

continued from page one.



Some of the over 250 submissions, created by Lord Selkirk School Division students, for the banner competition on display at the Heritage Village exhibit on the July 17-19, 2009, St. Clements 125th Anniversary weekend.



Twenty five of the submissions were recreated as large fabric banners and installed on hydro and telephone poles throughout the RM St. Clements.



A view of some of the heritage banners affixed to hydro poles along Provincial Road 212 in East Selkirk during the Municipality's 125th Anniversary weekend.



Some of the many guests who visited the Heritage Village exhibit during the St. Clements 125th Anniversary Celebration.

Town of Carman & RM of Dufferin to Establish Joint MHAC

The Town of Carman MHAC is currently re-establishing itself with new ideas, new members and a new partner. Plans are in the works for the Carman MHAC to team up with representatives of the Rural Municipality of Dufferin to establish a new dual jurisdiction MHAC. In addition to the new format, the new MHAC plans to include the Executive Committee of the Dufferin Historical Society as an integral part of this new Committee.

This reformation involves the Council for the Town of Carman carefully re-crafting and amending its Municipal Heritage By-law and the Council for the RM of Dufferin passing an, almost-identical, new by-law. A planning meeting was recently held at the Carman Memorial Hall, with representatives of both municipal councils and a number of interested residents and business people from the region. These included: Julie Hesketh, Heidi Sandulak, Wayne Hiebert, George Gray, Mary Heard and Nedra Burnett. The keen interest and range of backgrounds represented by this group, combined with the commitment shown by the councils for the Town of Carman and RM of Dufferin, undoubtedly is a harbinger of good heritage to come. More planning meetings are in the works, and it is hoped that the by-laws can be passed and the new committee functioning by autumn.

Lac du Bonnet MHAC Logo.

In addition to a very active heritage plaque program, ongoing inventory, assessment, and site designation activities, the MHAC for the RM of Lac du Bonnet recently created for itself a trademark logo to be used on its stationary, interpretative material, and plaques.



The principal component of the logo is a 1920s-era Vickers Vedette flying boat. During the 1920s and 1930s several such aircraft were stationed at the then, newly-established #1 Wing RCAF Air Base located on the shores of the Winnipeg River, just north of the community of Lac du Bonnet. A major project for the RM of Lac du Bonnet MHAC in recent years has been the construction and installation of a one-half scale replica of the Vickers Vedette at a municipal park to be established near the site of the original hangar and slipway. Other design components on the new logo include a view of the Winnipeg River with a tree-lined distant shoreline, and a log building representing the region's early architecture and settlers. Along with photos and information about its many activities, the RM of Lac du Bonnet's new logo can be seen online at: www.lacdubonnet.com/heritage.

CHM is a province-wide association of Municipal Heritage Advisory Committees (MHACs). These committees are established by municipal councils to advise them on community heritage matters.

The goal of Community Heritage Manitoba (CHM) is to support member MHACs in their efforts to identify, protect and interpret the heritage of their communities.

Member benefits:

- reduced registration rates to the annual CHM conference
- reduced registration rates to CHM-sponsored workshops and seminars
- subscription to CHM "Express" newsletter
- free "Heritage Express" information bulletins, with updates on grant programs, community support and volunteer recruitment
- voting privileges (MHAC members only)

Coordinating Committee:

Cal Martin.....Stonewall
David McDowell.....Winnipeg
Doreen Oliver.....Selkirk
Charlotte Oleson.....Glenboro
Mark Stroski.....(ex-officio)
Ed Ledohowski.....(ex-officio)

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St. Clements Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee Takes Centre Stage at 125th Anniversary of RM

During the weekend of July 17-19, 2009 the Rural Municipality of St. Clements celebrated its 125th Anniversary. The municipality was established in 1883, and was among the earliest municipalities to be established in Manitoba. The focal point for the three day celebration was the East Selkirk Recreation Centre. In addition to great food, activities, competitions and entertainment, a major attraction during the weekend was the Heritage Village exhibit set up by the St. Clements MHAC. The Heritage



Some of the many visitors view the display panels at the St. Clements Heritage Village conceived and produced by the St. Clements MHAC.

Village included 24 different exhibits, mostly prepared by the MHAC members and Jared Laberge, the MHAC's more-than-capable summer student. Other, non-MHAC exhibits included those provided by the Marine Museum of Manitoba (Selkirk Inc.), the Chief Peguis Heritage Committee, the Historic Resources Branch and the federally-funded Heritage Places Initiative. The exhibits occupied the entire foyer area at the East Selkirk Recreation Centre. In addition to the many interpretative panels, there were artifact displays, local history publications and heritage postcard sales.

An estimated 7,000 people attended the celebration at the recreation centre grounds, and a large proportion of them made their way to the Heritage Village displays, for 'a quick look'. Most ended up staying for a long time to read the inscriptions and look at the many early photographs and illustrations - organized according to various historical themes significant to the history of the municipality and region.

Other displays were selected from student exhibits produced for a school sponsored heritage fair. Large framed portraits of the Municipality's Reeves over

the years were relocated from the municipal offices to the Heritage Village for the anniversary weekend.

Another major component of the 125th Anniversary Celebrations, spearheaded by the St. Clements MHAC, was the heritage banner competition. Months earlier MHAC members met with the administrators of the Lord Selkirk School Division and art instructors in four schools within the Division to create a division-wide heritage theme banner competition. Over 250 entries were submitted, from which the top 25 were selected and turned into large cloth banners by Light Visions Ltd. These were attached with specially fabricated metal brackets to hydro poles located in the communities of East Selkirk, Lockport and Grand Marais. Thanks to Manitoba Hydro for their assistance and co-operation in allowing the banners to be hung on Manitoba Hydro property. At the end of the summer most of the banners will be presented to the original student contributor, with a selected few to be kept to adorn the walls of the municipal building. The banner artwork competition and installation project was a huge success and generated much interest on the part of both the students and community at large. In fact, some community residents were so impressed by the Heritage Village and Heritage Banner projects that they 'signed-up' to become St. Clements MHAC members and volunteers.

Another component of St. Clements 125th anniversary celebrations was a bid by the MHAC to host the 17th annual CHM Conference. The St. Clements MHAC teamed up with MHACs from neighbouring R.M. of St. Andrews and the City of Selkirk to provide a very strong joint bid, which was successful. The conference will be held at the East Selkirk Middle School on October 23 & 24th 2009. (Continued on page 4.)



Fraser Stewart of the St. Clements MHAC discusses projects with Nicola Spasoff, HPI Municipal Liaison Officer, at the St. Clements Heritage Village.

INTEREST ABOUNDS FOR COTTAGE INVENTORY

Heritage committee getting closer to goal of developing directory of cottages.

Andy Blicq couldn't believe his eyes when he was recently handed a valuable historical document – one showing exactly what the town of Gimli looked like way back in 1932. "It really was great to receive something like this," Blicq said. "It shows every building, everything that was in the community at that time. It gives us an entirely accurate snapshot of what the community looked like in that year."

The Gimli Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee (MHAC) held an open house a month ago to solicit the public's memories and memorabilia concerning the region's older-generation cottages.

The MHAC has undertaken a sweeping study of cottage architecture and cottage life. The committee is on the hunt for period cottages that may be suitable for inclusion in an inventory of heritage homes. One of the key missing pieces in the puzzle is cottage building plans. Many cottages in Gimli were built in the early 1900s; they often share the same general architecture. What's become known as the Gimli cottage usually includes a large L-shaped verandah that runs across the front then toward the back on one side. This style also includes a central area, off which bedrooms are found.

"Our open house was a huge success," Blicq said. "It was really well-attended – people brought all kinds of pictures and other things that really helped us out a lot." Lorna Tergezen's old map of Gimli was just one. She had the map, thanks to her husband's aunt Anna Jonasson, who used to be a local insurance agent. Wally Johannson, a retired high school history teacher, chairs the Gimli heritage committee.

HRB WHO'S WHO

Each new edition of the *CHM Heritage Express* will introduce readers to a selected staff member of the Historic Resources Branch of Manitoba Culture, Heritage, Tourism and Sport. This edition we meet Gordon Menzies, one of the longest serving and most frequently called upon staff members.

Gordon Menzies grew up in Crystal City, Manitoba, where his parents owned and operated a drug store. Gord's love of heritage architecture and construction led him, during the late 1970s and early 1980s, to a variety of restoration projects in western and northern Canada, as well as overseas in Australia and New Zealand.

Gordon joined the Historic Resources Branch in 1986. He has been primarily involved with the Designated Heritage Building Grants Program, assisting heritage building owners with the more technical aspects of preserving and maintaining their heritage gems.

He identified more than 100 cottages in Gimli and Winnipeg Beach that require more study. He conducted scores of interviews, as has Blicq. What they're finding is plenty of anecdotes, but some of the details are lost to memory or some-what sketchy.

But Johannson has managed to get his hands on a title certificate for a structure in Winnipeg Beach dating all the way back to 1901. He plans to begin an inventory of cottages in the Matlock area next year. "If anyone has any information they'd like to pass on, they're welcome to let us know," Johannson said. While the cottage study is a current focus, the heritage committee continues to inventory heritage homes and businesses.

The cottages and homes study will also help establish the distinct "community" nature found in places such as Loni Beach, Sandy Hook and elsewhere. Each of the component communities in Gimli and Winnipeg Beach have a character that distinguishes them. To pass on information to the MHAC, call Johannson at 642-9182 or Blicq at 642-9080.

by Marc Zienkiewicz

The Interlake Spectator, Friday, Aug. 14, 2009, page 8



Guests at the open house reviewing research materials and inventory photos of Gimli area summer cottages.

Gord's main areas of expertise include: site recording, detailed condition assessments, design/specifications, on-site construction management, and provincial grants program management.

In recent years, Gord has been a presenter at the annual Preservation North Dakota annual conference, where his 'hands-on' presentations consistently outdraw most of the other sessions.

If you are considering restoring one of your municipality's heritage sites, or would like a structural assessment before nominating a building for designation, feel free to call Gord at 945-4448 or 1-800-282-8069 ext. 4448, or e-mail him at Gordon.Menzies@gov.mb.ca.



Gordon Menzies
Restoration Technologist

Heritage Resources Act Update

There was a fair amount of activity in terms of designations under *The Heritage Resources Act* during the summer of 2009.

The Town of Rivers commenced designation of its first municipal heritage site - the former Imperial Bank of Commerce Building, now a private residence, known as Morton Manor.

The R.M. of Gimli recently completed the designation of the Arnes Lutheran Church. The Municipality, which now includes the R.M. and the Town of Gimli now possesses nine municipally protected heritage properties. The Arnes church designation involved a very early 'deeded' property. It was initially thought that designation would have to be delayed until a proper Certificate of Title was obtained, but it was discovered that by using special 'old system' codes when registering the Municipal Heritage Notices, (ie: OSNID instead of NIDHS), deeded sites can be designated without the time and expense of bringing the site under the Real Property Act.

The RM of Stanley is preparing a multiple-site designation involving five structures located at the Pembina Threshermen's Museum. These are: the Reimer Mennonite Log House, Braun Mennonite Log House, Pomeroy School, Roseisle United Church, and the Morden CPR Station. One multiple designation can save the expense normally involved in publishing and filing individual designation notices. However, such designations involving heritage villages are not encouraged, as such villages are not likely to receive multiple grants over consecutive years.

The RM of Grahamdale recently discovered that the legal description used when designating St. Helen's Anglican Church at Fairford, was in fact not the church site, but church owned property located 10 km away near Gypsumville which had been purchased for a rectory, but never constructed. To correct the error the Municipality's CAO had to amend the original by-law by substituting the original legal description with the new proper legal description; prepare an Amended Municipal Heritage Notice and a Municipal Notice of Revocation for registering with Land Titles.

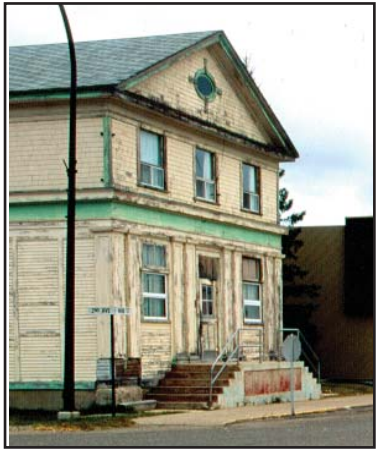


Saints Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Sundown.

Another recent heritage site designation amendment was undertaken by the R.M. of Lac du Bonnet, when the Hans Erickson log cabin was relocated from its original, rather isolated location, along the Pinawa Channel to a site near the Town of Lac du Bonnet where it is being restored and will be used as a museum.

Other recent municipal heritage designations include: Saints Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Tyndall in the R.M. of Brokenhead; Riverland School and Teacherage in the R.M. of Lac du Bonnet; Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church, Lakedale in the R.M. of Silver Creek; and Union Point Church in the R.M. of Morris (located in a highly visible site nestled between the northbound and southbound lanes of PTH #75, about 5 km south of St. Agathe).

The former site of the T.A. Burrows sawmill in the Town of Grandview is being 'upgraded' from a municipal to a provincial heritage site - due to its significant role in providing railway ties to various railway companies during the golden era of railway construction in Manitoba.



Former Bank of Commerce in Rivers opened for business in 1908.

Family Photo Albums, the Internet & Community History

There is growing interest among MHACs and local historians to use the Internet for promoting local history and local heritage projects and sites. Many communities and municipalities in Manitoba now have local history and/or MHAC sections on the local government website. In either case, digital images are required. New photos taken by digital cameras, can simply be downloaded onto your computer, but obtaining digital copies of early photographs, maps and other documents requires the use of a flatbed scanner.

Also, with some frequency, old family albums are being donated or loaned to museums, MHACs, local archives and even individual historians because their owners think they may contain some photographs of historical value. Usually in such albums there are only a handful of quality photographs showing good general-interest scenes. These would include buildings, events, and work scenes. But on occasion, old photo albums contain a treasure trove of imagery, and the entire collection is worthy of copying and preservation.

What do you do if you have little or no experience using a flatbed scanner or Photoshop, but you have an opportunity to copy and preserve a valuable local heritage resource? Such opportunities should always be acted upon. Archival imagery, like other types of heritage resources, are fragile and non-renewable. Once lost they are gone forever.

On several occasions in recent years, staff at the Historic Resources Branch have been handed just such a treasure trove of old photographs. The most recent involved a thick little photo album, originally belonging to Oblate Père J. Brachet, the parish priest at Camperville, Manitoba from approximately 1915 to 1935. It was presented to HRB restoration specialist, Gord Menzies, while assisting the church officials with a roof restoration project.

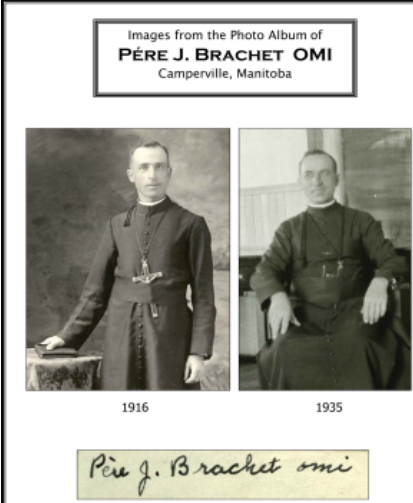
During this period, the Roman Catholic Mission at Camperville functioned as an Indian Residential School, and Père Brachet took many photographs, at the Camperville Indian Residential School Mission, during trips to outlying missions, and in the community of Camperville itself. Recognizing the importance of the collection, in terms of the local, church and Indian Residential School history, and the excellent quality of the photographs themselves, Gord offered to try to get the photos in the album copied on a digital scanner. A quick meeting was organized with staff possessing experience with scanning and Photoshop to prepare a work plan to scan the images; record what textual information there was or could be prepared; organize and arrange the photographs; and prepare a working identification album, before returning the original album to its current owners.

The first step undertaken was to copy each whole page. Because the album pages fit the scanner, these were scanned, but larger album pages would require coping on a photocopy machine. This file

would show which photos were together on the same page. Such photos are often related in terms of location, date, event, etc., so that information is important to retain. Next, the individual photos themselves were scanned. The Père Brachet photos were scanned at 300 dpi in Greyscale; re-sized to 4x6 or 5x7 inches; and the tonal qualities adjusted - all from the scanner adjustments window. Good quality scans can be obtained without the use of Photoshop. More recent colour photographs, or sepia-toned or hand-coloured early photographs were scanned in full colour. File names at this point were just numbers in sequence.

Next the scanned images were sorted according to one of five general themes and rearranged into rough chronological order within each theme. Then the photos in each directory were renamed with a proper collection name and a sequential number. Renaming by 'batch' was easily done using the Thumbnails/right-click/'Rename' window while in Microsoft Explore.

Then using the 'Insert' command in Microsoft WORD each photo was placed on a page with its number and caption beneath. These pages were printed and placed in a binder which was returned to the owners with the original album. The binder is currently being circulated within the community of Camperville, and any identified individuals, locations or dates are being directly added to the appropriate page as margin notes or directly on the photos. This information will be added to the official captions in the master computer file (on CD at the back of the ID binder) and when completed, a final printout and CD of the collection will be made for any variety of local history publications or web-sites. The original album can be safely stored and preserved while the images it contains are used to preserve and promote local history and historical sites - a veritable win-win situation.



Cover page of the scanned version of Père Brachet's personal photo album, which contains over 200 images of historical value.