

Time Lines

The Manitoba Historical Society Newsletter

Vol. 42 No. 4
May / June 2010



Manitoba Historical Society ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, 29 May 2010, 10:30 am

Lower Fort Garry
National Historic Site of Canada

5925 Highway 9, St. Andrews, Manitoba

All MHS members are invited and encouraged to attend our Annual General Meeting as we review the year past, consider the present state of the Society's affairs, and plan for the year ahead. We need your participation!

Following the business meeting in the Visitor Centre Theatre, a light lunch of assorted sandwiches, wraps and garden salad will be served buffet style by River-view Café and Catering in the Visitor Centre's new Multi-Purpose Room. A cash bar will be available. After lunch, there will be a presentation of the 2009

Margaret McWilliams Awards, followed by our guest speaker, author and historian Dr. Gerald Friesen.

All those attending this event will be allowed free admission to the site and are welcome to take a self-guided tour of the fort after the program is over. People in period costume will be on hand to answer questions.



W. Fraser

Dr. Gerald Friesen, Professor of History at the University of Manitoba, and editor of the recent award-winning book *Prairie Metropolis: New Essays on Winnipeg Social History*, will speak at the upcoming MHS Annual General Meeting on 29 May at Lower Fort Garry National Historic Site of Canada.



W. Fraser

Parks Canada has been renewing visitor facilities, services and programs at Lower Fort Garry over the past decade. An impressive Visitor Reception Centre shown here marks the entrance to the site, where the MHS Annual General Meeting will be held.

There is ample free parking close to the Visitor Centre; enter at the EXIT sign off Highway 9. Anyone needing a ride or willing to take an extra passenger or two is asked to call Carl James at 204-631-5971, who will try to match drivers and riders. Beaver Bus Lines provides Saturday service to the park entrance, leaving downtown Winnipeg (NOT the new bus depot) at 9:00 am, returning at 4:40 pm. Call 204-989-7007 for more information.

There is no cost to members who wish to attend only the business meeting, but please notify the office you are coming so we can advise the gate staff.

Please confirm AGM attendance no later than 21 May through the MHS office at 204-947-0559.

The lunch and program costs \$25 per person. Payment must be made in advance. Cheque, Visa or Mastercard are accepted.



MHS Webmaster
Dr. Gordon Goldsborough

Where is History?

Two years ago, my wife's employer sent her on a job to the Deloraine area of south-western Manitoba. We decided to make it a family holiday so we packed up the kids and spent three enjoyable days touring while she worked. In preparation for the trip, I had tried to identify noteworthy historical sites that

we could visit. It was not easy! I found bits of information here and there but nothing to the extent I wanted. Old MHS publications drew my attention to some gems—such as a rare bank vault built of field stones in 1880 at the former site of Deloraine—but they did not say exactly where to find them. So I spent hours searching unfamiliar countryside, eventually finding the vault in a farmer's barnyard. It occurred to me then that we really need a collection of information on the historical sites of Manitoba, along with accurate locations, presented in a way that could enable "heritage tourists" like me to learn what is available in any part of our province. Now, two years later, I am taking cautious first steps toward creating such a resource for the MHS web site. And I need your help to do it.

I encourage you to check out this new project at www.mhs.mb.ca/docs/sites. There you will find a map of Manitoba, marked with about 450 sites. The map is interactive so you can scroll to any part of the province and zoom in to see what specific sites are available there. Sites are identified by one of several icons to denote the type of site: museum,

building, monument, cemetery, location, archives, or miscellaneous site. In the future, a "featured site" icon will draw special attention to particular places, such as homes designated in the MHS's upcoming "Memorable Manitobans" plaque program, or to unsung rural museums that warrant greater attention. Clicking on an icon brings up a "bubble" that supplies more information about the site, such as a photo on the MHS web site or, in some cases, pages elsewhere on the Internet, such as ones for provincially designated sites developed by the Manitoba Historic Resources Branch.

You will notice that a large number of markers on the prototype map occur along Highway 26 between Winnipeg and Portage la Prairie. This is because I have driven that route frequently over the past few weeks and was able to locate monuments and other sites along the way, many of which have been marked through the years by the members of the St. Francois Xavier Historical Society. The area around St. Francois Xavier is rich in history but so are many other places in Manitoba. Many, many more sites remain to be added to the map to make it a truly useful resource for the entire province. But I have designed the map in such a way that it can eventually contain



This interactive map of Manitoba, built using Google Maps technology, displays noteworthy historical sites in Manitoba, such as the old fieldstone bank vault near Deloraine. View the prototype map on the MHS web site at www.mhs.mb.ca/docs/sites.

thousands of markers. This is where you come in. If you know about a noteworthy historical site anywhere in Manitoba, I encourage you to nominate it for inclusion on this map. It could be a plaque or cairn denoting the site of a former one-room schoolhouse or where some important historical event occurred, or it could be a hard-to-find local cemetery or an architecturally significant old building. Any historical site, whether widely publicized or known only to a few locals, is worthy of inclusion.

To be added to the map, we need the site's location—its latitude and longitude. This data can be obtained, in some cases, using web sites such as Google Earth. To get a precise location, however, it may be necessary to visit the site with a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver which, by triangulating with satellites orbiting the Earth, can determine a location on the landscape to within a few meters. Nowadays, GPS receivers are relatively inexpensive, precise, easy to use, and available at most hardware stores. The MHS has purchased a GPS receiver which we will make available for short-term loan—with instructions on its use available on request—if you would like to participate in this project and do not have your own GPS receiver.

There is no limit to the diversity and number of sites that could be added to this map. The more sites added, the more informative the map becomes, both for those sightseeing in their home province and for visitors wanting to become better acquainted with Manitoba's rich history. In the not-too-distant future, when cars will be equipped routinely with GPS receivers and Internet access, you will be able to drive along a road and use this map to inform you of nearby historical sites so you can stop and see them. In other words, this map could provide a useful foundation for promoting the history of Manitoba to the general public.

So, this summer, as you are discovering interesting and perhaps obscure historical places in Manitoba, why not help to let others know about them? Nominations can be made directly to me by email to webmaster@mhs.mb.ca or via the MHS web site by filling in a form at www.mhs.mb.ca/docs/sites/submit.shtml. As the map becomes populated by many more icons, it will become a much more useful resource, so future visitors to Deloraine—and other interesting historical places around Manitoba—will have an easier time finding and appreciating them.

Welcome New Members

Heidi den Haan
Don & Ardythe McMaster
Conrad Sweatman
Robert Vineberg

Donations & Contributions

Thank You!

MHS Operations

Maureen Cousins
Lee Gibson
Carol Holm
Robert McIntyre
Robert Vineberg

Dalnavert Operations

Winnipeg Foundation Triple A Fund

Dalnavert Gift Shop

Winnipeg Foundation Triple A Fund

Gift in Kind

Mrs. Mira Spivak

Correction

Some information in the Centennial Farm report in the March/April 2010 issue of *Time Lines* was incorrect. It should have been reported as follows:

Kola – John & Elizabeth Naylen NW 5-10-29 WPM
1908

Heritage Seeds

Dalnavert Garden Heritage Seeds have arrived and available for purchase at our Dalnavert Gift Shop, just in time for spring planting! Visit our shop, and purchase these exclusive Dalnavert Garden seed varieties that would have been available in 1895, such as "Grandpa Ott's" Morning Glory, "Miss Willmott" Sweet Pea, and our special Bridal Mix. Dalnavert Garden Heritage Seeds are three dollars per packet, with proceeds going to help support our Dalnavert operations.

Heritage News

Daly Museum in Brandon has a special exhibit, "Brandon's Hockey History: Celebrating Over 100 Years of Hockey Heritage." Organized hockey through the decades is portrayed through artefacts, images and trivia. The exhibit continues until 30 June. The museum is open from Tuesday to Saturday, 10 am to 12 am and 1 pm to 5 pm.

In Shilo the **RCA Museum** grand opening of its new Manitoba Gallery, "Glorious and Free: 12,000 Years of Manitoba Military History" will occur on 13 May. The gallery is 1,850 square feet and will feature interactive exhibits, artefacts, models and large-scale dioramas. Visitors will learn about Manitoba's largest naval battle in 1697, how Japan attacked the province in 1945 and why an armoured train was built in Transcona. The museum is open 7 days a week 10 am to 5 pm beginning 10 May (until Labour Day). A temporary exhibit, "Light Armour", featuring World War II Stuart Light Tank, runs until the end of May.

The St. James Assiniboia Pioneer Association Inc. will hold its **Cuthbert Grant Day** on 10 July at **Grant's Old Mill**. NCI FM Radio will broadcast live from the event and there will be food and entertainment for the whole family. For more information email Sandra Horyski at shoryski@shaw.ca. Grant's Old Mill is located at 2777 Portage Avenue at Booth Dive. Come and meet Métis elder Robert Nolin and Red River Cart maker George Fayant. Robert will erect a teepee and trapper's tent and talk about Métis culture. Visitors will be able to enter the tents, cook bannock and drink tea with Robert. George will show how a Red River cart, made the way it was in 1829, can be taken apart and reassembled with ease.

The *Ukrainian Voice*, published in Winnipeg, one of the oldest ethnic papers in Canada, has celebrated its centennial. A fundraising banquet to honour the 100th anniversary of the paper was held on 14 March at the Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral auditorium. The *Winnipeg Free Press* notes that at its peak in the 1960s the *Voice* printed 30,000 copies weekly but now it prints only 1,500 copies every few weeks and that despite its decline it has been successful as an organ of communication for the preservation of the Ukrainian-Canadian community. The *Free Press* states that the *Voice* "proudly popularized the term "Ukrainian" for a then-stateless people. It struck a stubborn middle ground in the tug of war between

Old World and New, calling on readers to integrate into Canadian society while guarding Ukrainian linguistic and cultural traditions."

The *Dauphin Herald* reports that **Fort Dauphin Museum's** palisades were open for two hours to celebrate Louis Riel Day on 15 February. Visitors saw a temporary display on Louis Riel, Métis and fur trade displays, took part in outdoor games and enjoyed the food, including the museum's tasty beaver tails. The museum opens for the summer on 23 May.

The Province of Manitoba is providing \$500,000 to help the **Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba** restore the historic domed display building on the **Brandon Keystone Centre** grounds. The building, known as Display Building 2, was built in 1913 as part of the Dominion fair hosted in Brandon by the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba. The building is a rare surviving example of agricultural buildings constructed in that time period and is one of the most easily identified in the Keystone Centre site. The Provincial Exhibition had been established in Brandon in 1882 by the agricultural community to showcase and sell agricultural products. The Royal Manitoba Winter Fair is hosted by the exhibition is the only fair in western Canada with a royal designation.

The *Souris Plaindealer* reports that the empty St. Andrew's Anglican Church in **Hartney**, built between 1883 and 1884, has come back to life. The handsome buff brick structure with an unusually high roof has always been a landmark for the town. The building has a stained glass window on the east wall and eight pointed windows set with coloured glass on the other walls. The Anglican diocese sold the building to Pastor Jeffrey and Linda Tribble two years ago. A special service was held at the church to celebrate the designation of the church as a heritage building on 27 March. This designation enables application for grant money to pay for external repairs. A new furnace has already been installed and a new floor will soon follow. The Church is now known as The Old English Church. All repairs must follow the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada.

According to *The Winkler Times*, the **Winkler Heritage Society** would like to set up a museum to house Winkler's historic artefacts and documents. Some heritage items are housed in society members'

basements and garages and some items have been sent to museums in other communities. The former post office building has been suggested but the society would like a larger facility that could house a museum and the entire archives collection currently in the library. However, the society plans to lobby to have the old post office declared a heritage building.

An article in *Swan Valley Star and Times* discusses ideas for future expansion of **The Swan Valley Historical Museum** in Swan River. The museum board wants a new display building. The board is not sure what type of building will be erected. The building could be wooden or metal. The proposed size of the building is 5,000 square feet. The building fund has more than \$100,000 but more funds are needed. The new building would probably be unheated but it would protect some items that are now exposed to the elements and it would provide an opportunity to view the articles on site year round. The floor could be gravel with a vapour barrier. The board would like to extend the season to more than a few months. Final plans will be limited by the amount of available funds.

Reports at its Annual General Meeting indicate that 2009 was a good year for the **Mennonite Village Museum** in Steinbach. Donations were up by 45% over 2008, attendance at special events was up by 9%, which brought increased sales in the book and gift shop and the Livery Barn restaurant. Rental income from groups booking facilities for weddings, meetings etc. has doubled. The operating fund went from a loss of almost \$50,000 in 2008 to a profit of over \$63,000 in 2009. Creating of the position of fund raising manager, good weather for most event days and more family friendly events were cited as reasons for the successes of 2009.

There is still time to register for the **Rupert's Land Colloquium** on 19–22 May. The registration fee is \$280. For more information contact the Centre for Rupert's Land Studies at the University of Winnipeg, 515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, R3B 2E9 or phone 204-786-9003 or email Rupert.land@uwinnipeg.ca. Make cheques or money orders payable to "The University of Winnipeg."

Attend a free Open House celebration at the Library and Resource Centre of the Manitoba Genealogical Society on 15 May from 10 am to 4 pm. This is a perfect opportunity to begin your genealogical journey. Whether your ancestors are from Manitoba or

around the world, the MGS can help get you started. There is wheelchair access and plenty of free parking. There are no admission fees and light refreshments are provided. Enter to win a copy of *Fast Facts for Finding Family from Manitoba* and raffle prizes. The MGS offers resources and assistance to anyone who may have an interest in discovering their family history. Many experienced and knowledgeable research volunteers with a love for genealogy and family history will be available to show you how it is done. The Manitoba Genealogical Society is located in Winnipeg at Unit E, 1045 St. James St. Phone 204-783-9139, email: contact@mbgenealogy.com, www.mbgenealogy.com.

Heritage Winnipeg is holding its seventh annual Doors Open Winnipeg event on 29–30 May between 10 am and 6 pm. This is a great opportunity to visit some of the older buildings in Winnipeg that may not be accessible to the public at other times. For more information, please contact Heritage Winnipeg at 204-942-2663 or watch for announcements in Winnipeg's daily newspapers.

A new book from the Jewish Heritage Centre, *Voices of Winnipeg Holocaust Survivors*, documents the experiences of more than 70 local survivors before, during and after the Holocaust. Edited by Belle Millo, Chair of the Holocaust Education Centre and designed by Gustavo Rymberg, formerly of Winnipeg, the hardcover 432-page book is available for purchase at the Jewish Heritage Centre office for \$36 (including GST). *Voices of Winnipeg Holocaust Survivors* represents the culmination of several years of work which began more than a decade ago with the Manitoba Holocaust Heritage Project. All proceeds from the sale of the book will go towards digitization of survivor audio and video testimony and Holocaust education.

Creation of a heritage park on the Upper Fort Garry site is underway. The Manitoba government has introduced in the legislature the legislative framework for forming the new Upper Fort Garry Provincial Park. The Friends of Upper Fort Garry will be developing the site. Dr. Jerry Gray, chairman of the Friends, has announced that there will be a public event on the site on Manitoba Day, 12 May, beginning at 11 am. A model and some drawings will be displayed in a tent on the southern boundary of the park on Assiniboine Ave. The Friends will officially launch a fundraising campaign for ten million dollars at this event.



G. Goldsborough

The area inside the walls of Upper Fort Garry, seen here in the 1870s, will be the site of a new provincial heritage park in downtown Winnipeg.

On 26 April, Manitoba Conservation minister Bill Blaikie announced the provincial government's intention to bring in legislation to establish Upper Fort Garry Provincial Park.

"This downtown Winnipeg site will have the status of a protected area as Upper Fort Garry Heritage Park, ensuring the restorative and interpretive work of the Friends of Upper Fort Garry can continue," said Blaikie. "The historical significance of the fort will be recreated and interpreted, adding a prime destination to this area of the province and building on the success of The Forks, the Manitoba Museum and the Canadian Museum of Human Rights."

The province will invest \$2.5 million in the Upper Fort Garry site towards land acquisition, site preparation and other expenses to help secure the area as a provincial heritage park. All that remains of the original fort is the Governor's Gate, which has been preserved on a small piece of heritage property. The original Upper Fort Garry was torn down between 1881 and 1889. Upper Fort Garry was the headquarters of the Hudson Bay Company from the 1830s to the 1880s. It was the administrative and economic centre for Rupert's Land and was the location of the Riel provisional government that eventually led to the admission of Manitoba as a province to the Dominion of Canada in 1870. The fort was the cultural, social, judicial and economic centre of the northwest for over 35 years.

Obituary

W. Richard (Dick) Brownlee, a long time MHS member, died on 9 April 2010 at the age of 87. He began his career as a civil engineer with the CNR in 1947. With the exception of a few years in the Water Supply Department in the era of steam engines and test and development work with the Track Department in the early years of use of continuous rail, he worked in Bridges and Structures in both Winnipeg and Montreal. Dick and his wife Murdina attended MHS events for many years.

Shirley Margaret Bradshaw, a long-time MHS member who will be remembered for her service on the MHS Council and committees, died on 9 April 2010 at the age of 87. Shirley began her career life teaching at the college level but found her calling in Human Resource Management. She worked at Great West Life. She was the Director of Personnel for the Province of Manitoba and Director of the Women's Bureau. She served on many boards and committees such as the Social Planning Council of Winnipeg, the University Women's Club, Creative Retirement, Pi Beta Phi, the United Way, United Nations, LEAF and many other organizations. She was a founding member of WIN, Winnipeg Into The Nineties. Shirley was a patron of the arts in Winnipeg, supporting the Manitoba Opera, Winnipeg Symphony, Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Manitoba Theatre Centre and Prairie Theatre Exchange. Shirley loved to travel and covered much of the globe including the Far East, Far North, Europe, the US, and the Caribbean and she even rounded Cape Horn in South America.

Dalnavert Gift Shop

When you stop in our Dalnavert Gift Shop to purchase *the Dalnavert Garden* Heritage Seeds, attend a meeting, visit our museum, or just stop in to say hello, browse amongst the new items that are arriving daily for spring and summer! We have a wide variety of new stock appealing to the urban dweller and country or lake cottager, as well as a number of Victorian/Edwardian inspired items for the romantic in all of us. Just in time for Mothers Day and the Wedding Season! Collectibles and vintage items are also available.

Call for hours: 204-943-2835

New Railway Book

Through the Window of a Train: A Canadian Railway Anthology

Since the first trans-continental passenger train, the Pacific Express, headed west in 1885 the railway has been part of many people's lives. For some the railway was their life. One only needs to mention The Moonlight Special, The CNR, The E&N, The CPR, The Blueberry Special, The Milk Run, or The H&SW ('ellish Slow and Wobbly) for memories to come flooding back. Thirty authors from across Canada have collected memories from railway retirees, railway families, train travellers, and added railway folklore, history, poems, anecdotes and photos. To be available soon in local bookstores, information on the book may be obtained from editor Barbara Lange via email to railwaystories@hotmail.com. It will be published by Borealis Press in Ottawa, www.borealispress.com, ISBN 978-0-88887-391-0

2009 Margaret McWilliams Awards

The following are the 2009 short lists for Margaret McWilliams Awards, given by the MHS for excellence in writing about Manitoba's past. This year's winners will be announced at the MHS Annual General Meeting on 29 May, at Lower Fort Garry.

Scholarly History

Heavy Burdens on Small Shoulders by Sandra Rollings-Magnusson, University of Alberta Press

Just One Vote: From Jim Walding's Nomination to Constitutional Defeat by Ian Stewart, University of Manitoba Press

Negotiating the Numbered Treaties: An Intellectual and Political Biography of Alexander Morris by Robert J. Talbot, Purich Publishing

The Indian Commissioners by Brian Titley, University of Alberta Press

Local History

Marius Benoist et la culture au Manitoba français by François Gallays, Les Éditions de Blé

Between Earth and Sky: Steinbach, the First 50 Years by Ralph Friesen, The Steinbach Heritage Committee

Prairie Metropolis: New Essays on Winnipeg Social History edited by Esyllt W. Jones & Gerald Friesen, University of Manitoba Press

Armstrong's Point – A History by Randy R. Rostecki, Heritage Winnipeg

Popular History

Impact: A History of Disasters in Manitoba by Brock Holowachuk, Great Plains Publications

Retiring the Crow Rate by Arthur Kroeger, University of Alberta Press

Coming of Age: A History of the Jewish People in Manitoba by Allan Levine, Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada and Heartland Publications



G. Goldsborough

Historian Randy Rostecki was among authors who read from their short-listed books on 22 April at McNally-Robinson Booksellers.

Important Reminders

- Renewal invoices are sent to members, and are payable on receipt. Members are encouraged to help us reduce costs by checking their labels and sending in renewals when due. Renewal can be done by mail, phone, or visiting the MHS office (Wed., Thur, 1 to 5 pm). Cash, cheque, Visa or MasterCard are accepted.
- Your donations are needed to support ongoing work of the Manitoba Historical Society. Tax receipts are issued for donations over \$10.

The
Manitoba Historical Society est 1879

I want to renew or join* the MHS as a:

- Regular Member (\$40) Youth/Student Member (\$20)
 Family Member (\$45) Life Member (\$575)

I want to support the MHS with the following donation:

- \$50 \$75 \$100 \$200 \$ _____

Tax receipts will be issued for all donations over \$10.

Mail to:

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 61 Carlton Street
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 Telephone: 204-947-0559
 Email: info@mhs.mb.ca

* See our web site (www.mhs.mb.ca) for annual membership rates in the USA and other countries, and for two- and three-year memberships.

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Calendar of Events

For updates and more information, see www.mhs.mb.ca/news

May – June	Exhibit: <i>Brandon's Hockey History: Celebrating Over 100 Years of Hockey Heritage</i> at Daly House Museum, Brandon	17 May	Book Club: Pot luck and selection of books for next year
12–24 May	Free admission to the new Manitoba Gallery at RCA Museum at CFB Shilo.	19–22 May	Rupert's Land Colloquium, University of Winnipeg
12 May	Manitoba Day and entry deadline for MHS Young Historians' competition	29 May	MHS Annual General Meeting at Lower Fort Garry National Historic Site of Canada
		19–22 May	Doors Open Winnipeg
		10 July	Cuthbert Grant Day

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Membership fees for the Manitoba Historical Society are: Individual \$40, Family \$45, Youth/Student \$20, Non-profit Institution \$50, Corporations \$275 and Life \$575. Rates to USA and other countries are slightly higher. Two and three year memberships in the individual and family categories are available. See the MHS web site for details.

Manitoba Historical Society, est 1879

www.mhs.mb.ca

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