

In This Issue...

- News from the Hudson's Bay Archives
- The 2000-2001 Harington Fellow
- An Italian Saga: The Missing Journal of Tuscan Alfredo Dupouy's Voyages as a Fur Trader in North-Western North America, 1822-23
- CRLS Website Update
- Colloquium 2002
- Book Reviews:
 - Dorothy Nafus Morrison, *Outpost: John McLoughlin and the Far Northwest*
 - Elizabeth Browne Losey, *Let Them be Remembered: The Story of the Fur Trade Forts*
 - Barbara Huck, *Exploring the Fur Trade Routes of North America*
- Conference Announcements & New Publications
- *The North I Love*
- Post-Colloquium Travel Adventures

A Message to our Readers

This Newsletter brings you several important announcements and items of information. For convenience, they are outlined here; however, please note the further details provided on the next pages and/or inserts in this mailing.

First, membership renewals for the year 2001 are now due, at the unchanged rate of twenty dollars per year (US\$20.00 for addresses outside Canada). Your membership year is shown on your mailing label; it also appears near the top of this page, for your records. We always regret removing names from the mailing list, but as memberships support our Newsletters and related expenses, we cannot afford to retain names that are more than one year in arrears. Please make cheques payable to the University of Winnipeg. If you wish to contribute further to our work, donations of any size are warmly welcomed. Amounts of ten dollars or more beyond your membership fee will receive receipts for income tax purposes. As our University is financially strapped, memberships and member contributions are of critical importance to us.

Second, please note the insert concerning member representatives on the Advisory Council, and at the bottom of that page, the ballot prepared by the Nominating Committee to choose two new Council members for four-year terms; a return envelope is enclosed (which may also serve for sending renewals). We ask that you mark the names acceptable to you; there are also spaces for write-ins and for suggestions for future nominations to be kept in mind for 2002 when two further member representatives on Council are to be chosen.

Further details appear on the insert; but in this space I wish to introduce the two candidates who were nominated: Lloyd Keith and Sylvia Van Kirk. Both are longtime Rupert's Land members and have regularly participated in our Colloquiums and other activities. The scholarship of both is known to many of you; Sylvia's pathbreaking book on women in the fur trade, *Many Tender Ties*, continues in print, and has been followed by other distinguished work, notably on the important fur trade families of early Victoria, BC. Lloyd's documentary volume, *North of Athabasca: Slave Lake and Mackenzie River Documents of the North West Company, 1800-1821*, has gone through page proofs for our Rupert's Land Record Society series, co-published with McGill-Queen's University Press, and will be a major contribution to fur trade and Aboriginal history in that region. Their experience, enthusiasm, and commitment to the Centre and to our fields of study led a number of people to propose their nominations, at the general meeting held at the May Colloquium in Vancouver, Washington, and their willingness to stand for your approval, and to serve, is deeply appreciated.

Turning to that Colloquium—it was greatly enjoyed by the approximately 85 registrants, and we all benefited from a rich program of papers and field trips skillfully arranged by our Coordinator, Theresa Schenck, by means of months of careful advance preparations. It was the first Colloquium to be held in the United States, and although our Canadian mini-bucks suffered shrinkage when the US-dollar bills washed over them, it was an outstanding experience to see Fort Vancouver, Champoeg, French Prairie, Cape Disappointment, and Fort

Message

continued from page 1

Clatsop, and to meet with numerous Pacific Northwest participants who had not previously attended our Colloquiums in other venues.

In these pages, you will find a brief announcement of plans for our next biennial Colloquium. We are delighted that Laura Peers, who is teaching at the University of Oxford and serving as Curator of the Americas at the Pitt Rivers Museum there, has agreed to coordinate the next Colloquium, to be held at Mansfield College, Oxford, April 16-19, 2002. Further details will be in the next Newsletter, but as spaces may be limited, we wanted to announce the dates as early as possible to aid your planning. We welcome suggestions and expressions of interest in this event; they may be passed both to our address or e-mail (or mine: jbrown@uwinnipeg.ca), and to Laura Peers, whose e-mail address is: laura.peers@prm.ox.ac.uk

As another insert will inform you, we have set a record for the rapid publication of papers following a Colloquium. Thanks to the volunteered effort and energy of David Malaher and the contributors who responded to his urgings, we are able to present eighteen of the Vancouver papers in one bound volume, *Selected Papers of Rupert's Land Colloquium 2000*. The price is twenty

dollars plus postage/handling, an excellent value compared to the usual charge of three dollars per individual Colloquium paper. The catch is that limited finances did not permit a large printing, and we do not expect the stock to last long; use the enclosed order form to place your order promptly. We encourage other presenters still to submit their papers to the Centre, for distribution on the same basis as other individual papers of past years.

As usual, this mailing includes an order form for available books and previous Colloquium papers; you may also order back copies of most *Newsletters* at modest cost. Note that we still have on hand the highly relevant book of papers, *First Nations and Hydroelectric Development in Manitoba*. We have also located some further copies of our co-published volume, *The Fur Trade Revisited: Selected Papers of the Sixth North American Fur Trade Conference, 1991*, which now reappears, probably briefly, on the order form. We offer you excellent buys on this book, as well as on Ruggles, *A Country So Interesting*, and Duckworth, *The English River Book*, on which the McGill-Queen's trade prices are considerably higher than our member prices.

Jennifer S.H. Brown

Director, Centre for Rupert's Land Studies

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The 2000-01 Rupert's Land Harington Fellow

The Centre for Rupert's Land Studies welcomes Donna Sutherland as the new Harington Fellow. Donna completed her B. A. (General) in June of 1999 at the University of Winnipeg, with a double major in Psychology and Anthropology. She is currently finishing her final year of studies in the Anthropology honours program.

Donna's interests focus on fur trade women of Cree-European descent between 1750 and 1850. Her goal is to rediscover these women's identities, collect family genealogy and tell their stories. Her work is based primarily on archival research among the Hudson's Bay Company Archives, the Provincial Archives of Manitoba and the Anglican Diocese of Rupert's Land.

Information on late-18th and early-19th century fur trade women is very sparse, creating a major research challenge. Donna has spent the past year rediscovering the life journey of her great-great-great-grandmother, Nahoway Sinclair (c.1775-1863). As part of the Harington Fellowship, Donna will begin research on two other ancestral fur trade women: Nestichio Batt-Spence (c.1757-1829) and Elizabeth Calder-Sutherland (c.1813-1907). Donna is always interested in hearing fur trade stories, receiving research hints or being asked questions about her research. She can be reached through the Rupert's Land Centre, or by e-mail: [<dandb@mb.sympatico.ca>](mailto:dandb@mb.sympatico.ca).

October, 2000

TO: All current members of the Centre for Rupert's Land Studies
FROM: Jennifer S.H. Brown, Director
RE: Member representatives on the CRLS Advisory Council

Somewhat over a year ago, the University of Winnipeg approved our organizational document outlining the structure and membership of an Advisory Council to provide us with expertise, counsel, and guidance. This Council of twelve consists of four members drawn from the University of Winnipeg community, four ex-officio members representing interested or related institutions or organizations, and four members drawn from the general membership. We began with a fine roster of volunteers; we have now reached the stage of having our nominating committee propose the names of two people who are both willing to serve and, we believe, widely known and respected among us. They would join current member representatives Harry W. Duckworth and Peter Geller, whose terms end in 2002.

On the lower part of this page is a ballot with the names of the nominees. Their terms as membership representatives would be for four years, 2000-2004. Their names arose from an informal poll taken at the General Meeting in Vancouver, Washington in May 2000, and through the committee's deliberations. For more information, please see my lead message in the current (Fall 2000) Newsletter.

On the front of your Newsletter, you will find a copy of your address label indicating your membership standing. Individual members whose labels read '00 or '01 (or C for complimentary) are eligible to vote. Please return the ballot in the enclosed addressed envelope, enclosing your updated membership payment if required. (Note, membership dues for 2001, at the unchanged rate of \$20/year, are now due.)

Please check the spaces beside those names you approve. Note too, that there is a space for a write-in, or to suggest names of persons who might be considered for the next two vacancies arising in 2002. (Council members may also serve two terms.)

For Membership Representative, Advisory Council, CRLS, 2000-2004 (Vote for two). Please return by 10 December 2000.

_____ **Lloyd Keith**

_____ **Sylvia Van Kirk**

_____ **Write-in nomination (name)** _____

Member names suggested for nomination for future terms: _____

**SELECTED PAPERS OF
THE CENTRE FOR RUPERT'S LAND STUDIES
COLLOQUIUM 2000**

Eighteen of the papers presented at the 9th biennial Rupert's Land Colloquium held in May 2000 in Vancouver, Washington are now available in book form, compiled by David Malaher. Paper/plastic bound, illus., 240 pages. ISBN 0-921206-40-6.

William Barr, Lieutenant Aemilius Simpson's Survey: York Factory to Fort Vancouver, 1826
Jean Murray Cole, The Fur Trader and The Indians: Relationships between the Hudson's Bay Company and The Native People as Revealed in Archibald McDonald's Letters and Journals.
Drew W. Crooks, The Farming Outstations of Fort Nisqually
Heather Devine, The Killing of Joseph Cardinal: The Northwest Rebellion, Ethnic Identities, and Treaty Six Bands in Northern Alberta
Richard Dobson, The Oregon Boundary Settlement and its Impact on The Hudson's Bay Operations in the Columbia District
Roberta Robin Dods, Boundary Markers, Cultural Divisions, and Economic Landscapes
Ann Harper Fender, Alcohol in the Trade: Isle a la Crosse, 1805-1823
Michael R.A. Forsman, Architectural Diversity and Demography in the Northern Fur Trade
Chris Hanks, Francois Beaulieu II: The Origins of the Metis in the Far Northwest
Jim Hardee, Effects of the Early Fur Trade on the Native People of the Pacific Northwest
Lloyd Keith, "Shameful Mismanagement, Wasteful Extravagance and the Most Unfortunate Dissention": George Simpson's misconceptions of the North West Company
Laura J. Murray, Fur Traders in Conversation
Jack Nisbet, Smoke: Native and Trade Tobacco on the Columbia Plateau
Diane P. Payment, Marie Fisher Gaudet (1843-1914): "La Providence du fort Fort Good Hope"
Yvette Villeneuve-Ezell, "Worth one-and-a Half Wives" Metis Women of Manitoba: Kokum's Granddaughters
Bruce M. Watson, The Effects of the 1847-48 Measles Epidemic on the Servants of the Hudson's Bay Company Working on the Pacific Slopes
Jean Webber, From a Hunting and Gathering Economy to Urbanization in the Canadian Okanagan – in less than 200 years
Mary C. Wright, The Bonds of Blood: Race, Politics and the Hudson's Bay Company during Oregon's 1847 Cayuse War

In addition to these latest papers on the fur trade and Native studies in Rupert's Land, the book contains a copy of the Colloquium program listing all the presenters and the titles of their papers, a record of the interesting events and side trips that were featured, and a foreword by Jennifer S.H. Brown.

This format for Colloquium papers was very popular after the 1994 Edmonton Colloquium and that limited printing quickly sold out. The price of this volume is \$20.00 plus \$5.00 for postage and handling: Total \$25.00. To ensure a copy for yourself, please complete and return this order form.



Book: **Selected Papers of Rupert's Land Colloquium 2000**

Number of books @ \$20.00 each..... \$ _____

Please add postage & handling @ \$5.00 each.. \$ _____

TOTAL ORDER \$ _____

(in US funds if ordering from US address)

Please make cheques payable to The University of Winnipeg

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Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Province/State _____

Country _____ Postal/Zip Code _____

NEWS FROM THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY ARCHIVES

RESTRUCTURING:

When the Hudson's Bay Company donated the archives to The Province of Manitoba, one of their expressed wishes was that more time be devoted to outreach and promotion of the Archives. At the last meeting of the Foundation, they approved a plan to create a new position for the internal management of the Archives, thus freeing the Keeper to devote more time to promotional activities including developing publication plans, public tour development, speaking engagements, liaising with the Company and the Museum of Man and Nature to support the interpretation and exhibit of the Hudson's Bay Company's history and co-operating with related organisations such as the Centre for Rupert's Land Studies. After an interview process, Maureen Dolyniuk was the successful candidate for the internal manager's position, to be designated as Chief. This new structure, along with the changes that we have previously made in strengthening the Records Advisory and Research and Reference units, should help us to continue to improve our range and scope of activities.

STAFFING:

A new position of Genealogical Archivist was also agreed to at the last Foundation meeting. Kathleen Epp was the successful candidate, but she is off on maternity leave right now bonding with her twin daughters, and Yvonne Snider-Nighswander is filling the position until Kathleen is ready to return. This new position will enable us to provide more helpful and timely service to genealogical researchers. We have also created a list of researchers willing to provide reports, for a fee, on more in-depth research topics. As part of their internships for the Archival Studies Program at the University of Manitoba, Paula Warsaba has created an index to a large volume of personnel files and Martin Comeau is focussing on our file system. Recently, Linda Horodecki returned to continue work on the library database, including converting our INMAGIC database to Geac so it can be posted on the internet.

CBC RADIO NORTH:

Our series of stories from the Archives broadcast on CBC Radio North across Northern Manitoba is continuing. Recent series have included "The Year without Summer, 1816"; "Augustine Tataniak" (with thanks to Renée Fossett for sharing her research findings;) and "Samuel Hearne". The transcripts of these talks are posted periodically on the HBCA website. This September, CBC Winnipeg re-broadcast the series on York Factory in 1714 to give details about James Knight's reoccupation of the fort after its control by the French.

INTERNET:

From January to September 2000, the website received 247,095, hits, exceeding last year's total by over 17,000 hits, with three months to go before the end of the calendar year. The month which has received the highest hits to date was March, with a total of 29,713 hits. The Genealogical Guide to the Provincial Archives of Manitoba, which went live in December 1999, has received 64,716 hits to date.

CONSTRUCTION CONTINUED:

The newly renovated Research Room is now fully functional. We are very pleased with the results and we think any of you able to visit will be impressed with the functional and attractive new facilities. Some of the features include a streamlined approach to the registration, reference and ordering kiosks, separate areas for reading microfilm and viewing films or listening to sound recordings, a view into the Conservation Laboratory, and the presence of the HBC longcase clock purchased in 1684. The transformation was made possible by funding from the Hudson's Bay History Foundation. Renovations to the HBCA offices have not yet been completed and will

continue in the new fiscal year, but already we have a more open space with new carpet, and we have finally eradicated all the orange walls that were our link to the 1970s (just in time to miss the current trend to sixties colours, including orange, according to a CBC radio report this past

Sunday!). The changes were made to accommodate the new additions to staff (we have expanded from 8 to 15 since the Company donated their records in 1994!).

RECENT DONATIONS AND FINDING AIDS:

Some of the recent donations will be particularly helpful for genealogists. Dale Forster, a stamp collector, has sent copies of eight letters pertaining to individuals working in the Pacific Northwest, 1830-1856 (E.353); descendants of Walter K. Miles donated a copy of his genealogical work including extensive research on Joseph Howse (E.357); Warren Baker contributed 37 voyageur contracts (E.354); and Warren Sinclair donated a copy of his very extensive Métis Genealogical Histories based on sources at the National Archives of Canada (E.235). Other donations included the personal journals of Adrian Small, Master of the Nonsuch from 1969 to 1972 (E.356); an album of 1920s Arctic photographs by J.W. Nichols (Photo Collection 2000/19) and six more films to add to the Ernest Hampton fonds (F112). New Finding Aids have been created for most of these acquisitions, and the North West

Company records in the HBCA (F.1-7) now have a more comprehensive finding aid that can be sent by e-mail to interested researchers: just drop me a line if you want to receive a copy.

POLAR LIBRARIES COLLOQUY:

Thanks to the dedicated work of Anne Morton and Barbara Kelcey, the Polar Libraries Colloquy was a great success. The papers were stimulating and varied, and the trips to Churchill, Gimli and elsewhere impressed the visitors who came from as far away as Alaska, Russia, the United Kingdom and the Scandinavian countries. Tours for 53 of the guests included the Conservation Laboratory, the new vaults, and examples of the HBCA cartographic, library, documentary art, photographic and textual holdings. A reception at the Winnipeg Art Gallery included HBC retirees Don Wilcox and Wulf Tolboom, and a dinner at the Fort Garry Hotel featured entertainment from the L'ensemble folklorique de la Rivière-Rouge.

PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Beyond the regular CBC radio broadcasts, the HBCA has been featured on A-Channel's "Big Breakfast Show" with John Ljungberg, in the film being prepared by Penny Wheelwright on Isabel Gunn, in an interview for Radio France and in a spot on Shaw Cable. The HBCA was included in a tour organised for Brandon seniors by Canad Tours on the HBC Experience. Besides giving talks to Kiwanis, Rotary and Probus groups, I played Letitia Hargrave at the Fort Whyte Centre. It was fun to learn a Scottish accent and deliver some of her wonderful lines in an effort to make history come alive at a fur trade dinner. Our brochures and a display formed part of the information available at the Red River Rendezvous, Old Fort William in Thunder Bay, Klondyke Days in Edmonton, the Fur Trade Symposium at Fort Union, Williston, ND and the CNE in Toronto. If you hear of opportunities where we can spread the word, please drop me a line.

HOURS:

Winter hours to May: Tuesday to Saturday, 9:00-16:00.
Summer hours: Monday to Friday, 9:00 -16:00. Researchers are encouraged to check with the Archives before planning a trip.

Judith Hudson Beattie, Keeper

Hudson's Bay Company Archives, Provincial Archives of Manitoba, 200 Vaughan Street, Winnipeg MB R3C 1T5

HBCA: Tel. (204) 945-4949 Fax. (204) 948-3236

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E-mail: jbeattie@gov.mb.ca

www.gov.mb.ca/chc/archives/hbca/index.html

An Italian Saga:

The Missing Journal of Tuscan Alfredo Dupouy's Voyages as a Fur Trader in North-Western North America, 1822-23

By Giovanni Pizzorusso and Carolyn Podruchny

[Giovanni Pizzorusso is a historian of colonial North America, particularly the Catholic Church, missionaries and travel narratives, and is currently working in Rome. Carolyn Podruchny is a historian of early Canadian fur trade and Native history, currently living in Winnipeg. They met recently while Carolyn was an International Council of Canadian Studies intern at the Centro di Ricerca in Studi Canadesi at the Università di Genova.]

In 1827, a fascinating article concerning an Italian who had traveled as a fur trader in North America was published in a Florentine cultural journal called *L'Antologia. Rivista di scienze lettere e arti*, which roughly translates as "Anthology: A Review of Science, Letters and Arts." The author, Terenzio Mamiani della Rovere, became a powerful minister in the papal government and later, Minister of Public Education in post-Unity Italy. At the time he wrote the article, however, he was simply a young learned man of noble origins aiming to enter literary circles in Florence, working under the direction of editor, Gian Pietro Vieusseux. Perhaps because of his own ambition, Mamiani became intrigued by the travels of another young man from the Tuscan city of Livorno. Mamiani's article on this young Tuscan, Alfredo Dupouy, was based on interviews and the youth's journal. Unfortunately, the journal has been lost, so we are able to view the experiences of Dupouy only through the eyes and voice of Mamiani.

Alfredo Dupouy was born in the Tuscan coastal town of Livorno in 1804 to a French father and Greek mother. After completing his education in Paris in 1822 at the age of 18, he set out to apprentice in the fur trade in North America. Why Dupouy chose this unusual path is unclear. He returned to Livorno a year and a half later in defeat, unable to earn a fortune in fur. Yet, during his 18 months in North America he traveled extensively, from New York City, west to the Red River settlement, north as far as the Athabasca District, and finally south to New Orleans, from whence he returned to Italy. His experiences were equally extensive. During his short stay, he starting working as a sailor, quickly picked up the skills of French Canadian voyageurs, secured his own outfit, mastered a trading party, lost his profits in feuds with other traders, "turned Indian" and married a Cree woman. Although the time-line of Dupouy's narrative seems implausibly rapid, his experiences and descriptions are convincing.

continued on page 6

Dupouy's travels in North America can be divided into three parts. In the first, Dupouy arrived in New York City, made his way west and north to Lake Ontario, and finally arrived at the island of "Dromaine" (probably Drummond Island), where he observed French Canadian traders, learned how to construct and maintain a canoe, and acquired his own outfit. At this point in the article, Mamiani includes a long excerpt from Dupouy's journal, in which he extensively describes the clothing and techniques of combat, hunting and fishing of the surrounding Ojibwe.

In the second part of his travels, Dupouy headed off into the interior in mid-September, 1822. By way of Grand Portage, he traveled to the Red River settlement before heading north to the English (or Churchill) River and on to the Athabasca District. Trading with both Cree and Chipewyan, and employing the technique of trading "en dérouine," (sending his men with goods to trade with Native people in their lodges), Dupouy was immensely successful, securing forty bales of furs worth 7,000 "monnaies." But Dupouy, who had been working as a freetrader outside of any company regulation, encountered trouble when he returned to the southeast with his precious cargo. At the Lake of the Woods, a group of 21 "Whites," probably Hudson's Bay Company men, attacked Dupouy, stole his furs and gravely injured him. A Cree man came to his rescue, nursed Dupouy back to health, and invited Dupouy to join his family. After Dupouy married the man's daughter, he journeyed with them south, hoping to find commercial success once again. Here Mamiani includes a second long excerpt from Dupouy's journal, this time reporting on Native marriages, childbirth, family organization, polygamy, games, shamans, spirituality, death rites, and beliefs about morality.

In the final leg of Dupouy's journey, he traveled in disguise as a Cree, with his Cree family, southeast as far as St. Louis. He revealed his true identity to Canadian merchants he met there, presumably because he felt he was no longer in danger. He then left his Cree kin to follow the

Mississippi south all the way to New Orleans, where he boarded a ship to return to Italy.

Mamiani's descriptions of Dupouy's experiences, and especially the excerpts from Dupouy's journal, provide tantalizing hints to a fascinating travel journal. Like many of his contemporaries, Dupouy's objective was to secure a fortune in the fur trade. Also like many of his contemporaries, Dupouy recorded extensive descriptions of the everyday workings of the fur trade, and the customs of Native peoples he encountered in the north west. What makes Dupouy's journal seem unique is his perspective as an outsider to North America, and to the French and English colonists and traders already installed there. Although he learned of the recent merger of the Hudson's Bay Company and North West Company while on Drummond Island, he decided to defy the new formidable monopoly and strike out on his own, relying on techniques learned from French Canadian and métis voyageurs. Until Dupouy's original journal is located, we are forced to rely on Mamiani's descriptions of his travels and the equivocal accuracy of his excerpts. Yet despite these limitations, it would be valuable to compare his ethnological descriptions of Cree and Ojibwe to those of his contemporaries, such as George Nelson and John Tanner, and to comparable precedents, such as Pierre-Esprit Radisson.

We have begun to search in Italy and North America for the original journal and evidence of Dupouy's travels. If successful, we plan to translate and publish the journal in either French or English or both and, at minimum, we will translate and re-publish Mamiani's article. If anyone knows of any evidence regarding Dupouy, we would deeply appreciate a note.

Carolyn can be reached at the History Department, University of Winnipeg, 515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 2E9 and email:

cpodruch@io.uwinnipeg.ca. Giovanni can be reached at Largo Giovanni Chiarini, 13, Roma, Italia 00154 and email: g.pizzorusso@mclink.it.

New For 2000: Updating the Centre for Rupert's Land Studies Web Site

By Peter Geller

In our digital age it is fitting that the Centre for Rupert's Land Studies make its presence felt on the Internet. Not only can you e-mail the Centre at rupert.land@uwinnipeg.ca, but you can also view the Centre's web site, hosted on the University of Winnipeg server. And when you visit us at <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/academic/ic/rupert/index.html> you will see some changes and updates, with more to come in the following months.

The web site first went on-line in the summer of 1997, providing an overview of the Centre's main activities and links to related sites of interest (Hudson's Bay Company Archives, Manitoba Museum, and McGill-Queen's University Press, to name a few). From the home page there were links to pages on the documentary publishing program, the Harington Fellowship and general Colloquia information. The newsletter page included links to a selection of articles from the 1996 newsletter, to give a taste of one of the benefits of membership and a sense of the Centre's activities. To keep the site up to date, information on the 1998 Colloquium in Winnipeg and Norway House was added; in the fall of 1999, the call for papers and a brief description of the tours and activities planned for the 2000 Colloquium in Vancouver, Washington, with links to related web sites, made an appearance.

While the overall look of the web site remains the same, a number of changes are now on-line and in the works, which reflect the ongoing activities of the Centre. Thanks to the cartographic work of Weldon Hiebert of the University of Winnipeg's Geography Department, you can view a map of Rupert's Land, linked from the home page. As well, selections from the Fall 1999 Newsletter are now on-line, and we plan to add articles from new issues of the Newsletter as they become available. Not only will this make the site more up to date, but it will create an "Archive" of back issues. As well, the Centre is currently producing a new brochure; the overview of the CRLS on the home page will be re-written to reflect these changes.

In addition, a number of new pages are being planned. Ideas so far include a page of links related to the history, culture and study of Rupert's Land; a Teaching Corner that could include syllabi, suggested readings, and other resources; and information on the CRLS Advisory Council members. All readers are invited to visit the Centre on the World Wide Web. Do you like the information and the way it is presented? Do you have any suggestions for changes, new pages to add, or your favourite Rupert's Land links that we could include in the future? Any feedback on the current site can be sent to me at peter.geller@uwinnipeg.ca. Ideas on what new features you would like to see on the CRLS web site can be sent to myself or to Carolyn Podruchny at cpodruch@io.uwinnipeg.ca.

CRLS Colloquium: April 16-19, 2002 at the University of Oxford

Plans are afoot to hold the 2002 CRLS Colloquium at the University of Oxford, England. While Oxford may not at first seem to be the centre of the fur trade universe, the University's famed Pitt Rivers Museum holds a collection of over 200 artefacts assembled by E. Hopkins (husband of artist Frances Hopkins), secretary to George Simpson, in 1841-42. Oxford is also very close to Witney, home of the blanket factory, and the Colloquium will take in these two attractions. Given these anchors for an Oxford venue for the colloquium, we hope to have special sessions on fur traders as collectors and on fur trade material culture.

Rooms have been reserved at Mansfield College, very close to both the Pitt Rivers Museum and to the historic centre of Oxford. Mansfield is a rather neo-Gothic, late Victorian college outside with a William Morris-inspired interior. The colloquium will be held earlier than in previous years due to the fact that conference space in Oxford is fairly limited to the period between academic terms; we are currently booked in for April 16 through 19, 2002. Space may be limited; we will advise in the next Newsletter how to book a place on this special Colloquium.

April is a bit early for punting on the Thames, but it means we will arrive before Oxford and England fill up with tourists for the season. Much of southern England is readily accessible from Oxford, which has buses departing for London every 15 minutes and bus and train connections to Heathrow, Gatwick, and Birmingham airports. Do plan to join us for what promises to be a most interesting Colloquium!

Laura Peers
Curator (Americas)
Pitt Rivers Museum

Please send expressions of interest in attending Colloquium 2002 to the Centre via email or post.

RUPERT'S LAND COLLOQUIUM PAPERS

Order Form

- _____ de Aguayo, Anna, "'Breaking The Competition': Early Nineteenth-Century Fur Trade and Fort Kilmaurs" (1994)
- _____ Allaire, Gratien, "From La Verendrye to McTavish: Continuity and Change" (1992)
- _____ Ball, Timothy, "Climate, Change, Droughts and their Social Impact: Central Canada, 1780-1820"
- _____ Block, Alvina, "The Memories of the Enigmatic Rev. George Flett, Native Presbyterian Missionary to the Cree and Ojibwa" (1998)
- _____ Carlson, Arne K., "The Lead Environment at Nineteenth-Century Rocky Mountain House" (1994)
- _____ Clarke, Margaret L., "Spyglass: The Larger Community" (1994)
- _____ Coutts, Robert, "Buried on the Bay: The Sloop Creek Schooner at York Factory and Hudson's Bay Company Marine Transport, 1878-1915" (1994)
- _____ Coutts, Robert, "The York Factory Ethnohistory Project: A Report on Research and Methodology" (1990)
- _____ Crane, Louise, "Learning from the Elders" (1994)
- _____ Cronenwett, Philip N. "Manuscript Resources in the Stefansson Collection at Dartmouth College" (1988)
- _____ Duckworth, Harry W., "The Hudson's Bay Company's Fur Sales Books, 1750-1800" (1988)
- _____ Duckworth, Harry W., "Selling Canadian Furs in London, 1760-1821" (1994)
- _____ Ens, Gerhard J., "Another Look at the Whisky Trade of Whoop-Up Country" (1994)
- _____ Esau, Frieda, "Domestic Servants and Fur Trade Households" (1994)
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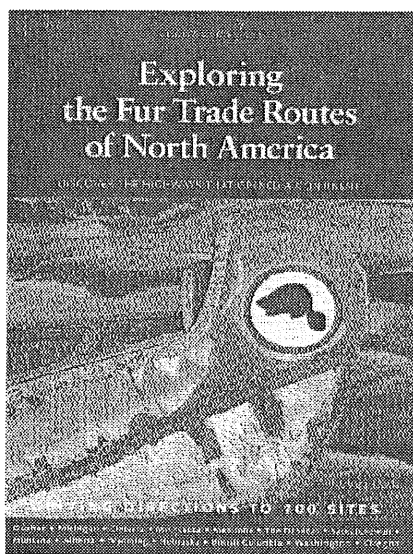
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Book Reviews

Time Traveling: Two Recent Books Look at Early Fur Trade Posts and Routes in North America

If the great fascination with rediscovering the physical remnants of the North American fur trade that flowered in the 1970s has waned in recent years, two recent publications might rekindle interest in the ancient routes and communities that so changed a continent and its peoples. Elizabeth Browne Losey's *Let Them Be Remembered: The Story of the Fur Trade Forts*, and Barbara Huck's *Exploring the Fur Trade Routes of North America*, vividly portray the history of the North American fur trade as it unfolded over two and half centuries along the rivers and lakes of a continent.

These two works are marked by certain similarities; both represent years of research as each author followed long-ago routes searching for the sites of the fur posts that once dotted the North American map from Montreal to the Columbia, and both augment their accounts with information from a variety of published sources. But there are also significant differences. *Exploring the Fur Trade*



Routes of North America is a route-oriented guide for drivers (and to a lesser extent canoeists and hikers), and is formatted to appeal to a popular and generalist market. *Let Them Be Remembered*, however, runs over 700 pages and is far more encyclopedic in approach, recounting the history of over 100 posts and providing a detailed narrative of the author's (and her husband's) twenty-year trek by motor home, boat, canoe and airplane to the far reaches of the fur trade.

Far less detailed, and concentrated for the most part on the main posts and routes of the fur trade, Barbara Huck's account (augmented by the writings of ten contributing authors), is beautifully illustrated with hundreds of photographs, maps, and historic and contemporary illustrations, almost all of which are in colour. The book is nicely organized around overviews of the French and English trades, informative picture captions, and inserts on such topics as the birchbark canoe, the beaver hat, and the 18th century Dene woman, Thanadelthur. Elizabeth Losey's book, on the other hand, is less popular in its format (four maps are the book's only illustrations), although she goes beyond the general in providing much useful information on some of the lesser known posts of the fur trade. But it is her personal story that will resonate with readers; her

accounts of the sometimes arduous trips to remote and little-known sites, and the colourful tales of the people she and her husband met along the way.

Exploring the Fur Trade Routes of North America and *Let Them Be Remembered* make a contribution, in their own way, to a greater appreciation of fur trade history "on the ground." More importantly, they represent labours of love by two authors who have been time travelers to a not so distant past that still informs our collective geographical and historical consciousness.

Robert Coutts

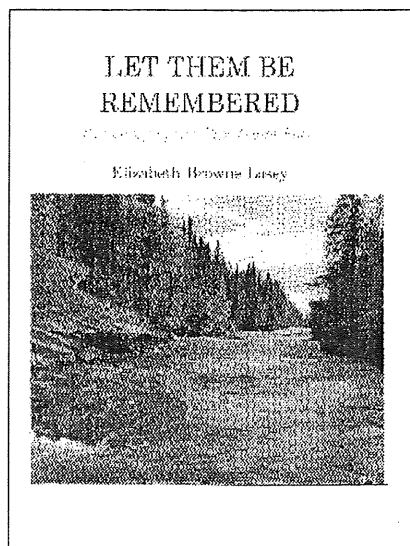
Exploring the Fur Trade Routes of North America by Barbara Huck (\$24.95) is published by Heartland Publications and is available in bookstores. *Let Them Be Remembered: The Story of the Fur Trade Forts* by Elizabeth Browne Losey (\$29.95 US) can be ordered from Vantage Press, 516 W. 34th St. New York, NY, 10001 (tel) 212 736-1767 (fax) 212 736-2273.

Outpost: John McLoughlin and the Far Northwest by Dorothy Nafus Morrison (Portland: Oregon Historical Society Press, 1999)

A Review by Melinda Jette, University of British Columbia

I didn't like my mother's interpretations of the McLoughlin family. Their lives, I thought, had no relevance to my own. Who was Dr. John McLoughlin, after all, but a big, rich white man who had exploited Indians in the old days? Father of Oregon. What did that mean? Helped settlers steal land. I wasn't impressed.¹

Janet Campbell Hale (Coeur d'Alene), great-great granddaughter of John McLoughlin, has written an autobiographical essay, "The Only Good Indian," in which she reflects upon the links between her life experience and that of the McLoughlin family. Al-



though Hale did not initially see a connection, she later realizes that the story of this fur trader and his family is relevant to her because of the efforts by Euro-Americans to claim John McLoughlin as their own and to marginalize the McLoughlin family's Indian heritage, which later manifests itself in the internalized racism of Hale's mother and her relatives. Here Jane Campbell Hale relates her own struggle to overcome racialized thinking while also criticizing Euro-American biases in the historical writing on John McLoughlin. Her reflections illustrate John McLoughlin's mixed legacy in Pacific Northwest history. Although he and his French-Chippewa wife, Marguerite Wadin, with whom he had several children, enjoyed a long relationship, he was a leading figure in the fur trade vanguard that ultimately brought Euro-American colonial domination to the Native peoples of the region.

The last thirty years have seen the publication of works by Native American writers such as Janet Campbell Hale, political action by Indian peoples across the continent, and shifts in academic orientations in fur trade history, Native history, and gender and sexuality studies that have led to more critical, inclusive, and nuanced historical narratives. With these developments in mind, I approached Dorothy Nafus Morrison's new biography of John McLoughlin with anticipation, since the book jacket promised a "comprehensive biography [that] takes a fresh view of this complex and passionate man." Here, after all, was one of the most important figures in Pacific fur trade history, a man who had effectively directed Hudson's Bay Company operations in the region for over twenty years (1824–1845). However, while this biography does have a number of strengths, I finished it with a sense of disappointment, feeling that Morrison missed an opportunity to explore McLoughlin's complex role in the history of the Pacific Northwest.

Running to 640 pages and includ-

ing 482 pages of written text, endnotes, an extensive bibliography, 100 illustrations and six maps, *Outpost: John McLoughlin and the Far Northwest* is a grand undertaking. Morrison divides the book into twelve chapters: the first three trace McLoughlin's family history and his early years in Quebec and the Canadian Northwest (1746–1824); the middle four chapters chronicle the Chief Factor's first decade and a half in the Pacific Northwest during which time he consolidated and developed Hudson's Bay Company operations (1824–1838); the remaining five chapters relate McLoughlin's experiences during the transitional period as he watched Oregon become dominated by American settlers and eventually become a fledging American territory (1838–1857). In the last two chapters, Morrison details how McLoughlin was forced out of the Hudson's Bay Company in 1845, and how a number of newly arrived but well-placed Americans sought to deprive McLoughlin of his land holdings in Oregon City, despite the fact that he had become an American citizen and had continued to assist settlers as he had done during his tenure as Chief Factor at Fort Vancouver.

The strengths of Morrison's biography lie in her command of the primary source material, for the book, a decade in the making, is obviously a labour of love that led to extensive research. She demonstrates a deep knowledge of Pacific Northwest history and on this aspect, the text was strengthened by the comments of several Northwest historians including Richard Mackie, author of *Trading Beyond the Mountains: The British Fur Trade on the Pacific, 1793–1843* (1997). Here Morrison is on solid ground, relating events from the perspective of Canadian and American male colonists. Morrison is particularly keen on tracing McLoughlin's role as an administrator and she ably chronicles the logistical challenges in

managing the Columbia District, the workings and development of the Hudson's Bay Company regional operations, and McLoughlin's relations with the company's administrators, most notably George Simpson. Morrison has also done an admirable job of bringing together visual sources from across North America. The volume is handsomely illustrated with print, drawings, lithographs, photographs, and paintings depicting historical events, landscapes, and historical figures.

Morrison comes at this project as a writer who, according to the information on the volume, has "published young adult biographies of historical figures of the Northwest, including one on Dr. John McLoughlin,"—*The Eagle and the Fort: The Story of John McLoughlin* (1979). She is also author of several works of fiction. In this book, Morrison pens a popular history in strong, clear prose that will appeal to general readers. She offers a descriptive narrative that is relatively straightforward, and as a storyteller, her writing often has a dramatic flair. This style and approach are in keeping with previous biographies on John McLoughlin such as Richard G. Montgomery's *The White-Headed Eagle* (1934), Robert C. Johnson's *John McLoughlin: Father of Oregon* (1935) and Burt Brown Barker's well-known chronicle, *The McLoughlin Empire and Its Rulers* (1959).

Writing a biography as a popular history is certainly a worthwhile undertaking. Unfortunately, Morrison adopts a common literary trope as her theme, characterizing McLoughlin's life as "a classical Greek tragedy, in which the hero shows courage and skill but is destroyed by implacable fate, by his virtues, and by his own character flaws" (xix). This approach is more appropriate for a historical novel than for a serious biography that wishes to chronicle an individual's role in actual historical events. The emphasis on fate and temperament are antiquarian no-

continued on page 9

tions out of step with current trends in biographical and historical writing that stress complex and nuanced interpretations, especially multiple perspectives.

Relying on this antiquarian approach, Morrison stumbles when she attempts to interpret historical events. She does not have a command of the secondary literature that would have enhanced her interpretations and led her to question easily received notions about John McLoughlin's heroic masculinity. The most troubling aspect of this book is Morrison's unabashedly colonialist perspective, one that is fully grounded in the Euro-American bias of earlier generations of popular and scholarly writers. Her treatment of the Native peoples of the Pacific Northwest replicates earlier assumptions that place them a voiceless group in the background, secondary characters in the more important story of Euro-American settlement.

Morrison uncritically reiterates the views of Anglo-Americans who colonized the region. For example, in the prologue she refers to the Columbia District in 1824 as an "almost uncharted land" (xvii), "virtually unexplored" (xviii). Such a representation clearly marginalizes the history and culture of the Indian peoples of the region. The author's interpretation would have benefited from a reading of Elizabeth Vibert's *Traders' Tales* (1997), which offers an engaging critique of such views. In another instance, Morrison disregards Native geopolitics and Native perspectives on colonial encounters when she makes the startling assertion that "eventually they [neighboring Indians] learned to trust him because he was kind and fair" (xviii). These romanticized notions about John McLoughlin's personality not only obscure colonial conquest, they also simplify complex intercultural relations between Natives and newcomers—relations that were diplomatic, familial, economic, and sometimes violent.

Mixed marriages between Native women and white fur traders and related matters such as women's experience, gender, sexuality, and intimate relations are additional areas in which Morrison's interpretations are woefully inadequate. The author's genteel discussion of intimate matters lack sophistication and evince a reticence more emblematic of frontier missionaries than critical biographers. Her interpretations tend to gloss over the sexual domination of women, domestic violence, cultural tensions inherent in mixed marriages, and the differing destinies of female slaves, Indian women married to fur trade labourers, and Indian women married to company officers. What is particularly upsetting is her characterization of heterosexual relations as largely satisfying, loving relationships whereby women tended the homefront and aided their men, as was their duty. She often comments on the relative absence of officers' wives in written accounts and activities at Fort Vancouver, but fails to analyze the meaning of this absence. The biography offers only a shadowy understanding of the intimate relationship between Marguerite Wadin and John McLoughlin. Morrison thus misses an opportunity to explore the importance of mixed marriages in the operation of the fur trade, a significant topic as demonstrated by the path-breaking works of Sylvia Van Kirk and Jennifer Brown published in the early 1980s.

Morrison also tends to rely on simplistic characterizations and conclusions that do not fully explain historical events. She describes the French-Canadians in French Prairie as "loyal Canadians" (p. 372) but does not explain what she means. Loyal to what? To whom? To John McLoughlin? The Hudson's Bay Company? The British monarchy? Such characterizations overlook class, ethnic, and religious tensions within the fur trade and the emerging colonial society. In another instance, Morrison explains the deci-

sion by French-Canadian settlers to initially withdraw their support from efforts to organize a provisional government during the early 1840s by repeating previous interpretations that attribute this withdrawal to McLoughlin's influence amongst the French-Canadians. Here Morrison conflates the interests of the Hudson's Bay Company, John McLoughlin, and retired French-Canadian voyageurs without thoroughly analyzing the French-Canadians' motives and their relations with their American neighbours.

Dorothy Nafus Morrison has attempted to enliven our collective memory on the role of John McLoughlin in Pacific Northwest history and she dedicated more than ten years to the researching and writing of this well-illustrated volume. Her writing is crisp, her knowledge of regional history commendable. She tells an appealing story of a remarkable man. However, her story repeats the comfortable mythologies of earlier interpretations rather than offering "a fresh view" of his role in the Euro-American colonization of the Pacific Northwest. By portraying McLoughlin as a heroic but tragic figure, Morrison masks this man's complex legacy, a legacy that Janet Campbell Hale, in her own way, has attempted to unmask. Descendants of the fur traders and denizens of the western regions will have to wait for a critical biography that can incorporate Hale's perspective—indeed multiple perspectives—of "The White Headed Eagle," John McLoughlin.

¹ Janet Campbell Hale, "The Only Good Indian," in *Bloodlines: Odyssey of a Native Daughter* (New York: Random House, 1993), 125.

Conference Announcements

Race, Ethnicity and Migration Conference

A conference cosponsored by the REM Seminar and the Immigration & Ethnic History Society will be held November 16–18, 2000 at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities campus. This conference intends to bring together scholars who work on the United States and other parts of the world for comparative and interdisciplinary discussions on race, ethnicity, and migration in communities, past and present. The conference seeks to address the urgent need for a more comprehensive and transnational research agenda. For more detailed information, please contact: Rachel Leatham, Seminar on Race, Ethnicity, and Migration, Immigration History Research Center, University of Minnesota, 826 Berry Street, St. Paul, MN 55114; ph: (612) 627-4208; fax: (612) 627-4190; email: <rem@tc.umn.edu>.

Canadian Historical Association Conference

Next year's CHA meeting is being held in Quebec City, May 25–27, 2001. Themes for this conference are: heritage and culture; institutions, power and society; interdisciplinarity; myths and realities; society and the natural world. For a definition of the themes and more information, check out the website at <www.yorku.ca/research/cha> and click on "Call for Papers". The deadline for papers is October 30, 2000. While this conference is meant to showcase Canadian history, the CHA has been very interested in panels that reach beyond these national boundaries. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Tamara Myers: phone: (204) 786-9353; email: <tamara.myers@uwinnipeg.ca>.

Books & Other Publications

Papers of the 31th Algonquian Conference

Sponsored by Lakehead University, the 31st Algonquian Conference was held in Lafayette, Indiana, in October 1999. Twenty-six of the papers presented at the conference are included in the *Papers of the Thirty-first Algonquian Conference*, edited by John D. Nichols, published by the University of Manitoba (illus., maps, paperback, ISSN 0031-5671; v.31). Cost is \$44.00. For Canadian orders, prices are in Canadian funds and include GST. For US and other addresses, prices are in US funds. All prices include postage and handling. Cheques should be made payable to: University of Manitoba - Algonquian Conference. Please mail your order to: Papers of the Algonquian Conference c/o Linguistics Department, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2. Orders may be received by phone, fax or email as well, c/o Arden Ogg, Managing Editor; ph: (204) 474-9300; fax: (204) 474-7671;

email: <Acogg@cc.UManitoba.ca>.

Please note that Volume 30 is not yet available.

**Niddrie of the North-West:
Memoirs of a Pioneer Canadian
Missionary** by John W. Niddrie,
edited by John W. Chalmers and
John J. Chalmers ISBN 0-88864-
341-1 2000 \$24.95 paper; 242 pages

This text points to the versatility required of missionaries who were some of the earliest Europeans to settle in the remote areas of Canada. Men like John Niddrie often acted as doctors, lawyers, teachers, and social workers in addition to their assigned duties. Born in Scotland in 1863, Niddrie came to Canada as a young man and soon struck out for Alberta. His missionary work took him from

Morley, Alberta to Oxford House, NWT and finally to Berens River, Manitoba, where he lived as a well-loved and respected member of the clergy. Niddrie deeply loved the people he served, and his observations on his work as a missionary reflect a spirit of hope and understanding. At the same time, he offers a lively portrait of life in the bush among the natives and the pioneers. His memoir is highlighted by more than sixty period photographs of the people and places he knew. To order this volume, please contact: Raincoast Books, 9050 Shaughnessy Street, Vancouver, BC, V6P 6E5; ph: 1-800-663-5714; fax: 1-800-565-3770; email: <custserv@raincoast.com> or <info@raincoast.com>.

Association of Book Publishers of B.C. Launches Electronic Cata- logue of First Nations Resources

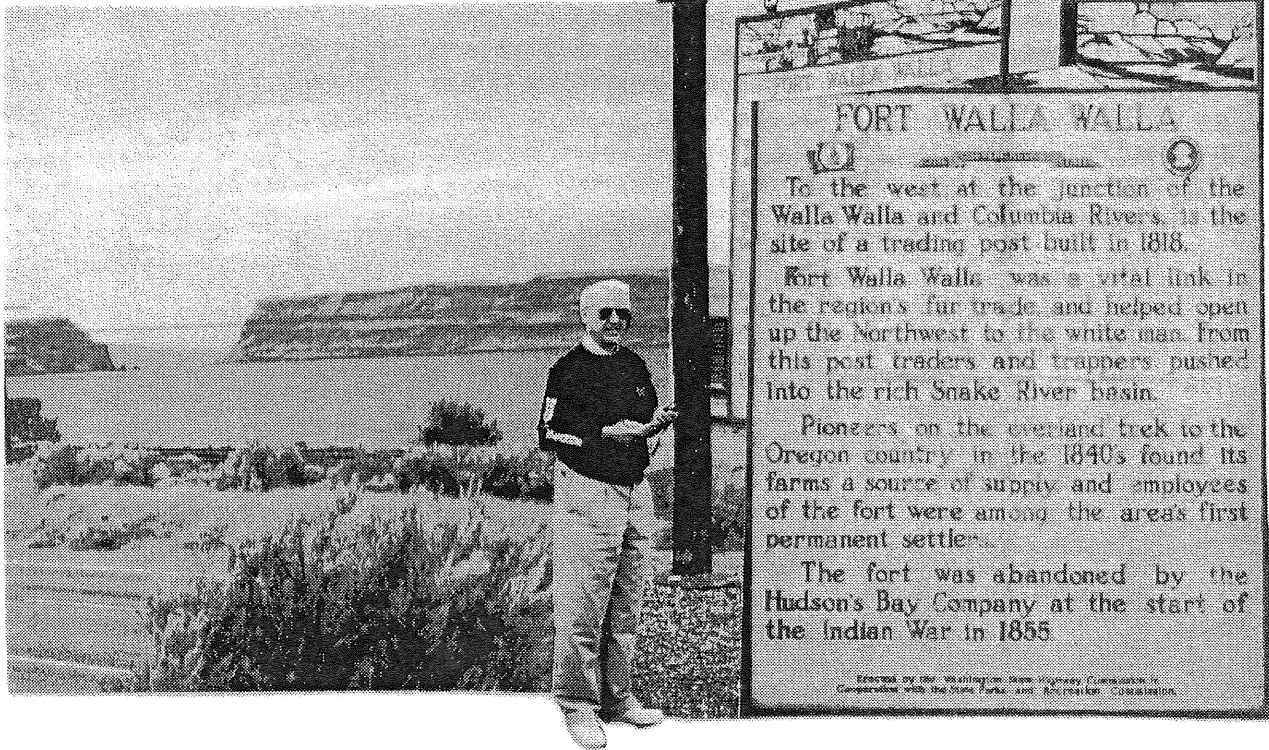
The Association of Book Publishers of British Columbia (ABPBC), in cooperation with the Department of Canadian Heritage, is pleased to announce the launch of an on-line catalogue of Canadian-published First Nations books on the following website: <www.books.bc.ca>. The catalogue features over 80 educational resources, including new titles, backlisted volumes and CD-Roms from Canadian publishers. Publications range from illustrated picture books to reference materials; from fiction to non-fiction for all grades from Kindergarten to Grade 12. Many of the books were written by aboriginal peoples or published by aboriginal publishers and the selected titles were chosen by aboriginal educators from submitted titles. The catalogue is searchable by grade level and by subject area as well as by title. The site also provides links to educational distributors who have agreed to accept orders on-line and links to on-line retailers to facilitate orders from individual buyers not affiliated with schools.

Post-Colloquium Travel Adventures

Colloquium 2000 did not end May 28 for some participants. Rosemary and David Malaher continued their on-site research into the early fur trade and exploration of the west by following, more or less, the paths of Lewis and Clark through Washington, Idaho, Montana and North Dakota. We made our personal voyage of discovery from Fort Vancouver to Fort Garry.

7330 feet elevation, the pass is a classical saddle shape on the continental divide. Luckily we passed through before the awful forest fires later in the summer.

In Montana we stayed in the historic Sacagawea Hotel at Three Forks, explored the eastern prairie foothills mid-



Not far from the Fort Walla Walla site stands a fine restoration of the Whitman Mission, founded in 1836 and abandoned in 1847 after Marcus and Narcissa Whitman were killed by the local Cayuse. Further east, the Snake and Clearwater Rivers meet at the western edge of the Bitterroot Mountains. We enjoyed a 180 mile tour in a jet boat from Clarkston, Washington, up the Snake River into Hells Canyon, where the special thrill was a family of four cougars watching us from the river bank.

In the 1930s, the Roosevelt administration restored the original Lewis and Clark horse trail over the Bitterroot Mountains in Idaho to create a route for adventurous tourists. Our 4WD car mastered the climb but we were well impressed with the precipitous drop-offs and snowy landscape. Back on the highway we drove over the three main passes, Lolo, Lost and Lemhi, traveled in 1805-1806 by the Corps of Discovery. Whereas modern highways have paved the Lolo and Lost, the Lemhi pass is a narrow dirt and gravel road rising steeply into the cool pine trees. At

Fort Walla Walla on the Columbia River. This is dry near-desert country but the streams flowing westward from the Bitterroot Mountains make an ideal habitat for the ubiquitous beaver.

way between the Yellowstone and Missouri Rivers, and crossed the Missouri at a splendid rendezvous campsite on Highway 191. There we witnessed a re-enactment of Lewis and Clark's arrival, complete with a ceremonial dance by the Fort Belknap Indian band. As usual, the bookstore at Fort Union, North Dakota made good sales to my library. We crossed the 49th parallel at Turtle Mountain as a token to David Thompson and safely reached our home in Fort Garry one week after leaving the Columbia River.

by David Malaher

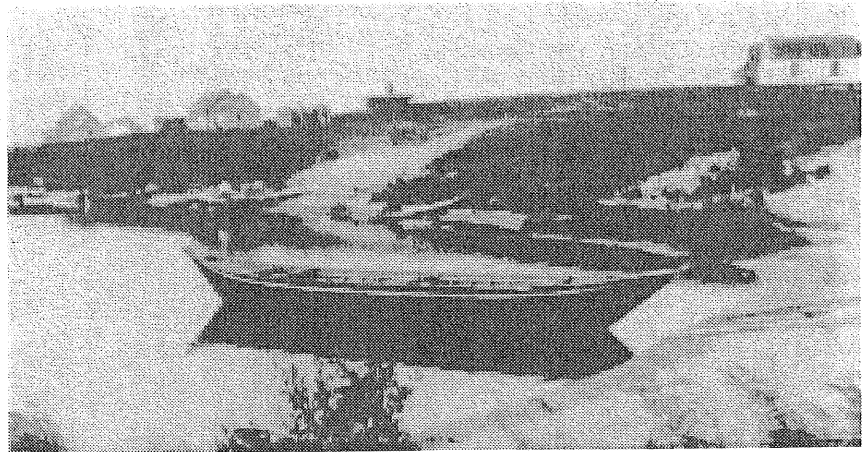
Gerald Malaher's *The North I Love*

Seventeen-year-old Gerald Malaher, only a few months out of England, first went north in 1921 to be an instructor at the Anglican missionary school six miles upstream from The Pas. This began his life-long love affair with the north and a career in natural resources management for the Province of Manitoba. Although out of fashion in comparison with 18th

and 19th century Hudson's Bay Company experience, the beaver and other fine furs still had an appeal for women's winter coats well past the 1950s. Personal accounts of early airplanes, York boats and canoes, some still birchbark, are told in his autobiography, along with colourful characters of the north and timeless outposts, including Cumberland House, Rein-

deer Lake, York Factory, Oxford House, South Indian Lake, Little Grand Rapids and many more. Forestry, fishing, and fur were the three resources that Gerald studied, managed and loved to live amongst until he retired in 1967 and, in actuality, was never away from until his death in 1984.

First published in 1984, *The North I Love* (cloth, 176 pages, illus., maps) is available through the Malaher family at a special price of \$10.00 for members of the Centre for Rupert's Land Studies. Postage and Handling rates are as follows: Canada: \$8.00; US: \$12.00; Overseas: \$20.00. Please contact Rosemary Malaher, 6 Glenbrook Crescent, Winnipeg, MB R3T 4W4; e-mail: <rosemary@malaher.org>.



The Hudson's Bay Company was still using this York boat at Brochet, on Reindeer Lake, in 1926 when Gerald Malaher took gasoline there by canoe for a Vickers Viking.

HELP WANTED

Anyone who speaks, reads and writes Russian, French and English might be interested in a unique assignment to explore the Russian archives in St. Petersburg and Moscow. The time period is post-Napoleon (1815 - 1825), and the information sought is in the Russian Foreign Office correspondence with their Ambassadors in London and Washington. If you know Emperor Alexander I, Count Nesselrode, Count Capodistrias, Prince and Princess Lieven, Pierre de Poletica, Viscount Castlereagh, Sir Charles Bagot, Sir Stratford Canning, George Canning in his earlier years, Henry Middleton and John Quincy Adams, or you would like to meet them posthumously, this research project could be yours. Since much

of their correspondence was in diplomatic French of the time, skill in this language is as essential as Russian and English.

This is not an easy project. However, it could suit a person working in history, law, languages, geography, anthropology, political science or international relations. Broadly speaking, the topic is the Russian American Company. A comprehensive Briefing Paper is available to guide the research and measure success. To discuss the project further, please contact **David Malaher** at (204) 275-6061 or by regular mail to: 6 Glenbrook Crescent, Winnipeg, MB R3T 4W4.