

*The R.M. of Pipestone*

# Pivotal Events



An Illustrated Timeline



## An R.M. of Pipestone Timeline

The following collection of dates and activities has been drawn from the excellent local history books:

“Trails Along the Pipestone” (RM of Pipestone History Project, 1981) and “Pioneers of the Pipestone, Ellen G. Bulloch, 1929

A timeline is a useful way to establish a community’s development, and a good way to note its highlights. All of this information can be used to develop the kind of content that is helpful in describing a community’s history through short, effective and accurate texts that will be appropriate for educational support materials, plaques, website content, and myriad other follow-up projects. More notable activities have been underlined.

The dates and activities have been presented in a decade-by-decade format, which allows us to relive the past through the lens of the flow of time; but it is important to note that pivotal events can also be broadly grouped by major chronological periods in our history attached to primary activities of a given era.

A Project of the R.M. of Pipestone Economic Development Office

The Pipestone Economic Development Office would like to acknowledge  
the support of Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism  
in the development of this initiative,  
through a grant from the Heritage Grants Program  
and through ongoing guidance and support of the  
Historic Resources Branch.



## 1600 – 1699

### **International**

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British Colonies are established along the east coast of North America. These colonies would eventually become the “13 Colonies” that would break away from Britain to form the United States.

### **Canada**

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What we now know as Central Canada (Quebec and Ontario) is called New France. The profits available through the Fur Trade would prompt westward exploration.

### **Manitoba**

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In the 1690's Henry Kelsey travels southwest from Hudson Bay – to the eastern edge of the Great Plains.

### **The R.M. of Pipestone**

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When the first settlers arrived in this area it was obvious to them that they were not the first inhabitants of this land. Native people often passed through and evidence of past inhabitants was more visible in those days, be it in the form of burial mounds or prairie trails

## 1700 – 1799

### **International**

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1783: The United States of America gain independence from Britain after a long military struggle.

### **Canada**

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1759: The Battle of the Plains of Abraham effectively gives Britain control of the territory of New France. A treaty in 1763 formally cedes the territory.

### **Manitoba**

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1738: The French Explorer, La Verendrye, builds Fort La Reine on the Assiniboine River (near present day Portage La Prairie).

1760: Exploration of southern Manitoba is undertaken by both the Hudson Bay Co. and the Northwest Co. with the establishment of fur trade posts near Souris Mouth and Hartney beginning in the 1760 - 90's.

### **The R.M. of Pipestone**

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The closest fur trade post serving the Pipestone region was in near present day Hartney where Ash House was operating early as 1796.

## 1800 – 1849

### **International**

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1804-06: Lewis and Clark lead an expedition across North-western United States to the Pacific Ocean.

### **Canada**

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The War of 1812 – 14.

In what is essentially a war between The United States and Britain Canada successfully repels and American invasion with the help of native tribes. Many years later Sioux warriors, descendants of those who fought, still treasured medals given for service to the British Crown.

### **Manitoba**

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1812: The beginning of agricultural settlement in Manitoba with the arrival of Selkirk Settlers. This would lead to the establishment of Winnipeg as the commercial centre of the region.

1822: Peter Fidler noted the abundance of sturgeon at the intersection of the Souris and Assiniboine Rivers. In the same year the forts at this intersection were attacked by the Sioux.

The H.B.C. operates an experimental farm near Fort Garry.

### **The R.M. of Pipestone**

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Assiniboine and Dakota people hunt in the area on a seasonal basis. Fort Desjarlais is the most prominent trading post, located on the Souris River north of Lauder.

## 1850 – 1869

### **International**

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1861-65: Civil War in the U.S.

1848-52: Potato blight causes extensive crop failures in Ireland.

### **Canada**

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1867: Confederation unites four British Colonies to create Canada. From the outset, leaders like John. A. MacDonald envisioned a Canada that stretched westward across the Prairies to the Pacific.

### **Manitoba**

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1859: Expeditions by Capt. Palliser and Henry Youle Hind explore the Northwest Territories to examine the suitability of the region for agricultural settlement.

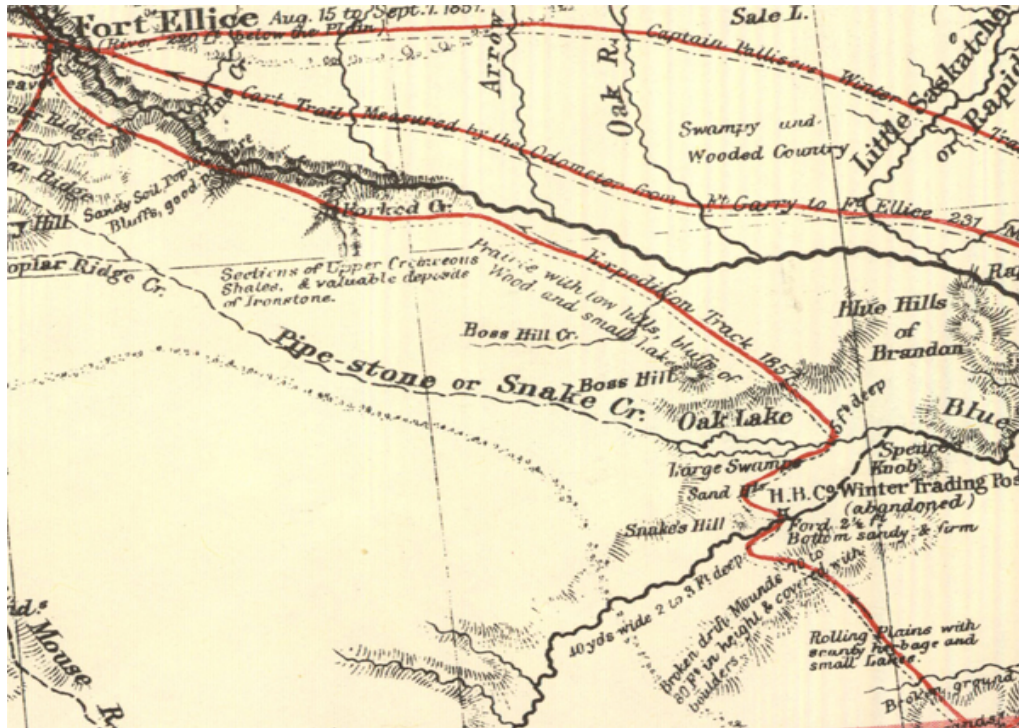
1869: Louis Riel leads a group of Metis in the formation of a provisional government.

### **The R.M. of Pipestone**

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1859: H.Y. Hind places Pipestone Creek on his map of exploration.

## The Pipestone Region in 1850 – 1869



This map from 1860 shows that the Pipestone Creek region was largely unexamined by European explorers.

## 1870 – 1879

### **International**

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1876: Battle of Little Bighorn, June 25 and 26. A combined Lakota, Northern Cheyenne and Arapaho force, overwhelms the 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment of the United States.

1876: Alexander Graham Bell successfully transmits the first bi-directional transmission of clear speech. An improved design for the “telephone” was patented the next year.

### **Canada**

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1872: Dominion Lands Act grants settlers 160 acres for \$10 and specific settlement obligations.

1873: British Columbia Enters Confederation

1874: The newly created Northwest Mounted Police march west from Dufferin, Manitoba

### **Manitoba**

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1870: May 12: The Manitoba Act: The Province of Manitoba enters Confederation largely on terms put forward by Louis Riel

1871: Manitoba Public Schools Act passed, providing for the creation of publicly tax-supported Protestant and Roman Catholic school systems

1874: July 31 – The first Russian Mennonites arrive at Winnipeg on the steamer International.

1875: Icelanders arrive in Winnipeg en route for a settlement near Gimli just beyond Manitoba’s then-northern boundary

1877: Manitoba’s first railway locomotive, The Countess of Dufferin, arrives in Winnipeg via steamboat

1878: December 4 – the first freight by rail reached St. Boniface. First export of wheat from the prairies

1879: First grain elevator built in Niverville. Telephone links Winnipeg and Selkirk

### **The R.M. of Pipestone**

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A small band of Dakota settle on the Oak Lake Sioux Reserve. (Now Canupawakpa First Nation)



## The Pipestone Region in 1870 – 1879

1870

Red Fife wheat introduced.

1876

First shipment of Red Fife wheat from Western Canada. (857 ½ bushels)

1877

The Oak Lake Sioux Reserve (Canupawakpa First Nation) moved to its current location.

1878

Western Canada produces 1,100,000 bushels of wheat.

## 1880 – 1889

### **International**

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1882: Thomas Edison builds the first power plant in New York.

1885: Karl Benz patents his first automobile.

1884: International Standard Time, developed by Canadian Sandford Fleming, adopted

1885: C.P.R. line completed

1889: The Eiffel Tower opens in Paris.

### **Canada**

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1880: Britain transfers the Arctic to Canada

1885: Louis Riel and Gabriel Dumont lead an uprising of Metis in the Saskatchewan River Valley communities in the Prince Albert - Battleford regions. Subsequent actions by native groups led by Big Bear and Poundmaker create concern in Manitoba communities but relations between settlers and native people remain peaceful.

Riel hanged for treason

1887: Winnipeg Grain Exchange opens

### **Manitoba**

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1881: March 2 - Manitoba Boundaries Act passed in Parliament, providing for an extension of the province's borders.

The town of Brandon is created in May of 1881 when the site is selected over Grand Valley as a crossing and divisional point on the C.P.R. Within a month it is a busy centre.

Homestead Regulations are eased to attract more settlers.

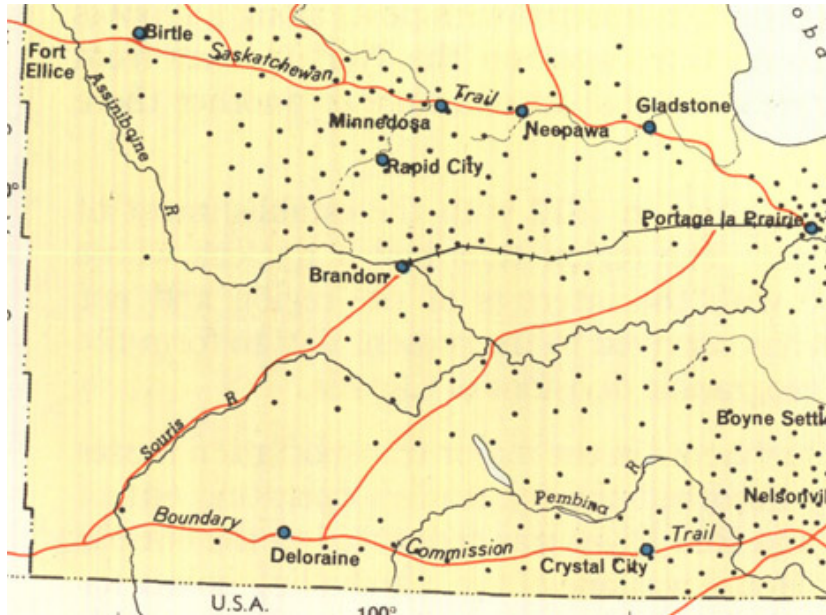
### **The R.M. of Pipestone**

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Prior to the Manitoba Boundaries Extension Act of 1881, the Pipestone region was in the Northwest Territories.

## The R.M. of Pipestone in 1880 – 1889

1880



This map from 1881 shows that settlement in Manitoba had not extended far southwest of Brandon. That was about to change .

Weir, Thomas R. [Settlement 1870-1921] [map]. 1:3,041,280. In: Thomas R. Weir. Economic Atlas of Manitoba. Winnipeg: Manitoba Dept. of Industry and Commerce, 1960, page 13.

(Warkentin and Ruggles. Historical Atlas of Manitoba. map 153, p. 332

## 1881

Dan McKinnon arrives on Sat. May 28, 1881 with A. Mclean. McKinnon's Crossing established near their homestead.

The Lothian brothers, William and James, arrive on May 30th, 1881. On June 1st, the first sod was turned by William Lothian, working for Mr. Dan McKinnon and a little later Mr. Lothian sowed by hand, seven acres of barley - the initial cultivated field and crop in the district.

## 1882

Mrs. Peter Milliken is the first woman of European origin to arrive in the region.. With Mr. and Mrs. Milliken came their small son George, and he was the first settler's child to arrive in the district.

### The Settlers of 82...(A partial list...)

Bulloch, Robert Sr. (Lanark region)

Bulloch, William

Cooper, William (Hillview District 19-8-27)

Cameron, Donald D. One of the first settlers in the area. Site of Woodnorth village

Campion, George - Worked on land survey in Reston – Pipestone area.

Croft, Thomas

Fairlie, Alex; Cabinet maker in Winnipeg for some time. Settled 18-7-26

Forke, Senator Robert - from Scotland to N 30-7-26;

Guthrie, W.R. Worked on CPR for the summers. Settled S 26-7-27.

Guthrie, John

McDonald, William SE 36-9-27. "Laggan Farm".

Milliken, Mrs. Peter (Margaret)

Mitchell, John Came with Forke family – married daughter Isabel on Dec. 30, 1885 – first wedding in district.

Powers, A.P. 20-9-26. Sec. Treas. R.M. of Pipestone when it was organized in 1884.

Ratray, Alexander Had a blacksmith operation on his farm, then in town.

Wright, John A. Among first settlers in Scarth region. SW 33-8-26

## 1883

The first death: William Skelton, November, 1883. Mr. Skelton's body is laid to rest on his own homestead, but in later years was moved to the family burying ground.

First Municipal nomination: December 26th, 1883. John McKinnon was later elected Reeve and Mr. James Lothian and Mr. Edward Ball, Councillors for Wards Five and Six.

The first wheat to be sold from the district is a load hauled to Virden by James Lothian on April 10th, 1883, and sold to John Mooney for seed.

The first hail storm recorded on June 1883.

## 1884

The Council Meeting: January 8th, 1884, at the home of Mr. William Croft, who lived about half way between Virden and the "Settlement." (Lanark district)

Shortly after the organization of the Council, Mr. Arthur Power is appointed Municipal Clerk. He continued to hold this office until his death. His office was at his farm home for many years but was later transferred to Reston, where he and Mrs. Power had moved. Here Mr. Power carried on his work with much reliable assistance from Mrs. Power, until his death in 1919.

### **Postal Service**

The first regular mail arrives on Jan. 8, 1884. Mr. James Lothian had been appointed postmaster for Pipestone Post Office and from that time the mail was brought regularly once a week from Virden. A route was organized from Virden to Manda, Elm Valley, Pipestone and on to Belleview, the driver returning to Virden the following day. Manda Post Office was at the Bonniman home, Elm Valley at Grimmetts, Pipestone at Lothians, and Belleview at Mr. George Campion's.

Mr. Alex. Mooney, father of Mr. Robert Mooney, later a MLA for Virden Constituency, ran this mail route during a part of these earliest days and Mr. Robert Mooney was himself often the driver.

First birth recorded: A daughter to Mr. and Mrs. James Milliken, on February 8th, 1884.

The first dance is held at the home of Mr. John McKinnon in January, 1884, about forty being present.

On December 25th of the same year a party is held at Mr. and Mrs. William Lothian's where a singing class is organized. These two events, a dance and a party, were the first gatherings of a social nature to be held in the settlement.

The first school classes in the new district held in the Thomas Croft home in 1884. This district was called Mayville, the name being brought from Ontario.

Rev. Dr. James Robertson supervises the first Organizational Meeting for the Presbyterian Congregation on Aug. 31, 1884. It takes place in the McKinnon barn loft with about 50 people present.

<h2>Municipality of Pipestone</h2> <hr/> <h3>NOTICE.</h3> <p>Is hereby given that a BY-LAW to raise the sum of \$4,000 by the issue of Debentures for the purpose of constructing BRIDGES, and making other necessary improvements within the Municipality, has been submitted to the Council of the Municipality of Pipestone, and that a vote thereon of the rate-payers entitled will be taken on the 31st JULY, 1884, at the following places between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.:-</p> <table><thead><tr><th></th><th>S. T. R.</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Mr. John McKinnon's .....</td><td>28 7 26</td></tr><tr><td>Mr. John Cain's .....</td><td>24 8 27</td></tr><tr><td>Mr. John Fennell's .....</td><td>22 9 27</td></tr><tr><td>Mr. S. Sparrow's .....</td><td>30 9 26</td></tr></tbody></table> <p>The said by-law provides that the said Debentures shall be payable in twenty years, and that the rate to be levied for interest and instalments shall be one mill in the dollar.</p> <p>The present debenture debt of the Municipality is nil, and its rateable property according to the last revised assessment Roll is \$899,956.</p> <p>The said by-law or a true copy thereof is on file and can be seen in the office of the undersigned until the day of taking said vote.</p> <p>The further consideration of the by-law after taking of said vote is fixed for the fifth day of AUGUST, 1884, at the house of Coun. Croft, sec. 36, tp. 8, r. 27, at 10 a.m.</p> <p>Dated at Virden the 17th June 1884.</p> <p>ARTHUR P. POWER, Clerk Municipality of Pipestone.</p> <p>June 26 31</p>		S. T. R.	Mr. John McKinnon's .....	28 7 26	Mr. John Cain's .....	24 8 27	Mr. John Fennell's .....	22 9 27	Mr. S. Sparrow's .....	30 9 26	<h3>NOTICE.</h3> <hr/> <h2>Municipality Pipestone</h2> <hr/> <p>Notice is hereby given that a By-Law to raise the sum of \$2000 by the issue of debentures to that amount payable in twenty years for the purpose of aiding the construction of a Flouring and Gristing mill in the town of Virden has been submitted to the Council of the Municipality of Pipestone and that a vote of the rate-payers entitled to vote thereon will be taken on the</p> <h3>17th of July,</h3> <p>next at the following places under the provision of the Manitoba Municipal Act 1884.</p> <p>The residence of Mr. Geo. Cook sec. 33 tp. 9 R. 26.</p> <p>The residence of Mrs. Matthews sec. 15 tp. 8, rg. 27.</p> <p>The residence of Mr. John Cameron sec. 16, tp. 9, rg. 28.</p> <p>The residence of Mr. John McKinnon, sec. 28, tp. 7, rg. 26.</p> <p>The whole existing debt of the municipality nil.</p> <p>Dated at Virden the 15th day of June 1884.</p> <p>ARTHUR P. OWER, Clerk.</p>
	S. T. R.										
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These notices appeared in the Brandon Sun.

1885

First wedding: Mr. John Mitchell to Miss Isabella Porke on December 30th, 1885.

Daybreak School #376 built on NE 22-9-27. (Burned in 1916. School held in Daybreak Presbyterian Church until 1925 when Laggan School was built.)

Mayville School erected on the homestead of Josh Pickering, NE 2-9-27. (Opened in 1886 - moved to the SE 1-9-27)

1886

The first picnic is held in the Sand Hills on July 1st, 1886.

The first Member of Parliament elected to represent the Virden constituency is Mr. Dan McLean for the Liberal Party - November, 1886.

## **ELM VALLEY**

Special Correspondence of THE SUN.

On Friday last, a debate was held at the residence of D. A. Ross, the subject being, Resolved, that Manitoba is a better country to live in than Ontario. The decision was given in favor of the affirmative. The next debate of the Elm Valley literary association will be held at the residence of John Grimmett, sr., subject, Resolved, that Disraeli was a better statesman than Gladstone.

### **News in the Brandon Sun**

31 "Pathmasters" are appointed to see that statutory labour allotted for maintenance of roads and trails was carried out in a satisfactory manner.

## Statutory Labor

**In the early days it was the duty of every farmer to provide statutory labor on the roads (trails?) abutting their lands. Up until 1888, three days of labor a year with team, plough or scraper was required. This was increased to four days in 1889.**

Sanderson School # 442 built on NW 20-9-28. (Moved to NE 29-9-28 in 1920. New school built 1962.)  
Mr. John Acheson from the U.S.A. first teacher in new Mayville School.

The Pipestone Mutual Improvement Society is organized in January, 1886. The society meets once a month in various homes. Programs consist of debates and offerings by local talent. A concert was put on each fall in the school house.

## 1887

Lanark (Originally named Reston) school opens with John Acheson as the first teacher.

Three school districts were in existence in 1887. They were Mayville, Sanderson and Reston (Lanark)

First dressmaker in the community: Miss Amy Elleby who came to Manitoba in 1887

William H. Busby homesteads on 28-7-27. He later moved to Reston and opened the first lumberyard.

On July 4th, the first of the famous picnics is held in Guthrie's Grove.

## 1888

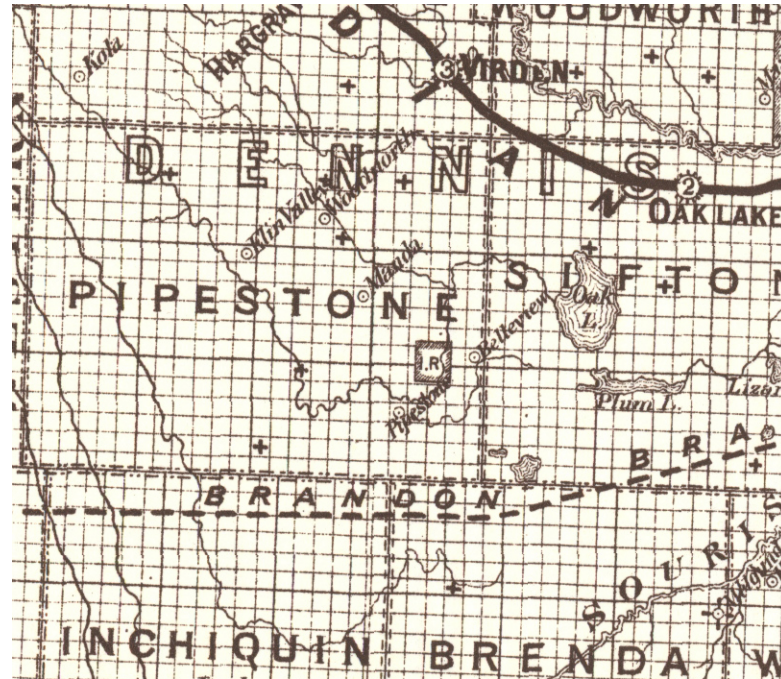
The council decides to assist with the operation of a gristmill and a levy of six tenths of a mill was imposed for this purpose. The levy was continued each year up to the turn of the century. No other records exist concerning the location of the mill.

From the book "Pioneers of the Pipestone," we read: "on the night of August 8th, 1888 a very heavy frost came and the wheat was badly frozen. The crop was a most promising one so that it was a great disappointment to see it damaged so badly," ...



1889

The summer of 1889 is one of the driest on record. Much grain was too short to make sheaves, Some farmers fixed boxes on their binders to catch the heads as they were cut. When the box was full the binder was stopped and the grain shoveled off in a pile.



R.M. of Pipestone Communities - 1887

## 1890 – 1899

### **International**

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World's Columbia Exposition (World Fair) opens in Chicago in 1893 – to commemorate the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Columbus's arrival in the new world (1492). Featured prominently are exhibits highlighting the possibilities of electricity.  
The Boer War begins in 1899

### **Canada**

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1890: The Manitoba Official Languages Act eliminates French as one of Manitoba's official languages

1891: John A. McDonald dies.

1896: Gold discovered in the Klondike. Laurier becomes Prime Minister. Clifford Sifton becomes Minister of the Interior and embarks on a policy of attracting immigrants for the prairies.

1897: The Laurier-Greenway Compromise ends the Manitoba Schools Question.

### **Manitoba**

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1890 : The Farmer's Institute Act. Total population of the Prairies in 1890 – ca. 250000

1891: The first Ukrainian settlers arrive in Manitoba.

The Manitoba Schools Question divides the nation as governments decide on the future of French Language instruction in schools.

1898: Rail line from Gladston to Dauphin completed.

### **The R.M. of Pipestone**

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A decade of building. Many schools, churches, businesses are established as settlers get established. The first substantial brick houses are built.

## The R.M. of Pipestone in 1890 – 1989

### 1890

The first “Reston” Post office is located on William Bulloch’s land. Their home also housed the first library. The name of Reston was suggested by the Milliken family. It was the name of the little town in Berwickshire, Scotland near which the Millikens had lived before coming to Canada.

Lambton School #763 opens.

### 1891

Hillview School opens in the spring in a granary on NW 12-8-28. A school is built later that year. (Closed 1963)

### 1892

The CPR reaches the new village of Pipestone on Dec. 2. Mr. Richardson immediately opens a store in a tent, which is later moved to Main Street.

The railroad reaches Reston. The first railroad station was a freight car set down at a point nearly opposite Main Street. The first agent was Cleland Jones who came in to town on one of the work trains. The first passenger train came in to Reston on Dec. 2, 1892. The first merchant was James Campbell whose descendants still live around Sinclair. He put a building on the east side of Main Street during the fall

William Busby builds a lumberyard (Pioneer Lumber) . The first freight delivered when the railroad line was opened was a car of lumber.

The first facility for handling grain in Reston is a warehouse built in the fall of 1892 by Deyell and Mann of Souris.

Hillside School District #377 established on NW 21-9-26.

Wheat from Laggan Farm (William McDonald) takes top honours at an International Miller’s Convention in Glasgow, Scotland.

The first settler in Sinclair: John Milton

## RUMBLES OF THE RAILWAY

### Extension Into Pipestone Valley and Between Deloraine and Napinka.

There will be considerable railway construction in Southwestern Manitoba this season. Egan Bros. are already at work on the grade of the Souris extension to the terminal point, of which there is about fifteen miles to complete. J. G. Denison, contractor, will soon start to work on the link to connect the Southwestern branch with the Brandon-Souris line, from Deloraine to Napinka, there being an open space of about twenty miles to grade and rail, and ere many weeks G. Stravel will proceed west with his outfit and commence work on an extension of the Glenboro branch into the Pipestone valley, which extension is expected to commence from Menteith. The two latter have been contemplated for some time, but this is the first definite announcement that the work is to be at once proceeded with.

Brandon Sun, May 5, 1892

1893

Reston Post Office is moved in to the new village  
The Reston Lake of the Woods Elevator is built – it operated until it burned in 1950.

Pipestone Union Church is built on 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave & 6<sup>th</sup> St. in the Pipestone. Initially a Presbyterian Congregation, it was also used by Methodists.

Pipestone School classes are held in Rattray's Hall, with Mr. J. G. Rattray the first teacher. Classes were later held in the Church until the school was built.

1894

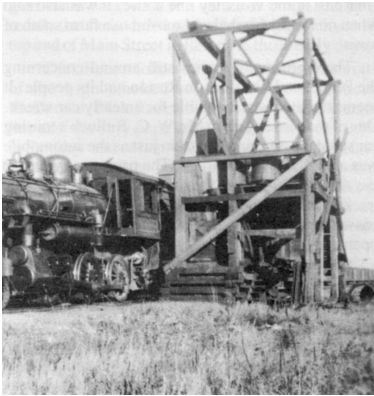
Huston School #770 opens on SW 2-6-27.

Bardal Post Office is established April 12 on SE 22-8-29 (Closed 1918). Postmaster George R. Lusk operated it out of a small frame building. Other reports indicate it was once located on SE 27-8-29



**Bardal Post Office building, 2011.**

1895



**The Coal Dock was an essential part of the railway infrastructure.**

1896

Elm Valley school opens on SW 2-9-28. (Later moved to Woodnorth for use as a Sunday School.)

W.R. Guthrie is Chairman of first meeting of Lanark School.

Reston Methodist Church built.



**Methodist Church & Parsonage shown here in 1905.**

1897

Reston Cemetery established by the R.M. of Pipestone.

1898

Belleview School built on SE 36-8-26. Often used as a Church & Sunday School.

Crescent School established on NE 14-6-29. (Moved to NE 30-7-25 in 1920. Rennovated inside 1960's. Closed 1970. Moved to Pipestone Fair Grounds site after 1980)

Humberstone School opened north of Pipestone.

John Milton appointed Sinclair Postmaster, also adds a stock of groceries.

Council receives an order from the medical health officer to pay A. V. Parker \$115.00 for compensation for clothes destroyed because of diphtheria.

1899

Robert Ayers is the first dentist in the Reston district.

Prarie Rose School #967 opens in May. The first school year ran six months.



## 1900 – 1909

### **International**

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1901: Queen Victoria dies, Jan. 22. Edward the VII reigns.  
1901: Marconi sends the first radio signal across the Atlantic.  
1903: Ford Motor Co. established to manufacture automobiles

### **Canada**

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1902: First Canadian “production” car built by Good Brothers in Kitchener ON.  
1903: Canada loses the Alaska Boundary Dispute  
1904: Marquis wheat strain developed in Ottawa Experimental Farm  
1905: Saskatchewan and Alberta enter confederation.  
1909: First heavier than air flight in Canada, with pilot J.A.D. McCurdy. First Grey Cup Game.  
May 15, 1909: An earthquake is felt across the prairies.

### **Manitoba**

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1901: Manitoba’s first hydro-electric plant opens on the Little Saskatchewan River northwest of Brandon.  
1906: Manitoba farmers organize the “Grain Growers’ Grain Company” with shares available for \$25. For any farmer wanting to join.  
1908: Manitoba Government Telephones takes over the telephone service.

### **The R.M. of Pipestone**

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The communities in Pipestone have reached what is termed the consolidation era (following the pioneer and establishment eras). Services are established, village layouts are established, and transportation lines are in place. The initial spurts of growth have settled. Hastily erected frame buildings are replaced with more substantial houses and stores. Recreational and cultural options are explored.



## The R.M. of Pipestone in 1900 – 1909

### 1900

Dr. Alva Burton Chapman is Reston's first doctor. Had been a bridge builder and lumberjack.

Sinclair School District # 105 formed and the first school built.

### 1901

Bardal School opens on S.W.14-8-29 - Dublin School opens on SW 22-6-28  
Ewart School District #1287 established – school held in Mr. Ryland's house

The statutory labor requirement is abolished, to be replaced by taxation.

The first municipal health officer is appointed - Dr. B. Baird of Pipestone at a stipend of \$150.00.

The population of Reston has risen to ninety-nine persons.

### 1902

G.S. Munroe Co. builds a fieldstone store of granite found 5 km south in the Kinloss District

The Village of Ewart is created on the Reston – Wolesley line.

Daybreak Presbyterian Church opens on SW 31-9-26. (It operated until 1962.)

Reston Prebyterian (Untited) Church built.

The first drug store in Reston is established by Doctor Chapman, for many years was both doctor and druggist to the community.

Curling, in Reston began on an outdoor rink and the first bonspiel was held in 1902.

### 1903

Frank Stewart is the first Blacksmith in Sinclair. (1903 – 1911)

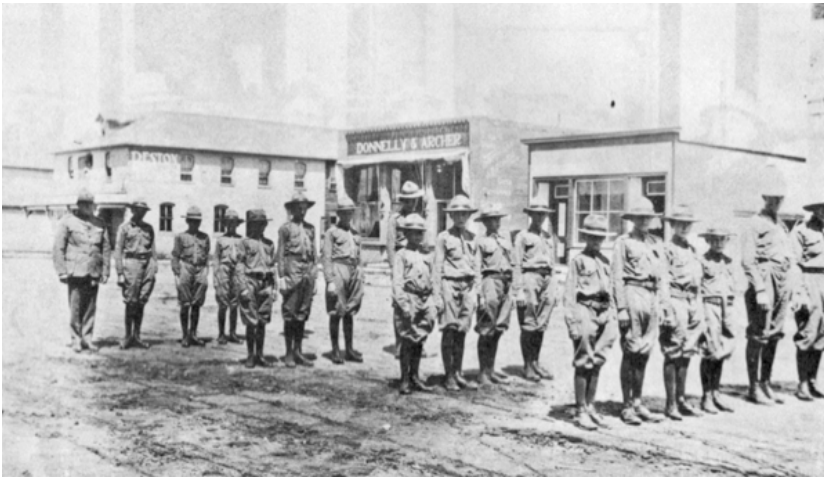
### 1904

Mrs. A.E. (Eliza Challener) Smith, a Nurse invited to community by Dr. Chapman, is the first lady to curl. She was still an active curler in the 1970's.

George E. Proctor is the Bardal postmaster, the building was moved to NW 22-8-29. (Building still exists, now on S 22-8-29)

John Bulloch builds the first hotel in Sinclair. He brought the lumber with him when he arrived.

Alf Archer came from the east in 1904 and at first mended clothes in the back of Donnelly's Men's Wear.



**Preparing for War, 1913. Note the Donnelly & Archer building at centre.**

1905

Frank Manning is first owner / editor of the Reston Recorder. (1905 – 1945)

A Baptist Church is built in Reston. ( Torn down in 1946.)

The Reston Rink Co. is formed and a new rink is erected.

The three story cement block Arlington Hotel is built at the corner of Main St. and Railway Avenue in Pipestone.



Walter Rayner becomes Postmaster for Elm Valley 1905 – 1910.

## 1906

The population of Reston is 360.

Edward Hanlon Berry builds the Berry Block for his Jewelry & Watch Repair business.

St. John's Anglican Church opens in Reston.

Issac Haywood builds a store in 1906 on the corner of what was "Main Street" in Ebor.

B.M. Hart, who worked on railway line through Woodnorth establishes the first Woodnorth Store in a boxcar. In 1910 he acquired a store building and Post Office. He later built the first hall.

Sproule School established on SE 10-9-29, a mile south of Ebor.



**Many of Reston's fine brick homes were built in the prosperous pre-war years.**

## The Reston Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) Engine House (1906)

### **Heritage Value Statement : Reston C.P.R. Engine House**

The Reston CPR Engine House, a utilitarian brick structure with a heavy post-and-beam wood frame, is a rare and evocative link with the era of the steam locomotive, which coincided with the rapid settlement and economic expansion of the Prairies. The building's cavernous interior recalls the labour-intensive nature of steam locomotive transportation, with its need for regular servicing and maintenance. The prominence of the engine house on Reston's outskirts also is a reminder of the railway's impact on the community, which for several decades was the eastern terminus of passenger and freight services that connected parts of southwestern Manitoba to the CPR's main line in neighbouring Saskatchewan.



Interior engine house machinery still in place in 2008



Reston CPR Engine house in 2008

## 1907

The roots of Pipestone-Albert Agricultural Society and the Reston Fair go back to June 21, 1907 when a public meeting was called for the purpose of organizing the society and electing officers. Land is purchased for Fair Grounds. A fair was planned for that year but cancelled due to a severe hailstorm that ruined crops.

Chapman Drug Store Building is built by Dr. Chapman. It houses first telephone switchboard.

A site is bought for the Sinclair Cemetery from Thomas Craig.

Village of Bulter created on NW 33-9-29 along the new CNR line.

Orma School #1401 (1907-191) established.

Crowell School #1287 (named after a pioneer) built in 1907 on SE 8-8-28 by T.S. Rintaul. Later (1911) moved a short distance to Ewart.

The Scarth townsite is created on land owned by William Scarth (NW 9-9-26) with the arrival of the Canadian Northern Line  
A store / post office and a school are located at the site.

Cromer, formerly a settlement called Elm Valley, is established when the CN Railroad arrives.

## 1908

The first Fair held in Reston Fair Grounds – Aug. 4. The Race track is also built.

\$30000 in debentures is issued to cover the cost of establishing telephone service in Reston

In 1908, the CPR puts in a branch line, which ran in a northwesterly direction to Wolseley with Reston as a terminus. It was at this time that Reston became a railroad town of importance. It enjoyed this prestige until 1961 when the Wolseley line closed down and the tracks were torn up.

Manitoba Telephone System service installed in the Village of Pipestone.

Jack Wright builds the general store in Butler.

Ebor Athletic Club is formed – the Ebor Tigers football team win a regional championship.

1909

Sinclair Presbyterian Church is built.



*Previous to 1904 services were conducted by the Reston minister, Rev. McAlister. Rev. I. G. Stephens from Reston continued to hold services in the Sinclair School and the Icelandic Hall from 1904 to 1908, when connections were severed and Sinclair, Crescent and Broomhill were formed into a Mission Field. The first managers of the Church were appointed in 1908 when John Milton, J. H. McLandress, John Bulloch and O.I. Brownlee were elected.*

## 1910 – 1919

### **International**

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1911: Iceland gives the vote to all women over 25.

1912: Titanic sinks after hitting an iceberg on its first voyage.

1914: WW 1 – 1914 – 18: The Empress of Ireland sinks in the St. Lawrence River, killing more than 1000

1915: Battle of Ypres in Belgium – first major Canadian action.

1917: Russian Revolution and the beginning of Communist rule.

### **Canada**

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1910: Royal Canadian Navy established

1914: Oil discovered in Turner Valley, Alberta

1917: Conscription Crisis

### **Manitoba**

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1916: Manitoba is the first province to give women the vote.

1919: Widespread drought. Winnipeg General Strike.

### **The R.M. of Pipestone**

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The R.M. of Pipestone, like all Manitoba communities was profoundly affected by the World War, and like all Manitoba communities is proud of its efforts on behalf of “King & Country”.



## The R.M. of Pipestone in 1910 – 1919

1910

Dr. Chapman builds the County Clerk Building.



**This little building was built by Dr. Chapman who then rented it to the government for use as a County Clerk's Office.**

Pipestone pioneer Robert Forke, later Senator Forke, becomes President of the Union of Manitoba Municipalities. Later (1921) MP for Brandon Constituency (Progressive) Minister of Immigration and Colonization for Liberal Gov't 1926-29. Senator 1929.

Long distance lines connect both Virden and Melita with Pipestone.

Ebor Cemetery established on NE 10-9-29

Woodnorth Methodist Church built in Woodnorth

The first Woodnorth School built.



**The first Woodnorth School.**

Jack Wright builds a blacksmith shop in Butler.

Cromer School #1521 and Scarth School built.

A large brick school is built in Sinclair.



**Sinclair Presbyterian Church & School**

Clover Hill School is built on SW 21-7-29. It was closed in 1967 and moved to Sinclair to be used as a classroom.



**Tennis at Sinclair**

1911

Cromer Methodist Church is built. Now Cromer United, a Designated Heritage Site.



**Cromer United**

Crowell School #1287 is moved to Ewart and re-named Ewart School. (Closed in 1965 and used as a community club.)

Cromer Station and a station house are built.

## 1912

Sproule School is moved to village of Ebor – renamed Ebor School #1332.

## 1913

The RM agrees to participate in the Good Roads Plan of the Provincial Government and contributed \$100000 to the building of roads.

Woodnorth Community Hall is built by Woodnorth Hall Co., financed by shares sold.

## 1914

Woodnorth Cemetery is established NE 4-9-27 on land obtained from J.H. Stephenson.

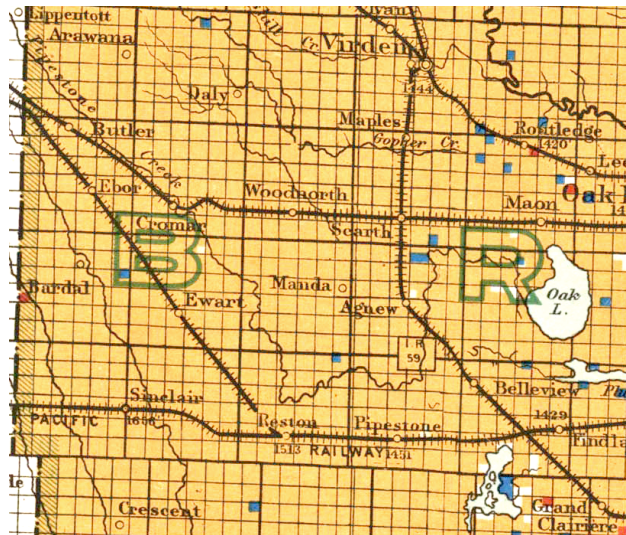
## 1915

There are 22 school districts in the municipality.

The first moving pictures in Reston are shown about 1915, by Greig Brothers, who were in the oil and draying business at the south end of Main.

Dr. Cairns sets up practice in Pipestone and purchases the Drug Store.

An Anglican Church called St. Peter's is located just outside of Cromer to the south. The Anglican Church manse was located in town. The church closed around 1936 and the building itself was moved to Reston in the early 1960's.



**The region in 1915**

## 1916

Reston Electric Power Plant begins service.

William Albert Brady builds a building for his hardware and a post office.

A large fire destroys much of the east side of 4<sup>th</sup> Street in Reston.

An Honor Roll is unveiled in the Pipestone Church. Sixty-five names are on the plaque; of this number 20 made the supreme sacrifice.

Daybreak School burns – school classes are held in the Daybreak Church until 1925.

The second Hillview School built on NW 7-8-27.

The first burial in Woodnorth Cemetery.

1917



Pipestone Municipal Building is built at 401 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Reston – now a Provincial Heritage Site.  
The first Chautauqua performance is held in Reston.  
Skelding & Davis Garage / Ford Agency building is erected in Pipestone.  
Butler Union School #1401 is built.

1918

The CPR east-bound arrives at 13:50 and the west-bound at 15:45. The Wolseley arrives at 13:35 and leaves at 16:05. It takes passengers only once a day. There are no Sunday trains.

The Reston Bank of British North America replaces an earlier building. It merges with Bank of Montreal in 1918.

Fire destroys a number of businesses on Pipestone's Main Street.  
J. Crawford builds a building for a Lumberyard and Post office in Pipestone.

1919

Reston Women's Institute is organized, with its charter being issued in 1922.

## 1920 – 1929

### **International**

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The conditions imposed upon Germany after WW1 help trigger an economic collapse and political turmoil that leads to the rise of Adolph Hitler and his Nazi Party.

1927: Charles Lindberg flies solo from New York to Paris.

1929: Stock Market crash signals the beginning of the Great Depression.

### **Canada**

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Post-War adjustments are difficult. The “Roaring Twenties” though fondly remembered, most correctly apply to the latter part of the decade.

### **Manitoba**

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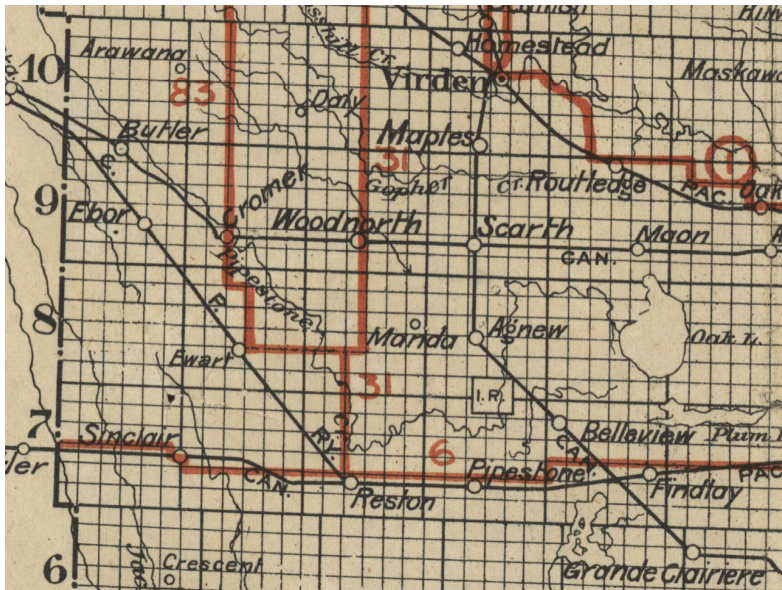
1920: The Manitoba Grain Growers’ Association becomes “The United Farmers of Manitoba.” It turned its attention to progressive farm legislation.

## The R.M. of Pipestone

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### Some General Trends in the 1920's

- Throughout the prairies communities erected memorials commemorating the sacrifice and service of those who participated in the "Great War."
- On farms and in businesses trucks were replacing horses for everyday tasks.
- Commercial travelers now use cars making them more flexibly mobile. This trend eventually led to the decline in demand for hotel rooms and of course a decline in rail passenger traffic.
- Many communities reached the peak of business expansion in the pre-war years. We see stores changing hands, closing - the same decline is seen in housing, again communities had expanded to the natural capacity.
- The adoption of a car-based transportation economy saw the expansion of car-based service – gas stations, auto repair shops.
- In recreation, tennis and cricket declined. Hockey continued to grow, as did curling.
- Radio helps connect remote households to the rest of the world.



**Roads replace Rails....**

**Automobile Road Map of Manitoba (1924)**  
**Emmett, A.C. Automobile Road Map of Manitoba [map]. 1:760,320.**  
**Winnipeg: Stovel Company Ltd., 1924.**  
**Image Courtesy of University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections**  
**(Morris Block fonds, MSS 207, A.05-43)**  
**[www.umanitoba.ca/libraries/units/archives/collections/com](http://www.umanitoba.ca/libraries/units/archives/collections/com)**



## The R.M. of Pipestone in 1920 – 1929

### 1920

A Municipal Telephone Exchange Office is built on the west side of the Main Street in Pipestone.

### 1921

The site for Reston Memorial Park is purchased in 1921. Work is supervised by Alf Archer who provided shrubs and perennials from his own garden. J.I. Bulloch broke the land and seeded it.

The Memorial Hall built in Pipestone.

### 1922

War Memorial erected in Reston Memorial Park. It was unveiled by Sir James Aikens, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, on June 30, The first shelterbelt of trees is planted at the park by Alf Archer.

### 1923

Sinclair Memorial Hall is built in memory of WW1 veterans.

### 1924

The first radios come on sale locally

### 1925

Laggan School #1935 built near the site of the Daybreak Presbyterian Church.

## 1926

The Volunteer Fire Brigade receives a fire engine at a cost of \$708.75.

## 1927

A new Bardal School built on SW 15-80-28.

## 1928

The Masonic Hall built in Reston - John Ludy in charge. Arthur Busby & McIvor do the plastering.

The first Reston Pool Elevator is built by Pearson Burleigh. There had been a local pool association prior to that and those farmers who belonged had taken their grain to other local elevators to be weighed up and then had it sold through the pool.

A new two- room school is built at Ebor – the basement to be used as a hall.

## 1929

Stanley Knowles spends the summer of 1929 as a student minister of the Baptist Church in Reston. He also served during the 1928-29 College Term

Robert Forke, of Pipestone, becomes a Senator.

## 1930 – 1939

### **International**

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The depression set off by the stock market collapse in late 1929 is felt across North America and Europe.  
Sept.1, 1939: Germany invades Poland, setting off World War 2.

### **Canada**

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The effect of the world-wide economic depression is compounded in Western Canada by an extended drought.  
In 1936 the Federal Government cancelled debt for feed and wrote off many advances to the drought areas.

### **Manitoba**

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The effects of the drought on the prairies are felt most acutely in the southwest corner of the province.  
The Farmer's Creditors Arrangement Act – aims to reduce farm debt loads.

### **The R.M. of Pipestone**

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The depression and the drought affect Pipestone much as they affect other communities.  
The expansion of the role and scope of schools, the influence of radio, and the changing technology in transportation all had an effect on life in the region.

## The R.M. of Pipestone in 1930 – 1939

### 1930

Council appropriates \$1,500.00 to be spent for immunization of school children against diphtheria.

### 1931

\$10000 is provided for “relief work”, road building etc. 50% from the Federal Gov’t, 30% from the Province and the rest from the R.M.

The winter of 1930-1931 is open but cold. Roads are good all winter, but one by one farmers had to quit using the car as there was no money for gas.

The RM councils see a drop in revenues, as low as 20% of total.

### 1932

A new three room school is built at Woodnorth – the original school is attached at the back.

185 parcels of land are sold to recover unpaid taxes.

The RM borrows \$40000 to buy seed which was offered to farmers in return for promissory notes.

The government plans to employ single men in work camps, and on farms. In the work camps at Kenosee Lake, Clear Lake, and other resorts, men had cleared out new townsites. They were given room and board, working clothes and \$5.00 a month.

Western Canada's dream of fifty years is realized Sept. 1st. when twenty-four cars of wheat arrived in the Port of Churchill enroute to European markets. This is the first wheat ever to come over the Hudson Bay Railway into the new and modern 2,500,000 bushel elevator.

### 1933

Trees from Riding Mtn. enhance the Reston Cemetery. Upkeep is by Reston Women's Institute - proceeds of the book "Pioneers of the Pipestone" by Ellen Guthrie Bulloch go to improvements

The RM decides not to continue offering seed and feed to farmers. It asked the province for help. Grasshoppers threaten what crops have grown.

The bounty on gophers is cut to 1¢ but the boys and girls go after the pests as usual and turn in tails by the thousands.

There is plenty of rain in the spring of 1933, even the Pipestone creek is in flood. Pastures are green, and things look good. But the heat came in waves and brought on a fierce infestation of cut- worms and caterpillars, millions of them. These things sent wheat soaring to 82¢. In the last week of July, it was 104° F.

### 1934

Grasshopper destroy almost all crops. Grasshopper poison – a mixture of sawdust, bran and Paris Green proved ineffective.

### 1935

Rainfall eases the drought but crops are afflicted with rust.

After 1935, one of the worst rusty crops, came Thatcher, a good milling and yielding wheat, followed by Selkirk, Neepawa and Sinton.

1936

Federal Drought Relief Program established.

A small chinook in March ends twelve weeks of intense cold, the coldest winter ever known.

1937

Rain is more plentiful.

1938

In the spring a winter storm with hurricane winds costs ranchers and farmers thousands of calves and cows.

1939

"Purple" gas is introduced.

Colin C. Campbell and his son Colin S. Campbell purchase the old round house and several acres around it. Cleaning equipment was installed and he gradually built up a retail and mail order outlet for farm seeds. Some was even shipped overseas.

## 1940 – 1949

### **International**

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December, 1941: The United States enters the war after Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour  
1945 – WW2 ends.

### **Canada**

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Aug. 19, 1942: Nearly 1000 Canadians die and 2000 are taken prisoner in the failed raid on Dieppe.

### **Manitoba**

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Rationing and consumer goods shortages become a way of life.  
Manitoba Power Commission decides to extend service to more rural areas.

### **The R.M. of Pipestone**

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Record harvests in 1940 began a period of relative prosperity to rural Manitoba. The war effort was foremost in people's minds throughout the early 40's.

## The R.M. of Pipestone in 1940 – 1949

### 1940

On February 7, the Bardal Women's Institute is organized. There were eighteen members that first year. All hands were needed, for the Red Cross work was the main project during the war years.

### 1942

Pipestone Legion Hall built.

The first motor powered road grader is purchased at the March 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the council from Rosseau Equipment Co. at a cost of \$2,480.00.

### 1946

A community welcome is held in the Pipestone Memorial Hall for the returned men and women.

### 1947

Reston Legion Hall moved from Souris Airfield in 1947, where it was a Guardhouse  
Half of the building is in Pipestone where it is a Legion Hall (later a Drop-In Centre)

Reston Memorial Theatre built.



## 1950 – 1959

### **International**

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The Korean War – June 1950 – July 1953.

1954: Elvis Presley records “That’s All Right Mama” at Sun Studios in Memphis Tennessee with Scott Moore and Bill Black.

### **Canada**

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1957: Lester Pearson wins the Nobel Peace Prize for organizing the United Nations Emergency Force to resolve the Suez Canal Crisis.

1957: John Diefenbaker becomes the only Conservative Party Leader between 1930 and 1979 to win a National Election. He governed until 1963.

### **Manitoba**

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1951: Manitoba Hospital Districts formed. Ivan Scultz, Minister of Health made the expansion of hospital services a priority.

### **The R.M. of Pipestone**

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Reston Hospital opens in 1952 after considerable discussion and opposition.

The discovery of oil in the northwest part of the municipality adds greatly to the prosperity of the municipality.