



Time Lines

The Manitoba Historical Society Newsletter

Vol. 43 No. 1
November / December 2010



46th Annual Sir John A. Macdonald Dinner

6:00 pm Cocktails (cash bar),
7:00 Dinner
Saturday, 12 February 2011
Provencher Room,
Fort Garry Hotel

Special guest speaker Ken McGoogan

McGoogan is the author of four Canadian bestsellers about the search for the Northwest Passage, all of which have been published internationally: *Fatal Passage*, *Ancient Mariner*, *Lady Franklin's Revenge* and *Race to the Polar Sea*. His awards include the Pierre Berton Award for History, the Writers' Trust of Canada Drainie-Taylor Biography Prize, the Canadian Authors' Association History Award, the UBC Medal for Canadian Biography, and an American Christopher Award for a work of artistic excellence that "affirms the highest values of the human spirit." Ken made a cameo appearance in



International bestselling author Ken McGoogan will be the featured speaker at the 46th Annual Sir John A. Macdonald Dinner on 12 February 2011.

Macdonald Dinner Tickets

Complete the order form on the back of this page and mail to the MHS office.

OR send e-mail to info@mhs.mb.ca with your ticket order. We will contact you to complete the financial details.

OR call the MHS office at 204-947-0559 and speak to Jacqueline Friesen. (If no answer, please leave a message and we will call back.) Please call before 7 February 2011.

the BBC docudrama based on his book *Fatal Passage*. He serves as chair of the Public Lending Right Commission, is a fellow of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society, and sails in the Northwest Passage as a resource historian with Adventure Canada. Ken reviews books for the *Globe and Mail*, writes a column for *Canada's History* magazine and, in October 2010, published *How the Scots Invented Canada*.

No matter where you enter the history of Canada—through exploration, politics, business, education or literature—you find Scots and their descendants playing a leading role. Yet Canadians of Scottish origin, who today total 4.7 million, have never made up more than sixteen per cent of the country's population. Baffled by this, Ken McGoogan set out to discover how so few Scots have achieved so much.

He traces how, often in alliance with native peoples, Scottish fur-traders such as Alexander Mackenzie,

Simon Fraser, and the “Scotch West-Indian” James Douglas charted coastlines and established boundaries. A second wave of Scots, among them John A. Macdonald, James McGill and Nellie McClung, unified far-flung colonies, forged a unique system of government and created the framework of a country. Then came the visionaries, Scottish Canadians like Tommy Douglas, James Houston, Doris Anderson, and Marshall McLuhan, who have turned Canada into a kaleidoscopic nation that revels in diversity, and the world’s first post-modern state.

McGoogan toasts Robbie Burns and Sir Walter Scott; recalls the first settlers to stumble ashore at Pictou, Nova Scotia; shakes his head over rogues like George Simpson of the Hudson’s Bay Company; and celebrates such hybrids as the Cherokee Scot John Norton and Cuthbert Grant, father of the Métis nation. In *How the Scots Invented Canada*, Ken McGoogan uncovers the lost history of a nation-building miracle.

A 2011 tax receipt will be issued at the end of the calendar year for a portion of the ticket price. Proceeds from this fund raising event support the works of the Society, including our publications, special events, programs and museum operations.

The Dinner price is \$100 for members and \$110 for non-members.

Businesses and individuals are invited to donate items for the silent auction. Please contact the MHS office. A tax receipt can be given only with proof of value of the donation.



The 46th Annual

Sir John A. Macdonald Dinner Tickets

Name of person ordering ticket(s) _____

Name to whom receipt should be issued _____

Address _____

City _____

Postal code _____

Phone/email _____

No. tickets _____ Total: \$ _____

(Each: \$100 members, \$110 non-members)

Special requirements (check as appropriate)

Vegetarian Vegan Other: _____



MHS President
Dr. Harry Duckworth

President’s Message

The fall of the new year, as I anticipated, has been marked by a number of important events. Especially noteworthy are the new developments at Dalnavert. Jennifer Bisch, our new Chief Programming Officer and Curator, in charge of the Dalnavert Museum, has used her connections in the art and

film community to create program events that are attracting many new visitors into the Museum. In September, Dalnavert participated in the first Winnipeg Culture Days weekend, increasing our typical Sunday attendance figures by a factor of about 4 or 5. During the two weeks on either side of Halloween, Jennifer organized “Phantasmagoria”, a special exhibition of works by Winnipeg artists, inspired by the new media of the Victorian age – photography, cinema, and recorded sound. The artists taking part in the exhibition were Irene Bindi, Aston Coles, Danishka Esterhazy, Noam Gonick, Helga Jakobson, Andrew Milne, Sherrie Rennie, and Wendy Sawatzky, and the Society is very grateful to them for their participation, and for the opportunity to exhibit their works. The opening night, a wine and cheese reception with the artists in attendance, featured an academic panel in which Jonah Corne, Christina Penner, Serena Kashavjee, and Vanessa Warren, young facul-

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61 Carlton Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
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ty from the Universities of Manitoba and Winnipeg, discussed their work on aspects of early photography and cinema, and the late-Victorian fascination with the spirit world. The panel discussion was a great success, and especially notable for me was the large number of young people in the audience. For four consecutive nights during Phantasmagoria, a program of ghost stories was prepared and presented by Charlene van Buekenhout, by candlelight and with special effects, in the atmospheric venue of the Dalnavert attic. All four nights were sold out. The total visitors to the exhibit itself exceeded a thousand people. As one of my colleagues put it, Dalnavert is coming alive.

The Phantasmagoria exhibition and surrounding events threw a great burden of extra work on all of our employees – Jacqueline Friesen, Jenny Bisch, and Conrad Sweatman. The experience has brought home to us how much we need to recruit more volunteers, to get all the work done.

Volunteers are needed in three categories:

Dalnavert guides. The Dalnavert Museum normally conducts guided tours of the house, for walk-in visitors. There is a standard tour, which is well documented and not difficult to learn, and we need more guides to be available at the Museum, as they are needed.

Museum attendants (not guides). For special events, such as the Phantasmagoria show, or the Dickens readings leading up to Christmas, the Museum is open for those attending, but formal tours are not given. Instead, attendants are stationed in the house to keep an eye on things, and answer questions as they can. The Dickens readings will be evening events, and three or four volunteers will be needed for each of the nights. In return for their efforts, volunteers will be given free admission to one of the Dickens nights, the night when they volunteer, where, as in other years, we expect that the demand for tickets will be high.

People to staff the front desk during regular Museum hours. These volunteers will take money for attendance and for the gift shop; field phone calls; and assume other duties as required. I am currently volunteering to do this on Thursdays, and I can testify that this is an interesting and varied job, and a wonderful way to learn about the day-to-day business of the Society and the Museum. We have another volunteer for

Fridays, but we can definitely use people for any of Wednesdays (11 am – 4 pm), Saturdays (11 am – 6 pm) or Sundays (12 – 4 pm).

As we gain more experience with the new mix of jobs to be done, we will probably define more volunteer jobs. Society members and others who are interested in volunteering are asked to contact Jacqueline Friesen or Jenny Bisch at the Society or Dalnavert numbers, or by email at info@mhb.mb.ca or dalnavert@mhb.mb.ca.

The Executive and the Council, following a great deal of work and analysis by Jackie Friesen, is preparing a realistic budget for the next fiscal year, 2011-2012. As explained previously, we can do this now because all the financial matters, for the Dalnavert Museum and Visitors' Centre, for Ross House, and for the Society itself, are now the responsibility of Ms. Friesen, our Chief Administrative Officer. We are currently budgeting for a small overall deficit for the coming year, partly because of new programming initiatives, that we expect will raise money in the long run. Now that it is clear what everything really costs, we know what our target is, to achieve a balanced budget in the near future. Efforts are being made to increase revenues, from the gift shop, from facility rentals, and from school programs, while we continue to look for economies where they make sense. The new events at Dalnavert, which have increased attendance and greatly raised the profile of the Museum, are bringing more customers into the gift shop, so it is expected that success in one part of the operations will lead to success in others.

In my last column, I promised to have some details of the Society's plans for the bicentenary of the Selkirk Settlers' Arrival, in 2012. My apologies – you will have to wait longer for this.

This year's Macdonald Dinner, on 12 February, will feature Mr Ken McGoogan as our dinner speaker, author of the recently published "How the Scots Invented Canada", and also of four other books on Arctic explorers. Mr McGoogan has quickly emerged as skilled and engaging writer of Canadian history in an accessible and entertaining form, in the tradition of such writers as Pierre Berton and Peter C. Newman. We can look forward to an entertaining evening, and novel insights, as he speaks on "The Scots in Red River and Canadian Diversity". For further details of the dinner, see elsewhere in this *Time Lines*.

Welcome New Members

Silvia Connor
 Marta Dabros
 Janet "Lily" Despic
 Elizabeth and Norman Fleming
 Richard M. Jones
 Douglas Macewan
 Mary Nemeth
 Fred Ford & Gela Stach

Donations & Contributions

Thank You!

General Operations

Christopher Birt
 Diane DeGraves
 Gordon Goldsborough
 Mildred Hallama
 Joan Harland
 Margaret Mackenzie
 Keith Maitland
 Lee Treilhard

Dalnavert

Jane Maksymiuk
 Culture Heritage & Tourism–Community
 Museums Grant

Ross House

Culture Heritage & Tourism–Community
 Museums Grant

an exhibition of projected images, which evolved from the magic lantern projections first seen in the early 1800s. More than just a display of random images, the ghostly nature of the medium invited phantasmagoria shows to sometime use macabre themes to create exciting and uncanny optical illusions.

At the exhibit opening to launch the Phantasmagoria exhibit on 23 October, there was a panel discussion on early cinema, spirit photography, and Victorian history by Professors Jonah Corne (English, Film, and Theatre, University of Manitoba), Vanessa Warne (English, Film, and Theatre, University of Manitoba), Serena Keshavjee (Art History, University of Winnipeg), and Christina Penner (Computer Science, University of Manitoba, author of *Widows of Hamilton House*).

From 28 to 31 October Dalnavert presented **The Empty House and other ghostly tales from the Victorian era** created and performed by Charlene van Buekenhout. Visitors heard ghostly tales told by candlelight in the attic of the historic Dalnavert house, including works by Algernon Blackwood, Bram Stoker and others on the subject of an empty house, where presently no one resides.

This seasonal programming was made possible through the generous sponsorship of: Don's Photo, Video Pool Media Arts Centre and the University of Manitoba's Film Studies Program.

Dalnavert Museum

Dalnavert Museum provided an intriguing program of events for the Halloween season.

Phantasmagoria, an exhibit exploring of Victorian image projection and early cinematic technology shown at Dalnavert from 23 October to 7 November, is a pilot project that explores the history of film, photography, video and interdisciplinary media art practice. It engaged audiences through art installation in the context of a historical Victorian home. Featured artists were Danishka Esterhazy, Wendy Sawatzky, Noam Gonick, Irene Bindi, Aston Coles, Andrew Milne, Sherrie Rennie and Helga Jakobson.

Historical background: The Victorian era gave rise to the invention of photography and the beginnings of early cinema. One popular means of display for early imagery was the phantasmagoria show—



William Fraser

Kids loved the giant camera that was part of the Phantasmagoria exhibit at Dalnavert. They would sit inside the camera body and close a cloth flap to see an upside-down version of whatever was sitting in front of a special fluid-filled lens made especially for this exhibit.

Important Note

Please check the date on your mailing label for this issue of *Time Lines*, showing when your MHS membership expires. See the back page for information on how to renew your membership.

Christmas comes to Dalnavert

Making out your holiday gift list and checking it twice? Our lovely Dalnavert Gift shop has unique items for everyone on your list! Immerse yourself in the spirit of the season; enjoy browsing through the holiday-themed shop while seeking out that special gift, sipping on a cup of hot cider as Christmas carols drift gently through the air.

Coming Events at Dalnavert

Workshop #2: Winter Scenes in Watercolour

Saturday, 20 November, 11 am - 3 pm
Instructor: Sylvia Russell

Join us for a cozy time of painting in the attic of the beautiful Dalnavert Museum. We will be painting peaceful winter scenes in watercolour, making a perfect start for your Christmas card ideas. To register, contact Dalnavert staff at: bookings@mhs.mb.ca or 204-943-2835. Enrollment is \$45, including all supplies. Beginner to intermediate levels welcome. Book soon! Only 15 spots are available.

Heritage Needle Arts Sale

Hosted by the Winnipeg Embroiderers' Guild,
Saturday, 20 November, 10 am – 3 pm

Christmas at Dalnavert

We are decking the halls at Dalnavert! Visit our fine Victorian home to learn about Christmas traditions, the history of the Macdonald family, and the early years of Winnipeg, brought to life by our museum interpreters. Hours of operation from 20 November to 31 December: Wednesday to Friday 11 am – 4 pm, Saturday 11 am – 6 pm, Sunday 12 pm – 4 pm. Admission: \$5 (adults), \$4 (seniors), \$3 (students), \$12 (family).

Local actors bring Scrooge and Tiny Tim to life in our annual readings of Dickens' classic holiday tale *A Christmas Carol*. This year, we will be offering five unique treatments of the reading, as told by five different performers. Line-up of performers will be

announced mid-November. Please check the MHS web site (www.mhs.mb.ca) for details. Performances will be 14–23 December, with doors opening at 6:30 pm and performance at 7:30 pm. For tickets, contact Dalnavert staff at bookings@mhs.mb.ca or 204-943-2835. Tickets are \$20 (adults), \$10 (17 and under).

Join us for post-Christmas family programming where visitors can explore our Victorian home and learn about the toys and games children enjoyed in 1895. Visitors will be able to participate in some good old-fashioned fun through crafts, storytelling and parlour games. Hours from 29–31 December: 11 am – 4 pm, admission: \$5 (adults), \$4 (seniors), \$3 (students), \$12 (family).

Heritage News

Manitoba's history came alive in August at **St. Norbert Provincial Heritage Park**. The park's annual Ghost Hike commemorated the events that led up to Manitoba's entering Confederation in 1870. The park staff and more than 45 volunteers participated in this year's ghost hike for about 200 visitors. As the visitors walked on the dark paths of the park they encountered volunteer actors who were the ghosts of Louis Riel and other historical figures. The St. Norbert Park Ghost Hike has grown since it began ten years ago as a way to involve people in the history of St. Norbert.

On Thursday, Premier Greg Selinger and representatives of several First Nations blessed the ground where the \$2.5-million **Waabanong Anishinaabe Interpretive Centre** will be built at Hollow Water First Nation, about 190 km north of Winnipeg. It will be the front door to the huge wilderness area on the east side of Lake Winnipeg and a place where anyone can learn how aboriginal people lived before Europeans arrived. The province will pay for the entire \$2.5-million capital cost of the project with construction scheduled to begin next spring. Tenders to be issued this fall will include provisions to ensure area residents get jobs related to the site's development.

Historical Tour

On Saturday, 27 November at 10:00 AM, the MHS will host a free, guided tour of the Manitoba Legislative Building. Please call Carl James (204-631-5971) to confirm attendance.

Newsletter Mailings

Members are reminded that *Time Lines* is available on our website www.mhs.mb.ca/info/pubs/timelines. Members have the option of opting out of receiving the mailed copy of our newsletter or reading the newsletter on line.

If members wish to place their name on our "Do Not Mail Newsletter" list, please contact us by calling 204-947-0559 or emailing us at info@mhs.mb.ca

Please note that this does not include our journal *Manitoba History*, which is only available by regular mail.

7. St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church 1904
8. Gimli Icelandic Pioneer Cemetery 1875
9. Arnes Lutheran Church 1911-1919
10. H. P. Tergesen House 1911
11. A.B Olson House 1910
12. Spruce Lodge Cottage 1913/1914
13. Erindale Cottage 1918
14. Goodman Cottage 1918
15. Maryville Cottage c. 1925
16. Wartars Cottage 1912
17. Devon Lodge Cottage 1922
18. Thorson Cottage 1918
19. Campbell/Wigg Cottage 1915
20. Thorson/Kristjansson Cottage 1914
21. Maddin Cottage 1910
22. Berlo Village 1903
23. Arnes Harbour Fish Plant 1949
24. Camp Morton 1920
25. Gimli Lighthouse 1910

Plans are now underway to restore the **Barber House** in Winnipeg's North Point Douglas. The *Winnipeg Free Press* reports that over \$270,000 in Heritage Canada funds will be available for restoration of the house. A community group, Sisters Initiating Steps Towards a Renewed Society (SISTARS) who became owners of the house and property last summer must match the Heritage Canada grant, but the group has "promises of funding from other sources." The fire destroyed the roof and second floor, which were going to be replaced anyway. The house will have its original form on the outside and the traditional Red River construction will be visible on the inside. Bridgeman Collaborative Architecture has designed the \$1.3 million daycare that is being built on the same property. A glassed in "playtrium" will connect a seniors' drop-in centre and the daycare.

The **Gimli** Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee has selected 25 heritage sites that will be marked by plaques. The sites include previously recognized centennial sites as well as other churches, retail buildings, cottages and homes that "boast architectural characteristics of note." It is hoped that recognition of heritage buildings will awaken an interest in Gimli history. The plaque sites listed in the *Interlake Spectator* are:

1. Former Gimli Public School 1915
2. Gimli Dance Pavilion 1911
3. Gimli Unitarian Church 1904/05
4. H. P. Tergesen & Sons General Store 1898
5. Jonasson House 1911
6. St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church 1906

The Stonewall Argus and Teulon Times reports that construction of the Quarry Park Heritage Centre in **Stonewall** is back on schedule and is expected to be completed by March 2011. In the months of April and May crews will be installing museum exhibits, furniture, lights, sound and production equipment. The grand opening is targeted for July 2011. The building will house a museum, multipurpose room, administrative offices, an arts performance auditorium with a large stage and 250 theatre style seats, classrooms and an open foyer suited for gatherings and art displays.

A show in Portage La Prairie at the Portage and District Arts Centre in September and October, **War Brides: One Way Passage**, focused on the stories of war brides who settled in Canada with their husbands more than 60 years ago. About 43,500 women from Britain and western Europe married Canadian men who were on active service overseas and settled in Canada between 1942 and 1948. The *Central Plains Herald-Leader* reports on interviewing two war brides, Lillian Bird of Portage La Prairie and Peggy Carter of Winnipeg who attended the opening of the show on 12 September. Mrs. Bird was the founder of the Manitoba War Brides Association in 1948, which has since disbanded because of dwindling membership. Mrs. Carter recalled the shock and the hardships of her first winter on a farm four miles east of Hartney in 1946.

Hillcrest Museum in **Souris**, now closed for the season, reports on new acquisitions, including a scrap book collection covering nearly sixty years of local history created by Alva Bernaski, a Governor

General Medal Presented to Hazel (Barlow) Webster in 1944 and CPR memorabilia celebrating the 125th anniversary of the driving of the last spike.

The Carberry News-Express reports that the English-made Marshall and Sons 1914 Model F “four cylinder Colonial” tractor has been fully restored and rolled into the Heritage Building of the **Manitoba Agricultural Museum** where it will be displayed. Only five of these tractors are known to exist in the world today.

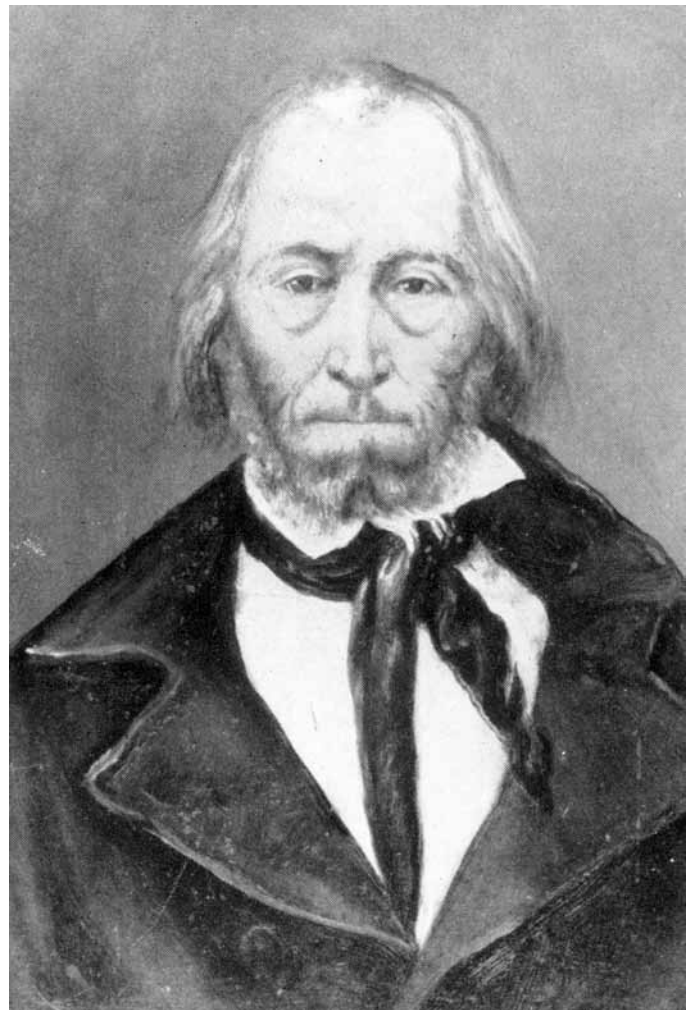
According to Flin Flon’s *Reminder*, another **Flin Flon** landmark is slated for demolition. The historic North Main head frame was built over the North Main shaft that opened in 1929. This familiar red structure standing several storeys high will disappear from Flin Flon’s skyline this year. The plan is to implode the head frame, the same method used to destroy the South Main head frame last year. The smoke stack is no longer operating since the copper smelter closed on 11 June of this year. Following the closure of the smelter Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting has donated a copper ladle, a slag car and a slag pot to the Flin Flon Station Museum. They will be displayed outside near the museum entrance.

Celebrating Heritage Excellence – A Festive Time at 529 Wellington. Please join **Heritage Winnipeg** for a memorable afternoon of fabulous cuisine, a private house tour and door prizes on Sunday, 5 December at 529 Wellington Crescent, 1 – 3 pm. Tickets are \$75. Contact Heritage Winnipeg at 204-942-2663 or email info@heritagewinnipeg.com to reserve your ticket. Cash bar. Business casual attire. \$35 charitable tax receipt available upon request.

A map exhibit at the **Archives of Manitoba** launched in October provides a glimpse into the remarkable collections of the Archives of Manitoba. Featured are maps from both the Hudson’s Bay Company Archives and the Manitoba Archives. The exhibit has reproductions of ten historic maps created in the last two centuries including: a map by Peter Fidler, Hudson’s Bay Company surveyor and cartographer from 1795 to 1812, who based many of his maps on sketches and descriptions from Aboriginal guides; a map that shows the shift in provincial boundaries from the 1870s to 1912; a map by surveyor William Kempt, who was hired by the Hudson’s Bay Company in 1824 to map an improved water route from York Factory to the Red River Settlement; and a map created by George Taylor, Jr., a Hudson’s Bay Company surveyor, whose maps defined land

boundaries that still form the basis for Winnipeg’s legal land descriptions. The Archives of Manitoba are located in downtown Winnipeg at 200 Vaughan Street.

Ox Bow Lake in the Rural Municipality of **St. Francois Xavier** may soon have its name changed to Falcon’s Bow. Councillors there voted unanimously on the name change following a recommendation from the St. Francois Xavier Historical Society. The new name is intended to honour acclaimed Métis poet, composer and musician Pierre Falcon. The word “bow” in the proposed name reflects on a fiddle bow as well as on the shape of the lake. His wrote mocking ballads about local events. The best known, *Chanson de la Grenouillère*, is a narrative of the massacre at Seven Oaks, written from the Métis viewpoint, which took place 19 June, 1816. During his life, (1793–1876), Falcon was employed by the North West Company (1808–1821) and the Hudson’s Bay Company (1821–1825). He was married to the sister



Archives of Manitoba, Personalities - Falcon, Pierre N16983.

Pierre Falcon (1793-1876)

Volunteers Wanted

The Society is seeking a number of volunteers to provide support and assistance for museum and general operations with a variety of tasks including providing guided tours, assisting with programming, special events, venue rentals, gift shop operations, and reception and clerical assistance. Please call 204-943-2835 or 204-947-0559 or email info@mhs.mb.ca or dalnavert@mhs.mb.ca

of Cuthbert Grant. In 1825, he retired to farm in St. Francois Xavier and was a prominent citizen of the community. The provincial government must still approve the municipal council's recommendation on the name change for Ox Bow Lake.

A sod-turning ceremony officially started the construction of the **Upper Fort Garry Heritage Provincial Park and Interpretive Centre** on 24 September. The interpretive centre will include a heritage wall, a multi-purpose theatre, exhibit space and a digital library. Construction is expected to be completed by 2014. More than \$10 million has been raised for the project so far. It is expected that another \$10 million will be raised by the completion date.

Canada Post announced it is considering relocating the St. Boniface Post Office. *The Lance* reports that the historical status of the 104-year-old **St. Boniface Post Office** building at 208 Provencher Blvd is in limbo because the city's heritage bylaws do not apply to buildings owned by higher levels of government, while the federal building designation process does not cover Crown corporations like Canada Post. Heritage St. Boniface president David Dandeneau said he believes a mobilized community can ensure building remains accessible to the public if it is sold, despite the municipal and federal governments' current inability to recognize the building's heritage status through designation. "To me, the highest and best use of that building is to continue being a post office," Dandeneau said. Giles Bugailiskis, a senior heritage planner with the city of Winnipeg, said the post office is on the city's historical inventory—meaning any attempt to demolish it would prompt a hearing. However, without being on the city's separate conservation list—which comes with a higher level of protection—the owners could in theory, renovate the building without regards to its

historical character. Nevertheless, Bugailiskis said the city's hands are tied when it comes to designating a building owned by a higher level of government.

Portage La Prairie Heritage Inc. has received two cabooses that were donated by the Canadian Pacific Railway to display at the Canadian Pacific Railway Station heritage site. Heritage Inc. is renovating the old station, which will become a museum.

The *Westman Journal* reports that the Daly House Museum in Brandon is relocating a handmade wooden table that originated at the Criddle/Vane homestead. The table had been in storage at the Daly House for many years due to space limitations. Now the table will be on display at the Sipiweske Museum in Wawanesa, close to its original home. The Criddle and Vane families homesteaded in the Aweme district south of Shilo in 1882. The oldest son, Norman Criddle, became a well-known artist and botanist. The family left meticulous records of plants, insects and weather data. Their home, known as St. Albans, was a centre of social and social events in the community.

Groundwork for the first phase of the new **Duff Roblin Provincial Park** project in St. Norbert is now underway. The initial phase will include a park centre building and an observation tower, which will overlook the inlet control structure on the Red



William Fraser

The future of the St. Boniface post office at 208 Provencher Boulevard is indefinite.

River Floodway. The new park replaces the previous Duff Roblin Provincial Park that was established in East St. Paul and closed in 2008. A 15-metre-high observation deck will offer a spectacular view of the floodway. In addition, it will house a selection of interpretive displays that will focus on the floodway, flood protection and Roblin himself. The park will be a showcase of Roblin's visionary projects: flood protection for the Red River Valley, the provincial park system, hydroelectric development and the courageous leadership that was needed to carry these projects forward. Interior and exterior areas of the park centre will feature interpretive displays and interactive exhibits. A video and presentation wall will run films and photos on the key themes. Touch screen computers will provide interactive information and a gate wall interactive exhibit will demonstrate how the floodway gates operate. During the winter months, the centre's lobby will remain open for people to come inside and warm up during activities such as tobogganing. The provincial government recently held a public information session at St. Norbert Farmers' Market to display the latest development blueprints of what will ultimately be a four-season recreation destination.

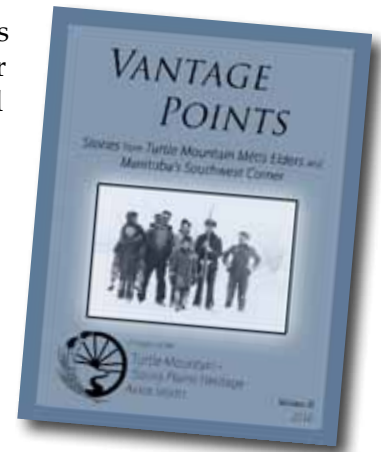
Military historians and people in the community are hopeful that a request made almost a year ago will lead to the designation of **Camp Hughes** as a national historic site. Remnants of the extensive trench systems used for First World War training are visible on the site, including front-line, support fire and communication trenches, dugouts and fire bays and also a grenade pit and rifle range. Trenches that were originally two metres deep are partially filled with soil and debris. The main camp had six movie theatres, retail stores a hospital, heated swimming pool and other buildings. Because it was a summer camp the troops slept in white bell tents. The buildings were taken down or moved in the 1930s as part of a depression unemployment relief project.

We commemorate 125th anniversary of the death of Louis Riel on 16 November and his burial in St. Boniface Cathedral Cemetery on 12 December.

New Local History Booklet

The Turtle Mountain-Souris Plains Heritage Association (TM-SPHA) has just published the second volume in its planned series of booklets on the history of southwestern Manitoba. *Vantage Points II* is a collection of articles focusing on the Metigoshe/

Turtle Mountain Métis community. Last year the Association recorded interviews with 21 elders from the Métis community. These interviews have been consolidated into articles that illustrate life as it was lived in the Turtle Mountain bush over 50 years ago.



Historical stories from around Melita and Pierson are also featured in *Vantage Points II*, as these regions joined the TM-SPHA after the first *Vantage Points* was published.

Copies of *Vantage Points II* may be purchased for \$10 each (plus \$3 postage) by contacting David Neufeld, Chair of the Association, at 204-534-2303 or roomtogrow@xplornet.com. Arrangements are also being made to sell copies at McNally-Robinson Booksellers in Winnipeg.

The Association is supported by the Rural Municipalities of Arthur, Brenda, Cameron, Edward, Morton, and Winchester, the Towns of Boissevain, Deloraine, Hartney, Melita, and Waskada, and the Turtle Mountain Métis Local. Get more information about the Association at their web site: www.vantagepoints.ca.

Canada's History 2010 Lecture Series

These lectures, sponsored by Canada's National History Society, will be held at Eckhardt-Gramatte Hall, University of Winnipeg, 515 Portage Avenue. Admission for each lecture is \$15 or \$10 for students.

Monday, 22 November, 7:00 pm

Peter Furtado

Former editor of *History Today* and world historian Peter Furtado offers a comparative look at the interrelationship between histories and national identities.

Thursday, 2 December, 7:00 pm

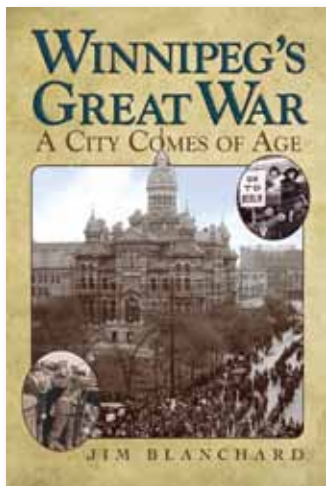
Tim Cook

Award-winning author and military historian Tim Cook presents *The Madman and the Butcher*, the story of Sam Hughes, Arthur Currie, and Canada's role in the First World War.

Winnipeg's Great War: A City Comes of Age

by Jim Blanchard

The University of Manitoba Press, September 2010,
ISBN 978-0-88755-721-7, \$24.95 (paper)



From the local best-selling author of *Winnipeg 1912* comes the riveting next chapter in the city's history. *Winnipeg's Great War* picks up in 1914, just as the city is regrouping after a brief economic downturn.

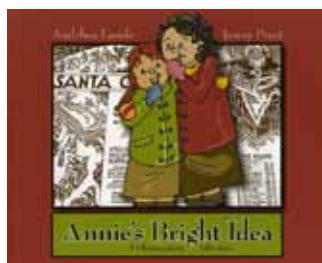
War comes unexpectedly, thoughts of recovery are abandoned and the city digs in for a hard-fought four years. Using letters, diaries, and newspaper

reports, Jim Blanchard brings us into the homes and public offices of Winnipeg and its citizens to illustrate the profound effect the war had on every aspect of the city, from its politics and economy, to its men on the battlefield, and its war-weary families fighting on the home front. We witness the emergence of the city's social welfare services through the work of women's volunteer organizations; the political scandals that led to the fall of the Rodmond Roblin government; and the clash between independent jitneys and the city's private transit company. Moreover, we hear the conflicted emotions that echoed in the city's streets, from anti-foreign sentiment and labour unrest, to patriotic parades, and a spontaneous Victory Day celebration that refused to end.

Through these stories, Blanchard reveals how these crucial years set the stage for the decades ahead, and how the First World War transformed Winnipeg into the city, it is today.

Annie's Bright Idea

by Audrhea Lande and Jenny Prest
Your Nickel's Worth Publishing, October 2010,
ISBN 978-1-894431-54-5, \$14.95 (paper)



The true story of a Christmastime adventure. Nine-year-old Annie and her little sister Olly set out on the morning of 18 November 1933 to find Santa Claus. Making their way through unknown parts

of the city to the Eaton's department store, Annie and Ollie discover Santa in unexpected places

One Saturday morning in November 1933 – the worst year of the Great Depression- Olly and Annie set out on a childhood adventure. Years later at Christmastime Olly would tell her own children the story of the long ago journey so often they came to know it by heart.

This appealing children's book is steeped in Winnipeg history with its authentic newspaper clippings and archive photos. It is available at Dalnavert Gift Shop, McNally Robinson, Chapters and Toad Hall Toys.

Centennial Farms

Dauphin: John Spillet, SW 32-23-19 WPM 1907

Hamiota: Ryan & Janice Norrie, SE 5-15-23 WPM 1908

Regent: Barry & Beverley More, W 34-4-22 WPM 1910

Teulon: Art & Alice Peterson, NW 3-17-1 EPM 1910

Vidir: Irene Chyzy, SE 34-23-1 EPM 1910

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 or phone. Payments can also be made in person at the reception

counter at the Dalnavert Visitors' Centre during regular operating hours, Wednesday to Sunday. 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.

MHS Book Club Schedule, 2010–2011

Unless noted, meetings are on Mondays 7–9 pm at Dalnavert Visitors’ Centre. Please confirm attendance with Judy at 204-475-6666. WPL = Winnipeg Public Library

10 January 2011

John Boyko, *Bennett: A Remarkable Life* (2010, WPL), led by Jim Alward

14 February 2011

Donna G. Sutherland, *Nahoway: A Distant Voice* (2009) (WPL 3 copies), guest Donna Sutherland, led by Shirlee Anne Smith

14 March 2011

Icelandic heritage; George J. Houser, *Pioneer Icelandic Pastor: The Life of the Reverend Paul Thorlaksson* (1990 WPL 1 copy; others available at the January/February meeting for a \$10 donation to the Young Historians funds) led by Joe Upton

11 April 2011

Charlotte Gray, *Flint & Feather: The Life and Times of E. Pauline Johnson, Tekahionwake* (2002, WPL 5 copies) led by Céline Kear

9 May 2011, 6 pm

Potluck dinner at Dalnavert, choose books for next year

Historic Sites of Manitoba Update
by Gordon Goldsborough

Earlier this year, the MHS undertook a project to map the locations of historic sites around the province, with support from the provincial government’s Heritage Grants Program. Over the course of summer, I put nearly 7,000 kilometers on my car—most of them off pavement—while travelling throughout southern Manitoba. I saw a lot of beautiful countryside and many interesting places. I became adept at finding obscure historic sites with a combination of my GPS receiver, a back-roads atlas, and municipal maps marked with section-township-range coordinates.

I am now putting these new sites onto an interactive map on the MHS web site, a process that will take much of the winter, for in addition to providing the latitude/longitude and a photograph of each site (selected from nearly 3,000 photos that I took during my travels), I am using local history books to provide additional information about each site.

Most of the new ones are denoted with a “New Site Coming” label. By the time I have updated them all, there will be over 1,700 sites on the map. And large areas of the province will remain under-represented, so I anticipate continuing the project next summer, focusing on southeastern and western Manitoba.

A large proportion of the historic sites I visited this summer related to one-room schoolhouses. Either they were sites where schools had once been located, but were now marked only by some kind of cairn, or the school buildings were still there but had been converted to some new purpose or, more heart-breakingly, had been abandoned.

An example of the latter group was Matchettville School, whose building I found along a gravel road north of Treherne. Using the excellent directory of Manitoba school districts compiled by MHS member Mary Perfect, I learned that Matchettville School District No. 1342 had been formally established in May 1905. The next year, a school building was constructed of concrete blocks made locally using a machine brought from Ontario. The school closed in 1951 due to declining enrollment. The building was sold to a local farmer for use as a granary. Unfortunately, time has not been kind to the old school. The blocks on its south side have collapsed, exposing the boards of the interior walls. If the building does not collapse on its own, I suspect the owner will demolish it. Too bad, as it is a cute little school with an interesting past.

See the MHS web site for many more examples.



G. Goldsborough

This concrete-block schoolhouse at Matchettville, built in 1906, is one of approximately 1,700 historic sites featured on the MHS web site. See them at www.mhs.mb.ca/docs/sites

The
Manitoba Historical Society est 1879

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* See our web site (www.mhs.mb.ca) for annual membership rates in the USA and other countries

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Calendar of Events

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

- 20 November Christmas at Dalnavert begins
- 20 November Winter Scenes in Watercolour workshop in Dalnavert attic
- 20 November Heritage Needle Arts Sale (Winnipeg Embroiderers' Guild) at Dalnavert
- 27 November MHS Tour of the Manitoba Legislative Building
- 13-23 December Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*

- 15 December Deadline for nominating books published in 2010 for Margaret McWilliams Award
- 29-31 December Toys and Games at Dalnavert Museum
- 10 January 2011 MHS Book Club: John Boyko, *Bennett: A Remarkable Life*
- 12 February MHS Sir John A. Macdonald Dinner at the Fort Garry Hotel, guest speaker Ken McGoogan

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Manitoba Historical Society, est 1879

www.mhs.mb.ca

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