

**S. J. McKEE ARCHIVES
ANNUAL REPORT
2010**

I. APPRAISAL

In August 2009, the archives acquired the photographic archives of the former CKX television station in Brandon. From May until October 2010, C.M. Henry appraised the CKX fonds, selecting approximately 3500 negatives for archival retention from approximately 10,000 negatives donated.

The McKee Archives did not conduct any monetary appraisals in 2010.

II. ACCESSIONING, PROCESSING, ARRANGING AND DESCRIBING

In collaboration with Dr. Bev Nicholson and Sylvia Nicholson, the archives has undertaken a multi-year project of archiving the records generated by Dr. Nicholson's archaeological investigations in southwestern Manitoba undertaken during his years at Brandon University. This project could prove to be a prototype for the archiving of archaeological records as no other fonds of similar size has been archived in a manner compliant with Canadian Rules for Archival Description. Because the Archives has been able to upgrade its public site, digital versions of these records are being made available online for researchers. Working together with Archives' staff, Sylvia Nicholson has developed an arrangement for the records and has begun inputting descriptions and digital versions of the Bev Nicholson fonds into the Archives' database.

C.M. Henry processed and arranged the CKX fonds throughout the spring and summer, finally accessioning the fonds at the end of September. With assistance from Technical Services the descriptions for the A and B negatives were added to the database in July and August. Digital versions of the images for those two letters were added to the descriptions by the end of November. The creation of descriptions for the C negatives began in December.

In June the Archives acquired the personal and professional papers of Lorne Watson, former Dean of Music at Brandon University. A preliminary processing and arranging of these records involving hundreds of hours of his personal time was conducted by Gerald Brown, a friend of Lorne Watson's and BU alumnus, at Watson's home in Winnipeg. These records represent an invaluable contribution to the archival record of Brandon College, Brandon University and in particular the School of Music from the 1940s through to the 1990s.

The processing and description of the textual records of the Manitoba Pool Elevator fonds was completed by Jill Sutherland during her second summer job in the archives. Tom Mitchell spent part of the fall compiling the finding aid for the fonds in anticipation of a National Appraisal Board appraisal scheduled for February 2011. Henry compiled an inventory of the graphics in the fonds during November and December.

III. REFERENCE AND RESEARCHERS

Reference services were provided to a variety of researchers seeking archival data and photographs related to publications, teaching materials, film production, flora and fauna of southwestern Manitoba, heritage sites, family history, building and renovation projects, Brandon history, Camp Hughes and Camp Shilo, the Brandon Internment Camp, the Kapuskasing Internment Camp, and historical figures, including several Brandon College alumni. The Archives provided photographs for use in a display created by the First Baptist Church for their 125th Anniversary celebration in November.

Within the University, the archives responded to requests concerning the E – gre musical competition, the Quill 100th anniversary, historical photographs for the printed B.U.I.L.D. document, land title records to various pieces of property, photographs for Athletics, photographs for offices and meeting rooms in Student Services, and Convocation planning in the President’s Office. The archives contributed to two editions of the Alumni News.

IV. EXHIBITS

The McKee Archives participated in the Rural and Northern Archives Special Interest Group of the Association for Manitoba Archives’ “IMAGES” exhibit, which opened with a special reception on June 3, 2010 in the Tommy McLeod Curve Gallery, John E. Robbins Library. The exhibit opening was hosted by the Archives and attended by approximately 60 people.

At the request of Alumni Relations, images from the Archive’s “Images of a Prairie Town” exhibit, along with class flags, were used as an exhibit for Homecoming weekend in October 2010 in the Tommy McLeod Curve Gallery.

Photographs from the S.J. McKee Archives appeared in the new Brandon Fire Station Grand Opening display 8 September 2010.

V. PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

In 2010 the Archives was able to send two important archival collections to Simon Fraser University for digitization. Through generous donations from Dr. Poff and the Alumni Association respectively, the *Clark Hall Scrapbooks* (1913-1918) and the *Sickle* (1927-1984) were scanned for digital access and archival preservation.

As mentioned above, Tom Mitchell and C.M Henry met with Dr Bev Nicholson and Sylvia Nicholson on several occasions to plan and coordinate the inclusion of Nicholson’s SSHRC funded archaeological records in the Archives’ database. These important records date back to the 1970s and cover digs across southern Manitoba. Work on this project will be ongoing for several years.

On January 20, Tom Mitchell presented the Archives’ proposal for a records management program at Brandon University to the Brandon University – Innovation, Leadership and

Development Steering Committee. The proposal was developed by C.M. Henry and Tom Mitchell during the fall of 2009.

In collaboration with the Manitoba Library Consortium, the S.J. McKee Archives has been working for several years to microfilm the *Brandon Daily Sun* 1900-1917. When the *Brandon Sun* was microfilmed many years ago, only the weekly edition for the years 1900-1917 was microfilmed. The preservation of the daily for 1900-1917 is a very important archival accomplishment. This has finally been achieved. The microfilm archival master and service copies of the *Brandon Daily Sun* arrived the week of January 18, 2010.

In conjunction with the Rural and Northern Archives exhibit, the Archives organized a reception for the exhibit and a one day workshop focusing on analog and digital photography on June 4.

The archives staff, including Jill Sutherland, assisted Bill Waiser and C. S. Houston with materials and contacts required for the writing and production of a new book on Tommy Douglas titled *Tommy's Team: The People Behind the Douglas Years* published in the fall of 2010 by Fifth House Publishers of Saskatoon.

Beginning in July and August the Archives received very significant scanning and description help with the Lawrence Stuckey rural archives and CKX negatives from the following library staff: Angie Bishoff, Joanne Walker, Jennifer Webber, Gaye Sheardown, Donna Andresen, Marian Ramage, Randy Patton, and Tanya Cantlon. Richard Bee also began the process of converting oral histories in the Westman Oral History collection from analog cassettes to digital files during the summer. These contributions have made it possible to accelerate the presentation of these important archival records on the archives public site. Circulation staff continued to work on these archival projects as time allowed during the fall term.

Tom Mitchell assisted with materials for several video productions on Brandon subjects produced by Graham Street for MTS Television. Tom Mitchell appeared in one of Street's productions dealing with Brandon College. On October 14 Tom Mitchell made a presentation to the CRRF/RDI Conference re Lawrence Stuckey and the McKee Archives. A silent slide show using Stuckey's Rural Archives was also used during the conference. In October Mitchell also assisted with digitizing images and documents for a celebration of the life of Lorne Watson held on October 17, 2010.

In November the Archives added a new photo commenting feature to its website. This upgrade will facilitate an interactive relationship with archival patrons as it will permit them to comment on photographs viewed on the archives public website. This development follows upgrades in previous years that have allowed the archives to present digital versions of archival text records and photographs on the public site.

VI. RARE BOOKS

Using funds provided by Linda Burrridge, C.M. Henry re-housed the majority of the pamphlet sized items in the Aboriginal Writers Collection in the spring of 2010.

VII. FACULTY & STAFF ACTIVITY

In February Henry began a two month correspondence course on Oral Histories for Archives offered through the Archives Association of British Columbia. She received her certificate for the course in April 2010.

In March Henry attended a two day workshop on monetary appraisal.

C.M. Henry completed the ARMA Records Management certificate course in May.

At the September 30th meeting of the Association for Manitoba Archives' Board Henry was acclaimed Board Chair for a two year term.

When the State Trembled: How A. J. Andrews and the Citizens' Committee Broke the Winnipeg General Strike, by Reinhold Kramer and Tom Mitchell, was published by the University of Toronto Press in mid-September. A very successful launch for the book was held at the McNally-Robinson bookstore (Grant Avenue, Winnipeg) Friday October 1, 2010.

In November C.M. Henry attended a two day workshop on digital program management.

C.M. Henry
Tom Mitchell
December 2010