

Florence McKay fonds
Finding Aid

Cortes Island Museum & Archives Society
957 Beasley Road
Manson's Landing
B.C. Canada
V0P 1K0
Telephone: 250-935-6340
Email: cimas@twincomm.ca
URL: <http://cortesmuseum.com>

Title: Florence McKay fonds

Part Of: Florence McKay fonds

Descr. Level: Fonds

Fonds No: 2004.001

Item No: 2004.001.001 - 2004.001.049

Creator: Florence McKay

GMD: graphic; textual records

Date: 1878-1990

Physical Descr.: 49 photographs; 3 newspaper articles

Conservation: Photographs have been removed from the album and stored in archival photograph envelopes.

History/Bio: Florence Manson McKay was born Jan. 21, 1900 to Michael and Jane Manson. Michael Manson was the first person to pre-empt land on Cortes Island, a quarter section on Gunflint Lake (present-day Linnaea Farm). Florence married Ervin McKay in 1918. They moved to Hernando Island in 1921 and Ervin worked with extended family members logging there and on Cortes Island. Florence and Ervin had two children: Etta (b. 1918) and Hazel (b. 1920). In 1929 the McKays took over Michael Manson's original pre-emption on Gunflint Lake, where they farmed until retiring in 1950. They moved to Courtenay, turning the farm over to daughter Hazel and her husband Ken Hansen. Florence was widowed in 1978 and returned to Cortes to live with Ken and Hazel, who had sold the farm but kept 16 acres to live on. Florence passed away in 1995.

Custodial History: Florence McKay gathered the photographs and her daughter, Hazel Hansen, compiled the album and wrote the captions. The album was donated to CIMAS by Hazel's son, Albert Hansen, in 2004.

Scope & Content: Fonds consists of 49 original photographs from the Michael Manson family, mostly from the early 20th century (1898-1928). The photographs depict the Manson family, logging and farming on Hernando and Cortes Islands, Michael and Jane Manson's Golden Wedding anniversary, and Florence McKay's 90th birthday celebration. The photographs were originally in an album with handwritten captions along with newspaper articles about Michael Manson, Jane Manson and Florence McKay.

Notes: The photographs in this fonds were digitized at Photo Tech in Campbell River in 2005/2006.

Finding Aids: Item level finding aid is available.

Accession No.: 2004.001

List of Photographs:

2004.001.001 Michael and Jane Manson portrait

[1918?] (1 photograph print: b&w; 25.5 x 16 cm)

A portrait of Michael and Jane Manson

2004.001.002 Michael and John Manson's parents and siblings

1878 (1 photograph print: b&w; 12.5 x 9 cm)

Michael and John Manson's parents, John and Margaret Manson, and some of their children.

Back row, L to R: Barbara and Margaret.

Centre row, L to R: John Manson, Margaret Manson and Robina.

Front row, L to R: John and William.

2004.001.003 Michael and Jane Manson's children

[ca.1900] (1 photograph print: b&w; 13.5 x 9.5 cm)

Portrait of Michael and Jane Manson's children.

L to R: twins Ethel and Robina, Wilfred, Hazel (in front).

2004.001.004 The Michael and Jane Manson family

1905 (1 photograph print: b&w; 8.5 x 12 cm)
Portrait of Michael and Jane Manson and their children.
Back row, L to R: Robina, Michael Manson, Wilfred, Ethel.
Centre row, L to R: Margaret, Hazel, Jane Manson.
Front row, L to R: Florence, Gwendoline, Flossie.
Robina and Ethel, and Florence and Flossie were sets of twins.

2004.001.005 Michael and Jane Manson

[1918?] (1 photograph postcard: b&w; 13.5 x 8.5 cm)
Michael and Jane Manson standing with forest in the background.

2004.001.006 Michael Manson and daughters

1911 (1 photograph postcard: b&w; 13.5 x 8.5 cm)
Michael Manson with four of his daughters standing with forest in the background (same background as photograph 2004.001.005).
L to R: Ethel, Mike Manson with his hand on shoulder of Flossie, Gwen, Hazel (Original print of CR #13663)

2004.001.007 Jane Manson

[1918?] (1 photograph print: b&w; 7.5 x 5.5 cm)
Jane Manson standing in front of stairs and house entry.

2004.001.008 Florence and Flossie Manson collecting firewood

1912 (1 photograph print: b&w; 7.5 x 5.5 cm)
Florence and Flossie Manson (twins) collecting firewood beside the Manson's Landing "Spit House". (Original print of CR #13671)

2004.001.009 Jane Manson with daughters Hazel and Ethel

1912 (1 photograph postcard: b&w; 8.5 x 14 cm)
Jane Manson, centre, standing with her daughters Hazel (L) and Ethel (R) outside in a small clearing. (Original print of CR #13670)

2004.001.010 Ethel and Florence Manson with a calf

1912 (1 photograph print: b&w; 8 x 13.5 cm)
Ethel (L) and Florence (R), daughters of Michael and Jane Manson, standing on the beach at Clytosin with a calf. (Original print of CR #13676)

2004.001.011 Rose and Florence Manson, Hernando Island

1914 (1 photograph postcard: b&w; 8.5 x 14 cm)
Rose (L) in overalls and her cousin Florence standing with a dog standing by trees at the John Manson home, Sunny Brae farm.
Rose was the daughter of John and Margaret Manson; Florence was the daughter of Michael and Jane Manson. (Original print of CR #13675)

2004.001.012 Flossie Manson standing beside a horse

[1920?] (1 photograph print: b&w; 9 x 12.5 cm)
Flossie Manson Standing beside a horse which has two cats on its back.

2004.001.013 Hazel McKay with sheep

[1924?] (1 photograph print: b&w; 10 x 12.5 cm)
Hazel McKay as a small child feeding a sheep called Sitcum Siatcus. A lamb and some chickens are in the background with a house in the far distance.

2004.001.014 Manson grandchildren feeding chickens, Hernando Island

[early 1920s] (1 photograph print: b&w; 10 x 13 cm)
Feeding the hens. Children, L - R: Etta McKay, Dorothy Manson (smallest), Hazel McKay. Florence McKay is in the shadows on the porch of the small "house on the hill" at Stag Bay, Hernando Island. This is the house originally built by George Freeman ca. 1915.

2004.001.015 Florence Manson with a cow on the beach

[ca.1915] (1 photograph print: b&w; 8.5 x 12.5 cm)

Florence Manson standing on a beach with a dairy cow.

2004.001.016 Florence Manson with two dogs

[ca.1915] (1 photograph print: b&w; 12.5 x 8 cm)

Florence Manson posing outside. She is holding one dog and another dog is at her feet.

2004.001.017 Florence and Rose Manson, cousins, in front of John Manson's first home

1911 (1 photograph print: b&w; 8 x 10.5 cm)

Florence and Rose Manson, cousins, posing in the limbs of a blossoming cherry tree at Sunny Brae farm. John Manson's first house and a picket fence are in the background. Florence was the daughter of Michael and Jane Manson; Rose was the daughter of John and Margaret Manson. (Original print of CR #13632)

2004.001.018 Portrait of Michael Manson

1911 (1 photograph postcard: b&w; 13.5 x 18.5 cm)

Formal portrait of Michael Manson seated on an ornamental bench. (Original print of CR #13648)

2004.001.019 Turkey raising on Hernando Island

[ca. 1900] (1 photograph print: b&w; 6.5 x 8.5 cm)

Michael Manson's turkey gobbler on Hernando Island.

2004.001.020 Flossie Manson with horse

1912 (1 photograph postcard: b&w; 8.5 x 13.5 cm)

Flossie Manson with their horse Bessie, near their home at Manson's Landing. (Original print of CR #13664)

2004.001.021 Florence and Flossie Manson

1915 (1 photograph print: b&w; 8 x 13.5 cm)

Florence (L) and Flossie (R) Manson, twin daughters of Michael and Jane Manson, standing in front of the porch of the Mike Manson home at Manson's Landing. They went to Vancouver in 1915 to take up dressmaking and millinery lessons along with younger sister Gwen (not pictured). (Original print of CR #13677)

2004.001.022 Jane Manson with daughters

[ca. 1918] (1 photograph print: b&w; 8.5 x 14 cm)

Jane Manson with four of her daughters standing outside, holding bunches of maple leaves.
L to R: Margaret, Gwendoline, Jane Manson, Flossie and Florence.

2004.001.023 Portrait of Margaret Manson

[ca. 1908] (1 photograph print: b&w; 15 x 9.5 cm)

Studio portrait of Margaret Manson, daughter of Michael and Jane Manson, as a young woman.

2004.001.024 Portrait of Wilfred Manson in uniform

[ca. 1915] (1 photograph print: b&w; 15 x 10 cm)

Studio portrait of Wilfred Manson, son of Michael and Jane Manson, as a young man in his Royal Air Force uniform.

2004.001.025 Portrait of Florence Manson

[ca. 1920] (1 photograph postcard: b&w; 12 x 8.5 cm)

Studio portrait of Florence Manson, daughter of Michael and Jane Manson, as a young woman.

2004.001.026 Portrait of Hazel Manson

[ca. 1916] (1 photograph postcard: b&w; 12 x 8.5 cm)

Studio portrait of Hazel Manson, daughter of Michael and Jane Manson, as a young woman.

2004.001.027 Portrait of Margaret Manson

[ca. 1908] (1 photograph postcard: b&w; 14 x 8.5 cm)

Studio portrait of Margaret (Maggie) Manson, daughter of Michael and Jane Manson as a young woman.

2004.001.028 Portrait of Gwendoline Manson

[ca. 1924] (1 photograph postcard: b&w; 14 x 9 cm)

Studio portrait of Gwendoline Manson, daughter of Michael and Jane Manson, as a young woman.

2004.001.029 Margaret, Hazel, Florence and Flossie Manson

1941 (1 photograph postcard: b&w; 13.5 x 9 cm)

Margaret Manson and three of her daughters walking down Granville Street in Vancouver.

L to R: Margaret Manson, Hazel (Manson) Herrewig, Florence (Manson) McKay, and Flossie (Manson) Kenny.

2004.001.030 Portrait of Flossie Manson

[ca. 1922] (1 photograph postcard: b&w; 12 x 8.5 cm)

Studio portrait of Flossie Manson, daughter of Michael and Jane Manson, as a young woman.

2004.001.031 Wilfred, Nickolas and Jack Manson and Ervin McKay donkey logging on Hernando Island

[ca. 1920] (1 photograph print: b&w; 10 x 13 cm)

Donkey logging at Haywire Point, Hernando Island.

Wilfred Manson, with cousins Nicol Manson and Jack Manson and brother-in-law Ervin McKay, standing in front of a steam donkey.

2004.001.032 Members of the Michael Manson family standing on a log boom, Hernando Island

[1922 or 1923] (1 photograph print: b&w; 13 x 10 cm)

Donkey logging at Haywire Point, Hernando Island.

Standing on the logs are (L to R): Ervie McKay; Hazel McKay standing beside her mother Florence McKay; Wilfred Freeman beside his mother Robina Freeman.

Buildings on the beach in the background are three individual family cabins and the cookhouse. The steam donkey is on the extreme right of the photo. (Original print of CR #13645)

2004.001.033 Steam donkey, Hernando Island

[1922 or 1923] (1 photograph print: b&w; 13 x 10 cm)

Donkey logging at Haywire Point, Hernando Island. This picture shows the steam donkey in its shed with Wilfred Manson at the controls. (Original print of CR #13647)

2004.001.034 Ervin McKay readying a horse for logging

[ca. 1925] (1 photograph print: b&w; 9.5 x 12.5 cm)

Horse logging on Cortes Island. Ervin McKay cleaning the hoof of one of the draft horses.

2004.001.035 Ervin McKay with a horse

[ca. 1925] (1 photograph print: b&w; 9.5 x 12 cm)

Horse logging on Cortes Island. Ervin McKay with one of the draft horses, standing in front of a barn with wall made of hand-split cedar shakes.

2004.001.036 Ervin McKay hauling bark with horses

[ca. 1925] (1 photograph print: b&w; 9.5 x 12 cm)

Horse logging on Cortes Island. The team of draft horses is hauling a load of bark on a wooden sledge.

2004.001.037 Michael and Jane Manson on their Golden Wedding Anniversary

1928 (1 photograph print: b&w; 11.5 x 7 cm)

Michael (Mike) and Jane (Jenny) Manson posing outdoors with floral bouquets on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

2004.001.038 Jane Manson on her Golden Wedding Anniversary

1928 (1 photograph print: b&w; 14.5 x 9 cm)

Jane Manson, posing outdoors holding a large bouquet, on her Golden Wedding Anniversary.

2004.001.039 Michael and Jane Manson and two men at their Golden Wedding Anniversary

1928 (1 photograph print: b&w; 13 x 8 cm)

Michael and Jane Manson at their Golden Wedding Anniversary, seated in front of Jane Manson's brothers, David and Tom Renwick.

2004.001.040 Michael and Jane Manson family photograph at their Golden Wedding Anniversary

1928 (1 photograph print: b&w; 9 x 14.5 cm)

Michael and Jane Manson seated in the centre of a large family group at their Golden Wedding Anniversary in front of the home they had built at Manson's Landing.

Back row, L to R: Percy Renwick holding his son, Fraser Campbell, Flossie Kenny, George Freeman, Hazel Herrewig, Dave Renwick (Jane's brother)

Middle row, L to R: Liz Renwick, Mrs. Hurren, Mike Manson, Jane Manson, Mary Anne Renwick, Margaret Manson, Tom Renwick standing (Jane's brother)

Front row, L to R: Harold Smith, Hubert Smith, Gwen Campbell holding Calvin with Thelma just in front, Ethel Hurren, Eileen Kenny in foreground in front of flowers, Robina Freeman, Flo McKay with Hazel just in front (Original print of CR #13674)

2004.001.041 Jane Manson with six of her daughters at her Golden Wedding Anniversary

1928 (1 photograph print: b&w; 8 x 13.5 cm)

Jane Manson with six of her daughters at her Golden Wedding Anniversary.

L to R: Robina Freeman and Ethel Hurren (twins), Hazel Herrewig, Jane Manson, Margaret Manson, Florence McKay and Flossie Kenny (twins).

Daughter Gwendoline Campbell is absent from the picture. (Original print of CR #13681)

2004.001.042 Michael and Jane Manson's grandchildren

1928 (1 photograph print: b&w; 9 x 14.5 cm)

A group photograph of Michael and Jane Manson's grandchildren taken at the Golden Wedding Anniversary celebration.

2004.001.043 John Manson in front of black seal shape on surface of rock

1946 (1 photograph print: b&w; 14 x 19 cm)

John Manson in front of black seal shape on surface of rock. The back of the photograph has a typed explanation of the legend of the Seal Boy, as follows:

"According to Indian legend, an Indian boy who persisted in going in swimming in spite of his mother's repeated warnings, was turned into a seal visible here as the black rock formation I am looking at. Summer, 1946."

"Ankity tillicum wawa, Ikt wake kloosh Sliamin tenasman quansum tickie klatawa cupa chuck. Yaka mama wawa, 'Klush halo!' Tenasman delate sahalie tumtum, halo iskum okok wawa. Wight wawa yaka mama, 'Spouse halo kopate kloness elkie mica clap hias cull.' Pe nawitka yaka chaco delate klahowyum, chako kohkwa Siwash cusho mitlite cupa okok klale tone. Nika nanitch alta. Waum Ilahee, 1946."

2004.001.044 John Manson and niece Florence Manson

1950 (1 photograph print: b&w; 9 x 6.5 cm)

John Manson standing in front of a picket fence with his niece Florence (Manson) McKay.

2004.001.045 Wilfred Manson, his uncle John Manson and a Manson cousin

1918 (1 photograph print: b&w; 8.5 x 8 cm)

Wilfred Manson visiting his uncle John Manson at Sunny Brae farm.

Left to right: Nicol Manson holding a horse, Wilfred Manson in uniform, John Manson leaning on the plow handles.

2004.001.046 Margaret Manson in front of fireplace, Sunny Brae

[early 1920s] (1 photograph print: b&w; 11 x 6.5 cm)

Margaret (Maggie) Manson, wife of John Manson, seated in a rocking chair by the living room fireplace of their home built in 1919 at Sunny Brae farm. She was widely known for her kindness and hospitality and many of the Cortes Island youngsters called her Aunt Maggie. She died suddenly in 1925. (Original print of CR #13556)

2004.001.047 Florence (Manson) McKay ready to cut her 90th birthday cake

1990 (1 photograph print: colour; 8 x 12.5 cm)

Florence (Manson) McKay, ready to cut her 90th birthday cake at a party held at the Manson's Landing Community Hall. A news clipping accompanying the photograph provides details of Florence's life and family.

Florence was born to Michael and Jane Manson at home in Union Bay, January 21, 1900. Florence married Ervin McKay, a fireman with the Vancouver Fire Department. In 1929, Michael Manson turned his farm at Hague Lake over to Florence. Florence and Ervin lived there until they retired in 1950 and moved to Courtenay. The farm was turned over to their daughter Hazel and her husband Ken Hansen. Florence was widowed in 1978 and returned to Cortes to live with Hazel, who had sold the farm (subsequently renamed Linnaea Farm) but kept sixteen acres to retire on.

2004.001.048 Florence (Manson) McKay's daughter Hazel and Florence's great and great-great grandchildren

1990 (1 photograph print: colour; 8.5 x 12.5 cm)

Florence (Manson) McKay's daughter Hazel and Florence's great and great-great grandchildren ready to serve the cake at Florence's 90th birthday party.

L to R back: Hazel (McKay) Hansen, Penny Hansen, Matthew Hansen.

L to R front: Jennifer Hansen, Justin Bell, Elizabeth Hansen, Kristie Bell.

2004.001.049 Florence (Manson) McKay's grandchildren

1990 (1 photograph print: colour; 9 x 11 cm)

Florence (Manson) McKay's grandchildren; Albert (Bert) Hansen and Judy Hansen on the right.