

The Meeting House

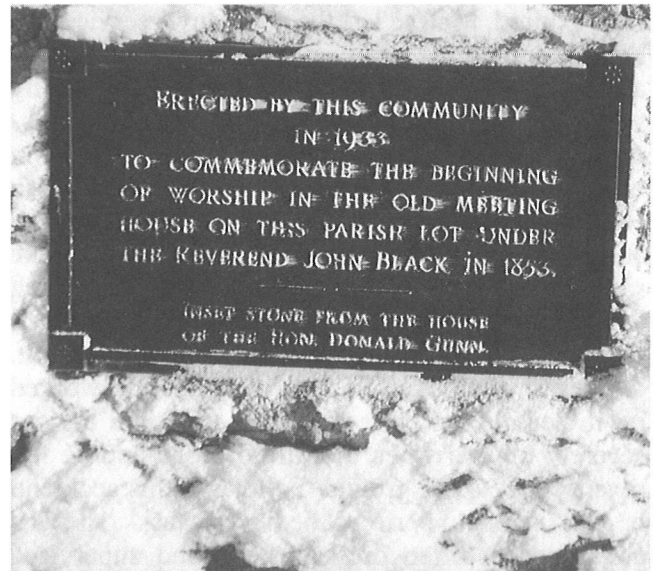
After the arrival of Rev John Black to Little Britain, the 14 families of the newly organized church immediately erected a log building with a thatched roof on Gunn's property to be used as a church. By November of the same year, 1852, the building was completed and equipped with enough handmade benches to seat 200 people who would fill the church. The congregation grew in size, and in the early 1860's the church was fitted with new pews instead of benches, a pulpit, and a roomy front porch under the guidance of the minister, Rev. James Nesbit.

The church was soon used as a meeting place and as a day school and became known as the 'Meeting House'. It served the community as a library and school-house until 1878, being the forerunner of Lockport School # 6, now closed. After Manitoba became a province in 1870, it was referred to as the North St. Andrews School. The library probably contained books from the old Red River library as the School Inspection report indicated the books to be too advanced for the students.

In 1863, the congregation was granted a piece of land by the HBC Company, closer to the Fort on which to build a new church. A stone manse was built first, and the cemetery opened, but it wasn't until 1874 that the Stone Church was completed. The pews, pulpit and other furnishings were moved



Cairn – marking the location of the first meeting house of the early Presbyterians, on River Road, north of the Lockport bridge.



Plaque attached to cairn marking the location of the first meeting house of the early Presbyterians: "Erected by this community in 1933 to commemorate the beginning of worship in the old meeting house on this parish lot under the Reverend John Black in 1853. Inset stone from the house of the Hon. Donald Gunn.

over from the 'Meeting House', and are still used today by the congregation of the Old Stone Church.

The 'Meeting House' had served the community for over 25 years as a place to meet – A cairn was built at Gunn's Point in 1933. It marks the spot north of Lockport where Donald Gunn's property was located.

Duncan McRae

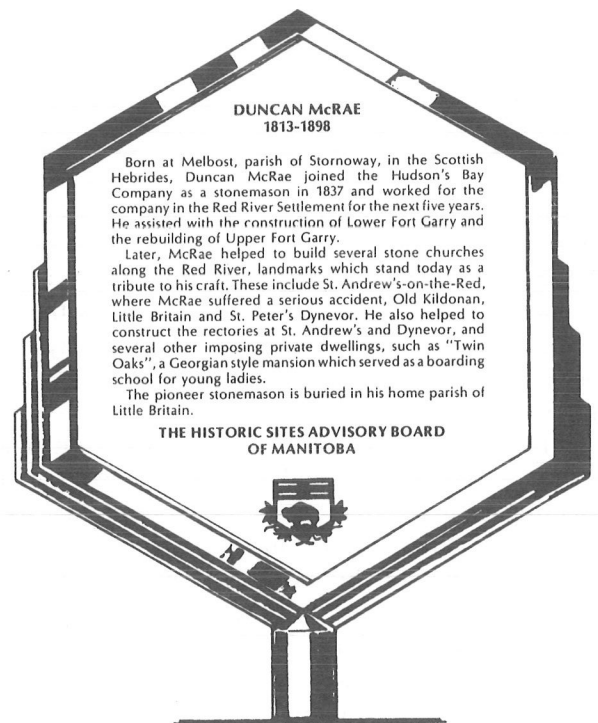
Duncan McRae was born in 1813 near Stornaway in the Scottish Hebrides. While little is known of his early life, it can be assumed that it included at least eight years of apprenticeship under the supervision of a journeyman mason. He was 24 years old in 1837 when he entered the service of the Hudson Bay Company, like so many Hebrideans before and after him. His contract was for five years at 28 pounds Sterling per annum. He sailed for Canada on the day of Queen Victoria's Coronation and it is wondered which event is the most significant for the history of Canada.

The year prior to McRae's arrival, the HBC had decided to construct a stone fort at the junction of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers and it was on this project that he was first set to work. The massive north gates, which still stands, is credited to McRae, who added to it in 1850, as an independent craftsman. It is thought that he spent the remaining years of his contract engaged in the construction of the wall around the Lower Fort before St. Andrew's Rapids and may have worked on some of the buildings within the Fort proper. In 1842, when his con-

tract expired, McRae left the company's service and began his long career as an independent tradesman and contractor, stretching over three decades, during which he worked on churches and houses throughout the Red River District. It was also the year in which he married Charlotte Smith, daughter of an HBC farm instructor, and they established a home and farm here in St. Andrew's near the church of the same name. It was in the construction of this church that he found his first independent commission with which he can definitely be connected. The new St. Andrew's was begun in 1844, and McRae worked on it steadily for three years. At this time he was severely injured when a scaffold broke and he fell seventy feet to the ground. Following this accident, he was unable to perform the heavier tasks, and as a consequence, often dressed stone and supervised other masons on various projects.

In the 1850's he was engaged in construction of St. Peter's Church on 'Chief Peguis' Reserve. This was followed by the Kildonan Presbyterian Church, located in North Kildonan, finally filling Lord Selkirk's promise of their own Kirk that was made to the Kildonan Settlers many years before. When it was completed, McRae confidently predicted that if the parishioners cared for it properly, it would stand for a hunner years or mair'. The Centennial of this elegant church was held almost thirty years ago in 1954. At the end of the decade he built one of the most graceful buildings in Red River, Miss Davis' School, known as Twin Oaks, and now a Historic Site. This Georgian mansion has delighted generations of travellers on the River Road.

In the 1860's, McRae laboured on his favourite project, the Little Britain United Church, on whose Management Committee he also served. Other examples of his skills still remain: the William Kennedy House and that of Donald Murray, where the first classes of Manitoba College were held. One of the unresolved mysteries about Duncan McRae's career is the question of whether or not he was also his own architect. There is no conclusive evidence as to the freedom he and other masons had in designing their own buildings or if, on the other hand, they customarily worked from someone else's plan. Much of his work obligated McRae to be away from his home for long periods of time, and it thus fell on his wife Charlotte and their children, of whom eleven of twelve survived into adulthood, to manage the farm and provide the security that permitted him to practice his craft. It was to the farm that he retired to spend the last fifteen years of his life as an invalid. He died there in February, 1898 at the age of 85 years and was buried in the Little Britain Churchyard.

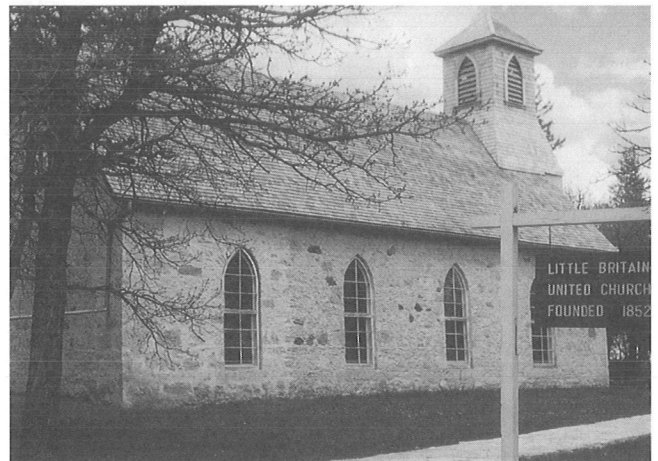


This plaque is located on the grounds of Little Britain United Church, 5 kilometers south of Selkirk on highway 9.

Historic sites plaque – Duncan McRae, 1813 – 1898.

Restoration

Little Britain Church was honoured in 1989 when, on February 22nd, it was officially declared a Provincial Historic Site. This was indeed a red letter day in the life of Little Britain for it ensured the continuation of our church as well as the preservation of an important part of the district history.



Little Britain United Church – 1989.

The congregation decided to do another major restoration on the church during the summer, instead of just a patchwork' job. We wanted to restore it back to "of the period" time. Research was carried out by Henry van der Putten, a senior restoration technologist at Lower Fort Garry.

The restoration consisted of: removal of plywood panelling to be replaced by wainscoting made of red pine which was only available from the Whiteshell area. The pews were removed, new ends were constructed, stained, and re-installed, leaving a centre aisle as was adopted a few years earlier. The inner walls were scraped down, cracks repaired, primed and repainted with a period whitewash.

The final portion of the restoration was to redo the roof and the bell tower with No 1 grade cedar shingles, in its unique fishscale motif. In 1920, the bell, tower, and memorial tablet were dedicated to the memory of those who had lost their lives in World War 1, 1914 to 1918.

The church continues to demand constant upkeep with the shifting soil conditions, but our congregation volunteers have been able to maintain the structure, and each year progress is made to keep the building in good condition. It is well worth the effort to preserve the Stone Church because of the many historical people associated with it.

Some of those people were: Rev. John Black, Hon. Donald Gunn and his family, Duncan McRae and his family, the Clouston family, Capt. William A Smith, Dr. G. Young, P.R. Young, Rod McPherson, Hon. D.A. Smith (Lord Strathcona), Hon. Alf Boyd, Hon. Alex Morris, and Dr. John Schultz, who became Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba later on. Many of these people are buried in the Little Britain Cemetery.

Soldiers from the Wolseley Expedition were also involved in the volunteer labour. In the late 1990's a new sign was made and placed in front of the church. The combination of limestone pillars and cedar planking blends in well with the historic aspect of the property.

The latest addition, in 1998, was the installation of the new inner doors. These are not ordinary doors, however; they had to be custom-made in keeping with the historic nature of the structure. Unable to find suitable hardware, the church had a blacksmith make up the necessary latches by hand, forging them to match locks of the time.

In the coming years, more problems will come, new challenges, new methods and materials, but through it all one thing stands clear – "We are here to stay".

MINISTERS OF THE OLD STONE CHURCH

1852 – Rev John Black	1913 – Rev J F Stewart
1864 – Rev James Nisbet	1914 – Rev George Gunn
1869 – Rev John McNabb	1915 – Rev L. Berry
1872 – Rev Alexander Frazer	1916 – Rev G Faryon
1874 – Rev Alexander Matheson	1923 – Rev J Knox Clark
1880 – Rev Alexander Campbell	1929 – Rev J A McConnell
1888 – Rev C Bryden	1948 – Mr A Parsons



Sign for Little Britain United Church – showing St. Andrews new civic numbers.

1889 – Mr Wallace	1950 – Rev D E Bennett
1891 – Mr. Weir	1954 – Rev Dr TB Pearson
1894 – Messrs Gillies & Borthwick	1959 – Mr Lachlan McLean
1895 – Messrs Tait, Borthwick Florence & Moore	1961 – Rev Dr P N Murray
1896 – Mr Tait	1963 – Rev R McPherson
1897 – Mr. John Russell	1965 – Rev "Bud" Bewell
1898 – Messrs Lowry, Eaton & Peacock	1966 – Rev John McLeod
1899 – Rev J C Madill	1970 – Rev Bernard Lee
1903 – Rev William Graham	1979 – Rev Bob Burton
1904 – Rev J C Carswell	1985 – Supply Ministers
1908 – Rev Edward Lee	1986 – Rev Ron MacIntosh
1911 & 1912 – Pulpit Supply	1988 – Rev Don McKay
	1992 – Rev Bob Haverluk
	1993 – Rev Christine Bridgett

Money Raising

Money raising in the 1880's was referred to as the Tea Meetings or the Soirees (a good meal and a social time). The Little Britain congregation has continued with this and with various projects throughout the nearly 150 years of the church's existence. Since the 1920's, the congregation has been putting on a Fowl or Fall supper every year; sometimes serving as many as 800 people or more. In 1991 we had the occasion to host a very special Fall Supper for some very distinguished guests when the Province of Manitoba, Industry, Trade, and Tourism Branch asked us to host a dinner for 24 Ambassadors from around the world. The Provincial Officials wanted to show these guests a

typical Canadian Fall Supper complete with all the trimmings. What a wondrous time it was! It didn't really seem strange to be sharing a meal with persons from Paris, Rome, London, and Hong Kong. There was time to share, time to tour the church and grounds, and time to relate some of the history associated with the area.

The Ambassadors enjoyed their stop, and gave us rave reviews for the dinner. Even the Provincial Officials thought Little Britain members did an outstanding job. Our guests could not get over the honest-to-goodness home cooked meal, and left raving about the pumpkin pie.

The Lockport Bridge

The early days of 1990 brought a grave concern to the residents of St. Andrews, when it was announced that the Federal Government was considering closing the Lockport Bridge. What a blow this would be to the community!

A committee was struck and soon a "Save our Bridge" campaign was on. Support poured in from various groups and soon the campaign took on the look of a celebration and kept getting expanded

from the original protest meeting. Organizers set a date of July 13 to 15 as a time for the two-day event to celebrate the official opening of "St. Andrew's Lock and Dam" 80 years ago. The entire weekend was devoted to the Past' with residents all donning period costumes, riding in horse-drawn buggies, having gala balls at Lower Fort Garry, fiddling, dancing, and eating. The list of events never seemed to stop growing. Little Britain took a large role during these events by hosting the "Tea at Three" fashion show put on by the Dugald Costume Museum. Of course, the dress was "of the period" and truthfully, it was one of the highlights of the weekend.

Little Britain was not finished yet, for our Rev Don McKay was asked to take the part of the Chaplain during the anniversary of the official opening of the Locks as the first boat made use of the just completed structure 80 years ago.

The following Sunday morning saw Little Britain host a special Sunday Service with the large congregation dressed in period costume. We don't know if it was the style of dress, the gentle morning of the Church and Cemetery grounds that was trimmed to a "fare thee well", but it brought



Some of the congregation who attended the church service held during the celebrations of the 80th anniversary of the opening of the Lockport Bridge in 1910. Back row – Judy & Sandy Rekrut, Carol Anderson, Stu Hamilton, Rev. Don & Marilyn McKay, Gord & Shirley Froelich, Ray & Faith Pacholuk. Front row – Mildred Johnston, Joan Mattson, Keira Mattson, Laura Kinley, Gwen Charles, Viola Schneider, Sadie Cowan.

thoughts of what it must have been like for those who pioneered here so many years ago.

The Church conducted tours of the grounds, pointing out the historic names, and telling the stories of those people who contributed so much. This is continued to this day. Please feel free to drop in and see us. A phone call to the Little Britain United Church is all it takes to assure that a welcome awaits you. Thinking back to the 80th celebration, the good intentions of dramatising the life and the need for the Lockport Bridge were worthwhile.

Due to the "Save the Bridge" campaign, members of the Federal Government came and met with this group and took enough information back to Parliament to have the bridge saved and to repair it over a period of time. Thank you, goes to all the people who worked so hard. We still have the Lockport Bridge!

Note: Little Britain United Church information compiled by:

Stu Hamilton

Mildred Johnston

Viola Schneider

Noreen Zacharias

Much of the information on Donald Gunn was taken from The Gunn Family History by Joyce Anaka, nee Gunn, of Canora, Saskatchewan.

The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

In 1953, a nucleus of Lutherans began to express an interest in starting a congregation in Selkirk.

It was not until the spring of 1954 that the Mission Board Committee consisting of Pastors Rath, Kroeger and Weinbender met with Mr. Buffie Sr. in regards to the formation of a congregation.

The first worship service was held the following Sunday in the Buffie home with Pastor Kroeger conducting the service.

Services were also held in various members' homes until such time when the St. Clements Anglican Church Hall was chosen as a place to worship.

The Manitoba Pastoral Conference met a short time later and decided that the Mission Board Committee establish a Parish in Selkirk, including the Town and the areas of St. Peters, Libau and Teulon. A number of meetings followed with an overwhelming response and generous pledges.

Later that summer, an organizational meeting was called. The Constitution was adopted, a Council elected and a Charter membership list drawn up.

Early in 1955, the congregation agreed on the

architectural plan with construction to proceed by means of volunteer labour. At the same time a call was issued for our first resident, Pastor Rev. Fred Peters.

Our new church building was located at the corner of Main Street and Grain Avenue in Selkirk.

On June 9, 1955, Dr. K. Holfeld, President of our District conducted a dedication service, with the assistance of the Building Committee. The committee consisted of Mr. John Buffie, Mr. August Rolof, Mr. Edward Heckert and Mr. Guslave Light.

In 1984 overcrowding in the church on Main Street was becoming a problem and two services were instituted.

Over the next two years, a great deal of discussion went on as to the merits of adding on or building a new church.

In February 1986, a special congregational meeting was held and it was decided a new facility should be built. A committee was authorized to investigate sites in town and outside the city limits and report back with a proposed plan and site location.

In June 1987, plans were posted, sites discussed and a decision was made to "purchase a new building and sell the old one".

The chosen plan gave us seating for 300 people with an overflow for an additional 100. The site chosen was south of town on Highway #9, opposite the Lutheran Cemetery.

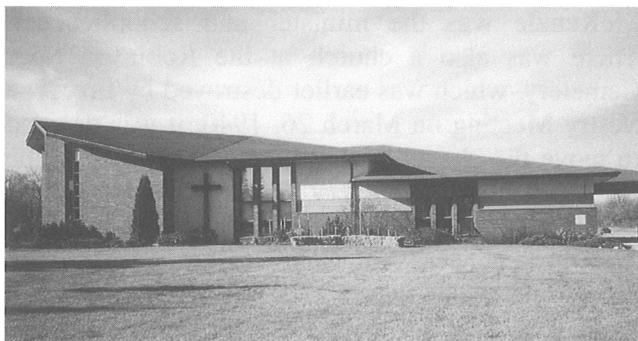
On November 8, 1987, Bishop "Lee" and Pastor Rath assisted at our "ground breaking ceremony".

On December 15, 1987, work commenced on the basement of our future church.

In June 1988, the cornerstone of our new church was laid.

On September 4, 1988, our first service was held in our new place of worship.

On October 2, 1988, a dedication service was held in our new church. The service included community dignitaries and church leaders. Many members of our church attended as well as the Rev "Lee"



Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, 1999. 6088 PTH # 9A.

Luetkehoelter, Bishop Manitoba/NW Ontario Synod E.L.C.I.C., Pastor Larry Soveran, Pastor of Good Shepherd (1971-77), Pastor Garry Nickel, Interim Dean Interlake Conference and Pastor Ted Chell, former representative of the Division for Mission in North America L.C.A.

Our old church had an enormous amount of memories for many members of our congregation. It was sold to the Mennonite Brethren to be used as a Mission church in Selkirk. The use of our church has come full circle.

Within the past few years our congregation has entered into The Stephen Ministry Program. In 1994, after extensive preparation, 13 Stephen Ministries were commissioned to serve in caring ministry, offering added pastoral care to people going through crisis. This important ministry has been well received and is helping our congregation to grow as a caring community.

“CHRIST CARING FOR PEOPLE THROUGH PEOPLE” is an important part of our task and mission as a congregation and is something we are committed to grow in.

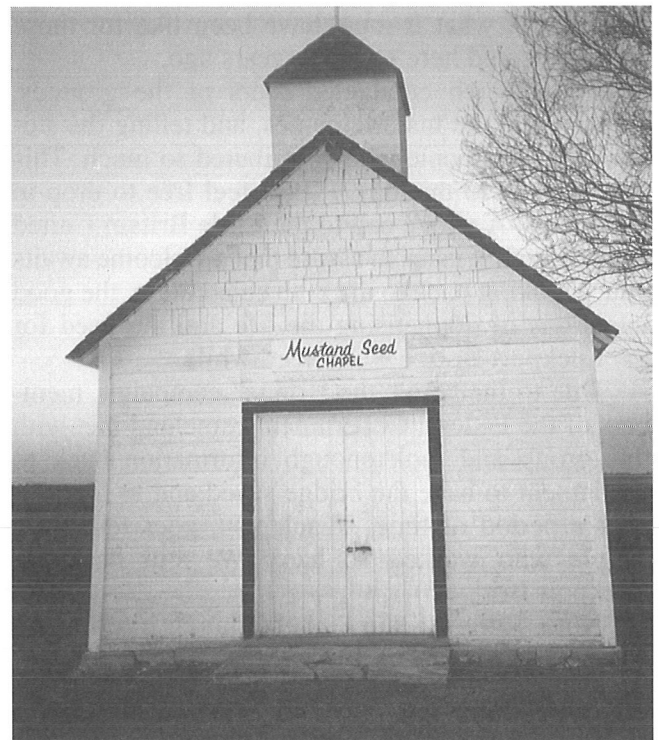
We thank God for His Blessing to us over the past 40 years and trust God’s grace and help for the future as we continue to serve in the spirit and Love of Christ.

Pastors who have served us during the past 40 years are:

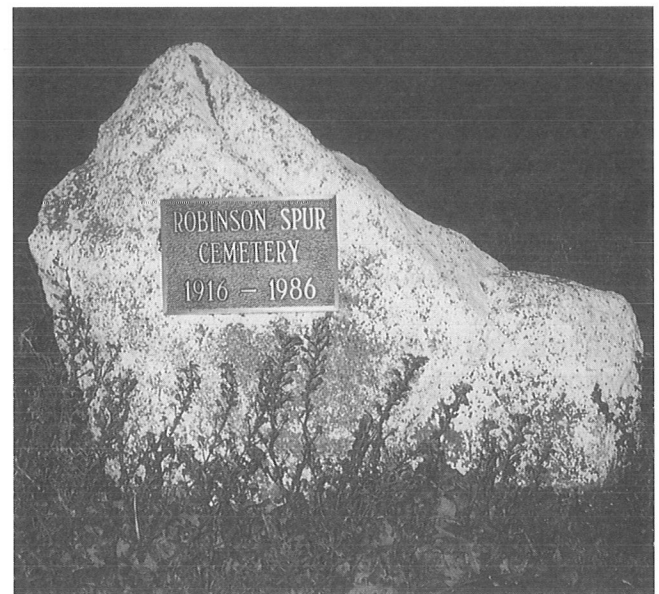
Pastor Fred Peters	1955-59
Pastor Roger Tellock	1959-62
Pastor Harry Vibe	1962-66
Pastor Mel Kornfeld	1966-71
Pastor Larry Soveran	1971-77
Pastor Terry Thronson	1978-Present

Mustard Seed Chapel – Robinson Spur Cemetery by **Blanche Harper**

The Mustard Seed chapel was built about 1901 at the mouth of the Red River. It served 26 families and also served as a school. Reverend Benjamin McKenzie was the minister and schoolteacher. There was also a church at the Robinson Spur Cemetery, which was earlier destroyed by fire. At a Vestry Meeting on March 26, 1940, it was decided to move the chapel to its present site, which is the Robinson Spur Cemetery. Two teams of horses owned by Mr. Jack Favel and Hugh Enyart moved it. Also present were Mr. Henry Lillie and Mr. John Lillie. The chapel was moved in the fall of 1940. It was not until the spring of 1960 that the inside of the chapel was painted with paint donated by some generous Matlock people. There have been some



Mustard Seed Chapel.



Robinson Spur Cemetery Monument.

changes in the scenery since that time. The large spruce trees are gone and there is a fence started on the East Side. The bell was loaned to another church in Winnipeg. A member of the church from Matlock maintains the churchyard.

In the summer of 1979 the church was painted inside and out. On August 12, 1979 the first service was held at the Mustard Seed Chapel with the Rt. Rev. Barry Valentine, the Bishop of Rupert’s Land officiating, with Rev. Stephen Sharman. Many former residents of the parish were in attendance and

also visitors from near and far. A picnic was held after the church service. There is a service planned for the second week in August 1980. Hoping to see another large turnout. Everyone is welcome. Notices will be posted in the near future.

Comment by J.O.

I arrived in the Municipal Office while the move of the Mustard Seed Church was still fresh news. I understand the church was "stolen" from the mouth of the river, as the Anglican authorities had not given permission for the move. I think the church was moved in winter on the snow, was it not?

See: Ham, Penny Place Names of Manitoba, Western Producer Prairie Books, 1980

Sacred Heart Church, Victoria Park (1937-1990)

After being unused for a number of years, a decision was made to sell the building. It was sold to Gord and Laurel Loutit for removal. Gord and Laurel tried unsuccessfully to purchase one acre of land around the church. The price of moving the church to their lot on Nanton Road, St. Clements proved to be too high.

The Loutit's sold the church to Tony Paradossi for removal from the lot. During the demolition, the cornerstone was opened and this document was found.

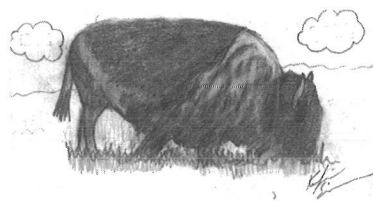
1937-8
Victoria Park
in Rosedale - St Andrew man
This 15th day of May 1938, when His Holiness
the Pope Pius XI ruled the church in the 16th
year of His Pontificate - when His Excellency
A.A. Sinnott D.D. was the Archbishop of
Winnipeg - when Rev. Father Marian F.
Orlinski was in charge, as pastor, this
Mission, the newly constructed church
built 1937 was blessed and dedicated
to the Most Sacred Heart by the said
Archbishop in presence of clergy and
good many faithful both the parishioners
and guests from Winnipeg, Souris
and Pelkinch and also the Greek Catholics
(Ukrainians) from the local Greek Catholic
Parish.
We hereby gratefully note, that,
"The Catholic Church Extension Society
of Toronto Ontario" through the kindly appeal

Original location Church Road west of McPhillips.

Na ten pami cel (nowy kościół) złożyli
 następujący osoby. "The following also donated
 for the construction of the church."

Ks. M. T. Orliński	17 ⁰⁰	
Frank Gusiowski	60 ⁰⁰	Lock Port
Jan Gusiowski	60 ⁰⁰	
Joseph Waszkiewicz	20 ⁰⁰	
Władysław Waszkiewicz	20 ⁰⁰	
Frank Gusiowski	25 ⁰⁰	
Leon Twardowski	25 ⁰⁰	
Mike Popp	25 ⁰⁰	
Simon Sabkiewicz	20 ⁰⁰	
Stanisław Sabkiewicz	20 ⁰⁰	
Mike Lakusciak	20 ⁰⁰	
Joe Gallant	20 ⁰⁰	
John Waszkiewicz	10 ⁰⁰	
Joe Sabkiewicz	10 ⁰⁰	
Joe Church	10 ⁰⁰	
Mike Kulczycki	10 ⁰⁰	
Mike Troniak	10 ⁰⁰	
Albert Paradowski	10 ⁰⁰	
Mike Zielinski	10 ⁰⁰	
Philip Ganko	10 ⁰⁰	
Joe "	10 ⁰⁰	
Antoni Fedorowicz	10 ⁰⁰	
Mrs Mike Cieslak	10 ⁰⁰	
" Steve "	7 ⁰⁰	
" Prowinska	10 ⁰⁰	
" Lipnicka	5 ⁰⁰	
Harry Dowzuck	2 ⁰⁰	
Mrs Cooper	3 ⁰⁰	
Mrs G... ..	4 ⁰⁰	

Mrs Teresa Bunas	1.00	Selkirk
Joseph Cieslak	1.00	
Mrs Antoini Hsah	.50	Selkirk man
Parish Cash at hand	350.00	
Holy Rosary Women cash at hand	154.00	
Kaman Isusta	10.00	
Mrs Lepnicka	10.00	
Mrs Krasheske	5.00	
Mr Onysko	2.00	
Mr McLaughlin	1.00	



GRAZING THE PAST AND PRESENT

St. Andrew's on the Red The Building

St. Andrew's on the Red is the oldest stone church in Western Canada being used as a place of worship. The church was built between 1845 and 1849 and was consecrated on December 19, 1949 by Rev. David Anderson, the first Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Rupert's Land. The Venerable William Cockran designed the church. The stonemason was Duncan McRae.

The church's history and architecture have been recognized both by the Dominion of Canada and by the Province of Manitoba. In 1970 the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada recommended that, "St. Andrew's Church is of national architectural and historical importance" and a plaque was unveiled at a special service in 1974. In 1990 St. Andrew's was designated as a provincial heritage site under the Heritage Resource Act and a plaque was unveiled at a special service on November 30, 1991. Both plaques are now fixed to the stone monuments in front of the church.

The people of St. Andrew's Parish have worked faithfully over the years to enrich and preserve their church. In modern times this has required a series of

major and expensive repairs to the building. In 1931 the east wall was dismantled and rebuilt. Additional work was done to the other walls, windows, the tower and the balcony. Flagstones were installed on the floor of the tower. The area under the balcony was partitioned off from the main church to become a small chapel for winter services. All this work cost \$4,000.00.

In 1932 the southeast corner of the church collapsed. The work to repair this catastrophe was completed in 1934 at a cost of \$1,500.00.

Further repairs were needed in the following decades. In 1942 concrete piles were placed under the southeast, southwest and northeast corners at a cost of \$600.00. In the 1950's the narthex floor was replaced with new boards laid over concrete pads and beams. In the 1960's the wooden spire was rebuilt and repairs to the tower and balcony were carried out. A major restoration of the church planned in the late 1960's did not come about. In 1979 further work on the church repaired cracks in the walls, repaired the roof, fixed the chimney, painted the spire, enlarged the furnace room and installed a new furnace.

In 1978 the governments of Manitoba and Canada signed an agreement for recreation and conservation on the Red River Corridor. This agreement provided funds for major repairs to the church in 1983. The roof was replaced with cedar shingles, the roof trusses were reinforced, a four-foot crawl space was excavated beneath the nave, and the floor was re-installed on an independent foundation and a new carpet installed. Rev. R.L. Brownlie was rector of the parish at this time.

In the late 1980's serious cracks began to appear in the walls of the church. This led to a careful study of the building and a recommendation that a major intervention would be necessary to preserve the building. In 1988 the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada noted that the church was in "an advanced state of decay" and recommended that the church be a candidate for funding through a cost-sharing agreement. After careful negotiations involving St. Andrew's Parish, the Diocese of Rupert's Land, the Province of Manitoba represented by the Historic Resources Branch, and the Government of Canada, represented by the Canadian Parks Services/Parks Canada, a cost-sharing agreement was signed. The agreement included Rev. S.C. Sharman, Incumbent and Hugh T. Reid and Ron Tocholke, Churchwardens on behalf of the Parish and the Hon. Pauline Browes, Minister of State for the Environment, on behalf of the Government of Canada. The Most Rev. Walter Jones, Archbishop of Rupert's Land, and David Bjornson, MP for Selkirk-Red River witnessed it. Now the work could begin.

When the project was completed, almost one million dollars had been spent. Part of it, \$426,000, came from the Government of Canada through the cost-sharing agreement, the Province of Manitoba contributed \$75,000 and the Thomas Sill Foundation \$10,000. A large number of individuals and organizations, including the Knights of Columbus and the Manitoba Grand Lodge of Freemasons made generous donations. The rest came from the parishioners who held a series of fund-raising events and dug deeply into their own pockets.

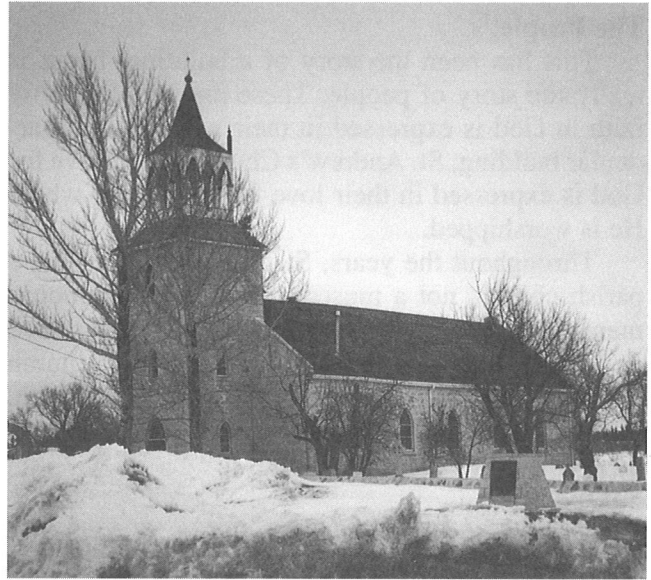
The project placed a new foundation of concrete piles under the existing foundation. The walls were strengthened and repainted. The interior was repainted. The woodwork in the tower was strengthened. A kitchen area, a washroom and a new furnace were installed. Throughout all this work services continued Sunday by Sunday, as well as weddings and funerals.

The consultants for the project were the architectural firm of Geremia Blackie and the engineering firm of Boge and Boge. The foundations were installed by Subterranean (Manitoba) Ltd.

A large number of people contributed hours of their lives to the project. They were Margo James, Hugh Reid, Josh Milne, Roger Staff and Rev. S. Sharman for the Parish. William McKay for the Diocese of Rupert's Land, David Firman for the Province's Historic Resources Branch and Susan Algje and Greg Thomas for the Canadian Parks Service. Behind them were the untiring work of the

parishioners, the staffs of the Historic Resources Branch, the Canadian Parks service and all the friends of the church who supported the project with their time, energy and money.

On Sunday May 4, 1995, we celebrated with a special service and a party to rededicate the church. The Rt. Rev. Patrick V. Lee, Bishop of Rupert's Land presided and brought greetings from the Province of Manitoba. Ron Fewchuk, MP, represented the Government of Canada. The work was done.



St. Andrews-on-the-Red, River Road and St. Andrews Rd.

Other Events

The restoration of St. Andrew's Church was the most important event in the life of the parish but not the only one. One important event was the return of the rector to the historic stone rectory across St. Andrew's Road from the church. This house was built between 1851 and 1854 under the supervision of Archdeacon William Cockran but after many years as the home of the parish's clergymen, passed into private hands in 1948. From 1965 to 1975 it was a private museum, the Dunlop Museum. The building was purchased by the Government of Canada in 1976 and restored in the early 1980's. Part of the building became a home for the rector of the parish and part became a museum open to the public. Rev. R.L. Brownlie was the first rector to live in the restored rectory followed by his successor, Rev. S.C. Sharman.

The parish now has the responsibility for managing an Interpretation Program at the rectory on behalf of Parks Canada and its own Interpretation program at St. Andrew's Church. Both buildings are open to visitors from Victoria Day to Labour Day. Visitors come to learn about the history and archi-

ture of two national historic sites. Special events are organized to introduce visitors to different aspects of life in this community in the early days.

In 1986 the parish organized a Red River Feast to entertain the members of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada, then meeting in Winnipeg.

St. Andrew's has become the home of the Summer Festival of Music-on-the-Red organized at first by Peter Letkeman and more recently by the Amaryllis Ensemble.

The People

This has been the story of a building, but it is really the story of people. These are people whose faith in God is expressed in their worship in a particular building, St. Andrew's Church. Their love for God is expressed in their love for a building where He is worshipped.

Throughout the years, St. Andrew's has been a parish church, not a museum or an historic monument. Here people worship, are baptized, married and buried in the graveyard around the church awaiting resurrection. They are people of faith. Psalm 127 V 1: "Except the Lord build the house, their labour is but lost that build it".

Sources:

The historical summary contained in St. Andrew's Church Conservation Report.

The commemorative Integrity statement for St. Andrew's Rectory National Historic site.

Bill and Barbara Gessner

People of Historic Interest Buried in St. Andrew's Cemetery

by Bill Gessner

Archdeacon William Cockran 1798-1865. Born Chillingham Northumberland England, founder of; old St. Andrew's Anglican Church built in 1827, St. Peters on the east side of the Red River dedicated in 1852, St. Anne's Poplar Point in 1862-4, St. Margaret's High Bluff in 1861-2, and St. Mary's Portage la Prairie in 1851.

Peter Okatkerook an Inuit from Fort Nelson who was practising to be an Evangelist at St. Andrew's. He died in 1858 one year short of his goal, at the age of 25 years.

Captain William Kennedy 1813-1890. Arctic explorer and Hudson Bay Company employee born at Cumberland House (near The Pas, Manitoba) son of Alexander Kennedy. Assisted in the search for Sir John Franklin lost in the 1850's. First to use dogs from an exploring ship. Settled in St. Andrew's in 1861.

E.H.G.G. Hay 1840-1918. First leader of the opposition party (Liberal) in Manitoba Legislature in 1870, representing the district of St. Andrew's South.

Chief Trader John Reid of Hudson Bay Company 1841-1891, born Orkney Islands, Scotland.

James Bird retired to Red River Settlement in 1824 from the position of Councillor to the Governor-In-Chief of Assiniboia. Most of the wood in the construction of St Andrew's Church came from this family's land, which is now called Bird's Hill.

Miss Mathilda Davis 1811-1873, daughter of John Davis, the Chief Factor of the Hudson Bay Company in Albany River area of James Bay. Her father took her and her sister Elizabeth back to England in 1822 to be educated. Following her return she taught at the Miss Davis School, assisted by Miss Lane and Mrs. William Kennedy who taught music. The school at River Lot 51 River Road, known earlier as Oakfield, was constructed of river stone at a cost of \$12,000.00. The school educated young ladies and accommodated up to forty boarders who were daughters of Hudson Bay Company officers in Rupert's Land from 1858 to 1873. Miss Davis died in 1873 at the age of 62. Mrs. A. E. Cowley, wife of the Archdeacon finished teaching the school year. The school is now known as Twin Oaks.

Alexander Ross was Chief Factor of the Hudson Bay Company.

Soldiers of 6th Regiment of Foot included: John Godfrey who died in 1846 at age 18 and John Rawston who died in 1847 at age 22. Both were stationed at Lower Fort Garry because of the American military activities in 1840's.

Alexander R. Lillie 1831-1907. Operated the first successful farm operations for the Hudson Bay Company with his wife Harriet (McDermot) 1842-1931 at Lower Fort Garry.

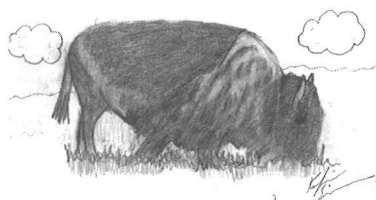
Ven. Malcolm Scott 1852-1919. Archdeacon of Athabaska.

Rev. Rupert Taylor 1905-1979. Rector of St. Andrew's Parish 1929-1931. His wife was the former Grace Lyall.

Charles Sibbald 1845-1930. A member of the boundary commission which marked the 49th parallel border between Canada and the United States.

Henry Septimus Beddome M.D. 1832-1881. Practiced medicine at Red River until 1859, at York Factory until 1865 and at St. Andrew's until his death in 1881. During his time in this area, he spent six months among the Icelandic settlers at Gimli in 1876, due to a smallpox epidemic.

Memorial Archway – 1922. Funded by the St. Andrew's Old Timers Association in memory of the 46 men out of the 133 enlisted who were lost in World War I. The men lost in World War II and Korea were added later.



GRAZING THE PAST AND PRESENT

The "Rapids" Church by Barbara Gessner

The congregation at the Rapids (St. Andrew's) was expanding especially with the ever increasing number of retired Hudson Bay Company employees settling in the area. Archdeacon Cockran, founder of the mission, was an ambitious man and once the deed to his property was obtained in the summer of 1831 he set out to build a church. "Members of 76 families provided labour and materials for a wooden church, 52 feet by 23 feet and 10 feet high. The roof was thatched and the side walls coupled so that the ceiling formed the arch of a great circle. The exterior was completed early in September and the workmen then spent two weeks laying the floor. On 21 September, Cockran noted: 'The plank is excellent and the joints are very close when we take into consideration the inexperience of several of the assistants.' The following day, Cockran mixed the plaster for the interior.

'The mud we use, is a white loam, composed of sand, decomposed limestone and viscid clay, which we dig out of the banks of the river. When we have sifted out the small stones, we temper it with water and hay cut short as a substitute for hair. This we use for plaster instead of sand and lime. It makes a good wall when not exposed to the weather. But when exposed, the rain soon brings it off the walls. In every sense, we live in a tabernacle of clay here.'

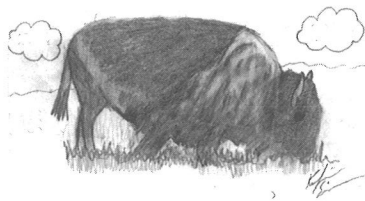
On 26 September, he started the plastering himself and at the same time had the outer walls rough-cast with sand and lime. During the winter months which followed, the congregation worked on the interior. A carpenter built the pulpit, put together pews for 340 people and by 28 December the ceiling was in place. Four months later the interior was finished.

Cockran preached his first sermon in the new church on 1 May 1832. Six weeks later, a thunderstorm blew off the church roof and shattered its

weatherboarding into splinters. Repairs were just underway when, on 17 June, a second storm of tornado velocity severely damaged Cockran's house."

This church was used until the new stone church (St. Andrew's) was completed in 1849. The location of the wooden church can be found behind the present church marked in all four corners with railway ties.

Source: The historic landscape of the parsonage at St. Andrew's, with some comment on the role of the Church Missionary Society at Red River, 1822-1887 by Hal Guest, 1981 Parks Canada, Manuscript Report Number 443.



GRAZING THE PAST AND PRESENT

Old St. Andrew's on the Red 1849 Document (see page 60)

St. Andrew's Rectory National Historic Site by Barbara Gessner

The present stone building replaced a wooden structure built by Rev. William Cockran in 1830. Work began on the new structure in 1852 but the flood delayed construction and the new residence was finally completed in December of 1854. Stone for the building was quarried from the same site as that used for St. Andrew's Church. Its architecture is Georgian or "Hudson Bay" with a central hall plan and large rooms. The major stylistic modification is the "verandah", a distinctly French Canadian feature throughout the Red River area. The rectory is 50 feet by 30 feet with walls 32 inches thick. Most of the work was supervised by William Cockran with possible help from Belonie Guibeault, a Hudson's Bay Company mason responsible for a considerable amount of the stonework at Lower Fort Garry. It was he who worked the corners, lintels, sills and door jambs. The upstairs had five bedrooms, and the main floor had a living room, dining room, kitchen and office. It has a hipped roof with a dormer in each end with the simple open verandah spanning the front or river side of the building.

The rectory was not the average nineteenth century Red River dwelling. It was built to reflect the lifestyle and social position of the "gentlemen" of Red River and their families. Its simple dimensions

Old St. Andrews-On-The-Red

February 23, 1849

By St. Andrews Church for the following materials as furnished by subscribers toward payment of their subscriptions contd.:

Amount brought forward	£18. 10d
George Atkinson—Labor	7s. 6d.
John Beads, Sr. & Jr.—	
1 day's labor	2s.
40 couple logs	£4. 2d.
Henry Bird—	
Making 1 hand barrow	3s.
1 Toise Stone	8s.
(Toise—six French feet or 2.13 yards)	
Alexander Birston—	
17 days labor	£1. 15s.
William Birston—	
Wood	£2. 13s. 4d.
Labor	11s.
2 barrows	6s.
Attendance at kiln 1 day and 1 night	5s.
John Brown—1 Toise Stone	8s.
William Calder—	
1 Toise Stone	8s.
8 days labor	16s.
The Revd. Wm. Cochrane—	
200 bushels lime	£6. 5s.
56 days' rations	£1. 8s.
2 bushels wheat	6s.
Labor of 1 man 3 days	6s.
6 Toises Stone	£2. 8s.
5 days' rations	2s. 6d.
2 Men and oxen hauling stone 2 days	12s.
Henry Cook—	
50 lbs. nails	£2. 1s. 18d.
50 lbs. Shingling nails	£3. 15s. 18d.
James Corrigan—	
5 Toises Stone	£2.
180 Planks 6x1 ins.	£3. 3s.

10 loads dry wood	15s.
1 Toise Stone	8s.
James Corrigan, H.B. Co.—	
2½ Toises Stone	£1.
Hauling Stones	6s.
5 days labor squaring timber	15s.
50 bushels Lime	£1. 5s.
Labor	£2. 9s.
1 Toise Stone	8s.
Peter Corrigan—Paid	£8. 16s. 2d.
Charles Cummings—	
Labor	£3. 9s.
Hauling Stones	9s.
100 Poplar Logs	10s.
Sawing do.	£1.
Malcolm Cummings—	
Wood	£3. 6s.
Griffith Daniel—	
12 Days labor	£1. 4s.
3 Days labor	£7. 6s.
Making 1100 shingles	9s. 4d.
	£2. 10s.
Jacob Daniel—	
18 days labor	£1. 16s.
1 Toise Stone	8s.
Making Mortar	£1. 3s.
Total	£3. 7s.
Miss Anne Davis (Paid)	£3. 7s.
George Davis—	
3 Toises Stone	£1. 4s.
100 Boards (1 in.)	£2.
20 loads dry wood	£1. 10s.
Total	£4. 14s.
Charles Donald—	
Labor	17s.
Slabs	10s.
Total	£1. 7s.
George Donald—	
Labor	4s. 6d.
80 Planks, 1½ in.	£1. 15s. 8d.
60 Planks, 2 in.	£1. 13s. 8d.
William Donald—	
Hauling Sand	£3. 7s.
2 oxen ea.: 4=8 days	8s.

4 days labor	8s.
1½ Toise Stone	11s.
12 Stones hauled from	
D. McRae's	15s.
Taking up 1 large stone	2s.
Peter Erasmus—	
26 days labor	£2. 12s.
Joseph Favel—6 days labor	12s.
John Fielding—Labor	8s.
Thomas Firth—	
400 bushels lime	£10.
2 Oxen ea.: 1=2 days	2s.
Total	£10. 2s.
William Flett—	
5¼ Toises Stone	£2. 4s.
Wood	£3. 6s.
Labor	11s.
1 Toise Stone	8s.
Total	£6. 9s.
Peter Garrioch—	
6 days labor	12s.
1½ Toise Stone	12s.
Hauling Stone	15s.
6 Oxen and 2 men 1½ days	15s.
Total	£2. 14s.
Donald Gunn—	
Sundries	9s. 3d.
3½ days labor	7s.
Hauling Stone	14s.
Total	£1. 10s. 3d.
Hugh Gibson—	
14 days labor	£1. 8s.
1 Toise Stone	8s.
Total	£1. 16s.
James Gunn—	
Wood	£3. 8s.
Labor	£1. 13s. 3d.
Total	£5. 1s. 3d.

Materials as furnished by subscribers towards payment of their subscriptions.

and lack of embellishment reflect the prominence of its former resident clergymen. It reflected the kind of solid respectability the Anglican Church felt befitted the Christian missionary in the Northwest.

In spite of its stone structure, it soon became too much for the Parish to maintain and it began to deteriorate. It remained occupied by the minister of St. Andrew's until 1929. One by one the other farm buildings and lands which formed the nucleus of the historic Rapids mission fell by the wayside. The old

stable behind the parsonage was sold in 1933 and then, in 1947, the second school house, built in 1852-53, was demolished.

In 1930, permission was given to use the rectory as overflow classroom space for the St. Andrew's high school. From 1936 to 1939, the rectory served as the headquarters of the Brotherhood of the Cross, a company of clergy banded together for mutual help in the performance of their duties.

It was sold for \$2,100.00 to J. S. McDonald who

hoped some day to live in it. The Johnson family bought the rectory in 1948. They replaced the verandah with a raised dry stone wall flower bed, and a driveway and parking area were developed. Some changes were made to the interior as well including the installation of a fireplace.

In 1965, the rectory was sold again to another private buyer, Mr. William Samuel Dunlop, who was a retired druggist turned art and antique collector. He bought the rectory to house and exhibit his wide and varied collection. There were numerous landscape artifacts as well, such as knee-high mushrooms, wishing wells, fake trees and painted milk cans. It was owned by Mr. Dunlop until his death in 1975 when most of his collection was auctioned off. Parks Canada bought the building in 1976 and it was designated a historic site because of its architectural significance.

The rectory underwent massive restoration work and the walls were literally taken down stone by stone and numbered so they could be replaced in their exact location. A proper foundation was poured and the restoration work continued. It was restored to the original 1854 structure. Our present rector lives on the top floor and the bottom front two rooms are used as a museum. In the museum are panels that depict the lifestyle and influence of the early missionaries in the Red River Settlement.

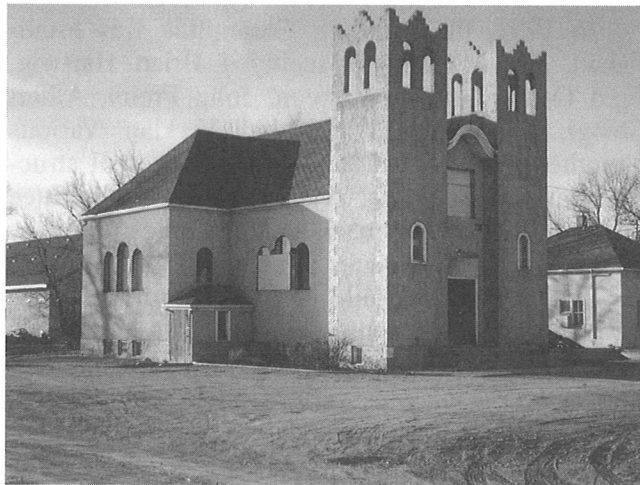
The museum is currently open to the public from the May long weekend through to the September long weekend. Tour guides provide tours of the museum portion of the rectory relating the history of both the church and the rectory. There are also displays which change throughout the tourist season that deal with various historic aspects. Special events are held in July, August and September including an Annual Flower Show held in August which is open to all amateur flower lovers.

St. Andrew's and St. Margaret's Roman Catholic Church, Little Britain, Manitoba by Karen Hopko (Wehrle) and Marianne Ostermann

In 1927, approximately one hundred immigrants from Germany arrived in the community of Little Britain, between Lockport and Lower Fort Garry, West of Highway #9. Here they settled on 3400 acres of farmland. The settlement originated through the initiative of a Roman Catholic priest, Father Kierdorf, Immigration secretary for Catholics and agent for the Canada Colonization Association.

All of the original settlers from Germany who came to Canada had a strong religious faith. Church

services were initially conducted in the main community building. The original "church" was blessed by Archbishop Sinnott in 1928 as St. Andrew's & St. Margaret's Church. The first church was built in 1943, and was served by various Oblate priests over the years.



Former St. Andrew's, St. Margaret's Roman Catholic Church, Little Britain Road off #9 Hwy.

In 1975, the parish of St. Margaret's applied to the Archbishop of the Winnipeg Diocese for permission to build a new church since the present church was progressively deteriorating and the parishioners had a strong desire to preserve the community tradition and shared the vision of the original founders. The initial application was denied because of the Diocese's concern that a priest may not be available to serve the community on an ongoing basis.

By 1989, major repairs were required to maintain the church. A committee was organized to study the problem and a structural engineer was consulted to inspect the building. Many structural problems were identified, involving the foundation, bell tower, and roof. Numerous estimates were then obtained for various methods of preserving the existing church. There was a unanimous agreement from the parishioners that the strong community spirit of St. Margaret's be maintained.

The concept of a new church building was reconsidered in 1990, and under the guidance of Father Don Pruner, a meeting was arranged with the Archbishop. The rationale presented in support of building a new church was based on the structural problems requiring immediate attention and the cost of repairs. Other reasons included inadequate seating space due to the population growth in the area, no wheelchair access, no facilities for religious education and meetings and a lack of plumbing and washroom facilities.

The Diocese granted permission to proceed with