

**Spring Field Trip**  
**Saturday, 15 June**  
 Details inside

# Time Lines

The Manitoba Historical Society Newsletter

Vol. 45 No. 1  
 February – May 2013



W. Fraser

The Philippine Canadian Centre of Manitoba, site of the 2013 MHS Multicultural Dinner.

## MHS Annual Multicultural Dinner Tuesday, 30 April 2013

This year, the MHS Multicultural Dinner will feature Manitoba's Filipino community. The event will be held at the Philippine Canadian Centre of Manitoba at 737 Keewatin Street near the intersection of Keewatin and Burrows. Parking is available at the back of the Centre, which is wheelchair accessible.

Doors open at 7:00 pm and dinner will be served at 7:30 sharp. During and after dinner, there will be performances by members of the community. The guest speaker will be singer, songwriter and migrant activist Levy Abad. His title of his presentation will be "Understanding Filipinos in Manitoba."

Enjoy authentic Filipino dishes including Pancit (rice noodles with chicken), Adobo (slow-cooked meat), Chop Suey (vegetables), Sinigang Soup, Turon (banana fritter), Lumpia (egg rolls), and desserts such as Maja Blanca (coconut cake), Buko Pandan (coconut pandan salad), and Leche Flan (crème caramel).

Cost per person is \$20.00 for MHS members and \$22.00 for non-members.

Make your reservation by calling the Manitoba Historical Society at 204-947-0559 between 1 April and 26 April. Payment must be made at the time of booking by Visa or Mastercard. The office is open Wednesday to Friday 11:00 to 3:30. Leave a message if there is no answer, and your call will be returned. Tickets will NOT be available at the door.

For more information about the dinner, please call Carl James at 204-631-5971.

## President's Message

Happy New Year everyone! It is hard to believe that we have turned the corner on another year. The days are getting longer and despite January's bitter weather, we can begin to look forward to the arrival of spring.

I mentioned in my previous message many of the activities that were planned for the fall, *Phantasmagoria* in October and of the course the Dickens Readings in December. These occurred as planned but the fall calendar was also filled with other meetings and events. I have noted some of them below.



MHS President  
 Dr. Annabelle Mays

On 8 November the joint issue of *Manitoba History* between the MHS and the Winnipeg Press Club was launched at a reception in the Dalnavert Visitors' Centre. All involved were very pleased with the publication and a special thanks goes to all from both organizations who worked so diligently to see this project through to the end. Hopefully, there will

be more joint publications and activities in the future with other organizations.

I attended the November meeting of the Women's Canadian club of Winnipeg where Jennifer Bisch was the featured speaker on the topic of Dalnavert and its activities. Her talk was very well received and it generated considerable interest on the part of the attendees in our museum and the Visitor Centre. It was a great opportunity for the members of that group to become familiar with Dalnavert and the possibilities presented by the museum and the Visitor Centre as facilities available for use by other groups and individuals.

Jacqueline Friesen and I had a productive meeting with MHS Past President Greg Thomas who was recently appointed the Manitoba Governor of the Heritage Canada Foundation. He is seeking closer ties between the Foundation and the Manitoba Historical Society. We discussed a number of possibilities and agreed to meet again in January. Susan Algie Director of the Winnipeg Architecture Foundation was also present at the meeting and we discussed possible joint ventures with that organization as well.

The November Council meeting resulted in some changes. The Council approved a motion "that the Manitoba Historical Society immediately begins broadening the scope of the activities of Dalnavert, the Visitors' Centre, *Time Lines*, *Manitoba History*, and our website and social media activities to be more inclusive of events that speak to the experience of Aboriginals and recent immigrants in this province." It is hoped that activities encouraged by this motion will help to broaden the appeal of the MHS to a wider range of people.

At this same meeting, the Council also approved admission fee increases to Dalnavert. These increases will take effect simultaneously with the introduction of the new audio tours. Our new fee structure also supports the Lieutenant Governor's Cultural Access Pass given to new immigrants that gives them *gratis* admission to selected cultural resources around Manitoba. Further, a proposal to change the hours of operation of Dalnavert was also approved by Council. There will be greater emphasis on the museum being open for specific programs and rentals rather than routine hours for walk-ins, especially on Sundays, which draw few visitors.

At the December meeting the executive passed a motion to regularize the publication dates for the minimum three issues of *Manitoba History* that are produced annually. The dates have been regularized to coincide with the fiscal year and members can expect journals in June, October and February. Editions of *Time Lines* will be included with each journal.

Finally, in order to celebrate the approaching end of winter and the anticipated arrival of spring, a reception is planned for 7 March from 6–8 pm in the Visitors' Centre. This reception is a "come and go" event for all members and I encourage everyone, those who have been members for years along with those who have recently joined, to come out and enjoy the company of others who share a love of and appreciation for Manitoba history. For those who have newly joined the society this will also be an opportunity to find out more about the society and to discover what volunteer opportunities are available for those who wish to be more involved in our activities.

All the best for the 2013.

Annabelle Mays

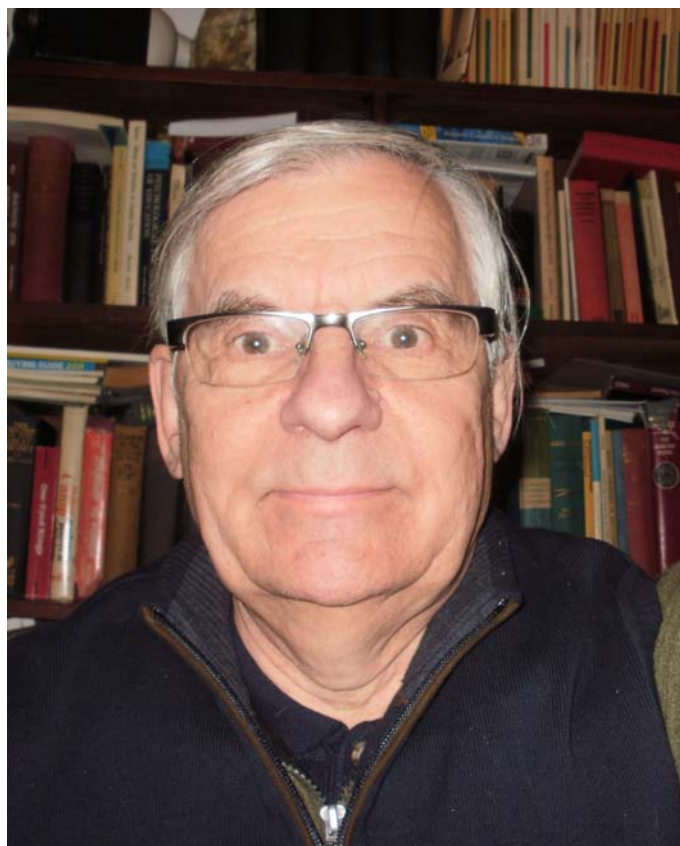
### **Upcoming Books on Metis Involvement in the War of 1812**

A community group will develop and publish three books—two for children, one for adults—that illustrate the role of the Metis during the War of 1812.

The Red River Metis 1812 Ad Hoc Committee, formed last year, will publish an adults' book on Metis soldiers, and two books for students in grades 5 and 6 that highlight the Corps of Canadian Voyageurs and the work of Elizabeth Bertrand Mitchell, known as the Metis Laura Secord. The books will be distributed free of charge to schools in western Canada this spring.

The Metis people's contributions during the war that defeated the American invasion have been largely unpublicized.

Canadian Heritage has provided \$49,392 for the project through the 1812 Commemoration Fund. The books will also be available at events marking the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the war.



W. Fraser

Former MHS President Bill Fraser will step down as *Time Lines* editor as of this issue.

### **Resignation of *Time Lines* Editor by Annabelle Mays**

It was with regret that I received Bill Fraser's resignation from the position of editor of *Time Lines*. The resignation was not unexpected since Bill had discussed previously his desire to resign with the chair of the publications committee and myself. Always professional about his responsibility as editor he was concerned that the newsletter be in good hands before he took this step. His concern was dealt with when one of our new Council members, Eva Janssen, agreed to take over as editor.

There are many of you in the society who will know that Bill has been the editor of our newsletter since 1994, nineteen years. Up until recently, the newsletter was produced at least six times a year and each edition represented hours of work researching material, particularly news of rural areas, as well as gathering up the news about the society to keep our members current about our activities. He was also very visible at society events, taking pictures for inclusion in the newsletter.

I am pleased to note, however, that Bill is not leaving *Times Lines* entirely. He has agreed to continue his association with the newsletter as Eva's assistant. He will also continue as a member of the publications committee. In this way, his many years of experience will still be available for the society to draw upon.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Bill for his very significant and sustained contribution to the Manitoba Historical Society as editor of *Time Lines*. I am very pleased that he will continue to be associated with the newsletter in a new capacity. The society has been truly fortunate to have such a dedicated volunteer as Bill within our midst.

Thank you, Bill!

### **Welcome New Members**

Linda Burke  
Bill and Melissa Fleury  
Phyllis Fraser  
Jackie Lowe  
John Byer Meyer  
John Tennant

### **Donations & Contributions**

#### **Thank You!**

#### **General Operations**

Dennis Berard  
Estate of Alma E. Carnochan  
James Cox  
Friesens Corporation  
Gordon Goldsborough  
Robert Bowes Jackson  
Gwyneth Jones  
Celine Kear  
Carol Latter  
David & Linda McDowell  
Laird Rankin  
Ray and Thelma Rollins  
Robert & Evelyn Sutton  
Wawanesa

#### **Dalnavert General Operations**

David and Linda McDowell

#### **Dalnavert Garden**

William Plantje, Bill's Green House

#### **Halloween Program**

Norman Bonnett  
Eilenn Verbrugge



## Dalnavert Museum Report by Jennifer Bisch

Dalnavert enjoyed a busy Christmas season with six performances of *A Christmas Carol* by Ron Robinson and Celeste Sansregret, two children's performances of *Cricket on the Hearth* with Ian Mozdzen, a presentation from Dr. Arlene Young on Christmas ghost stories from the Victorian period, entitled *Ghosts of Christmas Past*, and a DIY Christmas ornament station in Dalnavert's attic on Saturdays to entice family visitors. We were happy to have Rachel Lagace from CTV on site for the breakfast show on 18 December to promote our Christmas activities.

I am seeking knitters to join us at Dalnavert in February and March, who are interested in participating in the Trans-Atlantic Bicentenary Project. This project is a commemoration of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Highland Clearances, which contributed to the settlement of present-day Winnipeg by Scottish settlers. Knitters must sign up independently by sending a postcard to the organizers (for contact information and more information, visit their website at [www.timespan.org.uk/sock-sampler](http://www.timespan.org.uk/sock-sampler)). Participants who have received their knitting packages in the mail may join us at Dalnavert on Saturdays from 1 to 3 pm to knit as a group in our parlour.

We will soon be heading into a busy field trip season at Dalnavert. Any educators wishing to reserve a field trip are encouraged to do so as soon as possible! For more information about our curriculum-linked programs, please visit the MHS website.

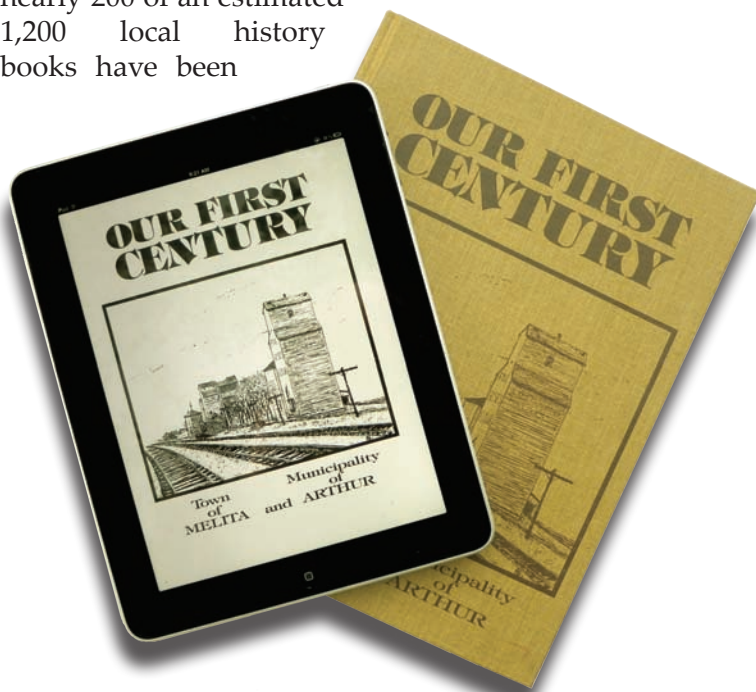
On 8 March, Dalnavert, in partnership with the Manitoba Crafts Museum and Library, will host a Pink Tea from 5 to 7 pm in recognition of International Women's Day. During the Canadian suffrage movements of the early 1900s, women fighting for the vote were discouraged and prevented from rallying together for political action whenever possible. As a result, Pink Teas were organized as a pretty ruse that concealed important political gatherings behind the frivolous appearance of pink doilies and frills. To celebrate the lives and achievements of women, drop in at the Dalnavert Museum for a social evening of cupcakes, camaraderie, and of course, pink tea. We will also feature two craft demonstrations that give us a glimpse at the lives of turn-of-the-century Winnipeg women from opposite ends of the social spectrum: mending with Claire Sparling and embroidering monograms with Francesca Carella Arfinengo.

We will once again host our popular Treasure Hunt program during the Spring Break holiday from 27–30 March. This is a terrific program for families to do together while learning about history at Dalnavert! This program is suitable for ages 4 and up. Cost: \$5/person (all ages). No registration required.

Please note that Dalnavert's hours of operation have changed. We will be open Wednesday-Saturday from 12 to 4 pm until the end of June before we switch to our summer hours of 10 am to 4 pm. We will be closed Sundays to Tuesdays year-round. Anyone wishing to book a tour or program for their group inside or outside these operating hours should contact Jennifer Bisch at [dalnavert@mhs.mb.ca](mailto:dalnavert@mhs.mb.ca).

## Local History Book Digitization

On Monday, 11 February in a ceremony in the Reading Room of the Legislative Building in Winnipeg, MHS President Annabelle Mays joined representatives the Manitoba Library Consortium, Manitoba Legislative Library, University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections, and The Winnipeg Foundation in launching the first phase of a local history book digitization project. Started in 2012, the objective of the project is to scan the local history books produced by communities around Manitoba through the years into a form that can be searched easily and made available on the Internet. To date, nearly 200 of an estimated 1,200 local history books have been



A history book for the Town of Melita and RM of Arthur is in the collection now available in a digital archive as a result of an MHS-led initiative.

digitized and are now available on the Manitoba website ([www.manitoba.ca](http://www.manitoba.ca)). These books, often a labour of love for the communities, record the stories, memories and development of towns across Manitoba. The availability online through Manitoba brings them to desktops and tablets of genealogists, historians, researchers and former Manitobans anywhere, anytime. For communities whose history books are not yet included in the collection, the MHS is glad to receive donations of books for digitization, and those willing to donate them should contact Gordon Goldsborough at 204-782-8829 or [webmaster@mhs.mb.ca](mailto:webmaster@mhs.mb.ca).

### **Broader Vision for Heritage Needed by Eva Janssen**

Winnipeg and other Manitoba communities need to find a new model for celebrating local heritage, since they can no longer rely on government for financial support, says a long-time Winnipeg historian.

Greg Thomas, who represents Manitoba on the Heritage Canada Foundation, said efforts to preserve local heritage must involve the entire community and link conservation to social enterprise, as Red River College has done with the old Union Bank Tower.

The biggest challenge for heritage advocates as they honour Heritage Day on 18 February is recognizing “we need a new model or vision for how we look at heritage,” Thomas said. His comments followed recent news that the City of Winnipeg is considering cutting funding to museums. “Who’s going to be the champion for heritage in the future?” he asked. Legislation to protect heritage buildings provides a good framework but is not enough, Thomas said. “It’s about persuading councillors that heritage should be part of the decision-making.”

However, with local governments restricting funds, those leading the way will be community groups, foundations and non-profit organizations such as the Nature Conservancy of Canada, which recently purchased Fort Ellice. Such groups will have to seek out new ways of involving the general public—particularly the younger generation—in heritage education and conservation, Thomas said. He cited groups such as the Friends of Upper Fort Garry and the Forks North Portage Partnership as examples.

These new players will have to focus less on saving old buildings for history’s sake and more on



Former MHS President Greg Thomas is the newly appointed Manitoba Governor for the Heritage Canada Foundation.

adapting them to new uses in ways that revitalize the neighbourhood, Thomas said. In 2011, the Heritage Canada Foundation’s National Council, comprising heritage representatives nationwide, declared, “An old generation of heritage conservation has passed and we need to develop a brand-new strategic plan.”

At its conference last year, the Foundation suggested, “What if we moved beyond the ‘buildings’ business and got into the ‘people’ business, recognizing that the places that matter to people are more likely to be preserved?”

However, historic sites will continue to be honoured—just in different ways. The nationwide theme of this year’s Heritage Day—that the Foundation started in 1973—is Heritage Homes and Neighbourhoods. A national program to rehabilitate heritage houses is underway, along with a pilot Main Street Program designed to revitalize the historic main streets in four Saskatchewan communities.

Heritage Winnipeg presented awards on Heritage Day to individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to heritage preservation. Winners were announced at a ceremony in the Millennium Centre, 389 Main Street.





The historical video series *MHS Presents* will be broadcast on MTS Video On Demand later in 2013.

### MHS Videos on Manitoba History

Over the past six months, MHS First Vice-President James Kostuchuk and Secretary Gordon Goldsborough have been working with William Plenty, a filmmaker at Portage la Prairie, on a series of topics from Manitoba history. These films are being made for broadcast on the MTS Video On Demand service under the title “MHS Presents,” and should be shown later in 2013. The first episode deals with the 1919 Flu Pandemic, a history of early Manitoba motorcycling (featuring MHS Council member Ross Metcalfe in full leathers), a Second World War prison camp at Newton, and a beautifully-preserved one-room schoolhouse near Edrans. After the films have been shown on MTS, the MHS will make them more widely available, perhaps on the MHS website or on YouTube. Stay tuned!

### Centennial Farms

**Ashville:** Boris & Karen Michaleski, SW 30-23 20 WPM, 1897

**RM of Gilbert Plains:** Morris Rosolowski, Henry Rosolowski, Walter Rosolowsky, Gerry Rosolowski NE 13-27-23 WPM, 1908

### Corrections

**Mountain Road:** David & Christina Sawchuk, WNW 7-17-16 WPM, 1901

**Notre Dame de Lourdes:** Denis Berard, NW 34-6-9 WPM, 1912

**Steinbach:** Olga (Kachur) & William Bezditny NE14-5-6 EPM, 1901

### 125 and More Years Award: Correction

**Portage la Prairie:** Clarke & Noreen Monro, Jared Monro & Trevor Monro SW 31-11-7 WPM, 1872

## MHS Spring Field Trip Saturday, 15 June 2013

Early schools and the development of education in Manitoba are the central themes of this day-long field trip. The trip will depart from the north-west area of Grant Park Shopping Centre the parking lot at 8.00 am on Saturday, 15 June 2013. Guided by former MHS Presidents John Lehr and Gordon Goldsborough, the trip will traverse some of Manitoba’s most scenic countryside while visiting a number of former schools and historic sites that have a connection to education. A light lunch will be served at a former school at Ninette, now converted into a residence. A visit to the now empty—and no longer open to the public—Ninette Sanatorium also has been arranged. After lunch the tour will proceed to Brandon to visit several historical sites including that of the former Indian Residential school, and the former Normal School. After dinner the tour will visit a former school near Firdale preserved as it was on the last day of classes, before the tour returns to its starting point in Winnipeg at about 8.00 pm.

Some of the themes to be developed on the tour include the difficulties of pioneer education, women teachers on the frontier, the bilingual education controversy, training bilingual teachers, and education and minority groups. The cost of the tour is \$93.00 for MHS and Creative Retirement Manitoba members, and \$103.00 for non-members. The tour fee includes travel by washroom-equipped, air-conditioned bus, lunch, dinner, and refreshment breaks, any admission fees, and all taxes and gratuities.

The MHS reserves the right to cancel the trip in the event of insufficient interest or to change the



G. Goldsborough

The former school at Ninette, opened in 1926 and closed in 2007, will be a featured stop on the MHS Spring Field Trip.

itinerary if obliged to do so by situations beyond its control. Seating on the field trip will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis, so confirm your place by registering with your full payment:

MHS Spring 2013 Field Trip  
Attn: Jacqueline Friesen  
Manitoba Historical Society  
61 Carlton Street  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 1N7  
Email: [info@mhs.mb.ca](mailto:info@mhs.mb.ca)  
Phone: 204-947-0559

More information on the field trip can be found on the MHS website:

[www.mhs.mb.ca/news/fieldtrip\\_spring2013.shtml](http://www.mhs.mb.ca/news/fieldtrip_spring2013.shtml)

### MHS Book Club Schedule, 2012–2013

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

18 February 2013

Richard J. Gwyn, *Nation Maker: Sir John A. Macdonald*  
Volume 2 1867-1891 (2011, WPL 1 electronic) L Shirlee Anne Smith,

18 March 2013

Garrett Wilson, *Frontier Farewell: The 1870's and the end of the Old West* (2007, WPL 2 copies) L Carol Scott

15 April 2013

Dale Barbour, *Winnipeg Beach: leisure and courtship in a resort town, 1900–1967* (2011, WPL 14 copies) L Joe Upton,

20 May 2013

6 pm: Pot luck and choose books for next year.



W. Fraser

At the 2013 Sir John A. Macdonald Dinner, former MHS President Gordon Goldsborough presented a Centennial Business Award to Sherraine Christopherson on behalf of the Fort Garry Hotel.

### Fort Garry Hotel a Centennial Business

In 1911, construction of a new hotel commenced beside the site of the former Upper Fort Garry, near the junction of the historic Red and Assiniboine Rivers. Built on behalf of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, the second in its planned series of hotels after the majestic Laurier Hotel in Ottawa, this new hotel in Winnipeg was to be a sumptuous “home away from home” for weary train travelers. Designed in what was known as the Château style, the 13-storey building would be distinguished by its gabled roofline, reminiscent of French renaissance palaces. Construction took nearly two years and consumed some 2.8 million bricks, 500 cords of limestone and granite, 56,000 square meters of plaster, and 3,700 cubic meters of concrete. The basement is a full three storeys, and each above-ground storey has granite walls six meters high.

When the Fort Garry Hotel opened with a grand ball in 1913, it quickly became a favourite of travelers and Winnipeggers alike. Threatened with demolition in the 1980s, its historical significance resulted in designation as a National Historic Site. In 1990, the Fort Garry became a provincially-designated historic site. The Fort Garry has had several owners through the years, the most recent of whom are partners Rick Bel and Ida Albo. Their vision has resulted in a multi-million dollar restoration that has renewed the hotel's Edwardian elegance and won for it a Conservation Award from Heritage Winnipeg.

### MHS Membership Renewal ?

Please check the mailing label on the envelope for this issue of *Time Lines*. It shows the month and year that your MHS membership expires. To renew your membership, contact our office at 204-947-0559 or [info@mhs.mb.ca](mailto:info@mhs.mb.ca). Membership fees can also be paid, quickly and securely, using the new MHS online shop:

[www.mhs.mb.ca/shop](http://www.mhs.mb.ca/shop)

## Heritage News

The *Brandon Sun* reports that the **Commonwealth Air Training Plan Museum** near Brandon plans to erect a huge elaborate memorial to honour members of the Royal Canadian Air Force who lost their lives in the Second World War. The memorial will span 91 metres shaped like the wings of an airplane. There will be a larger-than-life statue representing the fallen. A black granite wall will contain 19,000 names, etched in stone. The memorial will also pay tribute to members of the Royal Air Force, the Royal Australian Air Force and the New Zealand Air Force who died in or near Canada during the war. The memorial, which will be located on the grounds of the museum, will be a worldwide attraction. The estimated cost is about 1.25 million dollars. There is a fund raising campaign to get financial support from governments, businesses and individuals across Canada for the project. The goal is to unveil the **RCAF WWII Memorial** in August 2014, in conjunction with events marking the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of the Second World War.

The *Sou'Wester* has announced that the **Winnipeg Public Library** is launching *PastForward*, which is "an online digital resource that will store images and digital collections that will be available for public use. The website will host digital copies of postcards, historical images, directories and documents, oral histories and more." This is an easily searchable public history project that will develop as more images are contributed. The program was launched officially on 12 February at the Cornish Library at 20 West Gate with a collection of postcards provided by local collector Rob McInnis.

A trio of **Victoria Cross medals** awarded to residents of **Valour Road** will be coming to the Manitoba Museum in 2014. The Valour Road Collection honours Sgt.-Maj. Frederick William Hall, Cpl. Lionel B. (Leo) Clarke, and Lt. Robert Shankland, who all lived on the 700 block of what was then known as Pine Street. To recognize their courage, the City of Winnipeg renamed the street Valour Road in 1925. The collection is at the Canadian War Museum but will be travelling the country starting with Winnipeg next year, which coincides with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of the First World War.

A 40-foot long storage building near Emerson was constructed to store equipment used by the Boundary Trail Commission when it was surveying the Canadian-American border in 1873. **The Post**

**Road Heritage Group** had the building moved temporarily and a pad was added to raise the ground above the 1997 flood level. Later in 2012, the building was returned to its original location where it will be preserved for future generations.

The Strand Theatre project in **Brandon** is moving ahead slowly. The Strand was built in 1917 and refurbished as a movie theatre in 1930. Now the goal is to restore the building as a multi-use community performance and arts centre. About 30 groups would like to use the facility. The Brandon Folk, Music and Art Society has met its deadline to submit a revised business plan and funding proposal of \$1.8 million to the federal government for the project. Renaissance Brandon has agreed to provide \$374,000 to the project if funding applications to the federal and Manitoba governments are successful. A previous application to the federal government was turned down but the BFMAS were encouraged to reapply with a more comprehensive business and fund raising plan. The Strand project fund raising campaign is expected to begin this spring. It will be about four to six months before BFMAS gets a response for their funding request from the federal government.

*The Interlake Spectator* reports that the latest project of the volunteer Icelandic River Sites Group is the Engimyri house in **Riverton**. The group has a 99-year lease on the house, which is still owned by a descendant of the original family that settled there in 1877. The group began preservation and restoration two years ago. Roof shingles have been replaced. Siding has been repaired and painted and new windows have been installed. The house is now weather and animal proof. Unfortunately, one large wing of the house had already been removed from the house and taken to another location. Previously the house had been used as a meeting place and a stopping place where people could get meals and stay overnight. Sigtryggur Jonasson, the "Father of New Iceland" lived there with his brother's family in his later years. Much work is still needed to restore the interior of the house. The ultimate goal is to make it a functioning homestead again. It is hoped that it could be displayed with a neighbouring homestead that was once the home of Guttormor Guttormson. Possible activities at the houses could include a coffee house, house and farm tours, and an artist retreat in the upstairs rooms. Fundraising events have raised some money for restoration. Donations can be mailed to Icelandic River Heritage Sites at Box 555, Riverton.





G. Goldsborough

A group of five grain elevators in the village of Inglis is one of the last remaining examples of a once-common prairie icon. Now preserved as a national and provincial historic site, the elevators represent an important period in the development of Canada's grain industry from 1900 to 1930.

**The Brandon General Museum and Archives** is located in the former Manitoba Government Telephone Building at 19-9<sup>th</sup> Street in the Renaissance district of downtown Brandon. The two-storey building, designed by Winnipeg architects Fingland and Handford, was constructed in 1916 and a third floor was added in 1929. The museum exhibits are open to the public on the main floor. The mission of the museum and archives is to collect, conserve, study, exhibit and interpret historic and heritage materials relating to Brandon and its place within the history of Southwestern Manitoba. There is no admission charge and the regular hours are Tuesday to Saturday, 1 pm to 4 pm. For more information, phone 204-717-1514, email [bgmainfo@wcgwave.ca](mailto:bgmainfo@wcgwave.ca)

The row of five restored grain elevators at Inglis is a major attraction in western Manitoba and a National Historic Site. *On Track*, official newsletter of **Inglis Elevators National Historic Site**, reports on the fund raising efforts of the Inglis volunteer board to help raise money to hire staff and operate a summer program. In July, there were family movie nights when movies were shown on the outside west wall of one of the elevators. Tickets were sold for two musical events at the elevator during the summer. Fund raising continued in social events in the neighbouring community during the off-season. Visitors to the elevators support the operation of the national site when they purchase souvenir items: coffee mugs, hats, T- shirts, sweatshirts and hoodies

and Shellmouth-Boulton history books. Donations to the Inglis Elevator Endowment Fund are kept in perpetuity with the interest going to maintenance and operation. To make a donation to the endowment fund mail to Living Legacy Community Foundation, Box 1343, Russell, MB, R0J 1W0. Make your cheque out to "Inglis Elevators Endowment Fund." A tax-deductible receipt will be issued for donations of more than \$20.

To become a member of Inglis Elevators National Historic Site, mail to Inglis Area Heritage Committee Inc. P.O. Box 81, Inglis, MB, R0J 0X0, Canada. The basic membership fee is \$30. For more information or to make a membership using your Visa phone 204-564-2243.

**Centro Caboto Centre** on Wilkes Avenue in Winnipeg is named after the early explorer Giovanni Caboto (John Cabot) who discovered land in what is now Canada in 1497 (Newfoundland). The attractive modern centre has restaurant, banquet hall, meeting facilities and cultural displays. A monument on the grounds was initiated by the Italian Canadian League of Manitoba to honour resilient Italian Canadians who were subjected to internment and prejudice during World War II. The Canadian Parliament has formally acknowledged and apologized for these injustices. A pathway near the monument leads to a commemorative wall with names of loved ones who have died.



W. Fraser

A new monument near the Centro Caboto Centre in Winnipeg commemorates Italian Canadians who were interned and subject to prejudices during the Second World War.

## Interactive Web Site Map of Historic Sites in Manitoba

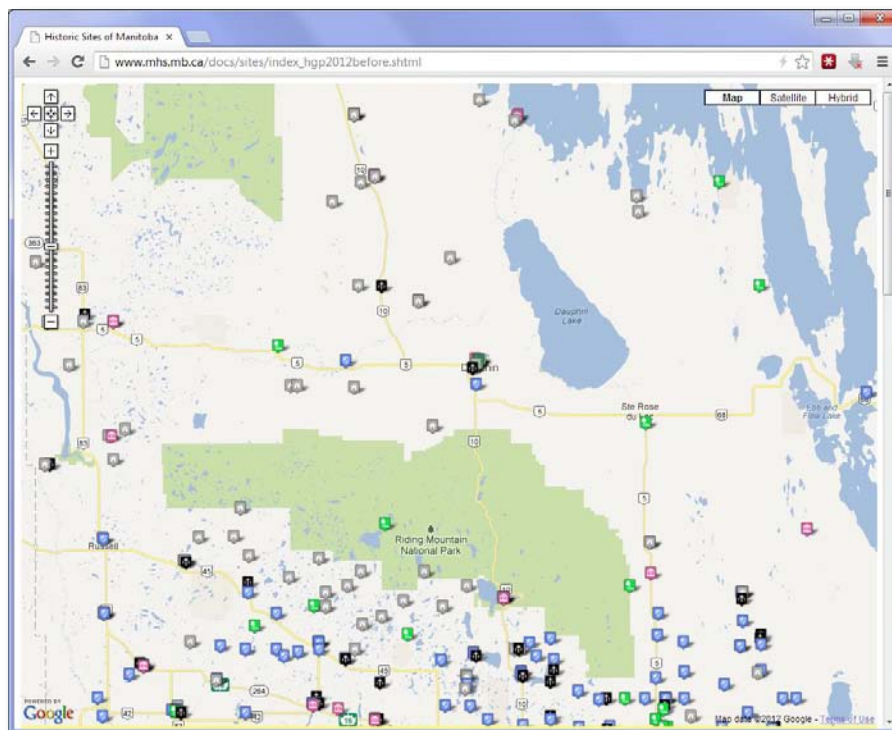
A Manitoba Heritage Grant received in 2012 allowed MHS Webmaster Gordon Goldsborough to collect information on historic sites throughout western Manitoba. Below are versions of the interactive map on the MHS website ([www.mhs.mb.ca/docs/sites](http://www.mhs.mb.ca/docs/sites)) showing the sites in this region mapped as of Phase 2

in 2011 (top) compared to those mapped after Phase 3 was completed successfully in late 2012 (bottom). Coloured symbols denote the various categories of historic sites, and each symbol links to a page of information describing that particular site, including photographs and its precise latitude and longitude.

### Phase 2 map (2011)

- Heritage Grant 2011
- 3,037 sites mapped:
 

Featured	15
Museums	119
Buildings	926
Monuments	1,247
Cemeteries	492
Locations	232
Other	6

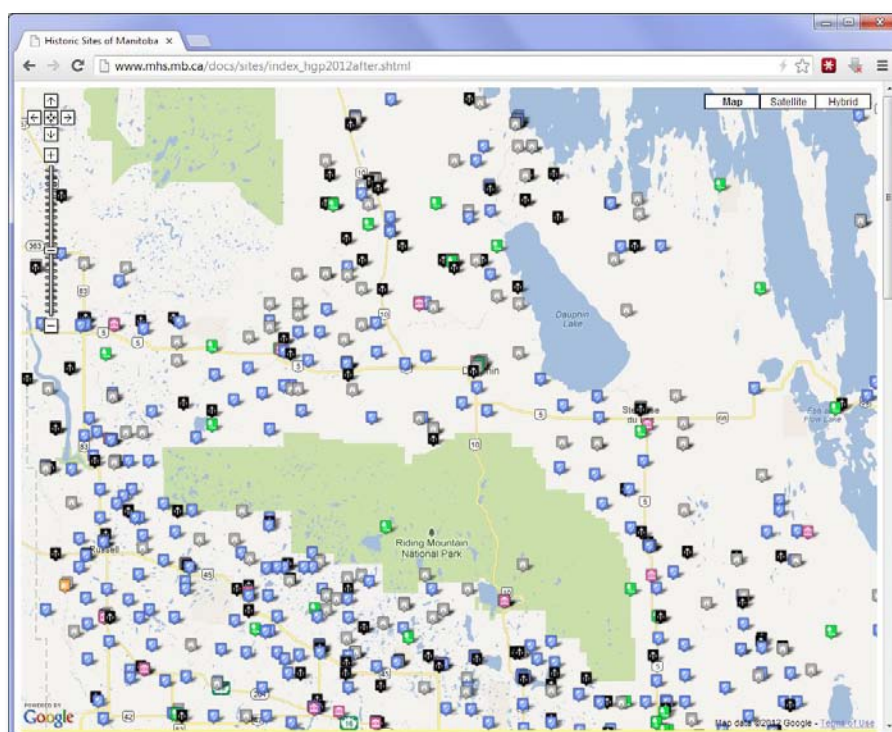


Sample of historic sites map showing western Manitoba.

### Phase 3 map (2012)

- Heritage Grant 2012
- 3,981 sites mapped:
 

Featured	15
Museums	126
Buildings	1,132
Monuments	1,598
Cemeteries	762
Locations	326
Other	22





## Fort Ellice Site Saved

The *Winnipeg Free Press* reports that the Nature Conservancy of Canada has purchased for \$1.8 million a 1,416-hectare area overlooking the Assiniboine Valley near St. Lazare from Arthur and Christine Fouillard. The land will remain as a single block that can be preserved for future generations. It includes the site of **Fort Ellice**, a Hudson's Bay Company trading post established in 1831. The fort was named after Edward Ellice, a British investor in the HBC. A new fort was built on the site in 1862. Fort Ellice sold pemmican, tools and traps to passing traders and served to protect HBC land claims from American interests. The fort served as the main transportation hub between Fort Edmonton and Fort Garry. The land remained in HBC hands until it was sold in 1925. Nothing of the fort remains today except for indentation where posts of the fort once stood and some grave sites. Attempts by the RM of Ellice to expropriate the property had failed. The NCC is interested in protecting the site's historical and cultural integrity and in conserving plants and wildlife. Much of the land will be available to leaseholders for grazing and haying. NCC has offered the RM of Ellice a 25-year lease on the fort site for \$1. It is expected that soon the RM will begin some low impact development such as a walking trail and signs indicating where buildings stood. Fort Ellice has some tourist potential for the future.

In a presentation to the Manitoba Historical Society in 1931, Reverend A. B. Baird reflected on his visit to Fort Ellice in 1881. Part of his description of the fort is printed below. The whole presentation is available on the MHS website.

The fort enclosure, which faced the north, stood back only thirty-five yards from the brow of the bank. A stockade of logs set upright took in an area which measured three hundred feet from east to west, and two hundred and seventy-five feet from north to south. As one entered the gate, the trading store and district offices was on his right. Further in, a long building divided into compartments the first of which was the carpenter's shop, and the other served as quarters for the men. Still further in were the blacksmith shop, the out-of-door bake oven and a cottage for a married member of the staff. At the back of the enclosure; facing the gate, was the Chief Factor's house, one room

of which was used as his office, and another large room served as a reception room for Indians. The big house, as it was called, was approached by a four foot plank walk from the gate.

On the left, as one entered the gate, was a warehouse, and further in a long building divided into compartments and used for storage, one compartment for harness and travel equipment, one for dried meat pemmican and spare provisions and one was used as a dairy and ice house. All these buildings were of logs, one storey or a storey and a half high, and on which in 1877, the thatch was replaced by shingles. The big house was thirty by fifty feet in area and had a kitchen extension in the rear. There were four fireplaces in the main building and one in the kitchen



G. Goldsborough

A stone cairn marks the former site of the fur trading post of Fort Ellice, now situated in the Rural Municipality of Ellice. At one time under private ownership, the site was purchased in June 2012 by the Nature Conservancy of Canada, with plans to make it freely accessible to the public.

# The Manitoba Historical Society est 1879

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## Calendar of Events

For updates and more information,  
see [www.mhs.mb.ca/news/events.shtml](http://www.mhs.mb.ca/news/events.shtml)

- 18 March** Book Club: *Frontier Farewell: The 1870s and the End of the Old West*  
**15 April** Book Club: *Winnipeg Beach: Leisure and Courtship in a Resort Town 1900–1967*  
**30 April** Multicultural Dinner  
**13 May** Book Club: potluck & book choices  
**8 June** Annual General Meeting  
**15 June** Spring Field Trip

### Important Note

The MHS Visitors' Centre is operating without a visitor services clerk for a year, due to financial cutbacks. This situation is something that all organizations such as ours have been dealing with and adjusting our operations to accommodate. We do not have a dedicated staff person to answer the phone, but we do have our devoted, friendly volunteers on hand to greet you when you visit our museum or our gift shop. Senior administrators receive many calls during the course of the day. We may not be able to respond to your call immediately, as we may be out of the office attending to MHS business. Your calls are very important to us, we return them as quickly as possible.

We thank you for continued understanding and patience. Please note that the MHS office is open to the public Wednesday to Fridays, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. We urge you to book appointments ahead of time.

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**Manitoba Historical Society**, est 1879

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