summers on the family farm in Manitoba. At some point after 1988, the couple returned to Wawanese for good. Jack Naismith died on March 24, 2008 in Wawanese, MB. He is buried at Wawanese 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 Jack Naismith about his life experience in the Northfield District. The interviewer is John Moore.

Notes: History/bio information from the records, the Wawanese local history "Sipiweske: Light through the trees" and Naismith's obituary. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

### Audio Tracks

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## Jacob Penner interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14484>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH128.Pen

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: May 6, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:02:47]

History /

Biographical:

Jacob Penner was born on March 22, 1919 in Siberia. He immigrated to Canada in June 1930, farming at 36-12-17 near Brookdale, MB and then at 22-12-17 near Justice, MB. He married Mary Reimer (1924-1989) on October 25, 1952 and they had three children: Arthur, Paul and Louise. Jacob Penner died on March 10, 2017 in Brandon, MB. He is buried at Sparling Cemetery in the RM of Elton.

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 Jacob Penner about the Penner history from Russia to Canada and the Mennonite Brethren Church at Justice, MB. The interviewer is Blair Loree.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and the Find a Grave website.  
Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

### Audio Tracks



## James and Bernice Guild interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14485>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH132.Gui

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: May 8, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:02:48]

## History /

### Biographical:

James "Jim" Guild was born on December 2, 1905 in Dundee, Scotland. He immigrated to Canada when his father was hired as a farm laborer in 1907. Jim farmed in the RM of Elton, where he ran a hog and cattle operation. He was an avid curler and interested in sports. A member of the Brandon Curling Club and the Forrest Curling Club, he was also a member and president of the Justice Pool Elevator, the Forrest Church Board, and the Elton Seniors Club. Jim was active in the early years of the Forrest 4-H Club, a director of the Brandon Consumers Board and Credit Union Board, the Brandon Consumers Cooperative and the Manitoba Agricultural Hall of Fame.

Bernice Rae Klusedorf was born on February 19, 1909 in Welcome, Minnesota. She moved to Manitoba at the age of 8, when her parents established a farm in the Sinclair district. A graduate of the Brandon General Hospital (BGH) in 1931, Bernice worked as a nurse until her marriage to Jim on September 21, 1934. The couple had five children: Janice, Elaine, Alan, Murray and Betty. After her marriage, Bernice was dedicated to the farm and her family, while also making her nursing skills available to families in the community. She was active in the nurses' alumni of BGH and represented the Justice chapter of the Women's Institute at meetings throughout southern Manitoba. A member of the Justice and Forrest United Churches, Bernice also enjoyed travelling.

The Guilds retired from farming in the late 1970s. Jim Guild died on May 26, 1982. Three years later, Bernice moved into Brandon where she continued her practice of visiting hospital patients and residents of senior citizens homes. Bernice Guild died on March 18, 1995. They are both buried at Rosewood Memorial Gardens.

### 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 James and Bernice Guild about their lives and experiences. The interviewer is Blair Loree.

Notes:	History/bio information from the records, Jim Guild's and Bernice Guild's obituaries. Description by Christy Henry.
Language Note:	English
Conservation:	Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

## Audio Tracks

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## Jean Cameron Mains and Myrna Hicks Dring interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14486>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH310.Mai

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: November 24, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:53:01]

History /

Biographical:

Jean Louise Mains (nee Cameron) was born on September 16, 1907 in Boissevain, MB. She attended school in Boissevain, one year at Brandon College and received her teaching certificate from the Brandon Normal School in 1926. She taught at Dunallen, Royal and Fairburn schools until her marriage to Clifford Mains (1890-1948) in 1937. The couple had three daughters: Barbara, Elizabeth and Susan. Clifford and Jean farmed until 1944, and then moved to Boissevain. Jean did hospital books until 1950, then moved with the children to Brandon for a year so she could take a secretarial course. Returning to Boissevain, she worked at the agricultural office for nine years then returned to school again, this time taking a business course at Red River College. For the next thirteen years Jean taught business at the Boissevain High School. A member of the Eastern Star, IODE, the UCW Group of St. Paul's United Church and the Beckonging Hills Activity Club, Jean enjoyed travelling and playing bridge. Jean Mains died on February 15, 2003 in Boissevain, MB. She is buried at Boissevain and Morton Cemetery.

Myrna Dring (nee Hicks) was born on May 18, 1944 in Ninga, MB. A part-time speech aide at Boissevain School in the early 1980s, she took her psychiatric nursing training in Brandon, Winnipeg and Ninette from 1962-1965. On July 31, 1965, Myrna married Ray Clinton Dring (1942-2005), and the couple adopted a daughter, Nancy. After the marriage, the family lived in Boissevain, where Ray was involved with the family business Dring Laminated Structures Ltd. In 1985, the Drings moved to Winnipeg. Myrna Dring continues to live in Winnipeg, MB.

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 Jean Cameron Mains and Myrna Hicks Dring about social life in the town of Boissevain from approximately 1900-1980. The interviewer is Bernice Pettypiece.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Mains' obituary. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

### Audio Tracks

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## Jean Landreth interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14487>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH294.Lan

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: June 10, 1981

Physical Description: 2 audio cassettes [01:04:31]

History /

Biographical:

Jean Pettigrew Landreth was born on May 3, 1890 in Bright, Ontario. Her family moved west to a homestead north of Lauder, MB in 1891. Jean attended school at Grand Bend and Lauder, and in 1912-1913, the Business College in Moose Jaw. She lived on the family farm with her brother George until 1957, when they moved to the village of Lauder. In 1971, Jean moved to Cameron Lodge in Hartney. She never married. Jean was very active in the community as a member of the United Church, the Eastern Star Lodge, the Hartney-Lauder Fair Board, the Border Festival and the committee to establish a Senior Citizen's Home in the community. Jean also loved to travel. Jean Landreth died on November 29, 1992 at Souris, MB. She is buried at Lauder 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 Jean Landreth about her life story. The interviewer is Kay Briggs.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Landreth's obituary.  
Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

### Audio Tracks

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## Jean Purdie interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14488>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH049.Pur

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: November 14, 1981

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:02:34]

History /

Biographical:

Jean Ann Purdie (nee Esslemont) was born on April 18, 1893 in Edinburgh, Scotland. She came to Canada with her family in 1910; they settled in Hamiota, MB briefly, before moving to Neepawa (1911-1914) and Brandon (1914-1918). Jean took her nurses training at Neepawa Hospital, graduating in 1914. She was active as a nurse during the Spanish flu epidemic, and also nursed at the Brandon Mental Hospital, where she met her future husband, Dr. Frank Kidd Purdie (1888-1956), who was the assistant superintendent at the hospital. Jean and Frank were married on July 16, 1918. After their marriage the couple settled in Griswold, MB, where they had two sons, Frank and Jack. Following her husband's death, Jean returned to Brandon in 1956. In her retirement Jean enjoyed travelling, her cabin at Clear Lake, modeling and club activities. Jean Purdie died on May 8, 1991 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 Jean Purdie about her life, particularly as a rural doctor's wife, 1918-1956. The interviewer is Marjorie Lange.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Purdie's obituary.  
Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

### Audio Tracks

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## Kay Rowe interview - part I

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14489>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection  
Description Level: Item  
Item Number: OH115a.Row  
Accession Number: 35-1998  
GMD: sound recordings  
Date Range: March 8, 1983  
Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:02:02]

### History /

#### Biographical:

Kathleen Joan "Kaye" Rowe (nee Moreland) was born on June 10, 1910 in Winnipeg, MB. Kaye attended St. John's Technical High School. She moved to Brandon following her marriage to Gabriel Richard "G.R." Rowe (1898-1968) on July 12, 1932. Kaye had widespread interests in fashion, politics, the arts and journalism. Her journalism career began in 1935, when she began writing book reviews for CKX Radio. Four years later she became a society columnist for the Winnipeg Free Press and from 1945 to the 1980s she was a freelance columnist for the Brandon Sun, writing pieces on people, fashion and the arts. In 1958 and 1960, Kaye won awards for the best fashion stories of the year in Canada, and in 1970, she received a Margaret McWilliams Award from the Manitoba Historical Society for the best newspaper story on Manitoba history in the province's centennial year. The Rowes had no children. Kaye Rowe died on December 16, 1995 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 Kaye Rowe about her knowledge and memories of Brandon entertainment, 1900-1983. The interviewer is Betty Gibson.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and the Manitoba Historical Society website. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

### Audio Tracks

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## Lillian Mummery, Isabelle Heeney and Gordon Frazer interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14490>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection  
Description Level: Item  
Item Number: OH130.Mum

Accession Number: 35-1998  
GMD: sound recordings  
Date Range: May 30, 1983  
Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:02:08]

History /

Biographical:

Lillian Velma Mummery was born on November 7, 1901 at Toronto Junction, ON. Her family moved to Brandon shortly after she was born. Attending schools in Brandon, Lillian graduated as a teacher in 1922, and after several years teaching in western Manitoba, she started with the Brandon School Division in 1926. Before her retirement in 1966, Lillian taught at most of the elementary and junior high schools in the city. After her retirement she continued to tutor in Latin and English for many years. Lillian spent time overseas as a member of the Navy Wrens and for a year in England on a teaching exchange. An active member with First Church United, later Central United Church, she also spent considerable time working with St. John Ambulance and travelling. Lillian never married. Lillian Mummery died on August 5, 1994 in Brandon, MB. She is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Isabelle Burton Heeney (nee Allan) was born on May 11, 1902 on section 7-11-18 in the RM of Elton, north of Brandon, MB. Initially a public school teacher who taught in Kemnay, Oak Lake, Starbuck and in Brandon at David Livingstone School, Isabelle stayed home after her marriage to Fred Heeney on October 21, 1931. The couple had two children: Dennis and Margaret. Following Fred's retirement, the couple moved to Brandon. Isabelle was active in both community and church organizations, taking a special interest in the 4-H Club and the Daly House Museum. Isabelle Heeney died on June 2, 1996 in Brandon, MB. She is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

William Gordon Frazer was born on February 14, 1913 in Winnipeg, MB and raised at Beulah, MB. He received degree from the University of Manitoba (BSc 1934, BEd 1935), then taught at Maple Leaf Collegiate from 1935-1939. In 1939, he married Dorothy Jean Gregory (1912-1990) and together they had two children: Donna and Harold. The family moved to Brandon in 1942, where Gordon taught at Brandon Collegiate Institute (BCI), serving as Vice-Principal (1959-1960) and Principal (1960-1966). He retired from teaching in 1973 from Harrison High School. Gordon was a Mason, a past president and life member of the Brandon Teachers' Association, and a director of the Westman Retired Educators. He was also an adjutant of the 82nd Squadron of the Royal Canadian Air Cadets for twelve years, as well as an active member of Knox United Church, serving as secretary to the Committee of Stewards and as a member of the group responsible for the construction of the new building. For fifteen years Gordon and his wife spent part of their winters in Hawaii. Gordon Frazer died on March 19, 1998 in Brandon, MB. He is buried at Rosewood Memorial Gardens.

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 Lillian Mummery, Isabelle Heeney and Gordon Fraser about the history of Brandon Collegiate Institute, 1908-1974. The interviewer is Effie McPhail.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and obituaries for the interviewees. Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)



### Mabel Montgomery interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14491>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH080.Mon

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: June 19, 1982

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:01:55]

History /

Biographical:

Mabel Ester Montgomery was born on June 28, 1900 in Lanark, Ontario in Drummond County. When she was six years old her family moved to a farm north of Oak Lake, MB. Living first on the NW section of 16-10-23, she moved to the SW section of 16-10-23 in the 1950s. Mabel was the housekeeper at home on the farm her entire life. Mabel never married. Mabel Montgomery died on January 28, 1997 in Virden, MB. She is buried at Oak Lake 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 Mabel Montgomery about life in the rural agricultural community of Oak Lake, MB since 1900. The interviewer is Phillis Cairns.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Montgomery's obituary.  
Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

## Audio Tracks

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### Maria Nelson, Laura Cole and Alex McPhail interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14492>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH275.Nel

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings  
Date Range: June 1982  
Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [01:02:01]  
History /  
Biographical:

Maria Corlette Nelson (nee Grant) was born on December 29, 1900 on the family homestead at Forrest, MB. Maria attended Clark Hall Academy at Brandon College and continued her education until she received her BA in 1925, and her Certificate of Education from Toronto in 1927. Returning to the prairies, she spent the next six years teaching. In 1930, Maria married Wesley Gordon Nelson (1899-1981) and moved to the Nelson farm in the Sparling district. The couple had three daughters, Catherine, Helen and Marion, the latter who died at 3 years of age. In 1960, Maria entered Brandon College's teacher training course (TTC). Maria Nelson died on May 16, 1996 in Winnipeg, MB. She is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Ella Laura Cole was born on in 1897 in the RM of Elton in what is now the North End of Brandon, MB. She came to Brandon, MB in 1923 to attend business college. Laura worked for Hughes and Company for over 39 years, then worked for Gordon West until retiring in 1969. Laura was a member of Knox United Church. She never married. Laura Cole died on January 12, 1989 in Brandon, MB. She is buried at Brandon Municipal Cemetery.

Peter Alexander (P.A.) Alex McPhail was born on July 11, 1897 in the RM of Elton in what is now the North End of Brandon, MB. 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 as 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 Maria Nelson, Laura Cole and Alex McPhail about the early days in the North End of Brandon, MB. The interviewer is Effie McPhail.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and obituaries for the interviewees. Description by Christy Henry.  
Language Note: English  
Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

## Audio Tracks

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## Marion Hannah interview

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14493>

Part Of: Westman Oral History collection

Description Level: Item

Item Number: OH037.Han

Accession Number: 35-1998

GMD: sound recordings

Date Range: April 6, 1983

Physical Description: 1 audio cassette [00:19:16]

History /

Biographical:

Marion Catherine Hannah (nee Elliott) was born on August 19, 1904 in Boissevain, MB. She moved to Brandon in 1923, to study nursing at Brandon General Hospital (BGH), graduating in 1926. During the 1930s, Marion served as the first president of the Junior Hospital Aid. During the Second World War she assisted in setting up programs through the YWCA for wives of servicemen and organizing in the serviceman's canteen. In 1942, she opened the first Red Cross blood donor clinic in Brandon and supervised the work for three years. From 1947-1956, Marion was the evening supervisor at Brandon College; she also taught health classes to the first teacher training students (TTC) at Brandon College. Marion joined the Provincial Department in 1958, working in general health programs and later specializing in geriatric programs, where she set up the Brandon Civic Senior Citizens Inc. Drop-in Centre and the Christmas Cheer Bureau. She retired in 1970.

Throughout her life Marion served as president of a number of organizations: The Brandon Council of Women; Brandon General Hospital alumni; the Manitoba Association of Registered Nurses (District 2); the Brandon Civic Senior Citizens Inc.; and Hobbs Manor Resident's Council. She was a life member of St. John's Ambulance Society, the Manitoba Association of Registered Nurses, Brandon Civic Senior Citizens Inc. and the Baptist Women's Organization. In 1967, Marion was chosen Brandon's "Woman of the Year" for her long record of community service. In retirement Marion was heavily involved in the planning and building of Hobbs Manor. She was also a member of First Baptist Church for more than 70 years. Marion married Howard Eldon Hannah (1894-1977) in 1928. The couple had two daughters, Jean and Katherine. Marion Hannah died on November 12, 1997 in Calgary, AB. She is buried at the 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 Marion Hannah about the origin of Park Community Centre, 1935-1946. The recording is a copy of an earlier interview conducted in the fall of 1976. The interviewer is Jack Senchuk.

Notes: History/bio information from the records and Hannah's obituary.  
Description by Christy Henry.

Language Note: English

Conservation: Preservation copy made 2021 (R. Hess)

