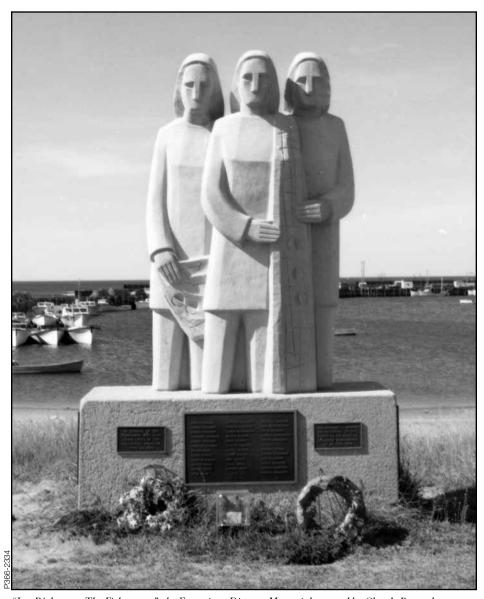


Sihouettes

Spring 2014 Number 38

The Associates of the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick

The New Brunswick Fishermen's Disaster Fund



"Les Pécheurs – The Fishermen," the Escuminac Disaster Memorial, created by Claude Roussel

A disaster like this brings home to many of us the courage of the men who face such risks and hardships each time they go to sea, and to those who wait at home for them to return.

Miss Hazel V. Simpson, Ottawa, ON New Brunswick Fishermen's Fund Donor, June 25, 1959

TIS KNOWN as the Escuminac Disaster, named so for the home port of the majority of those killed on the لمالح night of June 19/20, 1959. Of the 35 fishermen killed that night, 31 were from the Escuminac area with the majority from the small fishing villages of Baie du Vin and Baie Ste. Anne. Three of the dead hailed from the Richibucto fleet, and one man came from Lameque. No matter their place of residence, no matter their age or their language, they had much in common. They were fishermen who depended on the sea for their livelihoods, indeed for the very well-being of their families. None imagined as they set out on the evening of June 19th that thirty-five of them would not return. They had no idea of the violent storm heading towards them, nor did they know of the magnitude of the damage to come.

Silhouettes

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Provincial Archives of New Brunswick

P.O. Box 6000 Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 5H1 or e-mail provincial.archives@gnb.ca

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THE ASSOCIATES OF THE PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF NEW BRUNSWICK

P.O. Box 6000 Fredericton, Nev

Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 5H1 Phone: (506) 453-2122 Email: provincial.archives@gnb.ca

Website:

http://archives.gnb.ca/Associates/

They did not know what the night brought for them, nor could they imagine what hardships faced their families beginning the next morning, and lasting to this day fifty-five years later. We know about the storm, and we know about the men who were killed that terrible night. We know the circumstances under which they died. Their death certificates are available for all to see, and the storm in which they died is the subject of documentaries, articles, books and songs. The stories of terror and of heroism are readily accessible. The Fishermen's Disaster Fund, however, as the response to the devastation is not as well-known.

By Monday morning, June 22, the magnitude of the disaster was plain for all to see. Many of the dead and missing had been identified, yet bodies were still being recovered, pieces of boats and fishing equipment continued to wash up on the shore. It was clear that the people of the Miramichi Bay and Northumberland Strait had just witnessed one of the worst disasters in New Brunswick's sea-faring history. An area of the province dependent on a single industry was devastated, and people desperately needed help to recover from their losses, both materially and emotionally.

The Fishermen's Disaster Fund was established to aid the people of eastern New Brunswick devastated by the storm. The surviving fishermen required assistance to replace damaged boats and equipment in order to carry on making their living as they always had on the sea. The widows, children and adult dependents of those killed needed help just to carry on living, and providing for themselves and their families. The Daily Gleaner and Atlantic Advocate, in partnership with the NB Division of the Canadian Red Cross, opened the fund on June 22, 1959 to address the needs of those stricken by the disaster. Lord Beaverbrook's message of sympathy was printed in provincial newspapers, along with his pledge of \$5,000 to the start the fund. Donations came in to the fund from around the world, and the generosity did not go unnoticed. Still, Premier Hugh John Flemming made the following

appeal, as there was still much more to do, the need was indeed great:

The response to the New Brunswick Fishermen's Disaster Fund appeal has been generous in the extreme. Much more is needed. The stark and shocking truth of the plight of the New Brunswick fishermen's widows and fatherless children resulting from the loss of 35 fishermen, is that there are 20 widows, four of them pregnant; four mothers previously dependent on single boys have lost their sole source of support; and 83 fatherless children left unprovided for and destitute. Their future is the responsibility of the people. (MC2038)

Donations continued to pour in and before long the fund had grown to \$438,000. The fund had the resources to begin to provide for people beyond meeting the immediate needs, much of which was covered by the Canadian Red Cross, who provided temporary relief where urgently needed. Committees were established to help with the replacement of boats and equipment, and to provide for the future well-being of the widows, children and others who had been dependent on the incomes of the fishermen killed in June 1959.

The recent transfer of Department of Finance: Administration Records (RS942) to the Government Records Archives unit of PANB add significantly to the previous holdings of the archives relevant to the New Brunswick Fishermen's Disaster Fund, which also include: New Brunswick Fishermen's Disaster Fund Committee fonds (MC2038), Records of the Office of Premier Hugh John Flemming (RS415), Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Aquaculture: Finance and Administration Branch Records (RS869).

The scope of the accomplishments of the Fishermen's Disaster Fund since 1959 was broad and did make life easier for the victims of the Escuminac Disaster. The records of RS942 highlight the administration of the fund to maximize investment income to help all recover from the disaster, especially ensuring security of the benefits received by the widows, children and other adult dependents of the



By Red Cross

Cover of the Daily Gleaner, June 22, 1959

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Daily Gleaner, June 22, 1959

fishermen. In these records we see that the Fishermen's Disaster Fund allocated a significant amount of money to assist the surviving fishermen to replace equipment lost to the storm. Most significant was the decision to provide the widows with an annuity of \$50 per month for life and \$10 for each child to the age of 18. An Education and Welfare Committee was established to provide funds for the education of the children in the years to follow, and they

also set aside funds to assist with home maintenance, and other of life's unexpected requirements, be they home heating expenses, dental bills, or medications, on an as-needed basis.

Many of the widows were young women in 1959 with sizeable families, which requires archivists to apply restrictions on the information released for public inspection in order to protect the privacy of these individuals. Nevertheless, the

records of the New Brunswick Fishermen's Fund held at the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick do tell the stories of those left behind in the wake of the Escuminac Disaster, and are an invaluable resource to anyone interested in examining the community's and Province's response to the greatest human disaster in New Brunswick in the second half of the 20th century, and its implications to this day.

PETER DICKINSON

The End of an Era

TINDSIGHT is always very clear. So when people are asked, how Lwas it working with Madame Curie or Gandhi or Drs. Banting and Best, it is easy to have the later accomplishments of such people cloud one's memory of what things were like before their successes. A type of rose coloured glasses effect. It would be interesting to know if those coworkers really recognized beforehand that they were in the presence of ground breaking work or part of something important. There is no such question when it comes to the recently retired Provincial Archivist of New Brunswick, Marion Beyea. Those working with her have had a clear understanding that what they were doing was significant because she made it clear, by her daily commitment and example. Over the past 40 years in the Canadian archival community there hasn't been a single important accomplishment with which she wasn't either overtly or furtively involved. Throughout her life Marion has taken on huge challenges and overcome considerable odds. As one of the builders of the Canadian archival system, first through garnering support to create the Association of Canadian Archivists, later aligning the building blocks to construct the Canadian Council of Archives, and in strengthening an archives program in New Brunswick to rival any in the country, Marion applied a focused approach where anything short of success was not acceptable. The many things she took on were not only the right thing to do, they were critical, and if you didn't appreciate their importance you soon would.

These efforts needed to be done for one simple reason; so Canadians could have better access to and understanding of their history, and Marion was determined to make that happen. From the time she worked at the New Brunswick Museum Archives as a student, through her years at the Ontario Archives and the Anglican Church of Canada Archives, and then the

years back in New Brunswick, she built consensus, networks, awareness, and support. This included getting archivists to agree on the need for a professional association, deputy ministers to press the Federal Government to support the archival community across the country, and the Provincial Government to provide the proper storage of the province's documentary heritage. These achievements were accomplished through a number of means-reasoning, demonstrating utility, cajoling and when necessary, applying guilt, bad-

gering, and the occasional tear. She was able to convince many of the public good inherent in archives while the unconvinced or unredeemable were plagued until it was simply easier to accede. Marion's leadership qualities are such that even in situations where people openly disagreed or went along begrudgingly, they always retained respect for what she stood for and her tireless work ethic. She is one of the few people I have met that can be equal friends to two avowed adversaries.

The old archives cliché is that you will never know if an archivist did a good job during their career until later generations assess what records they acquired. Although by that standard Marion will be judged a success, there needs to be no waiting period for a broader appraisal. Her contributions to the archives and heritage fields have been attested to well beyond the borders of New Brunswick. Her appointments to the Historic Sites and Monuments Board, committees of the International Council on Archives, and the Heritage Canada Foundation are but a few of the more public acknowledgements of



Marion Beyea, former Provincial Archivist for New Brunswick

her abilities. She is regularly called upon for advice, editorial consults, and as an author and contributor at conferences. She has done all of this with a quiet humility for the greater good. In retirement she will be no less energetic, so don't suggest any ideas to her if you are not prepared to be equally invested. Her enthusiasm is no less now than when she crisscrossed the western provinces by bus during the winter oh those many decades ago drumming up support for the fledgling Association of Canadian Archivists. She is just as engaged today as she has been throughout her career, and if need be, like the country song says, she'd be the first one on the bus and ready to ride. A number of tributes have come in since it was announced she was retiring and The Associates organized an event in her honour at the Beaverbrook Hotel where many paid tribute to her commitment to this province's past, present, and future. In her true style she only agreed to such an event if it were to benefit the Associates, which it did.

FRED FARRELL

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Spring 2014 Number 38 Silhouettes

Using New Brunswick Maps & Survey Plans for Family History Research

OST PEOPLE doing family history at the Provincial Archives L are familiar with two maps related to the Government land grants, the small survey plan that accompanies the original Land Grant of their ancestor and the Cadastral or Land Grant Maps in the large cabinet at the back of the Research Room showing the location of the grants in relation to surrounding properties. The latter are particularly useful because they are comprehensive, covering the whole province. There are other maps and survey plans that can assist the family researcher, but the challenge is that not all types of maps are available for all parts of the province. Each type of map was created

for a specific purpose and if that purpose coincides with your research you are in business.

The Cadastral Maps, which were produced around the 1970s and 1980s, based on information and maps going back to the beginning of the province, show you where an original land grant was in relation to the rest of New Brunswick at the time the map was printed. This map can be used to help locate where a person might find their ancestor's lot today. Some of the roads and community names have changed but you can use these maps along with more modern maps and atlases to narrow the exact site down. There is a predecessor series of Cadastral Maps (online only) on

our website in the component titled *Place* Names of New Brunswick under the Exhibitions and Education Tools tab: archives. gnb.ca/exhibits/communities Simply type the community name into the search box, select it from the list of results, and a brief description is displayed followed by a section entitled "Cadastral Maps". You can either zoom in to a small section of the map or you can download the whole map which allows even greater zoom features. For example, I chose the Whites Mountain area in Havelock Parish of Kings County which is on Cadastral Map #130. I was looking for the name McNaught (see map and inset).

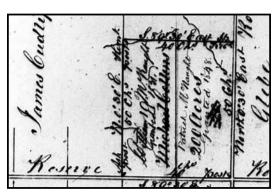


Map with inset – Cadastral Map # 130 showing areas of Perry Settlement, Whites Mountain and Cornhill, with an inset of Lot 20 for Patrick McNaught and Lot 19S for William McNaught in the Parish of Havelock, Kings County, NB.

If you take a closer look at the lots you will notice they most often contain some reference numbers. On *Lot 20 Pat^K*. *M*•*Naught*, and *Lot 19S W*^m *M*•*Naught* you can find two reference numbers, 4/102 on both lots which refers to *RS687B Land Grant Survey Plans - Kings County Book*

4, page 102. The other reference number on Patrick's lot is *5/90 which refers to RS686C Land Grant Plan Books – Kings County Book 5, page 90 and the other reference on William's lot is *5/145 which refers to RS686C Land Grant Plan Books – Kings County Book 5, page 145.

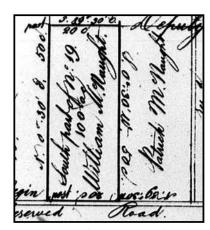
Below are the three plans noted above: RS687B/4/102, RS686C/*5/90, and RS686C/*5/145. As one can see there are differences in the information provided even though they are the exact same two lots.



Patrick and William McNaught - RS687B-4-102



Patrick McNaught - RS686C-5-90 F17261



William McNaught - RS686C-5-145 F17261

These two series of plans are only part of the New Brunswick Crown Land Maps & Plans that we have here at PANB. Here are the three main series of survey plans.

RS687B Land Grant Survey Plans, these are all on microfiche and can be requested at the Reference Desk. This series has an alphabetical index so you can check for the name(s) you are researching.

RS686C Land Grant Plan Books, these are all on microfilm and can be found in the Microfilm Reading Room. This is my favorite series of survey plans because some of the earlier plans also describe the lands adjacent to the lot you are interested in. There is most often more than one book on a microfilm. Each book has an index at the beginning and the microfilms are easy to go through. The index is not without short comings and sometimes you may need to look at the lots in the vicinity of the one you are seeking to be sure you obtain all the possible information. I use the index as a starting point, unless I already have a reference number. A list of these microfilms can be found in the Subject Guide to Microfilm

RS656 Crown Lands Maps and Plans, most of these are on microfiche and can be requested at the Reference Desk. This series has several sub-series.

For example, RS656/1 County Survey Plans, RS656/10 Town Plot Plans, and RS656/17 Flat Book Plans, to name a few. There are many other RS656 sub-series as well that include plans and surveys for timber licenses, boundaries, railways, campsites, Native Reserves, etc. There is a finding aid for this series organized alphabetically by sub-series title.

Another very useful collection is MC1236 PAC New Brunswick Series *Maps*. The actual maps are held at Library and Archives Canada, but we are fortunate to have copies of these on microfiche. There is a listing of the microfiche by microfilm number. They can be requested at the Reference Desk. Some of these maps go back to when New Brunswick was still part of Nova Scotia and Acadia. Although there are lots of interesting maps in this collection the most used maps in this series for family history are: # 527 - 1862 Walling Maps Kings & Saint John Counties, # 529 - 1862 Walling Maps Albert & Westmorland Counties, # 525 - 1876 Roe & Colby Carleton County and # 526 - 1876 Roe & Colby Northumberland County, which show the names of heads of households and where their houses were located. Unfortunately, with the exception

of the Halfpenny Atlas of York County, we do not hold Walling or Roe & Colby type maps for any other parts of the province.

In our Research Room near the back, in the lower drawer of the map cabinet containing the Cadastral Maps there are copies of the 1862 Walling Maps for Kings & Saint John Counties and Albert & Westmorland Counties, the 1875 Roe & Colby for Saint John City & County, and the 1878 Halfpenny Atlas for York County.

There are many other series and collections that include maps and survey plans that may be of interest, not only to genealogists and family historians, but students, historians, academics, government, research companies and map enthusiasts, just to name a few.

For the most part the series/collections noted above are fairly easy to access when visiting PANB. For access to the other series/collections or to delve into more complex sources we recommend either emailing: provincial.archives@gnb. ca or calling: (506) 453-2122 at least a few days before you plan on visiting the Archives so that we can ensure your time at the Archives is as productive and successful as possible.

MARY ELLEN BADEAU

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Today in History

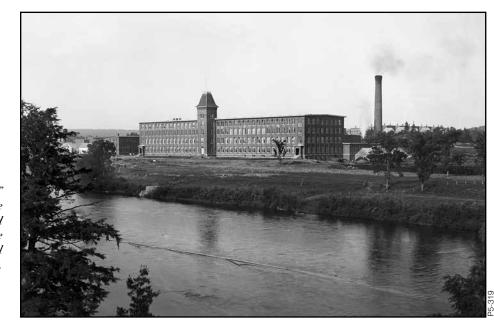
Photographic Section has been working in collaboration with the Department of Wellness, Culture and Sport to illustrate the *Today in History* campaign since early October 2013. With entries on websites and on social media, *Today in History* seeks to highlight one or more historically significant occurrences each day, for which the archives provides relevant photographs for illustration.

These images are posted most often in association with significant dates in history found on the "This Week in New Brunswick History" website maintained by Tourism Heritage and Culture. Images are also used to celebrate historical dates, events, inventions, and of course New Brunswickers of significance. The goal of the project is to share intriguing facts about New Brunswick's history with the public

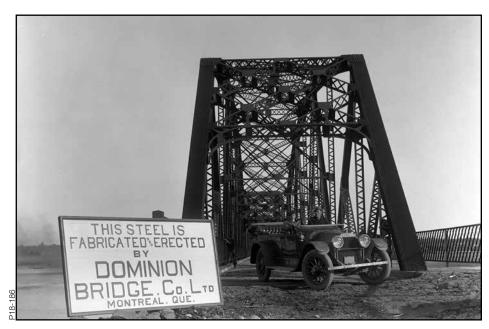
in a fun and engaging way and to promote pride and appreciation for our province. Typically PANB has supplied two to three images per week, featuring a wide variety of subjects.

Below are some examples of entries that were featured on the GNB Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/GovNB):

JANE ANNE WILSON



NOVEMBER 27, 1908 Alexander "Boss" Gibson is forced to sell his cotton mill in Marysville (Fredericton). Montreal's Canadian Coloured Cotton Company assumes full control, and one of New Brunswick's last 19th-century industrial tycoons dies 5 years later.



DECEMBER 1, 1922 At midnight, all motor vehicles move to the right side of the road in New Brunswick. Signs in large red letters reading TURN TO THE RIGHT are posted along New Brunswick's streets and highways. View of Morrissey Bridge, Newcastle..



DECEMBER 20, 1911 The Albert County natural gas pipeline from Stoney Creek commences service to Moncton, although a temporary disruption occurs when a gas explosion on Main Street destroys four buildings.



FEBRUARY 19, 1864 Professor and historian, William Francis Ganong is born in Saint John.
Educated at Harvard, Ganong later develops a specialized interest in the geographical history of New Brunswick, documenting the historic sites and original place names of the province.

Links:

http://www1.gnb.ca/0007/Culture/Heritage/VMC/NBHistory.asp http://www1.gnb.ca/0007/culture/heritage/thisweek-e.asp https://www.facebook.com/GovNB

French Links:

www.facebook.com/GouvNB http://www1.gnb.ca/0007/culture/heritage/thisweek-f.asp

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Cultural Policy Announcement

HE EFFORTS of the Associates of the Provincial Archives to raise awareness about archives and to help the Provincial Archives in its varied mandate bore results recently with the announcement of support from the Provincial Government as outlined under the Cultural Policy Renewal report Creative Futures—A Renewed Cultural Policy for New Brunswick. During the public consultation phase of the review, several Associates members made presentations and many groups of like interest spoke in favour of greater support to the Provincial Archives and archives in general in the province. The Associates will receive \$100,000 to aid PANB and the Council of Archives New Brunswick will receive an additional \$10,000, raising its support

from the Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture to \$65,000.

The focus of the Creative Futures support fits easily into the efforts of PANB and the archival community throughout the province. Emphasis was on awareness, preservation, and access to our heritage resources and the benefits that can accrue from a more vibrant archival sphere that has the capacity to enhance the public's use and dissemination of that resource. "This increased funding will help the Associates of PANB and Council of Archives New Brunswick continue to flourish, delivering on their important mandate and launch valuable initiatives for the archives community in New Brunswick," said Energy and Mines Minister Craig Leonard, who spoke on behalf of Tourism, Heritage and Culture Minister Trevor Holder.

The total amount of new expenditure to the Culture and Heritage field is \$3m in 2014–2015, with an additional \$1m added in each of the subsequent two years. The archival community looks forward to what can be accomplished with its share of such investment.

Another important aspect of the policy announcement is that the Provincial Archives has been recognized as one of the 5 pillars of culture and heritage in the province along with Kings Landing Historical Settlement, the New Brunswick Museum, the Beaverbrook Art Gallery, and the Village Historique Acadien.

FRED FARRELL



From left: Associates of the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick representative Bernard-Marie Theriault, Energy and Mines Minister Craig Leonard,
Council of Archives New Brunswick representative Samantha Read, MLA for Fredericton-Silverwood Brian Macdonald, and
director of the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick Fred Farrell.

NEW AT THE ARCHIVES

New and Updated Finding Aids

Private Sector Records

MC3603 Joseph H. Geldart and Grace E. (Pearson) Geldart family fonds; c.2.4 metres; 1904–[2000] (Sussex family)

Consists of more than 300 letters, dating 1936–1945, from Joseph H. Geldart to Grace Eugene (Pearson) Geldart. These are courtship (they married in 1941) and wartime letters, many written while he was serving in the Canadian Army in Canada, England, and in Europe. Included also are wartime telegraphs, greeting cards, and correspondence from friends and family, including a few letters written by Grace's brother, Vernon, to her while he was serving in the Canadian Army during World War II. This fonds includes other family records and a minute book (1941) of the Highfield Branch of the Red Cross, in which family members were involved. (Preliminary work done)

MC3284 Mackie family fonds - (15cm; 1935-1944) (Saint John family)

This fonds consists primarily of correspondence between members of the Mackie family, during the Great Depression and WWII. Letters between George A. Mackie and Greta Laurie (later Mackie), dat ing from 1935-1937 are courtship letters but also illustrate social activities of young people in the 1930s and problems encountered in looking for work during the Depression years. George Mackie also received letters from his parents and siblings (Lillian, Hilda, and Alex), in 1937, which document the financial difficulties of the Mackie family. The fonds also contains approximately 140 letters, dating from 1942–1945, written by George A. Mackie to his wife, Greta, while he was serving overseas during World War II. Finally, there are 9 letters written to Greta Mackie by her brother-in-law, Donald (Don) Mackie, while he was serving with the Carleton and York Regiment in 1944 and 1945 and 3 letters written to Greta by her parents concerning family and domestic matters (1936, 1937, 1943).

MC3837 J. Walter McIntyre fonds (June-Dec. 1915, 1.5cm)

Consists of a diary kept by J. Walter McIntyre of Saint John who went overseas with the 2nd Canadian Contingent, Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force, aboard the S.S. Caledonia, in June 1915. He discusses preparations for the Atlantic Ocean crossing; arriving in Devonport, near Plymouth, England; training in England; a visit to London; arrival in France in September 1915; life in the trenches; bombardments; being fired upon; the wounding of comrades; attending church services; and Christmas 1915 in the trenches. J. Walter McIntyre was killed in action 16 June 1916.

MC3840 Juliana Horatia Ewing watercolours (2 watercolours, Fredericton scenes, 1867)

Author and artist, Juliana Horatia Ewing (1841-1885) was born in

England. On 1 June 1867, Juliana Gatty married Alexander Ewing, a British military officer and they soon left England for Fredericton, where the 22nd Regiment, to which Ewing belonged, was stationed. While here, Juliana Ewing studied Hebrew, painted watercolours of local scenes, which she often included in her letters home, and contributed stories to the children's magazine published by her mother, Margaret Gatty, a well–known children's writer. In October 1869, the Ewings returned to England, following the withdrawal of British troops from Canada after Confederation.

MC3712 Erminie Cohen fonds (40cm, 1972-2001)

This fonds consists mostly of the speeches or speaking notes of social activist Senator E. Cohen of Saint John for Senate Debates, talks at conferences attended, or various public events. Most of these speeches relate to issues of poverty, seniors, women's health and women's rights, human rights and justice. The fonds also includes letters of support for Bill S–11, An Act to amend the Canadian Human Rights Act in order to add social condition as a prohibited ground of discrimination (proposed by Cohen) and a copy of Bill S–11, Senate of Canada. (Preliminary work done)

MC3794 Peters family fonds (60cm; 1930–1987, 2000) (Saint John family)

Fonds mostly consists of family correspondence from Harold St. John Peters and Lillian Maude Peters to their son Glendon Trevor "Trev" Peters and his wife Pierrette "Pete" Peters (1951–1966), and to Glendon Trevor "Trev" Peters and his wife Pierrette "Pete" Peters from his aunt, Marion (Peters) Laing (1956–1984). There is also correspondence between other members of the Peters, Laing, Corey, and Ackerly families (1935–1980); a diarry of Lillian Maude (Adams) Peters (1945), a collection of family photographs of Peters family of Saint John area and a few other records.

MC3831 James Howard MacNairn and Christena MacNaughton fonds (1930–1974, 40cm.) (Miramichi family)

Collection mostly comprised of letters written between James Howard "Howie" MacNairn and Christena MacNaughton during their courtship leading up to their marriage. Although they are primarily courtship letters, they also include information about their daily lives in Kent County and Northumberland County, as well as stories about their families and friends and about local events. Also included are personal correspondence to Christena MacNairn from various family members including several from WWII soldiers, greeting cards, notebooks and school records, certificates, a history of St. Stephens Church (Black River), and several scrapbooks.

TWILA BUTTIMER



Spring 2014 Number 38

All in the Family

IARY WRITING becomes a "family affair" – for the Burtts. This issue of *Silhouettes* spotlights excerpts from 4 diaries – one kept by Muriel Burtt (1904–1972), daughter of Mabel Attrude Coburn (1873–1956) and William Carman Burtt as a 21 year old Fredericton school teacher in 1925.

It describes a very active social lifewith after school hours spent with friends, sewing, cooking, skating, tobogganing, dancing, going for walks, preparing for a basket social and making lemon beer. Often more than one activity was enjoyed in the same evening. Weekends saw more of the same and traditional activities such as church and Sunday school, crossword puzzles and the Saturday afternoon bath. She frequently mentions skating at the Arctic Rink, which burned down in May 1939. The 1925 Charlevoix earthquake was felt in Fredericton—an event featured in an entry. In 1934, Muriel married Bill Walker, who is frequently mentioned in her diary. This is the only diary known to have been kept by Muriel.

Muriel's father, William Coburn Burtt (1875–1960), a merchant, machinist and master mechanic, kept a trip diary, documenting his voyage by train across Canada and down into the USA, 11 November to 24 December 1915. This is the only diary known to have been kept by William C.

Muriel's maternal grandfather, Dr. Benjamin Coburn (1838–1900), a medical doctor in Keswick Ridge, kept a diary recording his visits to patients and their ailments, January–December 1873. He was married to Euphemia King and they were the parents of Mabel Coburn, mother of Muriel Burtt. There are also other Benjamin Coburn diaries (1863–1867) at PANB in MC300, MS11.

Lastly, Muriel's paternal grandfather, Cyrus Burtt (1836–1915), land surveyor in Fredericton, kept diaries for years. These are mostly work diaries in which he keeps records of the people for whom he did work and his comings and goings (i.e. home all evening etc.), the weather, people in the community, his garden, etc. We have transcribed his writings for the earliest one, 1873 but the Archives also has his diaries for 1880–1900, 1905, 1909–1910, 1912, 1915. At the front of his 1915 diary, Cyrus Burtt notes that he has kept a diary since 1866 and his last entry was November 19, 1915, the day before he died.

Cyrus Burtt married Mary Carman in 1866 and William Carman Burtt was their

See MC1204 William T. Walker collection: Originals are in English only.

Muriel Burtt-1925:

- 1 Jan Very cold day. Marion [friend] went home this morning. Hazel, Mollie Dow, Bill and I were out tobogganing this afternoon. Quite cold but we had a great time. Had dinner after we came back. Dad sick and couldn't eat. Grandma B. not feeling well. Went to hockey game with Bill. Good game. Chatham 3, Fredericton 2. Came home and had a lunch. Bill fixed furnace etc.
- 2 Jan (FRIDAY) Got up late. Dad feeling better. Went downtown this afternoon. Got two pairs of bloomers at Edgecombe's. Met Bill and walked home with him. Went to church. Hubert Davidson spoke. Met Bill after and went to picture at Capital. Rin Tin Tin in Find your home. Went in and listened to radio awhile. Skated after game with Eddie Colwell and Bill Shea.
- 3 Jan Grandma B.'s birthday. Cleaned up house some. Went to rink this afternoon. Met Bill after rink. Invited out tobogganing and up to Turner's after but it snowed so we went to pictures. I went with Gilbert. Bill came up after work. Played cards etc. and had a lovely lunch. Came home about 12.30. Bill bought a new pair of skate boots today.
- **4 J**AN (Sunday) Got up about 1. Went to Sunday School. 8 there in my class. Went for walk afterwards with Joe.... & Marga-

- ret. Lovely day, warm and clear. Had supper, washed dishes. Joe, Mollie & I went to church. Six baptized. Met Bill. Joe, Bill & I went for a walk.
- 5 Jan Started back to school again. Nearly all the kids back again. 60 kids enrolled this term. Downtown after school. Met Bill. Went to rink tonight. Bill went over Doon skating. Joe, Hickey and I went into Grandma's to listen to radio. Bill came up. Heard last two periods of hockey game. Came home, put up my dinner and retired. Got my navy blue skirt pleated.
- 6 Jan School as usual. Warmer today. Went downtown after school. Went to first league hockey game today. Fredericton beat Saint John 2-0. Dandy game. Bill and I went in and listened to radio, after Grandma gave us a lunch. Didn't bother skating after the game.
- 7 Jan School as usual. Went around to Hazel's after school and made some date fingers. Cooked them too long. Stayed to supper and listened to radio until about 8 o'clock. Went around to Grannan's and stayed until about 11 o'clock. Worked on my luncheon set. Hazel & Mum working cross word puzzle.
- 8 Jan Snowed quite a lot this morning. Stopped about noon. Down to Murray's after school but didn't buy anything. Bill walked home with me. Mom sick today. Bill went over to Devon. Had a birthday cake for myself after tea. Went in to Grandma's. Bill came up later. Bessie Flett chosen Miss Fredericton. Grandma gave us a lunch before we came home.
- 9 Jan Twenty-one today. Finished my cake after school. Went downtown. Got pair of overshoes & silver spoon from Dad, salad fork from Hazel, .50 from Grandma B & dandy box of chocolates from Bill. Mary G., Bill Shea, Dot & Jack, Pat, Marg, Joe & Hickey, George M., Tilbert, Bill and I went tobogganing and back to house afterwards. Had oyster stew, crackers, birthday cake & coffee. Mary made dandy favours. Everybody had a good time. Bill stayed and helped wash the dishes. Perfect night, full moon.

- 17 Jan (Sat) Got up about 11 and went down to the bank. Put in \$15.00. [] Hazel and I went down to Campbell's. Bought a pair of grey silk stockings. Did not go to rink. Had a bath in afternoon and washed my hair, also white sweater, cap etc. Went to pictures with Marg tonight and met Bill after. In & listened to radio. Big fire at Phyllis & Pringle's.
- 18 Jan Got up about 12. Worked cross word puzzle. Went to Sunday School & down to see remains of fire after. Very cold. Wrote a letter to Aunt Lil. Went to church tonight. Bill there. Went down to mail letter & fix fire with Bill. Sat in front of open fire while others were listening to radio.
- 19 Jan 38 (degrees) below this morning.
 47 in South Devon. Coldest morning I
 ever remember. Was well wrapped up so
 was not cold. Too cold to go to rink tonight
 so Bill and I went to pictures at Capitol.
 "Three Women" & fairly good. Went into
 Grandma's and Joe Hickey came in later.
 Didn't get much radio. Didn't start school
 until 9.30
- **20** Jan 26 degrees this morning again but warmer after school. Went downtown after going to the supper at St. Anne's [Anglican Church, Westmorland St. J. Bill walked home with me. Went into Grandma's & sewed several of my blouses while listening. Bill went to Devon & came in about 10.30. Snowing some tonight and warmer. Murder trial (William's) started today. 21 Jan (WED) Only about zero this morning. Mary, Marg and I went up Brick Hill skiing after school and had a great time. Went to rink tonight & had great skate. Skated with Harold, Bob VanWart, Bill Shea, Eddie, Hickey & Bill S. Met Bill W. afterwards & he came home with me. Got
- afterwards & he came home with me. Got Dot Robinson's coat instead of my own.

 22 Jan Lovely, warm day. Cut Dot's hair after school. Downtown & ordered toboggan & ski [stick]. Met Bill & walked home. Out tobogganing tonight at College Hill. Had a good time but Bill was not feeling well or something. Went to Bill Shea's afterward & had a good time & feed. Got home about 1.15am.
- **24 Jan** Got up about 9 o'clock and watched the 92% eclipse of the sun until about 11. Made lemon beer & bottled. Went to rink this afternoon & had a good

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- skate. Met Bill afterwards. Went to the show with Joe tonight, The --- Life Passed By. Good picture. Met Bill afterward, made him come up with me. Finally got him to feel better.
- 25 Jan Sunday School this afternoon as usual. Lovely day. Went over to Devon to see Holy Roller Baptism in the river. Went to church tonight & down street afterwards. Met Bill after church. Came home & worked cross word puzzle.
- 27 Jan Went to pictures tonight to see "North of 60" and liked it fine. Very cold again today. I went down after school as usual. Bill had quite a cold after making so much noise at the hockey game. Got home quite early and had a lunch of beer and cookies. Mum went to the Friendly Club dance.
- 28 Jan School as usual today. Went to rink tonight and had a good skate. Joe & Hickey & Bill came in afterwards. My beer seems to be very popular. B.V. asked me to go the pictures but I told him I had a previous engagement. Took the yarn down to have caps made & got our red ones.
- 29 Jan Went downtown after school and Bill walked home with me. Joe, Bill & Hickey went to the pictures to see Percy Marmont n "Idle Tongues" and liked it fine. Met B. & Hickey afterwards & Hickey walked out with Joe. Dad & Mum went to the Capital. Beer popular as usual.
- 30 Jan (Friday) Very bad snowstorm and blizzard. Bad going over this morning as the wind was in my face. Went to rink tonight & Bill went too. Had a good skate. Came in for a drink afterwards. Joe invited to a dance at Mitchell's. Shovelled out our front door & Grandma's both after school.
- 3 FeB (Tues) Cold again today 16 below. Went to the hockey game tonight between St. John and Fredericton. 7-3 in favour of Fredericton & rather poor game. Drawing for the radio No. 1700. Had a good skate afterwards. Divided my bands [skating around the rink] between Bill Walker & Bill Shea. Didn't get home until 11.30 but had a drink of beer.
- 7 FEB (SAT) Made most of my evening dress today. Had to go down after sewing machine needles and met Bill. Sewed all afternoon. Joe served at banquet. Mary was sick & couldn't go to the show so I

- walked downtown with Dad. Talked to Bill a few minutes and then went around to Hazel's & listened to the radio until about 9 o'clock.
- 8 FeB Saw eclipse of the moon tonight. Got up about 11.30. Another lovely warm day. Went to Sunday School this afternoon and for a walk with Margaret afterwards. Met Bill and he came home with us. Went to church tonight & sat in front row, right up over Mr. Warren. Went for walk afterward & Bill & I accepted invitations to [Con]. I finished a letter to Marion.
- **14 FeB (SAT)** Got up about 11 o'clock. Did not go to rink this afternoon. Went downtown this afternoon & stopped in at Grannan's for awhile.
- 16 FeB A lovely spring day. Started my blue and grey dress and got quite a bit done on it. Went to rink tonight and had a good skate. The ice was quite good. Went into Ramey's after rink and had some ice cream and ginger ale.
- 17 FeB (Tues) The spring like weather continues. ... Went to Business College dance and had a dandy time.
- 18 FeB Another mad rush after school to get our baskets decorated for Basket Social. Went downtown and bought a pair of grey shoes. ... Basket sold for \$3.50 to Willard & Mum's for \$5.00...
- 19 FeB Made some sweet peas after school & took a bunch around to Annie. Bill went to Snooker. Decided at 7 o'clock to go to rink & try speed skates which Joe had borrowed. Asked Mary for her gypsy costume & went & by pure luck won \$10.00. ... Fire at Slipp's Shoe Store about 10 o'clock. Had dandy skate.
- 26 FEB Very slippery today. The bridge one glare of ice. Rained hard this afternoon. Around to Glady's after school. We were going for a drive tonight but postponed it on account of the rain. Went to rehearsal tonight and to pictures after with Bill to see "The Birth of a Nation." Had arithmetic test in school. Got order from Eaton's.
- 27 FeB Very heavy winds today and snowing all morning. Had spelling test today. Came right home after school. Borrowed Margaret's ukele for awhile. Bill sick with a cold so I stayed home. Went into Marg's awhile this evening. Grandma

12

Silhouettes

Coburn quite sick so they brought her in here. Got our checks for month today.

**28 Feb (Sat) Got up about 10 o'clock. Went down to bank & cashed check & deposited \$102.28. Bought a pair of stockings. Came home, swept mats. Had dinner & then cleaned downstairs. Got the toboggan today. Had bath this afternoon. I went to pictures tonight. Quite a severe earthquake at 11. People rushed out of stores, houses & started out of show. Met Bill after.

1 Mar Got up about 12. ... Went to Sunday School this afternoon & down to Richardson's afterwards. Went to church & stayed to Communion....

7 MARCH – stops writing each day – just sporadic -- my comment TB

17 March (Tues) Rushed after school getting everything finished up & Coach called at 7 o'clock. The play came off great. It was a rainy night. House was full. Saw Bill afterward but did not go to the rink with him. Went down to the Imperial for a feed and didn't get home until about 1.30

William C. Burtt-1915:

Describes trip beginning Dec 16. Father of Muriel Burtt.

Nov 11, 1915 (Thursday) - Left F'ton [Fredericton] at 5.55pm, arrived Montreal 8.30 Friday (12th) morning. In Montreal all day, left there 10.30 in evening; at 3pm (Sat 13th) in Cartier. It is now snowing a little and get[ting] colder as we go farther west. The small ponds are frozen.

Nov 14 (Sunday morning) Woke up this morning on shore of Lake Huron, along about Nippigon [Lake Nipigon, ON], follow the shore of the Lake for quite a distance, very pretty. Had breakfast at 8am. We are now nearing Port Arthur & Fort William; will change time there, one hour slower. Struck about 4" snow at Chapleau but it is all gone again now.

11 AM Have just left Fort William... [it] is a nice-looking little town, mostly a grainshipping centre, seven big elevators there. The church bells were ringing while we stopped there. Quite a row of hills in front of town, one mountain 1300 ft. Lake Superior looks pretty large.

1PM Have just had dinner. Since we left

Fort William, have been travelling through a country something same as NB, small lakes and rivers, partly wooded. What settlers are along here look poor. Hard looking houses & shacks, mostly built from logs. Some of the lakes along here are

2.10PM Just stopped at [Ignall], a small station right in the wilds. Moving into snou again ... Country is still the same, a lot of burnt land and not settled. Got to Winnipeg about 10pm Sunday night. Had 50 minute wait there but could not see much. Was awful cold, around zero. CPR station there is a fine building. Took a walk up main street a short distance, big wide streets. As it was Sunday night, there was only a few places open. Quite a few of our passengers got off & a lot of new ones got on. Our car is pretty well full now....

Nov 15 8 AM Well we have reached the prairie country now. Is just about what I expected, almost perfectly flat country with a few bunches of bushes here & there. The first town of any size we stopped at this morning was Broadwick. ... Will soon be to Regina now.

JUST LEFT REGINA, quite a big-looking town, about 40,000, all laid off in square blocks. Since we left Regina, we have been moving through prairie country, big wheat fields as far as the eye can see. Big stacks of straw all over. Lots of fine looking homes out [], not so much snow about 2"; not a tree in sight at all. Houses are all very small... SWIFT CURRENT Another tower, not so large as the other, still going through grain country.... Lots of teams at every station loaded with grain. .. Arrived at Calgary at 5am. Nov 18 -- pulled out of Calgary about 5.30am ... Was a fine sight, travelling

through mountains all day.

Nov 19 Got into Vancouver about 10.30am

Nov 21 Left on steamer Princess Adelaide for Victoria & Seattle

DEC 18 Arrived at Los Angeles about 11am; Dec 24 in Chicago -- no more diary

Dr. Benjamin Coburn -1873:

Born about 1838 - so c.35 years old when writing.

1 Dec Fine & very cold. I saw Thomas Jewett, gave cough syrup. I was very busy around place all forenoon. Fed turkeys bran & oats, pigs potatoes & saw Will. He hauled me over 20 bus[hels] oats & 2 bus[hels] buckwheat & also 500 ft of hemlock boards, put Charleys wagon in shed. We moved our bed & things upstairs for the winter. Home all evening.

4 Dec Warm & foggy with a little rain falling nearly all day. Snow nearly all off. John Shep finished putting in my sashes. I got fars? for spring spout. Gave William bottle linament? Was home most of day. Down to Abr Pickard's, got putty 12. Took bsk. [basket] to Buskirk's to get hooped. Was in to Abr McKeen's, got pane of glass 10 x 14 for my windows. I drove out to widow Christy's to see Mr. Ross. Made 4.5 on pills for Jeffry Yerxa. Was home all evening a very wet night. Saw John Donaldson. Got cash \$3.00

5 DEC Fine but cool. I was at home all day fixing water spouts. Edward Merrithew in and paid \$18.50 on [October bill]. I saw Frank Myshall his wife smart. Saw N[orman] Curry's son; ext. [racted] tooth. Got cash \$29.00. I sent Jeffy Yerxa box [?] pills obst. Const. no. 1. Sent Mr. C.Y. Towser's? bill. Home all evening.

6 DEC Very fine and cold. I was at home all morning, first I saw Indian Sapier... Saw Will Richards, sent Selly Lucy quinn and iron box pills. Saw James Cliff, took a straw out of his hand. Got dinner. I was at post office, postage .07. Left for hay up to Will's, he was busy had to take my sulkey out again. I was out to Fred Long's, got him to hall [haul] me hay. I was at home all evening. ...

7 Dec Fine & cold. I was called out to David Wherrey at 2am. His daughter, Mrs. Kendle in to deliver of a gal. I was out to old Will Orr's... I saw Louis then drove out to see his mother, gave medicine & called to see Mrs. Hallett. Was in to see Mr. Ross [Lane], his knee dressed. ... Home to dinner. Tyler here too. Robb Sloat here about his face. I was at home all night.

8 DEC George Ann here washing. I was home all morning fixing barn & cutting wood. James Harrege in, got him quinn from bitters – 7 pills. Cath Comp – got cash \$1.50. I was down to blacksmith... Got barrel hooped and got a stable(?) for barn. John Sloot brought horse home. I was called to Springfield to see Jess Clark... Was called to Peter Finnors?? to see fire? **9 D**EC Cloudy & squally, some snow & rain. I took out tooth for Mrs. Sears (.50). Drove up to Isaac Jewett's, got no girl???. Drove up to V. Mitchell's, gave Veret venison?; was in to see Mrs. Kendle... in to Bart Hallet's ...; called at Widow Christey.... Saw older man Ross, lanced his knee then I drove over to Mr. Close's, put Jenny in the

barn & went over to see Mrs. Icabod Gallagher ... & got home at dark. Was called out to George Flemming, his wife poorly. Got home at two. --- Smith after me but I was too late...

10 Dec Fine & very cold with very high winds. I saw Zopher Dunphy, gave medicine; saw Sapier Joe, gave medicine; also Sarah Andrew Tomes, gave medicine. I got lunch. Saw Will Coburn. Drove out to James Mitchell's wife very very sick, gave medicine. Was in to Jess Christey & attested to my [accredition?]. Called to see old Mr. Ross, his knee very bad indeed. I got home at dark, was home all evening. Group are here all day ironing?

11 Dec Fine & cold. I was home all morning, left at 10 for James Mitchell, his wife very sick, gave quinn. Called at Ed Love's, got my mare's corks filed sharp. Got dinner at Mitchell's. Called at widow Christey's & Mr. Ross some better, gave morphine & I got home early. I got rod for stove pipe cut from wood. I was home all evening. Got cash from Enoch Jewett.

12 Dec Cloudy & warm. I was at home all morning. Drove out to see Mrs. James Mitchell, she is very low. Took bottle of brandy from Abr [Abraham] McKeen for her. Was called in to see Mrs. Bart Hallet, gave drops. Was in to see old Mr. Ross, he is some better...

13 Dec Cloudy & looks like a storm. Elijah Peterson, Tim Waters & Mr. Lindsay here chopping wood, David Jewett hauling with his team. I was over a while with them. Was called to Keswick to see Mrs. Oscar Yerxa, gave powder. I was called in to Ludlow Yerxa to see girl ... Got a call to see Francis Goodine's son at Merryland [New Maryland], case of pneumonia. I took my toboggan went down Close's Hill & across

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through the village. Was home to tea, quite a heavy snow storm, gave D. Jewett medicine & box of ointment. Home all night.

14 DEC *Ouite fine again; we had a fine* snow storm last night. We got up at 9am. I was at home all day, nothing to do. Was not further away than the spring all day. Not a soul in to see us all day.

15 DEC Mon. I drove out to F. Long's, from there to Widow Christey, to see old man Ross. Got my dinner & drove to town. Got F. Long to bring in 6lb hard coal and 2 soft; got stove pipe, hasp for door, stays, flannel, pepper, candy.

16 Dec Clear & Cold. I was called over to Icabod Gallagher's wife, case abortion, 4 months. Was in Louis Goodine's home to breakfast & dinner. Fixed cough compound for Frank Andey's son. Was called to Ed Wyer's, Caverhill to see wife's knee, festering. Will have to be lanced... Promised Mr. John Jones some medicine for sore tonsils **25 D**EC Fine & cold. I was at home all forepart of the day. William & wife here to dinner. I was called over river to see old Mitchell.. got cash \$1.00. Saw Enoch Jewett, gave him key of school house, got cash \$.50. Henry Sloat here to dine [?] Dow paid double. .. I put up medicine for John Mitchell, also for Mrs. John Jones & for Rev. Curry at Caverhill. Saw David Christey & wife & girl ... I was at home all evening, all alone....

Cyrus Burtt-1873:

Fredericton Surveyor, (Paternal grandfather of Muriel (Burtt) Walker, wife of Mayor William Walker) (born about 1845 in Keswick Ridge- so 28 years old)

1 Dec Clear and Cold. Left White's Camp morning. Scaled R & H logs. At Barker's Camp all night.

2 DEC Clear and cold morning. Very cold weather, nice day. At Justus Fairley's Camp all night.

3 DEC Cloudy, snow and hail. At Justus Fairley's Camp. 61 =10.275 supft. Some rain, afternoon at Barker's Camp

4 DEC Rain forenoon. At Boid and Robinson Camp. Heavy thaw. At Rice and Holland's Camp. 241 piers – B & R **5 D**EC Clear and cool this day. At White's Camp. At R & V's Camp. Water high this

day. Scaling White & R & Holland's. At R & Holland's all night.

6 DEC Clear & cool morning. At R & H camp. Came to Barker's Camp.

7 Dec Clear & cold. At Barker's Camp. Cool all day.

8 Dec Clear & cold Went to Pond's Camp. Scaling P. lumber in Otter Brook.

9 DEC Cloudy and some rain at Pond's Camp. Went to Calhoun Camp. Surveyed Calhoun lumber. Very warm all day. Clear

10 Dec Clear and cold. Left Pond's Camp. At Barker to dinner. Came to B & R Camp. Scaling B & R lumber.

11 Dec Clear & fine morning. Very fine day. From B & R to White's

12 DEC Some cloudy this day. At White's Camp, now Holland's Camp.

13 Dec Clear and fine. Came from Rice & H Camp. At Barker [for] dinner. All night at Jus Fairly. Scaling Barker & Fairly. 14 DEC Clear and cold. Cold all Day. At

Fairly camp. Very cold day.

15 DEC Clear and cold. From Fairly's Camp to Barkers. Russell Caine here from McKeel Brook.

16 DEC Clear and cool. Went to R & H Camp & White's. Scaling. Very fine day. 17 Dec Cloudy and warm. Very warm day. Came to B & Robinson Camp. Scaled here. Barker men clean stream out.

18 Dec Clear and fine morning. Came from B & R Camp, at Barker Camp scaling. Very nice day. Yesterday A. Brown broke his leg.

19 DEC Clear and fine morning. From Barker's to R & Holland. Sent letter to Fredericton . McLain's team went out home.

20 Dec Some cloudy and warm. Scaling Holland & White's. Fine weather.

21 Dec Clear & cool. Holland went out sick at White camp. Very cold last night. 22 Dec Clear & cold. Left – White Camp morning. R & H camp dinner.

23 Dec Cold, clear & fine. At BR morning. Cold day came to Barker camp.

24 DEC Clear & fine. Came to Pond's camp. Scaled Pond's lumber.

25 Dec Not very cold this day. .. At Calhoun's and Pond's. Moon-light night. This year will soon be gone.

TWILA BUTTIMER

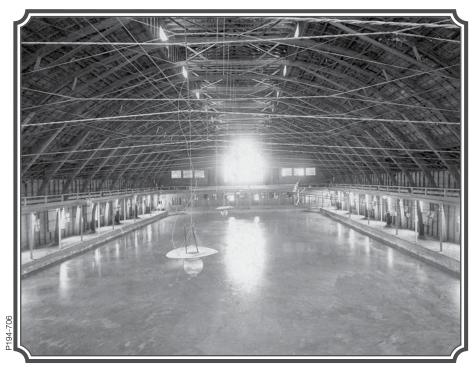


Spring 2014

Muriel Burtt's FREDERICTON vu par Muriel Burtt

URIEL'S DIARY TRANSCRIPTS paint a vivid picture of life in 1920s Fredericton, making mention of places both frequented and photographed by the city's citizens. Some of the locations and events featured in her diary transcripts on the previous pages are pictured here.

A TRANSCRIPTION DU JOURNAL intime de Muriel Burtt peint un tableau vivant de la vie à Fredericton dans les années 1920; y sont mentionnés des lieux à la fois fréquentés et photographiés par les gens de la ville. Certains des endroits et des événements mentionnés dans la transcription de son journal dans les pages précédentes sont illustrés ici.



Interior of the Arctic Rink at the foot of Carleton Street, Fredericton, 1920s. Muriel frequently skated here. / Vue intérieure de la patinoire Arctik Rink donnant sur la rue Carleton, Fredericton, années 1920. Muriel y faisait souvent du patinage.



Imperial Restaurant, Carleton Street, Fredericton, 1930s. Muriel mentions eating here. / Le restaurant Imperial, rue Carleton, Fredericton, années 1930. Muriel mentionne y avoir mangé.



Capitol Theatre, corner of King and Carleton Streets, Dec. 1973. Muriel often watched films here, as did her parents, according to her diary. / Le Capitol Theatre, à l'angle des rues King et Carleton, décembre 1973. Muriel, ainsi que ses parents, ont souvent fréquenté cette salle de cinéma, comme en fait foi son journal.



Muriel Walker neé Burtt, late 1930s / Climo, Fredericton. / Muriel Walker, née Burtt, vers la fin des années 1930 / Climo, Fredericton.



Brunswick Street Church, Fredericton, 1930s, where Muriel and Bill attended church and were married. / Église de la rue Brunswick, à Fredericton, dans les années 1930, que Muriel et Bill fréquentaient et où ils se sont mariés.