

A Message to our Readers

By Roland Bohr

In this Issue...

- Introducing our New Harington Fellow
- Archives and Museum News:
 - Hudson's Bay Company Archives
 - United Church Archives
- 2008 Rupert's Land Rocky Mountain House Colloquium
 - Registration
 - Call for Papers
 - Field Trip
- Book Announcements:
 - Fort Lac la Pluie*
 - Natives & Settlers*
- Book Award
 - Living with Strangers*
- Articles:
 - The Assomption Sash
 - A Visit to Irkutsk, Siberia
- A New Anthropology Website

This fall, we have much to announce. Our director, Jennifer S. H. Brown, is on sabbatical until January 2008, and I am serving as the Acting Director of the Centre for Rupert's Land Studies. I would like to briefly introduce myself. I am an Assistant Professor teaching North American Aboriginal history at the University of Winnipeg. I have worked with Jennifer Brown and the Centre for Rupert's Land Studies since I came to Canada from Germany in 1999. I completed my Ph.D. at the University of Manitoba in 2005. During my graduate studies, I was a Harington Fellow, and also worked on the Omushkego Oral History Project with Cree storyteller Louis Bird. My research interests include Aboriginal hunting technology and material culture. Some of you may remember me from previous colloquiums (the short guy carrying bows and arrows).

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new Harington Fellow, Jennifer Ching, who is already helping us out greatly. She is very active with the History Students Association at the University of Winnipeg. She is pursuing research on her fur trade and Red River ancestor, John Pritchard, and his descendants.

Furthermore, we extend sincere thanks to Mike Sanders and Sanday Scott, our previous two Harington Fellows, who have made excellent contributions to the Centre's research and other work. Sanday is continuing work on his Honours history degree, and Mike is starting Master's studies at the Natural Resource Institute at the University of Manitoba.

Preparations for the next Rupert's Land Colloquium in May 2008 in Rocky Mountain House, Alberta are well underway. Jennifer and Wilson Brown, Anne Lindsay, Carolyn Kent, David Malaher and the rest of the conference committee are putting in much work to make this an exciting and enjoyable event. In conjunction with the colloquium, Ken Walker from Parks Canada in Jasper has organized a field trip for colloquium participants, going from Rocky Mountain House to Jasper and to sites (and sights) of historic interest on the way. Registration forms for the colloquium and the field trip are included in this newsletter. For further information, please check the preliminary conference schedule included in this newsletter.



Director's Message

continued from page 1

The 2008 Colloquium in Rocky Mountain House will coincide with events relating to the David Thompson Bicentennial. The local community and Parks Canada are putting on several events in and around town, especially at the site of the restored fur trading post, which will be open to the public for the first time after extensive renovation and rebuilding of exhibits.

To be kept on the membership list to receive the Rupert's Land Newsletter and other current information, please be sure you are up to date: check the label on this mailing for your expiry year. Memberships for 2008 are now due, still at \$ 25/year Canadian, or equivalent in US dollars; please return your cheque or money order, made out to the University of Winnipeg and labelled "CRLS," to us with the enclosed completed membership form. Thank you for your continued interest, and a warm welcome to new members!

In closing, I wish all of you a pleasant and productive fall and winter and I am looking forward to seeing you at the 2008 Rupert's Land Colloquium in Rocky Mountain House.

Introducing Jennifer Ching, Rupert's Land Harington Fellow, 2007- 2008

We extend a warm welcome to Jennifer Ching, our 21st annual student Harington Fellow. Jennifer is in her fifth and final year at the University of Winnipeg in pursuit of an Honours degree in history. She has been active throughout her years at the University in the History Students Association, and this year, she looks forward to being involved at the University on a more professional academic level through the Centre for Rupert's Land Studies.

Her interests in history are varied and she says she would be hard pressed to select one area she prefers over another. Genealogy, however, has always been a soft spot, and so her historical research this year will focus on her fur trade and Red River ancestor, John Pritchard, and his descendants.

As one of the founding Selkirk settlers, Pritchard led a colourful and adventurous life. He was present at the Battle of Seven Oaks in 1816, and survived to become a leading educational and religious figure in the Red River Settlement.

Jennifer is interested in pursuing the lives of

Pritchard's two wives, Marie Sauvagesse and Katherine McGillvrey. Who were these women and what can we learn about their very different backgrounds? She hopes to research the descendants of both these unions and discover their roles in the Settlement. At every opportunity, she will also trace any links that John Pritchard's families shared with the surrounding Aboriginal communities.

Jennifer welcomes any questions or information on these topics and can be reached via email at

j.ching-ra@uwinnipeg.ca.

The Centre for Rupert's Land Studies

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The University of Winnipeg

515 Portage Avenue

Winnipeg, MB

Canada R3B 2E9

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Jennifer S.H. Brown

Office Assistant

Anne Lindsay

Harington Fellow (2007-2008):

Jennifer Ching

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www.uwinnipeg.ca/academic/ic/ruptert

Please note the deadline for paper proposals is coming fast: 15 November 2007.

News from The Hudson's Bay Company Archives

*Maureen Dolyniuk
Manager, Hudson's Bay
Company Archives*

Staff

We were pleased to welcome several new staff members to HBCA in the last few weeks. James Gorton, has accepted a permanent position as Archivist, Client Service. James comes to us from the Archives of Ontario, where he has had extensive client service and public programming experience. James is a graduate of the University of Toronto, Faculty of Information Studies Program, archives stream. Two temporary vacancies have come up due to the maternity leaves of archivists, Bronwen Quarry and Lisa Friesen. They are being filled by Ian Keenan and Michelle Rydz. Ian and Michelle are from the joint University of Winnipeg/ University of Manitoba Masters in Archival Studies program.

HBCA Receives UNESCO Designation

In June it was announced that the Hudson's Bay Company archive records spanning the first 250 years of its history, 1670 to 1920, have been included in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO)

Memory of the World registry. The Memory of the World Register acknowledges documentary heritage of world significance and the need to protect it and make it accessible for all humanity. The proposal submitted by Archives Manitoba was initially reviewed by an ad hoc committee composed of experts established by the Canadian Commission for UNESCO before it was sent to an International Advisory Committee which met in Pretoria, South Africa in June. The Hudson's Bay Company Archives, and The Quebec Seminary Collection, 1623-1800, housed in the Musée de la civilisation du Québec, are the first collections in Canada to share this honour. Our thanks go to Jennifer Brown who along with several other local, national and international researchers representing a broad scope of research interests wrote letters of support for HBCA's application.

Acquisitions

HBCA staff has been working with the Hudson's Bay Company quite intensely over the last several months on a further donation of some 1,395 linear feet of records

primarily related to the period 1900-1987, but including some items as early as 1723 and as recent as 1999. This major accrual of records document the continuing history of HBC including the emergence of the retail department store business in addition to the fur trading business that continued into the 20th century. The accrual includes historical records and administrative papers of HBC and its subsidiaries like Simpson's, Zellers and several other business ventures. The gift of these records will be finalized in the next few weeks. The HBCA staff is now working at processing and describing the records so they will not be available for research right away. Access provisions will be similar to those applied to the original donation.

New acquisitions are available for consultation when they are fully processed. Depending on the records and donor agreements in place, access restrictions may apply. Also, Fur Trade Scholars interested in donating records to the HBCA should contact Marcia Stentz, Archivist (marcia.stentz@gov.mb.ca) or Debra Moore, Head, Acquisition and Special Media (debra.moore@gov.mb.ca).

continued on page 4

*News from
The Hudson's Bay Company Archives*

continued from page 3

Hours

Research Room hours are Monday to Friday, 9:00-16:00 throughout the year. We are closed for inventory for one week, the first full week in September after Labour Day.

Researchers traveling from out of town are encouraged to check with the Archives before planning a visit.

Contact Information

Maureen Dolyniuk
Manager, Hudson's Bay Company Archives
130-200 Vaughan St.
Winnipeg MB R3C 1T5
HBCA general - telephone: (204) 945-4949, fax: 948-3236, e-mail: hbca@gov.mb.ca
Maureen's direct telephone and e-mail: (204) 945-2620, mdolyniuk@gov.mb.ca

*New Anthropology
Website Announced at the
University of Aberdeen*

Submitted by Alison Brown

Later this autumn a new website will be launched through the Department of Anthropology at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland. The Material Histories website (<http://www.abdn.ac.uk/materialhistories/>) is based on research undertaken as part of the Material Histories project and is funded by the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council. This two-year project has used beadwork and other artefacts in museums and in family homes in Scotland as a focus for exploring the social relationships between Scots working for the Hudson's Bay Company and Aboriginal people.

The website builds upon the forthcoming textual outputs of the project - two papers and a book - by providing greater access to images of the artefacts that lie at the heart of the research. By incorporating extracts from interviews as well as images of descendents of fur trade families, contextual photographs and other documentation, the website makes explicit the links between people, stories and artefacts.

For further information, please contact Alison Brown, Dept. of Anthropology, University of Aberdeen (alison.brown@abdn.ac.uk)

*American Anthropological Association
Breaking News*

*Handbook of the North American Indians to Stop
Production*

December 1, 2007, will be the last day of work for the staff of the Handbook of the North American Indians, a 20-volume encyclopedia summarizing knowledge about all Native people north of Mesoamerica, including cultures, languages, history, prehistory and human biology. The decision to close the office of the Handbook was made by the Smithsonian administration of Lawrence M Small in March 2005, over a year before the Handbook's general editor, past AAA President William C. Sturtevant, passed away.

Although 14 of the 20 volumes have already been published, six volumes remain: an introduction, two biographical volumes, two on the current status of Native people, and the index. The current editor of the Handbook, Diane Della Logia, reports that one of these remaining volumes is almost ready to send to the printer for typesetting and another is under contract abroad. The original Handbook staff of 20 now consists of five staff, two of whom will take voluntary retirement come December.

"This is a tremendous loss to scholarship and the research community," National Museum of the American Indian Associate Curator, Emil Her Many Horses stated.

News from the United Church Archives

Diane Haglund, Archivist

The United Church of Canada Archives established a Friends organization in October 2006 to build support for the program. "Double Vision" was presented by Judith Beattie at the inaugural meeting. To become a Friend contact the Conference Archivist, Diane Haglund, at d.haglund@uwinnipeg.ca.

Double Vision: How Luther and Gusti Scheutze Saw Their Life in the North

In 2003 Judith Beattie, a member of the Joint Archives Committee and retired Keeper of the Hudson's Bay Company Archives, developed a series of broadcasts for CBC Radio North featuring accounts of missionaries who served in the North. She says that while their wives frequently accompanied these men they are rarely mentioned in memoirs. "I was excited to discover a woman's voice in the memoirs of Luther Schuetze. Gusti features prominently in his published account and her son also deposited the transcript of her extensive oral history with the Archives. Thanks to these sources, we have a moving and double vision of their life in the North." Following are excerpts of Judith's talk to the first Friends meeting based on her work with CBC North.

Their story as a couple began in May 1921 at Castle Rock, Washington, when 30-year-old Luther, accompanied by his brother Rodi (Roderick), took off his hat and bowed to sisters Toni and Gusti

Hoffman. Gusti was swept off her feet --- "None of the other guys ever thought of doing that" --- and on August 20th, they married and set off for Canada. After working for the threshing season on a farm in Saskatchewan, they had gathered a stake to set themselves up trapping in northern Manitoba.

Luther had been born in Brazil in 1891, but after attending school there and in Germany, had joined his family in Canada in the early 1900s. He had fished and trapped for a living and was used to the rigours of life in the bush. Luther's account of their first trip together is brief: "I ordered a canoe, tent, guns, ammunition, traps, groceries, etc., and when threshing was over we took off for Berens River on Lake Winnipeg, where our outfit awaited us." But Gusti saw the north with new eyes, and her account gives a clearer picture of the details: "[Luther] had written to Berens River and ordered a winter's supply of food, a canoe, and tent and everything we needed to go up the river ... that was our honeymoon... And I'll never forget that trip. We got on the boat at Selkirk,

the old Wolverine, and when we landed at Berens River it was night --- And all the dogs on the whole reserve there were barking when they heard the whistle of the boat, you know. It gave me an eerie feeling --- in the darkness and everything ---.

After a brief stay in Berens River, the couple set off in their canoe for Round Lake. In his memoirs Luther gave no account of this canoe trip, but it made a lasting impression on Gusti: "Anyhow, we managed to get up to the first rapids... and I'll never forget that --- That was very new to me, portaging. So anyway, we got out, and he carried one load across. And I picked up my things. This was the portage where we were going to spend the night. He said, 'You make a fire.' He sort of helped me to get the fire started. Then he said, 'While I carry all the stuff across, you make some bread.' --- there I stood and looked at this smoky fire, and I didn't know what to do. So he came over with a load. 'What's the matter? Aren't you cooking anything?' he said. I'd never cooked outside --- I said that I didn't know how, and I started crying. I felt so bad about it. So he put his load down, and showed me how to do it --- And then he showed me how to cook it on the fire. --- Ever since I was fourteen I baked real good bread, on the farm ---. But this was different. I had no oven, and no stove.

continued on page 6

News from the United Church Archives, continued

Then the next day, we started out. "You can steer, I'll row" he said. So I steered, and he rowed --- I thought I was doing quite well. I was steering where the nice smooth water was --- So he turned to see where we were going. "You know what? You're steering me right in the swift water all the time --- We aren't going to make it if you do that." So there were a few more tears, because I really didn't want to make it hard --- So I had to learn to steer." This was the rocky start to Gusti's love affair with the North.

In 1926 Luther was asked by Dr. Arthur Barner, Superintendent of Indian Missions and Rev. John Niddrie, minister at Berens River if he would be willing to build a mission for the United Church at Little Grand Rapids. Here Luther's account is the most detailed: --- "I asked them how on earth they got this idea. I was a prosperous trader at the time, had built up a fine business (the family had established a store at the mouth of the Poplar River in 1924), and here two strange men came in and asked me to give it all up! Then Mr Niddrie spoke up --- We had an outdoor meeting

at Chief William Berens' place --- I asked the Lord --- to send someone up to Little Grand Rapids, and when I looked up there you were, and the Lord as much as said to me: "This is your man." --- Hearing these words, I knew this was it ---."

The family left for Little Grand Rapids in August 1927 by canoe trip with two goats and two dogs, their adopted son Richard (13), Rolf (5), Herman (4), Ernie (2) and Albert (7 months). Gusti recalled: "I do remember that it was no problem getting the goats across the portages, because they wouldn't leave us at all. They just followed right at our heels, like a little dog would, you know. They came right with us, and they were very good in the canoe. They just stood up there, balanced beautifully." The boys were another story. "The only thing was that I had to watch all my little boys. They all wanted to play in the water, hang their hands over the edges, the gunwales of the canoe. And the canoe was loaded pretty heavy. Only two or three inches of freeboard. There were four boys, and we got over all the portages. I don't remember

how many times we camped. It was quite a few times." Luther has a clearer memory of the portages on the Berens River, counting 50 rapids and falls, and "108 tortuous miles of portages and swift currents."

Gusti and Luther Schuetze left Little Grand Rapids in 1938, and after four years in Berens River they left Northern Manitoba in 1942. While they travelled back with other members of the family in 1960 and Gusti returned for a visit in 1987 they never again lived in their beloved north.

Records held by the Archives for Rev. Luther L. Schuetze and his family include his manuscript entitled *Life at Little Grand Rapids* and the typescript of an oral history *Gusti--- Augusta (Hoffman) Schuetze - To honour Her 100th Birthday* compiled by her family in 2003. A published account of Luther's memoir, *Mission to Little Grand Rapids: Life with the Anishinabe 1927-1938*, edited by his son Herman was published in 2001. It is available through bookstores or from the Archives, or from the Centre for Rupert's Land Studies.



A berry of an agreeable acid called the Summer berry, it ripens late in Autumn, the Shrub of this berry has a large pith, takes a good polish and is used for Pipe Stems

David Thompson

2008 Rocky Mountain House Colloquium Schedule

Wednesday, May 14, 2008

Community Event: "Protocols of Respect"

Evening: 6 to 8:30 p.m.:
Welcome Reception at the
Walking Eagle Lodge

Thursday, May 15, 2007

Complimentary breakfast at the
hotel included with room

Rocky Mountain House
Community Centre:

8:30-9:30: Plenary Sessions
/Keynote speaker

9:30-10:00 Snack Break

10:00-12:00: Sessions

12:00-12:30: Lunch: Buffalo
Stew

12:30-2:00: Sessions

2:30-3:00 Snack Break

3:30- 5:30: Sessions

5:30-6:30 AGM

Friday, May 16, 2007

Complimentary breakfast at the
hotel included with room

Rocky Mountain House
Community Centre:

8:30-10:00: Sessions

10-10:30: Snack Break

10:30-11:30: Sessions

11:30-12: 00 Lunch Break

12:30-3:00 Sessions

3:00: Tour of Rocky Mountain
House Historic Site

Tour of the Fort Site with
Archaeologist; bus leaves
Community Centre at 3 p.m.

Evening: Fur Trade Banquet:
Hosted by the Friends of
Rocky Mountain House at the
Community Centre:

6-7 Beaver Club Hour, 7 pm
Fur Trade Banquet

Saturday, Sunday (May 17/18)

Complimentary Breakfast at
Hotel included with room

Optional Field trip to Jasper
from Rocky Mountain House
and back or participants may
choose to visit the Rocky
Mountain House Historic Site.
This will be the first chance the
public will have to see the new
displays at the site.

*A block of rooms has been
reserved at the Walking Eagle
Lodge and Motor Inn. See
the CRLS website at [www.
uwinnipeg.ca/academic/ic/
rupert/](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/academic/ic/ruPERT/) for a link to the Inn
webpage.*

*Please make your own
reservations with the hotel.*

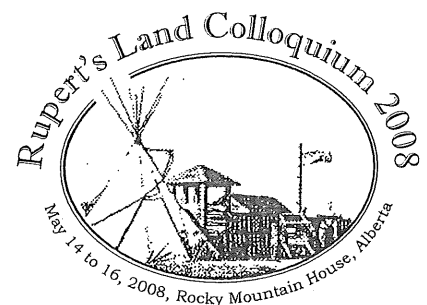
Colloquium Visitors' Update: Rocky Mountain House National Historic Site

By Carolyn Kent

On May 16th, visitors to the site will have the first opportunity to enjoy the results of the redevelopment work that has taken place over the past two years. Thanks to the Friends of the Rocky Mountain House National Historic Site and overwhelming community support, Parks Canada reversed a decision in 2005 to close the Visitor's Centre and decided instead to invest \$2.9 million

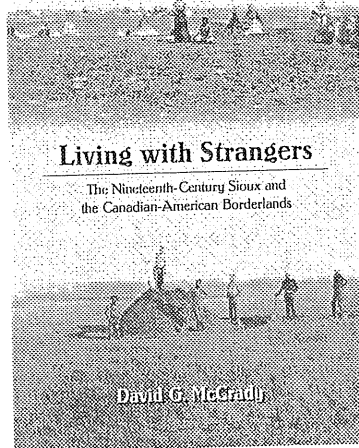
dollars into redevelopment of the site. "It is steeped in history, with its connections to the exploration of Canada and the involvement of Aboriginal people in the fur trade." (Anne McClellan, April 2005). The new displays and gallery will describe David Thompson's involvement in the area, and offer visitors a unique opportunity to understand and appreciate how Aboriginal

peoples contributed to Canada's fur trade and development as a nation.



Book Award

Congratulations to David McCrady whose book, *Living with Strangers: The Nineteenth-Century Sioux and the Canadian-American Borderlands* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2006) won the 2007 Clio Award from the Canadian Historical Association for the best book on the Prairies published in 2006. For more information about the award, go to the Canadian Historical Association website: www.cha-shc.ca/english/activ/prizes_prix/clio.cfm



McCrady's book was also a 2006 Margaret McWilliams Award (sponsored by the Manitoba Historical Society) scholarly book category finalist. For more information about the book, or ordering information, see the University of Nebraska Press' site at:

<http://www.nebraskapress.unl.edu/product/Living-with-Strangers,671839.aspx>

Fort Lac la Pluie of the North West Company 177? - 1821

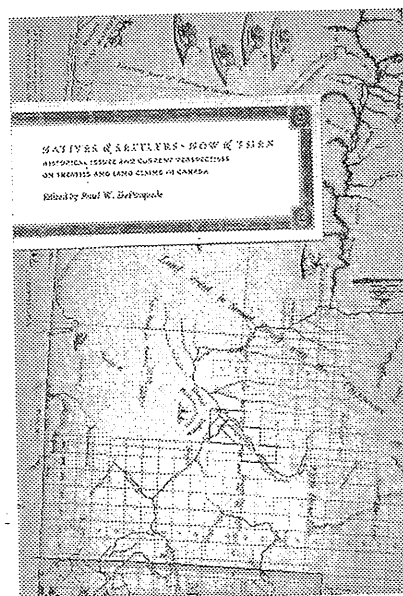
By Merv Ahrens

This booklet, published in 2006, pulls together a variety of primary source references to the trading post on the Rainy River (NW Ontario) that became the North West Company's Fort Lac la Pluie. The forty-two page booklet highlights many of the gentlemen who served at and visited the post, and includes a collection of illustrations, maps and glossary.

Copies can be ordered from the Fort Frances Museum, 259 Scott Street, Fort Frances, ON P9A 1G8. Cost \$9.00 (includes shipping). The museum's website is: <http://museum.fort-frances.com/>

New Publication

Natives & Settlers Now and Then,
edited by Paul W. DePasquale



The University of Alberta Press is happy to announce the publication of *Natives & Settlers Now and Then*, edited by Paul W. DePasquale, who sits on the Advisory Council at the Centre for Rupert's Land Studies. This book is a timely look at treaties, treaty-making processes, and land claims still under negotiation in Canada. For more information, visit the University of Alberta Press website at: <http://www.uap.ualberta.ca/UAP.asp?lid=41&bookid=643>

"Natives & Settlers provides a beginning to what should be (and should have been) a continuing, respectful discussion." Blanca Schorch, Associate Professor, University of Northern British Columbia



The Centre for Rupert's Land Studies
at *The University of Winnipeg*



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WINNIPEG

Membership Application

The annual fee for CRLS membership is \$25.00; if outside Canada, please remit payment of US\$25.00.

Your membership will bring you current CRLS Newsletters, which include notices of conferences and current research projects, items of interest by and for our members, and special offers on publications. Members are also invited to participate in the Rupert's Land Colloquiums. We are able to refer members to qualified local research assistants, and can help to put you in touch with others doing research in similar fields.

Please make your cheque out to the The University of Winnipeg, with the notation that it is for membership in the Centre for Rupert's Land Studies. All membership funds and donations go to support the Centre and its activities and publications.

Contributions of ten dollars or more in excess of the membership fee will be eligible for a charitable tax receipt from The University of Winnipeg Foundation, and are gratefully received in support of our work, Colloquiums, and publications; they may also be earmarked for the Harington Fellowship Fund.

The Centre for Rupert's Land Studies at The University of Winnipeg facilitates scholarly research and publishing concerning the history of the Hudson's Bay Company territory, known from 1670 to 1870 as Rupert's Land. The Centre hosts biennial colloquiums, promotes awareness of the Hudson's Bay Company Archives in Winnipeg, acts in a networking capacity for researchers, and co-publishes, with McGill-Queen's University Press, a series of documentary volumes on aspects of the history of Rupert's Land. We welcome your participation and support.

Please send membership applications and further queries to:

The Centre for Rupert's Land Studies
5CM12 Centennial Hall
The University of Winnipeg
515 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada R3B 2E9

tel. 204-786-9003

e-mail: rupert.land@uwinnipeg.ca

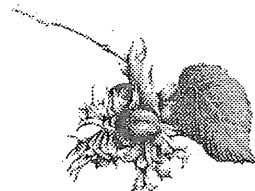
Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Date: _____



**Registration for
13th Rupert's Land Colloquium
Rocky Mountain House, Alberta**

14 to 16 May 2008

Deadline for Early Bird Registration is 15 March 2008!

***Please send completed form along with a cheque or money order for the full registration amount
to:***

The Centre for Rupert's Land Studies at The University of Winnipeg
515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3B 2E9
Telephone/Voice Mail: (204) 786-9003; Email: rupert.land@uwinnipeg.ca

Name: _____

Mailing Address:

Affiliation: _____

Email: _____

Area code & telephone number: _____
Area code & fax number: _____

- Registration [Choose **one only**]
- A. Full Colloquium (2 days) at **\$200.00***
 - B. Full Colloquium (2 days) at **\$225.00****
 - C. Banquet only at **\$55.00**

*** Early Bird rate: \$200.00**

**** After March 15, 2008 rate: \$225.00**

Registration for the *full Colloquium* includes the Wednesday evening wine and cheese reception, lunches and snacks for Thursday and Friday, Friday evening banquet, and a tour, conducted by an archaeologist, of Rocky Mountain House Historic site on Friday, May 16.

Registration is non-refundable after May 1, 2008

***Please make out cheques or money orders for the Colloquium to:
"The University of Winnipeg."***

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Registration payment for the Colloquium may be made by cheque or money order in Canadian or equivalent U.S. funds only. Cash payments can be accepted only at our office. Please do not send cash in the mail.

Registration for the 13th Rupert's Land Colloquium, Rocky Mountain House, Alberta, continued

Questions?

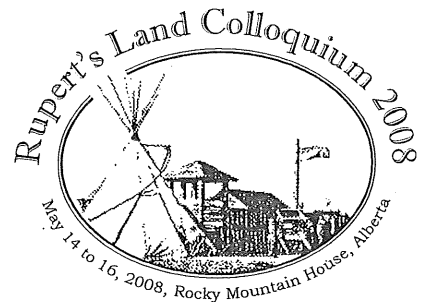
Please direct any enquiries regarding the registration process, or your completed Registration Forms through the Centre for Rupert's Land Studies office. Registrations may be sent by regular post and must be accompanied by payment in full in cheque or money order. Please note that while every care will be taken, sometimes postal items do not arrive at their intended destination. The *Rupert's Land office* will inform you when your registration is received. If you do not receive confirmation from the *Centre for Rupert's Land Studies office*, please assume your registration has not been received, and **contact the office**.

Field Trips and other Activities:

A reminder: The Colloquium will finish just prior to the Victoria Day long weekend. Monday, May 19, 2008 is a holiday. This weekend is traditionally very busy in the mountain parks. If you are planning on travelling in the area following the Colloquium you should make reservations well in advance.

A number of optional activities have been planned by the community to coincide with the Colloquium. In particular, Colloquium participants may want to return to Rocky Mountain House Historic Site on Saturday, May 17, where they can view the new displays and participate in a variety of events. This will be the first time the new displays will be open to the public. The price for the day is the \$3.95 admission to the site. As well, a two day Field Trip to Jasper and return will leave Rocky Mountain House May 17, returning May 19, 2008.

If you would prefer to fill this form in electronically, see our website: www.uwinnipeg.ca/academic/ic/rupert



Deadline for Early Bird Registration is 15 March 2008!

Please send completed form along with a cheque or money order for the full registration amount to:

The Centre for Rupert's Land Studies at The University of Winnipeg
515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3B 2E9
Telephone/Voice Mail: (204) 786-9003; Email: rupert.land@uwinnipeg.ca
Registration payment is non-refundable after May 1, 2008

Reminder:

The Call for Papers and Guidelines for the 2008 Rupert's Land Colloquium can be found on our website at: <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/academic/ic/rupert/>

Or contact the office at 204-786-9003.

Deadline for submission of Paper Proposals is 15 November 2008.

Jasper National Park Field Trip

May 17 to 19, 2008

The Rockies Beckon – travel through the northern part of Banff National Park into Jasper National Park to see first hand the spectacular mountains that challenged early European explorers and fur traders as they searched for a route to the Oregon Country and the west coast.

Highlights:

The David Thompson Highway and Kootenai Plains Viewpoints of Howse Pass and Athabasca Pass
Athabasca Glacier, the Icefields Centre, the Athabasca River and Athabasca Falls
Early fur trade routes
The spectacular Icefields Parkway

Itinerary:

Saturday, May 17, 2008

8:30 am: Depart Rocky Mountain House, travelling west on the David Thompson Highway. Stop at Kootenai Plains en route, then north along the Icefields Parkway with stops at the North Saskatchewan River/Howse Pass Viewpoint, Athabasca Glacier, Icefields Centre, Athabasca Pass/David Thompson plaque viewpoint
4 pm: Arrive Jasper, where, if time allows, participants will be able to explore the town of Jasper and visit the Jasper-Yellowhead Museum and Archives
Dinner on your own

Sunday, May 18, 2008

Day tour: Old Fort Point, Henry House, Athabasca Heritage River plaque, Meeting of the Waters, Whirlpool River, Athabasca Pass
Trailhead, Athabasca Falls
6 pm: Open Dinner, Presentation by Colloquium participant and entertainment.
Monday, May 19, 2008
8:30 am: Motor coach departs for the return trip to Rocky Mountain House.
11:30 am: Arrive Rocky Mountain House

Travel and Accommodation

Participants on the Jasper National Park Field Trip will travel from Rocky Mountain House to Jasper via an air conditioned, restroom-equipped motor coach. A national park guide will be aboard to provide information en route. Bag lunches will be provided on Saturday and Sunday for those people travelling on the coach.

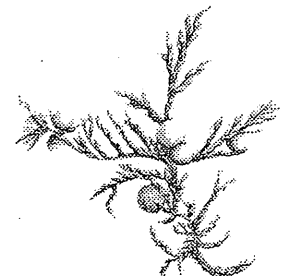
While in Jasper, accommodation will be at the Pine Bungalows - www.pinebungalows.com
Breakfasts are included in room rate. All rooms are non-smoking.

Alternative travel arrangements for people wishing to proceed from Jasper to Edmonton or Calgary by public transport can be arranged.

For further information on the field trip, please contact:

Ken Walker

Jasper National Park
Phone: 780-852-6190
Fax: 780-852-5601
E-mail: ken.walker@pc.gc.ca



**Jasper National Park Field Trip, 17 to 19 May 2008
Registration Form**

Name: _____

Mailing
Address:

Room occupancy: The tour will stay two nights in a hotel. Please indicate if you would prefer double or single occupancy:

- Jasper Field Trip, per person, with Single Occupancy room: \$435
 Jasper Field Trip, per person, with Double Occupancy room: \$325

Total:*** _____

***Double or single occupancy price

If a participant has to cancel, a \$10.00 non-refundable cancellation fee will be charged. Deadline for registration and payment for the field trip is March 15, 2008.

For the Jasper Field Trip, please make out a *separate* cheque or money order payable to:

Jasper-Yellowhead Museum and Archives

and send it, along with your Colloquium Registration, to:

The Centre for Rupert's Land Studies

at The University of Winnipeg

515 Portage Avenue

Winnipeg, Manitoba

Canada R3B 2E9

For the Jasper Field Trip, please describe any mobility restrictions or dietary preferences:

Public bus transportation from Jasper direct to the Edmonton or Calgary airports is available, for those not wishing to return to RMH. For further information, contact Ken Walker.

Please note that the Centre is not organizing the Field Trip. All enquiries about the 3-day Jasper trip should be directed to:

Ken Walker

Jasper National Park

Phone: 780-852-6190

Fax: 780-852-5601

E-mail: *ken.walker@pc.gc.ca*

The Assomption Sash: Fingers and Looms

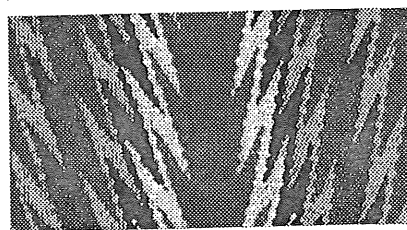
By Carol James

We welcome the following contribution from Carol James, who is a fibre artist who has researched and produced museum-quality reproductions of historic textiles and sashes for clients including Parks Canada. James has a book on fingerweaving now in publication.

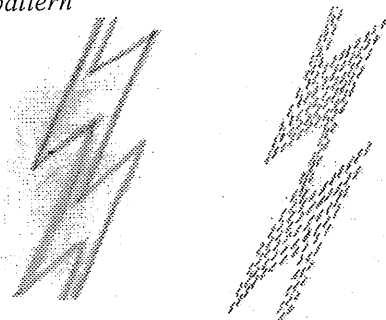
The sash was a valued article of clothing in the 1700s and 1800s for many people of North America, and is especially associated with the Metis. The Assomption pattern is a feature of a distinct type of sash that was originally created by the 'fingerweaving' technique. Loomwoven varieties of sashes are common, however, and are often mistaken for fingerwoven ones. How to distinguish between these two types of sash is the subject of an article that I wrote for the Spring 2007 edition of the *Museum of the Fur Trade Quarterly*. There I examined eight different aspects of the sash that help to determine the type of weave. These include lightning shape, direction of warp threads, selvedge, colours of weft, central arrow, pore rows*, direction of rib, and fringe. Here, I focus on two aspects, the shape of lightnings and direction of threads.

Perhaps the most telling design feature to examine when discerning weaving technique is the shape of the 'lightnings'. The lightning design feature consists of two parts: a diamond, and a long skinny line or leg. The design may be thought of as diamonds that are connected by legs, one reaching

upwards, the other reaching downwards. Note the direction of the threads in the lightning pattern. The leg part of the lightning in fingerweaving is most commonly comprised of three threads in warp position. These 'leg' threads run along the outside of the upper diamond through to the inside of the lower diamond. The warp threads will appear as a dotted line, as the threads go up and down, over and under the weft. The direction of the threads is from the upper point in the upper diamond to the lower point of the lower diamond.



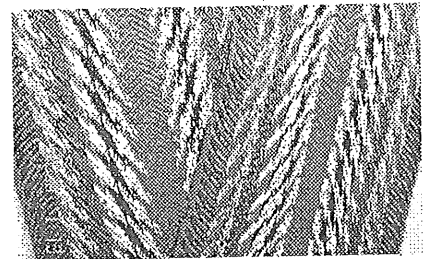
Fingerwoven Assomption Sash pattern



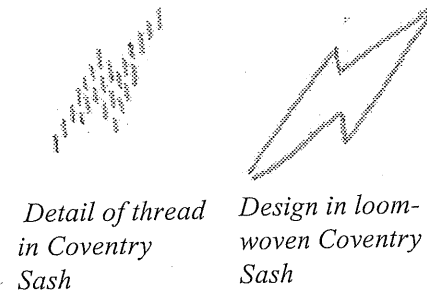
Detail of thread in fingerwoven sash

The shape of the lightnings is different in loom weaving. Absence of the long thin legs

connecting the lightnings is a certain sign of loom weaving, as is the direction of warp thread being parallel to the selvedge. Examination of the threads within the lightnings reveals that they are set at an angle to the point of the diamond or lightning



Loom-woven Coventry Sash, front and back ; Parks Canada Collection 4679



Detail of thread in Coventry Sash *Design in loom-woven Coventry Sash*

Note as well, the loom-woven sashes will have a clear right side and wrong side. Differences in design differentiate the top from the reverse face of the sash.

For a more complete listing of the differences between these two sash types, please see my article in the *Museum of the Fur Trade Quarterly*.

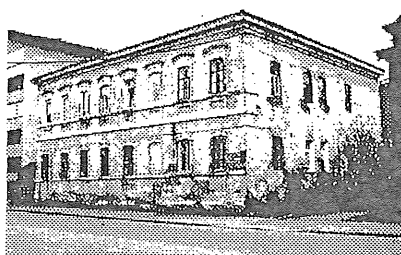
*Pore rows: In a finger woven Assomption Sash, the weft thread does not travel across the entire width of the fabric. Where the thread reverses its direction, becoming a weft thread, the change in tension leaves a set of small holes. The presence of these holes or "pores" is an indication of a finger woven sash.

A Visit to Irkutsk, Siberia, May 2007

By David Malaher

Siberia, especially the historic fur trade city of Irkutsk, holds the key to many tantalizing puzzles raised in the Russian fur trade literature. Irkutsk, for comparison, has the same population as Winnipeg, it is on the same latitude and it has a similar mid-continent climate. I have been studying the Russian fur trade in parallel with North American events and so, when Jennifer Brown tipped me off that the Baikal Archaeology Project was holding a major conference in Irkutsk this year, Rosemary and I knew that this was the right time to make an on-site visit. After five months of correspondence by e-mail, visa applications, vaccinations, map reading, library visits, and writing a paper on the Russian fur trade, Rosemary and I found ourselves in the Moscow airport at midnight May 17 drinking beer with a handful of Canadian, American, Iranian and British graduate students waiting for our flight to Irkutsk. Aeroflot did a fine job on the four flights we took with them: modern aircraft, on-time, no lost luggage, and good food and service.

The Baikal Archaeology Conference hosted about 125 people at the Irkutsk State Technical University. The Project is an international and multidisciplinary team of scholars investigating culture



Head office of the Russian American Company in Irkutsk, built in 1801. It faces the Angara River, the major river connecting Lake Baikal to northern Siberia. In poor condition after 200 years, the building is now used for residential apartments

dynamics among Middle Holocene hunter-gatherers in the Lake Baikal region of Siberia, Russia. The University of Alberta is a key participant and their research is primarily supported by the Major Collaborative Research Initiative program of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. A grant of \$2.3m CAD was awarded in 2001 for five years, and an additional grant of \$2.5m was awarded in 2006 to continue research for a further five years. The conference in Irkutsk was organized to bring the participants together along with other scholars from circum-polar institutions in archaeology, anthropology, geography, history and many other fields to discuss the

results of six years field work at selected sites on the shore of Lake Baikal. Presentations were in both Russian and English. Sessions were held at the University in Irkutsk and at a camp on Lake Baikal over a seven day period. We felt fortunate to be amongst the world's leaders in this multidisciplinary field.

My presence in the conference was largely as an onlooker although I did make a presentation on the role of Irkutsk in the Russian fur trade from roughly mid-1600 to 1867, remarkably coincident with the period of the Hudson's Bay Company. Of prime importance to me was the opportunity, opened up by my paper, to meet Prof. Igor Naumov, Head of the History Department at Irkutsk State Technical University. He and his colleagues were very helpful in explaining certain features of the overland transportation routes via the chain of Siberia's large inland rivers leading to Irkutsk where the furs were collected and warehoused in advance of shipment to Kiakhta for trading with China. With luck, I may be able to return to Irkutsk in a year or two for a visit to Kiakhta, now a small border town with Mongolia on the Siberian railroad.

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