

MUSEUM NEWS

Issue Thirty TWO | SUMMER 2024



How to Find Us

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Hours of Operation

The Museum is open
Tuesday - Saturday
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Who We Are

Administrator – Jackie Pearase

Board of Directors 2022-2023

President: Sandra Farynuk
Vice-president: Sue Phillips
Secretary: Bob Cowan
Treasurer: Diana Inselberg

Directors: Judy Fischer, Ted Morrison
Joan Cowan, Desiree Roell

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Summertime pastime

Fishing is a favourite summertime activity as shown in this photo by G.W. Hudson of children fishing from a sandbar, circa 1915. With a pole that long, they are likely trying to net fish or perhaps using a spear method. [edms 5147]

President's Message

Summer is here and while we are all waiting for the sunshine, we are also hoping especially for the rain to ease the dry conditions for our forests. Preservation of our heritage continues at our busy little museum. Volunteers are all working hard but with holiday season coming up, a few more volunteers would be much appreciated. Just give us a bit of your time whenever you can come in!

Whenever we talk to people who have never visited our museum, they are amazed at how much history Enderby has, and how important our main industries like the brick plant, the flour mill and logging operations were to not just the area but to the whole of southern BC! Come in and get some stories to tell your summer visitors and bring them in for a tour. Speaking of tours, we are going to clean up some of the gravestones so we can do tours of some of the significant people of our past who helped build this community so be sure to watch for the announcement of when they will be.

Also, most of you probably wonder where many of our artifacts are hiding! Next time you drive by the Springbend Hall and see how well maintained it is, know that inside are hundreds of items, all accessioned and labelled in clear containers so we can access them at any time for displays and special occasions.

Enjoy this summer issue and know how hard Jackie works to put it, and the Facebook articles, together for us all to learn about our history.

~ Sandra Farynuk, President

Museum notes

By Jackie Pearase



Royal BC Museum conversation

Chris O’Conner, director of community engagement at the Royal BC Museum visited our little museum May 9 prior to the community conversation held at the Cardiff Miller Art Warehouse later the same day. I gave him a thorough tour of the place and he was suitably impressed. In the evening, he facilitated a conversation about the future of the Royal BC Museum and museums in general at the CMAW. Desiree Roell and I attended for the museum and participated in a lively discussion. You can weigh in on plans for the Royal BC Museum by taking their survey at www.rbcm.ca/survey.

Cemetery cleanup/tour

The museum is working on a cemetery tour highlighting some of the families who played a role in the early development of Enderby. Lansdowne Cemetery tours were done in the past but we want to dig into some more recent history. We are seeking individuals wanting to assist with the tour. Call the museum if you want to help. A clean-up at the cemetery was in the works for late May-early June to get the old section looking nice.

Finding a place to call a cemetery

Early Enderby settlers are buried at Lansdowne Cemetery near Armstrong but its small size and distance from the city made a new cemetery an eventual necessity.

In April 1913 the City of Enderby purchased 8.36 acres for the Cliffside Cemetery in North Enderby from G.L. Williams for \$1,000.

“The Provincial Board of Health this week approved the site selected by the City Council for a cemetery, and the deal for the property has been closed with Mr. Williams. This property is located barely one mile north of Enderby, and when cleared and put into shape for the purpose intended will make an ideal spot. It will, however, require the expenditure of a large sum of money to put it into shape and build an approach thereto,” reads the March 6, 1913 Enderby Progress and Walker’s Weekly.

A three-acre portion was cleaned and fenced at a cost of \$1,100 then surveyed with roads, blocks and lots. The price for each lot was established at \$10, paid in advance.

Andrew Glen has the first gravesite in the cemetery. He died Oct. 26, 1912 and was buried in the family’s orchard, which was later donated to the cemetery, thus becoming the oldest plot.

In March 1913, John MacPherson was appointed caretaker of the cemetery with the understanding that gravedigging would not exceed \$5 in any case and anyone would be permitted to dig the grave themselves under supervision of the caretaker. Yet an article from May 17, 1928 discussing concerns with the cemetery notes the following about MacPherson, “...he has served in that capacity for the last 10 or 12 years without remuneration...rendering services which have never been recognized by the city.”

Later, the city foreman was unofficially responsible for maintenance of the cemetery. City Foreman Tom Kneale was officially appointed Superintendent of Cemetery in 1934. The cemetery remains owned and operated by the City of Enderby. The city contracts out grounds maintenance of the cemetery; the last contract in 2023 was for six months (April 1-Oct. 1) with an option to extend the contract for two more years for the same six-month time period each year.

A perpetual care fund was established in 1967 to ensure maintenance of the grounds.

The Enderby Cemetery Society was established in 1991 to work with the city to improve the cemetery. The work included cleaning of the grounds, steam cleaning headstones, planting flowers and shrubs, creation of a directory, fencing, building a directory and installing waterlines.

In 2011, then mayor Dee Wejr, along with Ken and Joyace Case, spearheaded the creation of the Cemetery Revitalization Committee to clean up the site once again.

Getting water to the site was always a concern. In the 1930s and 1940s the city purchased barrels of water for \$1 each, so each family could maintain its own plot. Water was piped to a corner property in 1963, but it wasn't until 1991 that the water system was upgraded to be useable year-round.

In 1962 the remaining five acres south of the old site was completely cleared, with the timber sold to defray the costs of surveying the blocks and plots. The old site remains steeply wooded, while the new site is open and flat.

In 1975 an area was set aside for cremated remains.

In 2013, the fees for an adult burial plot went up to \$353 and to \$429 in 2017. The fee to inter cremated remains went to \$171 in 2013 and \$208 in 2017.

In 2018 the city completed the Cliffside Cemetery Land Use Plan and it was adopted in 2019. The plan provides a guideline for growth in the cemetery for 25 years.



Enderby's Cliffside Cemetery at 169 Enderby-Grindrod Road, circa 1985. [edms 3380]

Volunteers

Thanks to board members and volunteers Sandy Farynuk and Desiree Roell for their ongoing efforts to keep the grounds at Springbend Hall looking spiffy.

Thanks also to all the other volunteers who continue to offer their time and skills to keeping things going forward at the museum.

Visitors

Plenty of people come into the museum to have a look but also to do research. Peter and Katherine seem to get a lot of researchers in the museum on Tuesdays and do a great job of meeting their needs. Since the start of the year, people have come in to research specific properties on Stanley Avenue, Stroulger Road, Regent Avenue and Davy Road. People wanted to know about the A.R. Rogers Sawmill property, the Grindrod sawmill, pictures of Kingfisher, Chinese in Enderby and SuperSave Gas. There were also inquiries about different families: Joe, Uyeda, Elliott, Simard, MacDonald, Spencer, Fenton, Chatterson, Sherlow, Pitton, Dale, Sprecht, Piper, Hutchison, Lavigne, Kinbasket, Williams, Revel, Bird, McLeod, Alexander, Lynes, MacDonald, McPeake and Woods. We help them find information with our historical and people files, photographs, property files, cemetery records and church records. The Revel family came the May long weekend and spent a couple of hours looking through family files, papers, scrapbooks and photos. Great fun! The Thrive after-school program brought in seven youngsters to visit the museum May 15. They were a handful but full of curiosity and questions. They loved the wheat grinder, typewriters and making rope.

Gazebo

Work was done in May to extend the gazebo at Barnes Park. We added a fence panel on each side and extended the gate out to the north. Thank you to Zak and Sy from A.L. Fortune and the city for sending two men to help with the work. The gazebo is also getting a new coat of stain and it will get a good bath prior to Canada Day.

The expansion allows us to get the fire truck in and out of the gazebo from the front, rather than driving it around to the back. It also gives us a bit more room to better display the artifacts in the gazebo. More interpretive signs will be added in the future.

The fire truck made another visit to Williamson Automotive to do some tweaking to ensure it is in good running order for the Canada Day parade. We were also asked to transport Santa and Mrs. Claus in the Christmas parade in the fire truck, so we want to make sure the truck is mechanically healthy for a winter trip.

Presentations

We have two presentations under our belt so far this year. A presentation by guest speakers Karla Schubert and Kyra Evans on the Hunters Range Snowmobile Association for Heritage Week in February was enjoyed by all who attended. Then I did a presentation, A History of Flooding in Enderby & District, for the annual general meeting of the Armstrong-Enderby Branch of the Okanagan Historical Society in April. About 40 people attended, with some audience members adding great stories and information to the afternoon. I am making plans to give the flooding presentation to people at Granville Getaway.



A photo of the Cliffside Cemetery, looking north, circa 1950. [edms 628]

In 2020, a new columbarium was added with 60 niches of various sizes, with two more to be added as needed. New rock was added to the old section and old crumbling curbs were removed from the road corners. A screen/fence was added behind the old cremation section.

In May 2023 city council amended the Cliffside Cemetery Land Use Plan to better meet community needs. Enderby is close to the provincial average cremation rate of 84.9% of all dispositions (2017), which is about 74 cremations per year. To meet this need, two amendments dealt with expanding cremation options within the cemetery. Another amendment provides for more shade.

The 2024 work plan includes removal of the utility shed, extension of the lower cremation garden section to the southwest corner of the cemetery, and extending the screen fence on the west side. The amended plan calls for a small shade gazebo to be added where a deteriorating gazebo was removed some years ago. The future columbaria planned for this site will be incorporated into the central amenity space.

The Enderby & District Museum & Archives is organizing a spring clean-up of the cemetery this spring. The plan is to remove moss and dirt from the gravestones in the old section and clean up any other areas needed some TLC.

Anyone wanting to participate can give the museum a call for more details.

The museum is also planning a cemetery tour this summer highlighting some of the families who played a role in Enderby's more recent history. Anyone wanting to help with this project can also call the museum for more information.

Turning on the taps in Enderby

The provision of water to Enderby was on the top of most people's to-do list when the city was incorporated in 1905.

Water was critical not only for domestic use but for fire protection. It was deemed critical enough that private water systems were in place before the city installed its own system.

The original water system was provided by Alderman E.T. Smith. He hauled water from the river with a cart and delivered it to customers. People stored the water in wooden barrels and paid him a small fee for the hauling.

A new water system was established by the Columbia Flouring Mills around 1904. In October 1905 the mill said almost every house in the city was getting water from its pump. While this is likely a stretch, the city had provided permission to the mill to dig ditches for water lines on at least three occasions. Council also approved the laying of a four-inch pipe from the bridge to the corner of Cliff and Belvedere streets for fire protection in May 1905. It included three fire hydrants. The cost of \$174.50 for materials was shared by the 15 businesses and people along the route.

The city allowed the fire protection system with the caveat that the city could take over the line at any time for a sum equal to the cost of construction less 10 per cent a year for depreciation.

The city began exploring its own water system not long after its March 1, 1905 incorporation. City clerk Graham Rosoman started looking for an appropriate water source in June 1905 via water records in Vernon and Kamloops. In August two aldermen sought out local creeks to serve as a water supply.



This postcard, circa 1907, shows why the city had work to do when establishing its waterworks on Brash Creek. The card's caption reads: A Woodland Tangle, Brash Creek, Enderby, B.C. [edms 6286]

Facebook

My posts for the museum on Facebook continue to get good feedback. It takes a lot of time and effort to put together some of the posts so it is nice when people recognize the work that goes into them. I recently received the following message from a fan: Hello, I'm getting in touch to say how much I appreciate your Facebook posts. I grew up in the Trinity Valley and know many of the family names and scenes in your posts. My parents were Stan and Etta Wejr. You're making the stories about people and places in Enderby's history so accessible, which is wonderful. Thank you so much for all you do. I'm sure it's a lot of work creating and keeping up with the posts but you always make them so interesting and relatable. Thank you!!

Where in the world...

...did people come from to visit our museum? Over 240 people have visited the museum since January 2024. Visitors came from near and far. Those signing the guest book came from: Revelstoke, Salmon Arm, Deep Creek, Armstrong, Sicamous, Sylvan Lake, Stonewall (MB), Kimberley, Vernon, Edmonton, Vancouver, Ottawa, Lumby, Spallumcheen, New Market (ON), Chilliwack, Calgary, Terrace, Penticton, White Rock, Dubai, Earth, Kelowna, United Kingdom, Nanaimo, West Kelowna, Loveland (CO), Williams Lake, Leduc, Richmond, Quesnel, Elk Point (AB), Naramata, Victoria, Peace River, Comox, St. Catherines, Kitchener, Linden (AB), Canada, Enderby, Ashton Creek, Kingfisher, Mabel Lake and Grindrod. With summer around the corner, we look forward to sharing our history with more visitors.



Grads of yesteryear

June is graduation time. Let's head back to Enderby High School and look at a photo of the 1955 graduating class taken by Doug Kermode. Shown are (front, l-r) Shirley Ludwig, Corrine Olsen, Grace Frederick, Irene Karras, Grace Predie, Myrna Smaha, Donna Marie Imbeau, (middle) Bert Revel, Taka Tokairin, Mary Matlock, Shirley Kirkpatrick, Alice Stevens, Shirley Smith, Rosie Glushenko, Doug Payne, (rear) Floyd Varchol, Frank Kohlman, Art Waby, Stan March, Terry O'Connor, Ted Daem and George Thielman. [edms 2420]



Flood zone

Given our location in the mountains with a river fed by mountain runoff, it is not surprising that Enderby has had many flood years. Notable years include 1928, 1935, 1948, 1972 and 1990. The museum has photographs from some of these events such as this one taken by Hazel Rosoman of the 1928 flood showing Brickyard Road, with water being pumped over the railway tracks in the upper left. If you have flood photos, please share with the museum. [edms 748]

The search continued in 1906, with Rosoman getting information from other municipalities and at least one supplier. Council discussed the idea of pumping water from the river to a reservoir, thinking a gravitational system to be too expensive and unfeasible. "None of the creeks within four or five miles of Enderby have enough volume of water in the dry season," noted a March 9, 1906 article in the Edenograph.

The estimated cost of \$20,000 for a gravitational system was considered an excellent bargain and more effort went into finding an appropriate creek. The city considered both Smith Creek (also called Hassard's Creek) to the south of town and Brash Creek located about four miles east of Enderby.

Mr. Atkinson of the Canadian Pipe Company inspected both creeks and found both to have a good water supply. He said Smith Creek was a better choice because it was closer and ditching would be less costly. He suggested crafting arrangements with farmers around the creek.

On that advice the city began the work required to establish a water system on Smith Creek. They looked at cost estimates, negotiated with Messrs. Hassard and Smith for water rights and a right-of-way, sought permission to run a water pipe across the Spallumcheen Indian Reserve, and developed a bylaw.

But a visit to Smith Creek in mid-July found it to be extremely low and a poor water source choice. City council opted to change its water licence from Smith to Brash Creek and sent a water sample to Victoria for testing.

C.J. Fagin, secretary to the provincial board of health, said Smith Creek was not advisable but also objected to Brash Creek. Mayor George Bell wrote Fagin asking how they could get past this hurdle because any other option was too costly. Fagin said clearing away decomposing vegetable and woody matter around the creek would bring the water to a suitable quality.

Encouraged to move forward, council awarded the contract to the Canadian Pipe Company for \$18,350 in August. The work was to be done by Dec. 31, 1906. The company would be fined \$10 per day for every day after that date that the work was not completed. When the work still had not commenced by Oct. 8, Rosoman wrote the contractor: "The Municipal Council are, from time to time, in receipt of many enquiries from the citizens of Enderby and others as to the approximate date on which you intend to commence work on the waterworks contract. They would be much obliged if you would kindly place them in a position to answer these questions."

Work started a few days later and wooden pipe was being laid to Brash Creek within two weeks.

Unable to negotiate taking over the mill's waterlines, the city installed new lines. The pipeline, dam and settling tank were complete by Dec. 14. Temporary wooden pipe was laid across the river while waiting for iron pipe.

The water was turned on Jan. 5, 1907 for about 50 households. The A.R. Rogers Lumber Mill and King Edward Hotel were soon added to the customer list along with more residents.

The iron pipe for the river crossing arrived in March and was hooked up by March 22 with 108 pounds of pressure. Leaks were repaired throughout the spring and the contractor was paid in August after a final inspection found it to be in good working order.

The waterworks bylaw set rates for 1907 at \$1.50 per month for houses, workshops and public baths (per tub). Stores, offices and sleeping rooms paid \$1; laundries, livery stables, restaurants and boarding houses paid \$5; and the rate was \$8 for hotels. Rates went up when not paid on time and the water turned off if not paid within 30 days.

There was some question in 1912 whether the city had obtained permission to run the waterline across reserve land. Our archives do not provide a definitive answer to this question, but council of the time asserted that the pipeline ran only on the public road and private property where the city purchased the right-of-way.

In 1947, the original wooden pipes (many times repaired) were replaced with steel pipes and the reservoir was expanded. A new reservoir, infiltration plant and pumping station in the Shuswap River were added in 1996.

Interestingly, the city did not install a sewer system until 1971, but that is another story (which you can read in the second edition of Enderby an illustrated history).



The head of the City of Enderby's waterworks at Brash Creek in 1939. [edms 4115]

The end of a bygone era

About 70 people attended a dance March 10 at the Enderby Drill Hall to commemorate 98 years of Old Time Dance groups in Salmon Arm, Armstrong and Enderby. The Old Time Dance Crowd began from Harry Farmer's 45th birthday party in 1926 and grew into a formal group of 100 members by 1929.

It became the Salmon Arm Old Time Dance Club in the late 1930s and rules of behaviour adopted.

Dancers were not allowed to switch partners on the floor unless it was in a circle dance, and liquor was strictly prohibited. Anyone doing different dance steps was escorted off the floor – "jazzy dancing" was a no-no. Dancers were expected to dress for the occasion, with slacks for women under question in the 1970s. Ross Lockhart of Armstrong started hosting private dance club events in 1943, with just committee members allowed to bring along a guest couple.

The Armstrong-Enderby Old Time Dance Club formed in 1945 with a dress code and code of conduct.

Membership requirements disappeared by 1956 and dances moved from different Armstrong locations to the Enderby Drill Hall in the early 1960s.

Children often accompanied their parents to the dances and alcohol was never part of the fun.

The two clubs merged in the late 1990s. Each hosted three dances a year then joined for the last dance of the season and a potluck dinner.

The Salmon Arm group celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2001 before calling it quits and joining the dances in Enderby. The clubs have all called it quits now due to dwindling participation and an aging membership.

Girls' minor baseball in Enderby



This trophy, donated to the museum by Enderby & District Financial after it was found in storage there, gives a little insight into early ball for girls in Enderby. It is the Enderby & District Minor Baseball Senior Girls League Trophy sponsored by the Enderby & District Credit Union, which explains its presence in their building.

A little research revealed that 1970 was the first year for girls' minor baseball in Enderby. There was a big write-up on the event that wound up the 1970 season. It included mention of the Junior Girls League Trophy, sponsored by the Enderby Sportsman Hotel and won by the Saints.

The Saints were coached by Marie Stickland and included players Cathy Schulte, Donna Parr, Cheryl Parr, June Danforth, Cheryl Pirnak, Carol Roberts, Ann Bond, Tannis Hill, Cathy Hagaradt, Carol Atha and Serene-Jane Middleton.

The Maxis, who won the senior girls' trophy, were coached by Billy Hill and included players Tannis Hill, Cathy Hagaradt, Leigh Boldt, Karen Skyrme, Shelley Stickland, Shirley Dunn, Kathy Collins, Dawn Hagaradt, Debbie McAmmond and Roxanne Lundquist.

Girls continued in the minor league but there is no mention of their teams in wind-up stories in 1971, 1972 or 1973. There is even a newspaper ad during this time listing all the minor ball teams and sponsors, but no mention of girls.

In 1974, the wind-up report only mentions that the Angels, coached by Carmen Czepil, won the senior girls' trophy.

The trophy continued at least for another year, as the last crest on the trophy is missing, but it could be more as we know girls continued playing the sport locally.

The trophy has a girl at bat on top (her bat has broken off) but the two running batter figures on the base of the trophy are males.



New at the museum

The D&E Drive-in and house at 606 and 604 George St. are both gone now. The lot was purchased by Fred Koenig in 2022, who quickly determined that the restaurant had to be demolished. He was unsuccessful in giving away the house to someone who would remove it from the lot. Instead, someone dismantled the house with the intention of using the material to construct a cabin. Fred generously acquiesced to a request from the museum for some of the red shingles and the letters spelling 'drive-in.' The letters, made of pressed cardboard, were shellacked and the shingles given new red paint. This display was then created with the items to commemorate the D&E Drive-in that operated from 1981 until the pandemic in 2020.