



City Hall Park

2011 recipient of the Heritage Preservation Award
For outstanding heritage conservation and historic preservation



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Red Deer has been blessed with a number of beautiful parks, the most picturesque of these, City Hall Park on Red Deer's city square. This acre and a half garden spot, with its attractive trees, well trimmed shrubs, approximately 37,000 flowers in the summer and over 40,000 light bulbs during the Christmas season provides not only an outstanding scene, but also a peaceful refuge from the bustle of downtown.

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City Hall Park

Red Deer has been blessed with a number of beautiful parks, the most picturesque of these, is City Hall Park on Red Deer's city square. This acre and a half garden spot, with its attractive trees, well-trimmed shrubs, approximately 37,000 flowers in the summer and over 40,000 lights during the Christmas season provides not only an outstanding scene, but also a peaceful refuge from the bustle of downtown streets.

In 1901 Red Deer was incorporated as a town. It had a population of only 300. The issues debated by the Town Council generally involved such matters as stray animals, the illegal dumping of manure along Ross Street and whether the secretary-treasurer should be reimbursed for a fountain pen he had purchased.

Nevertheless, the aldermen were also concerned about the town's future appearance. One alderman came up with the idea that Red Deer should have a civic square near the central business district. As the town grew and developed, there would be an open space in the heart of the community, which could be used for public gatherings, sporting events or cultural activities such as band concerts.

So in 1902 Town Council decided to buy a block of land for the civic square. The councilors' first choice was the block where the old post office stands today (SW corner of Ross St and 49 Ave). When this proved to be unavailable, they decided to acquire the next block to the east. A plan was submitted to the ratepayers to spend \$4500 to purchase a whole city block (SE corner of 49 ave and Ross St) Although the amount was nearly double the Town's annual budget; the voters saw the wisdom of the concept. The by-law was approved overwhelmingly.

One of the landowners, William Postill, agreed to sell his house and property on the east end of the block for \$1600, while John Grant agreed to sell his lots for \$500 if the Town would buy another lot for him on the north side of Ross Street. The other vacant lots were sold for \$2172, The town's ratepayers later approved of these sales in a special plebiscite by a vote of 34 to 4.

Unfortunately, the plan hit a number of unexpected snags. A young lawyer who was handling all the legal paperwork died suddenly of a heart attack at the age of 22. Afterwards, many of the land transfer documents could not be located. One of the owners even tried to block the transfer to the Town of her property on the grounds that the property had been given to her as a Christmas present, and that her husband had coerced her into agreeing to the sale. She also felt that her husband had agreed to sell at too low a price. A prolonged legal dispute ensued. In the meanwhile, the woman's home was converted into a rudimentary town hall. The dispute dragged on for over a decade until a court finally awarded the property to the Town.

For the next few years, the Town used the Postill house as a residence for the town constable and later for the fire chief. Council meetings were held in the parlour and the police cells were in the kitchen. In 1906, a fire hall was built in the middle of the block and after the construction of additions this building also became the town hall.

Continued on page 3 See Park

Park

In 1912, the courts finally ruled in the Town's favour. The entire square was now publicly owned. In 1913, Red Deer was incorporated as a City and in May of 1913 the federal government got reluctant approval of City Council to build armories on the southeast corner of the square. The rest of the block remained as unimproved land and was used for public gatherings, sporting events and band concerts.

In October of 1913 a local architect, C.A. Julian Sharman was hired to draw up an elaborate civic centre scheme. Unfortunately, a sharp economic downturn, followed by the outbreak of the First World War, meant that most of Mr. Sharman's plans were never implemented. However in the spring of 1914, City Council agreed to have the square leveled and seeded to grass. Controversy erupted when some alderman objected to the \$1000 cost and the removal of eleven hundred loads of black dirt.

There was yet another heated controversy in 1921, when City Council attempted to have the cenotaph erected on the west end of the city square. At a public meeting, the subscribers to the memorial fund voted to have the cenotaph placed on a boulevard on Ross Street. It was an issue which was to simmer for many more years.

For the next couple of decades, the city square was largely used as a recreation area. Ball games were played there in the spring and summer and in the winter, the south area of the square was flooded to make a skating rink. In 1924, the Rotary Club installed \$500 worth of playground equipment. In 1943, the Elks Club built a paddling pool on the northeast corner of the block.



In 1949, the city parks superintendent, Hugh Gilchrist, drew up plans for an ornamental park on the west end of the square and presented them to City Council for approval. The aldermen agreed to the proposal by a margin of only one vote. Some aldermen objected to the \$1800 cost while others felt that the square was better used as a sports field.

Fortunately, Mr. Gilchrist's plan went ahead and the beautiful park took shape. In 1964, after the construction of a new city hall, the park was extended to include the site of the old city hall. In 1967, a parking lot on the south side of the square became the site of the new public library after Charles Snell offered the inducement of a large donation of money.

Today City Hall Park has become a point of interest and enjoyment for many visitors as well as the residence of Red Deer, and is the focal point of the downtown.

Noted in the Park Guest Book over the years are comments from Canadians from Nanaimo, British Columbia, to Bay Roberts, Newfoundland, and all the provinces in between. Tourists from the Northwest Territories to Pasadena California: from Washington State to New York State, and people from every continent have signed or commented in the guest book as they passed through Red Deer's summer showcase. Again and again, people have commented on the aroma, color combinations and over all beauty of the park as well as commenting on never coming across a park like this in their travels.

Setting aside the land for such a public purpose was controversial in Red Deer's early days because of the expense. City Hall Park has become an important part of the community and continues to be a gathering spot for many and we can thank those who had the foresight and the inspiration to provide us with such an outstanding feature in the heart of downtown.

It truly is the Heart of Downtown and as one quote from the guest book says "Such a beautiful oasis of peace in a sea of business!" We have a rare gem to be proud of and should continue to preserve it as such.

Information and images supplied by Joe Palz.
City of Red Deer

Home, Home on the Range: *What Range Road Was That?*

Lianne Kruger

You may have obtained a copy of a Homestead Patent. This contains the location of the homestead, but how do you find out where that is?

In Canada we identify land by the Dominion Land Survey known as the DLS, began in 1871. It is the world's largest survey grid system laid down in a single integrated system. It is 800,000 square kilometres (309,000 sq. miles). The DLS is similar to the American PLSS with a few distinctive differences explained at the end of the article.

Meridians are the main north-south lines of the survey. The First (also Principal or Prime) Meridian at 97°27'28.41" west, just west of Winnipeg, Manitoba. Each meridian is 14° West of the previous meridian. The 4th meridian is the Saskatchewan and Alberta. Barlow trail in Calgary was built mostly on the 5th meridian which continues up West of Innisfail and through Stony Plain (48th Street). A homestead in southern Alberta is described as "W4M" or "W4" or west of the fourth meridian.

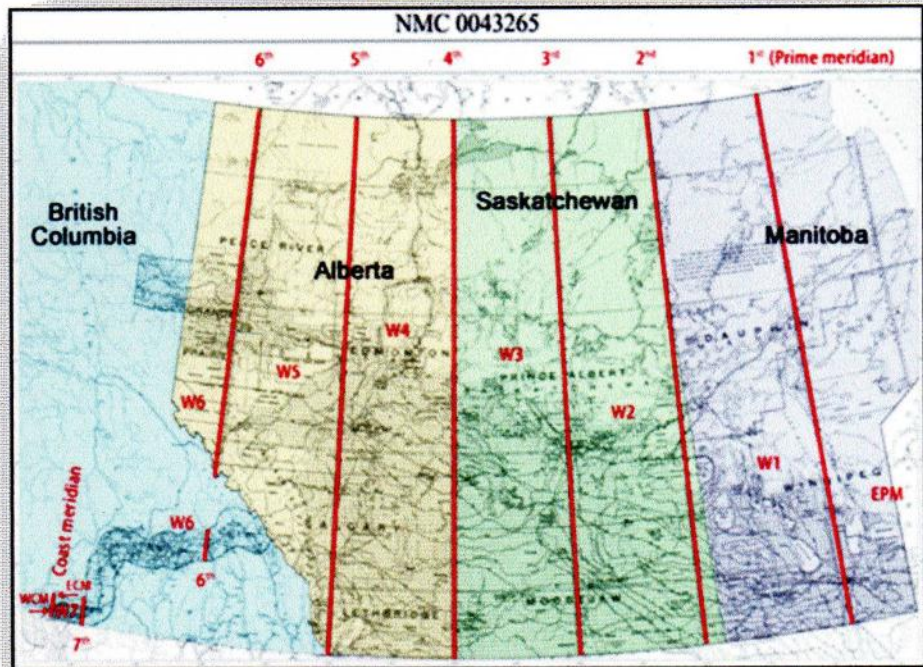
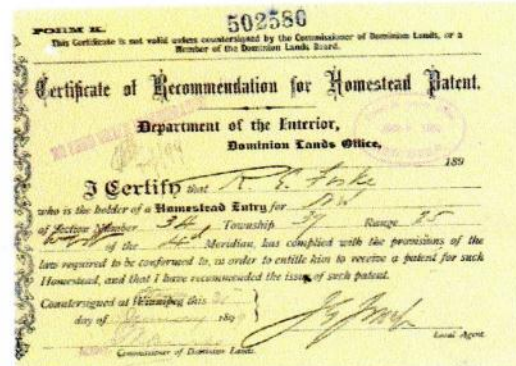
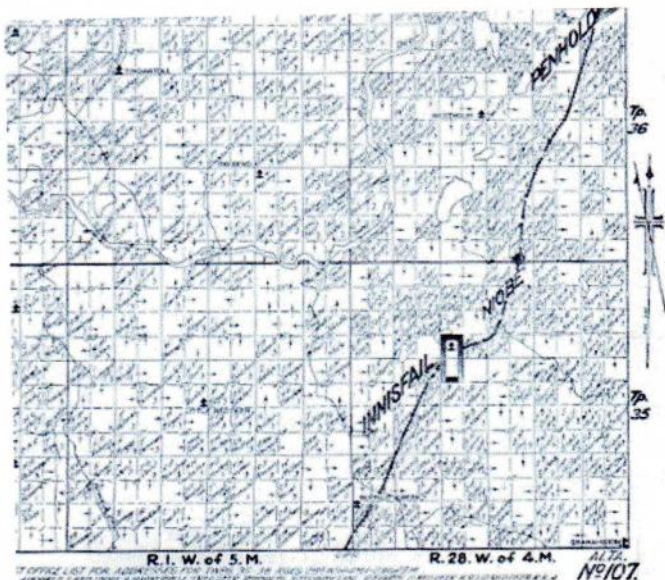


Figure 1: From Libraries and Archives Canadian www.collectionscanada.gc.ca



Baselines are the main east-west lines, starting with 49th parallel, Canada/US border. Each baseline is about 24 miles (39 km) to the north of the previous one.

Range Roads are the North and South numbered from east to west starting from each meridian.

Township roads are East to West starting at the US border.

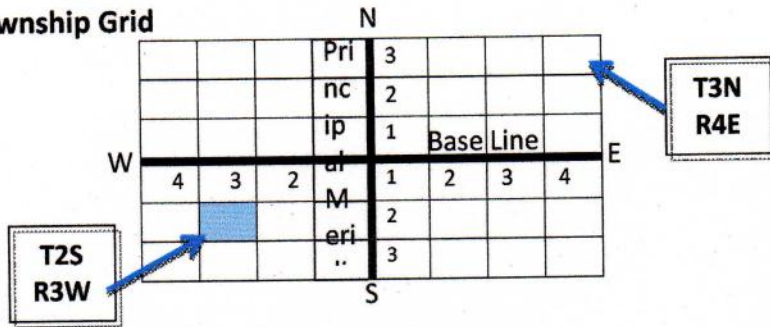
Range Road 282 is East of Innisfail within the Range 28. All range roads within R 28 start with 28.

Range Road 14 is West of Innisfail within the Range 1. All range roads within R1 start with a 1.

Township Road 60 is south of Raymond in township 6. Township Rd 374 is just south of Red Deer in township 37.

Lianne Kruger

Township Grid



Each township is referenced by the baseline N/S reference then the meridian E/W reference.

T3N

Township 3 from the baseline North

R4E

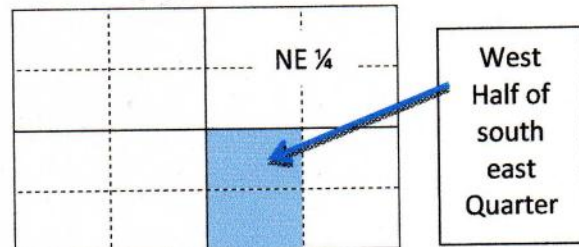
Range Road 4 from the meridian East

Township

Each Township is then divided into 36 squares, each about 1 mile (1.6 km) square. Therefore, each township is a 36 square mile, starting at each intersection of a meridian and a baseline and working west.

Sections are divided into four quarters or into sixteen legal sub-divisions. A section may also be split into as many as 16

Legal subdivisions (LSDs). LSDs can be "quarter-quarter sections" (square land parcels roughly $\frac{1}{4}$ miles (400 m) on a side, 40 acres (160,000 m²) in area). LSDs may be square, rectangular, and occasionally even triangular.

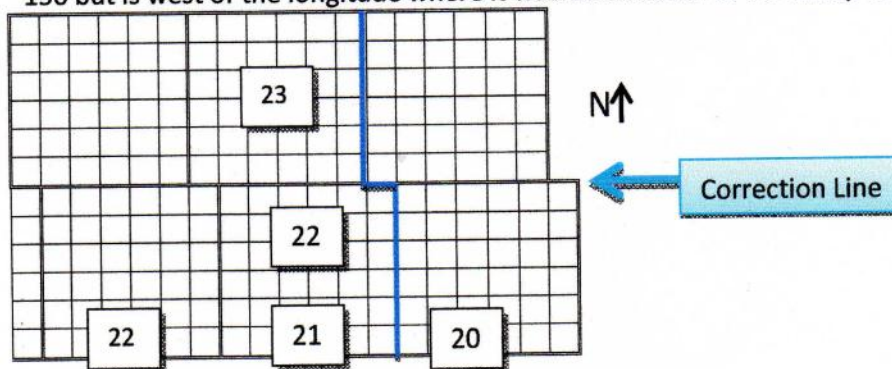


The full legal description of a particular quarter section is "the Northeast Quarter of Section 20, Township 52, Range 25 west of the Fourth Meridian", abbreviated "NE-20-52-25-W4." On maps, township numbers are marked in Arabic numerals, but range numbers are often marked in Roman numerals.

31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	1

Corrections

Because Columbus was right, the world isn't flat, townships are not square. They are smaller at the top [the North end] than the South. This means that there must be a correction every 4 baselines. Township 150 is one of these adjustments. Range Road 272 does not go directly through Township 150 but is west of the longitude where it was when south of Township Road 150.



Alberta Township System (ATS)

http://www.ag.gov.ab.ca/gis/map_converters/map_conversion_explanation.html

Differences between PLSS and the DLS

The **Public Land Survey System** [PLSS] system starts numbering the townships with 1 at the east as the Canadian but the 1 is at the top right hand corner. The DLS starts the 1 at the south east corner, starting at the border.

Launch of Jean L'Heureux's *Blackfoot Geography* at Lethbridge

By Bill Mackay

During the evening of March 9 the Central Alberta Historical Society and the Lethbridge Historical Society held a joint launch of Dr. Allen Ronaghan's new book, *Three-Persons and the Chokitapix: Jean L'Heureux's Blackfoot Geography of 1871*, at the Galt Museum in Lethbridge. About 40 people attended. Allen was



Alvine Mountain Horse and Allan and Shirley Ronaghan

available to sign the book and talk about the places, the land the Blackfoot people occupied and the places they visited during the course of a year in the 1850s and 60s. Short presentations concerning various aspects of the book were given by Dr. Ronaghan, Bill Mackay and Narcisse Blood, a Blackfoot elder who is also an historian, researcher, teacher and film maker at Red Crow College.

We had good press coverage in both the *Lethbridge Herald* the next day and in *Lethbridge Living* in the week prior to the launch. We sold over 50 books during the evening. Allen's book is now available at both the Galt Museum and the University of Lethbridge Book Store.

Meat Rings

Before refrigeration and deep freezes, meat rings were common in rural communities.

A group of fourteen to twenty-four farm families joined in a cooperative group to share fresh meat over the summer. Each member commits to donate a steer or heifer of a specified weight, usually a two year old, once during the season. A schedule was drawn up and each farmer delivers his animal to the butcher on his specified date. The butcher was often a farmer who had training or skill and experience in butchery. The butcher would divide the cut meat evenly between all the members, he was very careful to see that each family got an equal amount of choice cuts. By the end of the season each farmer had received the equivalent of his donated animal.

Pork was seldom involved in this type of cooperative. Pigs are small enough, that smoking or salting some of the meat meant that a single family could consume it all before the meat spoiled.

Beef rings began to disband when someone, usually the butcher or the local store built a large freezer and divided it into smaller lockable units. The community was able to rent a meat locker and store several months worth of meat there. Farmers continued to cooperate by selling a neighbour a half or a quarter when a critter was butchered.

Central Alberta Historical Society
Summary of April 18 program

Speakers Barry Litun and Bruce Buruma told the story of Lindsay Thurber Composite High School (LTCHS) from naming in 1954, until today. The history was told through a captivating combination of facts, anecdotes, and discussions involving the people and programs past and present that have kept this school relevant and dynamic in an environment of ever changing theories of education. Both Barry and Bruce have histories with LTCHS; Barry as administrator, and Bruce as a graduate and later, a teacher. Barry currently serves as the Superintendent for Lethbridge School District, and Bruce as Director of Community Relations with Red Deer Public Schools and chair of the RDPSD 125th Anniversary Committee for 2012-2013.

This presentation was deeply detailed and layered and difficult to condense, however, I believe the key points are as follows:

The school we know today began as the Composite High School, in the A20 Army Camp, in 1947, through the efforts of educator and innovator Lindsay Thurber. Mr. Thurber was a teacher, inspector, superintendent, and visionary, and although he resisted having the school called after him when it was first opened, it was named the Lindsay Thurber Composite High School when a new 'temporary' school was built in 1954.

The storied trimester system was introduced by Lindsay Thurber in 1949, and was featured in a six minute NFB film as an example for educators. The principle benefit was that farm kids could complete their education by taking full courses in the winter semester, and still work on the farm in the spring and fall. The school offered academic programs but also a clear focus on the "practical arts" such as animal science, farm studies, metal work, domestic science, and even art! There were 200 students in 1947, and 750 by 1954, half of whom were girls.

The barracks provided dormitory accommodation for 60% of the school's students, who came from 57 communities all over western Canada. In 1951, a gym was built in what is now the Memorial Centre, and in 1954, a new 'temporary' school was constructed. The school grew again when Red Deer College moved to a new site in 1967, occupying the vacated 'portable' buildings that had housed the college.

1969 saw a name change, from 'composite' to 'comprehensive', with the amalgamation of the high school and the vocational school.

By the 1970s, the trimester system was proving difficult, as the scheduling allowed some students two, or even three hour lunches. Recollected by Dave Blacker (LTCHS 1977-81), and recounted by Mr. Litun, by the late seventies, "the school started to rumble at 11 am and didn't quieten down again until 2pm." This was a concern, as "most discipline situations arose during the rumble time." Regardless, students did well and the tradition of excellence begun by Lindsay Thurber himself, continued.

By 1977, LTCHS was entering the computer age, with assorted large and cumbersome readers/sorters/compilers of information, none of which was new or revolutionary, but which allowed certain functions of reporting and list making to be streamlined, freeing up valuable teacher or administrator time to the ever increasing demands of a growing student population.

The board, by 1980, was determined to move to a more manageable semester system and despite student demonstrations on the lawn of the Board Chair (who happened to be the mother of the student union president), the resolution was passed. This decision was regretted by many, particularly in the unique status that was lost.

During the 1980s, however, the school offered a good variety of programs, and the quality of instruction was very well regarded in the community and throughout the province. Many teachers were leaders in curriculum setting and Grade 12 examination development, and fine arts and athletics programs were considered among the best in the province. Lindsay Thurber, at 1800 students, had grown to become the third largest comprehensive school in the province, behind Harry Ainlay in Edmonton, and Western Canada, in Calgary.

To accommodate the growingly diverse needs of students, Lindsay Thurber introduced the Integrated Occupations Program (IOP) to meet the needs of the more "hands on" type of student, and the International Baccalaureate program (IB) for those who required a higher level of academic challenge. CTS offered the widest selection of courses in like programs throughout the province. The 80s also saw the introduction of the Jazz Choir, and the STOP program (students and teachers opposed to prejudice), a program which received accolades from across Canada.



Bruce Buruma

Barry Litun

High School

The 1990s saw the school take a global focus, teaching Japanese and German as well as French, and introducing international travel to their newly ‘twinned’ counterparts in Japan and France, making Lindsay Thurber the first school in Alberta to have a formal international focus.

Lindsay Thurber school was proud of its graduates, and the 1990s saw the introduction of graduation photos through the decades and a wall of fame that includes many distinguished alumni.

By this time, nobody knew quite what was keeping some parts of the school standing, and some parts clearly weren’t going to be standing much longer. After much negotiation, modernization began in 2003. Discussions with the provincial government resulted in some frustrated planners and politicians as, though it would cost as much, if not more, to modernize rather than rebuild, all at Lindsay Thurber were adamantly attached to the spirit (or ghost, as some will say) that lived in its crumbling soul, and the government was frustrated that “you must be the only guys in Alberta that don’t want a new school!”

Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School was duly modernized and rotting sections demolished or replaced, but the spirit of excellence was never chased away. Students continue to benefit from engaged and rooted staff and programs, so that they have received provincial honours in academics, fine art and athletics, and have established a student centred governance system with a wide range of clubs and activities to interest the diverse student interests and cultures.

Thanks very much to Barry and Bruce for their facts and figures, stories and (tall?) tales – all of which were both entertaining and informing.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Bannerman, Past President

Vikings—According to Irish History

Given that a thousand years have past since the Vikings have controlled parts of Ireland, Canadians may find it odd that they still feature in the Irish imagination. But that’s because the past is much more alive for a modern Irish person than it is for a Canadian. Consider the following anecdote: An Irishman is driving an American friend through Clontarf, near Dublin, at quarter past ten in the morning. “There was a famous battle here,” the Irishman informed his friend. “When was that” the American asked. “1014” the Irishman replied. The American consulted his watch—10:15—“Darn, we missed it!”

An excerpt from *Press Scandinavia*, Summer 2009.

CAHS program May 16, 2013

100 years of Labour

Speaker Winston Gereluk has had a varied history with the Alberta Federation of Labour and Alberta Union of Public Employees, a degree in educational philosophy and an editorial position with Athabasca University Press. He is currently Chair of Project 2012, an educational blitz and festival celebrating the Federation of Labour's 100th Anniversary Celebration.

Mr. Gereluk spoke to a small-ish audience about the significance of recognizing those who work but are not often the important ones written into histories. He spoke of the strides made during the past century either by or with the aid of the Federation of Labour and/or labour unions, in the cause of equal and fair recognition for all workers, and the achievement of the right to safe workplaces and respectful treatment.

Significant legislation introduced during the century long history of the Federation of Labour covers reasonable working hours, guaranteed holidays and sick days, parental leave, occupational health and safety, and injury compensation.

Universal benefits championed by the Federation include family allowance, health insurance, unemployment benefits, and old age security.

The Federation of Labour is celebrating these accomplishments and the accomplishments of its members in diverse professions and communities across the province. Festivals and special events will be tied to specific aspects of labour history in each community, and can be discovered on the Anniversary website, at www.afl.org

Also on the website are several publications in full digitized form, published specifically for the anniversary and rich in both facts and interesting archival material. Pamphlet type publications cover topics such as the unions of the Crowsnest Pass, Alberta's packing plant workers, and the 1995 Calgary Laundry Workers' strike.

A book, published for this anniversary, is also available online in digitized form.

Thank you to Mr. Gereluk for reminding us that many of the benefits that we consider our 'rights', are in fact the result of the struggles of workers and the organizations that have supported them. It is a history that affects us all.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Bannerman,
Past President



Sheila Bannerman and Winston Gereluk

Using the Provincial Archives of Alberta: An Introduction to Online Resources

by Bill MacKay

On March 21st Leslie Latta-Guthrie, Provincial Archivist, provided a short history of the Provincial Archives and introduced us to using the Archives online resources. She told us that the Archives collected its very first material in 1906, one year after Alberta was founded. In 1908 the first Archivist, Katherine Hughes, was appointed. In 1967 the Archives was moved into a new building shared with the Provincial Museum and in 2003 they moved to their new location in south east Edmonton. We learned that the Provincial Archives now holds 49,000 linear meters of documents, 97,000 maps, 2,200,000 photos, 56,000 hours of sound recording, and 58,000 hours of video recording. So the resources are vast.

While the Provincial Archives are a very significant resource for Albertans they are not easily accessible to people who live outside their Edmonton location. However the current focus of the Archives is on outreach and making the Archives more accessible to Albertans. To this end the print material held in the Archives is being digitized and made available online. Only a relatively small amount has been digitized to date. For example about 60,000 of 2.2 million photos have been digitized.

Most of Leslie's presentation focussed on walking us through the Provincial Archives website (<http://www.archivesalberta.org>). One of the highlights of the evening was when Margaret Marshall remarked 'that is my Grandfather' when one page of photographs was projected on the screen. The photo was of Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Rimbey and the attached note said it was contributed by Donald S. Rimbey, Margaret's brother. Margaret indicated that the initial 'S' was wrong. Donald's middle name was Chester. To see the photo go to: <https://hermis.alberta.ca/PAA/Search.aspx?ColleioID=2&ad=true&adf=true&sc=title&st=Samuel+Rimbey&sort=date>.

The Town of Rimbey was named in honor of Margaret's ancestors. She later related the story below which I thought was very interesting.

Four Rimbey brothers, John, Jim, Sam and Ben arrived by train in Lacombe, we think in 1899. They had come from Kansas along with a large number of other settlers. John settled near Lacombe but the other three brothers went further afield looking for land. They drove or rode around the country day after day looking over the land before they found the area in which they settled.

In those days the townships had been surveyed but not the sections and quarter sections. After the three brothers looked around they found the survey stake marking the township in which the land they wanted was located. To get the legal description of their new homestead they did their own surveying. They attached a rag to the wheel of their wagon and using a compass headed north from the survey stake to their future homestead. They would have driven slightly downhill through bush to get to the river, forded the Blindman River, on the other side they must have driven uphill through more bush.

They counted the revolutions of the wheel and when they got to the land they wanted to homestead they were four miles north of the survey stake.

They built a log cabin there. When the sections and quarter sections were finally surveyed the cabin was "a nice distance from the future road." Pretty good surveying given the tools available.

They moved to what is now Rimbey area in early 1900 just before spring breakup. They drove across Gull Lake because it was shorter, my father was about eight years old, all he remembered was that when they stopped for lunch the old black cow had a calf.

The area was originally known as Kansas Ridge because many of the early settlers had come from Kansas. When it came time to name the new post office which was to be located nearby, three names were submitted, the one accepted by the post office officials in 1904 was Rimbey.

So that is how Rimbey got its name.

Albert Lightning

Albert Lightning was just 11 years old in 1911 when he arrived from the Ermineskin Reserve near Hobbema to enroll at the Red Deer Indian Industrial School, just across the river from Fort Normandeau. He would remain at the school probably until it closed in 1919. He was there when the Spanish 'flu epidemic' swept through the community in 1918, infecting staff and students alike at the School and taking the lives of several students, including Albert's little brother, David.

Albert must have been a very promising student. In his adult life he became known around the world for his great spiritual knowledge, visions of peace, and teachings of natural law. A renowned medicine man whose Cree name was Buffalo Child, he was a founding member and president of the Indian Association of Alberta. As a respected elder, a great orator, a professional cowboy, legendary sports enthusiast and a former chief, he had touched the lives of thousands when he passed away in 1991 at the age of 90.

In a way, Albert Lightning was also responsible for the recent activities, long after his death, being undertaken to restore the cemetery at the old school, to honour the children who are buried there, and to tell Red Deer's part of Canada's Indian residential school history. As an old man, he arrived one day at the Red Deer and District Archives hoping to get information about where his brother David had been buried. He enlisted the help of Lyle Keewatin Richards, working in the archives at the time, and together they found David's grave.

It was because of Albert's inquiry that Lyle became aware of the school cemetery, which had been abandoned and forgotten for many years. Lyle was inspired to do

something to remember all the children who had attended the School, especially those who had died there. Some years went by and then, as the residential school question began to receive more public attention, Lyle spoke to several people at Sunnybrook United Church. A committee was formed at the church, which in turn led to the formation of a Working Group representing half a dozen First Nations communities, the Metis Nation of Alberta, Sunnybrook United Church and the national office of the church.

Continued on page 12 ... See Lightning



OUR PRECIOUS HERITAGE

Mr. Keen and the Quing Come to Canada

Tongue-Twisting Tour by Les Perreux.

Winnipeg · When the Manitoba capital was part of the first Royal Visit to Canada in 1939, the trip featured a live broadcast of an inadvertent tongue-twisting comedy routine worthy of Abbott and Castello.

The skit might suitable be named the Quing and Keen routine.

The royal couple had arrived at city hall on a rainy day in May while a local announcer delivered a live account for Manitobans. King George VI and Queen Elizabeth were accompanied by Mackenzie King, then prime minister, and were met by John Queen then mayor, and his wife.

A *Winnipeg Free Press* account of the radio coverage showed this unofficial transcript:

“Here comes the Royal Family now. The automobile has stopped. Oh, there is the King. He’s stepping out, followed by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, nattily attired in a silver coat. Mr. King is now shaking hands with the King and introducing Mr. Queen to the King and Queen and then Mrs. Queen to the Queen and King.”

“They are now proceeding up the steps to the well-decorated City Hall, the King and Mr. King together with the Queen being escorted by Mrs. Queen. The King has now stopped and said something to Mrs. Queen and goes to Mrs. Queen and the Queen and Mr. King and the Queen laughed jovially.”

The King leaves Mr. King and goes to Mrs. Queen and the Queen and Mr. King follow behind

In his book about the 1939 visit, *Daylight Upon Magic*, author Tom MacDonnell describe a more condensed version of the narration. He then shows how the unidentified announcer eventually succumbed to the confusion: “And now the King and Mr. Queen and the Queen and Mr. King are moving into the reception hall. And now the King and Mr. Quing, I mean Mr. Keen and the Quing, I’m sorry, I mean ...oh s ---.”

Mr. MacDonnell describes the incident as the finest tongue-twisting moment on the tour. Others have called it one of the finest bloopers in radio history.

Local memory has deleted the name of the hapless announcer who lost it that day. “But I am surprised he kept it together for that long.” said Margaret Askeland, one of many Winnipegger who have kept clipped accounts of the incident over the years.

This item was printed in the National Post October 8, 2002.

Submitted by Donna Baergen .

Lightning

One outcome was the traditional pipe ceremony and feast held at Fort Normandeau on June 30, 2010, to free the spirits of the children who had died at school and to honour the memory of all the other children who attended the School a century ago. It was a very moving event, attended by some four hundred people including Red Deer’s mayor, the moderator of the United Church of Canada, and all three commissioners of the federal Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

The Working Group is now incorporated as the “Remembering the Children” Society, and is working to ensure that the cemetery is preserved and that the story of the Red Deer Indian Industrial School is not forgotten.

Submitted by Don Hepburn