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NEWSLETTER

ENRICHMENT PROJECT SEES FIRST RESULTS

Last summer, visitors entering the grounds of the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village saw some imposing new additions. Seven historic buildings from east central Alberta have been relocated to the site to begin the Village Enrichment Project.

Since 2001, the Village Enrichment Project has been one of the major focuses of the Friends Society. In partnership with the administration of the Village and officials from the Ministry of Community Development, we have been working to identify, obtain and relocate to the Village a number of historic buildings needed to complete the site. The relocation of these seven buildings marks the first step in the realization of this goal.

The original plans for the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village called for over 70 historic structures illustrating a wide range of farmstead, rural community and townsite activities. However, after an initial capital development phase that saw some thirty buildings located and restored at the site, development was halted. After the mid-1980s the only building added to the historic side of the Village was the Hilliard Hotel, a project undertaken by the Friends Society. Since that time, many buildings earmarked for inclusion at the Village have fallen victim to demolition, vandalism and deterioration due to natural causes.

One of the immediate goals of the Enrichment Project is to secure historic structures before they are destroyed, and relocate them to the Village site, thereby insuring that they are protected. At the same time, it is essential that interviews

be conducted with residents and proprietors of these homes and businesses to collect the information vital to their accurate restoration and interpretation. In order to begin this process, in the spring of 2003 officials in the Ministry of Community Development began collecting information about historic structures that still existed and could be made available to the site.

Between December 2003 and March 2004, the Ministry of Community Development allocated approximately \$240,000 to the Village Enrichment Project. These funds were used to secure seven historic structures and pay for their relocation to the Village site.

The Friends Society would like to thank the Minister of Community Development, the Honourable Gene Zwozdesky, officials within the Cultural Facilities and Historical Resources Division, and the administration of the Village for their belief in the importance of this project, and for their generous support to date. We look forward to continued cooperation as we work together to complete the Village, insuring that this important part of our Province's history is preserved for future generations of Albertans.

by Brian Cherwick

SEVEN “NEW” BUILDINGS AT THE VILLAGE

What’s new? Seven “new” buildings! While these buildings themselves aren’t “new”, they are new to the site.

These buildings are currently located in the Village parking area. Closest to the entrance are the Morecambe School and the Radway Post Office. Other buildings are located at the south end of parking lot, past the Bandshell.

There are a number of reasons for placing these buildings in the Village parking lot. Locating them at the Village guarantees that they will not be destroyed, as could have happened in their original locations. As research continues and information is collected, the restoration process will begin. Visitors will be able to witness the restoration process as it unfolds. Having these buildings restored on the non-historic side of the Village also allows visitors to the historic side to continue to enjoy the unique experience of visiting the Alberta of 1929 without the intrusions of modern day scaffolding and equipment. Once these buildings are completely restored, they can be moved to their final location on the historic side and opened to the public.

If you know any information pertaining to these buildings or know of any other individual that may, please contact the Senior Historian, Mr. Radomir Bilash at 431-2354.

Our new additions are:



Transporting buildings on to UCHV site.

Luzan Post Office

After many years of separation, the Luzan Post Office is reunited with the Luzan Grocery. The Post Office has been located for many years at the Shandro Historical Museum. By a special arrangement, the Shandro Museum made the Post Office available to the Village. In return, the post office from Peno, Alberta was moved into its place.

The Luzan Post Office was constructed in 1928 to replace facilities in the postmaster’s home. It was located on the same lot as the Luzan Grocery store,



which had been built a year earlier.

Radway Post Office

Originally constructed as a bank by the Standard Bank of Canada Company for the town of Radway. By the mid-1920s, the building housed the Radway Post Office, the post master’s residence, the local telephone exchange, and the offices of the Municipal District of Unity #577.



A companion building to this is its stable. It was divided internally and used as a place for both the postmaster's car and the postmaster's cow. It was located at the back of the Post Office property.

Alberta Lumber Company Cement Shed

Constructed as one of the first buildings at the Lamont Lumber Yard. It was used to keep cement, lime and other materials relating to plastering and cement work.



tering and cement work.

Morecambe School

This is one of the last remaining examples of a two-room schoolhouse located in a townsite in our study area of East Central Alberta. This building from the town of Morecambe was built in 1929. It was originally constructed with a full basement and furnace, and will be one of the few buildings on our site of this nature.



by Brian Cherwick

St. Michael Harness Shop and Residence

During the days of horse-drawn vehicles and farm implements, an important local business was the harness shop. This shop was constructed around 1930 in St. Michael, Alberta. Located immediately behind the shop was the house of the harnessmaker. Many more buildings are scheduled to be moved to the Village.

South River Teacherage



FUTURE ARRIVAL...

The South River Teacherage is a two room residence that was constructed in 1920 to house the resident teacher of South River School. South River School District was located 2 miles west and 2 miles north of Myrnam.



Photo of South River Teacherage in 1920s.



South River Teacherage today.

FRIENDS RECEIVE SPECIAL LOTTERIES GRANT

It is imperative that these interviews be conducted as soon as possible, before this valuable resource and base of knowledge is lost. For this reason, this special grant was received at a very opportune time.

In March of 2004 the Friends Society were the recipients of a special grant of \$250,000 from the Ministry of Gaming. This grant is specifically marked for the Village Enrichment Project.

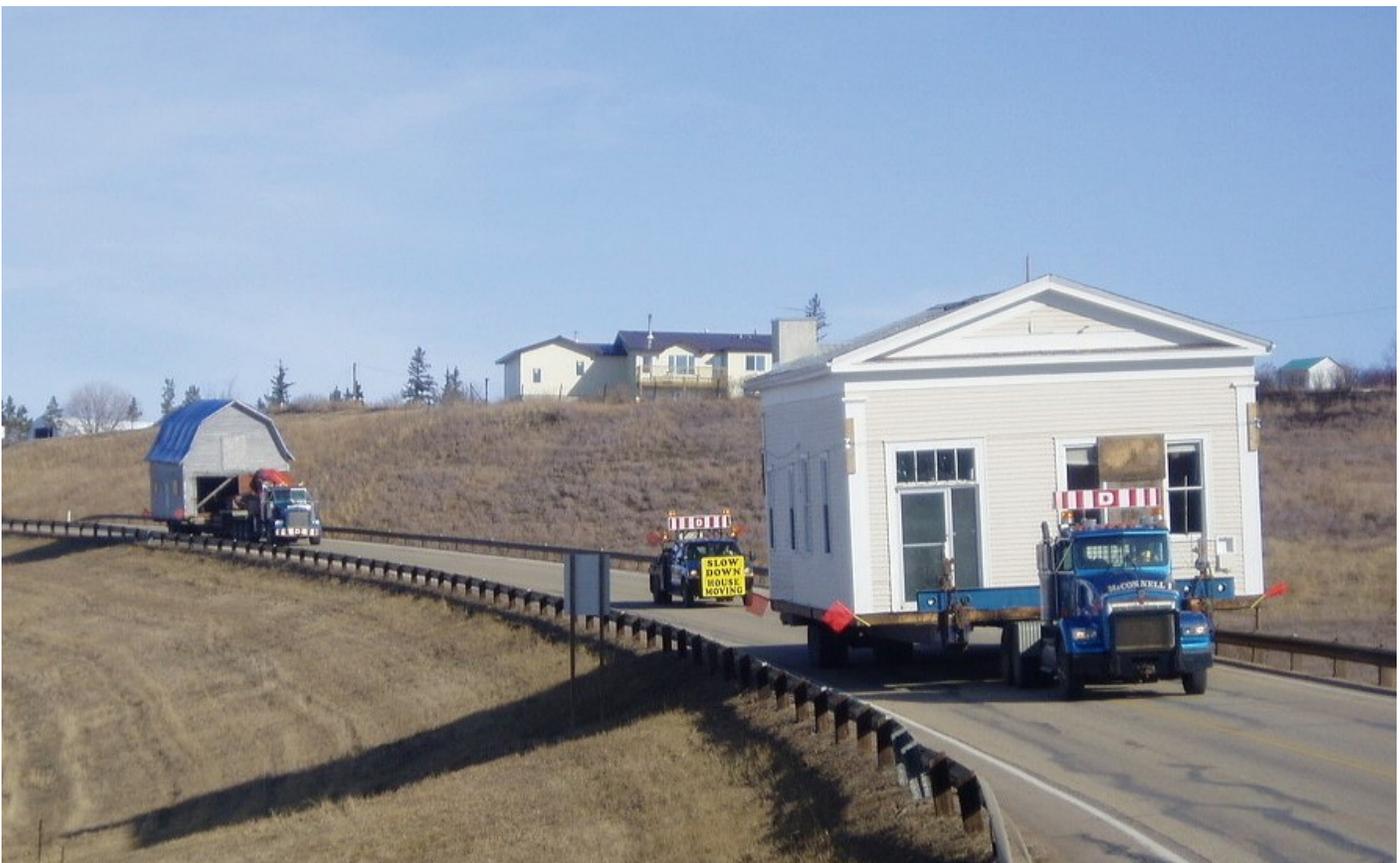
While the Ministry of Community Development provided funds from the 2003-04 budget for the Enrichment Project, these funds were completely exhausted on the acquisition and relocation of buildings. Without background research, the Project could not proceed further. With the assistance of our MLA, the Honourable Ed Stelmach, the Friends Society contacted the Gaming Ministry and applied for this special grant.

The funds obtained from this grant will go towards

the collection of historical information. A team of researchers will go out into east central Alberta to conduct interviews with individuals who lived, worked, and did business in the buildings that have recently been added to the site. As the Village depicts east central Alberta in the 1920s, most of these individuals are advanced in age, many over the age of 90. It is imperative that these interviews be conducted as soon as possible, before this valuable resource and base of knowledge is lost. For this reason, this special grant was received at a very opportune time.

The Friends Society would like to thank the Minister for Gaming, the Honourable Ron Stevens and his Ministry staff for their generous support of the Village Enrichment Project.

by Brian Cherwick



Transporting buildings to UCHV site.

JOHN DEMCHUK RECEIVES A NEW SET OF WHEELS

Thanks to a generous donation from Wild Rose Antique Collectors, the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village has just acquired a 1929 Model A Ford. It cost approx \$750 in its day it was advertised as being able to reach speeds of 60 mph, boasting twice the horsepower of a Model T. This car was unveiled on July 19, 2004 and now is interpreted at the Myrnam Blacksmith Shop.



Photo and description by Gord Yaremchuk

THANK YOU TO OUR SPECIAL DONORS



Mr. Bochon, donor of the South River Teacherage.



From left to right: donor of the Luzan Post Office, Murray Zazula, President of the Shandro Museum Society;
Mr. and Mrs. Chichak, donors of the St. Michael Harness Shop and Residence;
Brian Cherwick, President of the Friends of the Ukrainian Village



Ellen Strynadka, niece of Hryhorii and Axenia Grekul, and donor of Grekul Barn and Grainery.

Andy Kuiper, donor of the Radway Post Office

Allan Weyts, donor of the Morcambe School

The Enrichment project would not be possible without the generous donations of several buildings used to complete the UCHV site. Thank you to all building donors for making the Enrichment Project a reality.

UKRAINIAN VILLAGE GENERATES FIVE BLOOMS AT THE COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM AWARDS!

The Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village is a five-bloom winner at the 2004 *National Communities in Bloom Awards* held in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island on September 18, 2004.

The Village won the award in the “Heritage Cultural Village: Role Playing of the Ukrainian Settlers” category. This was the first year in the national *Communities in Bloom* competition for the Village; it previously won two consecutive five-bloom provincial awards in 2002 and 2003.

Communities in Bloom is a national and provincial program based on environmental awareness and municipal beautification. *Communities in Bloom* celebrates pride of community and country by recognizing community participation in landscape beautification,



heritage conservation, and environmental awareness.

Judges visit and evaluated each entrant on tidiness, urban forestry, landscaped areas, floral displays, turf and groundcover areas, environmental awareness, heritage conservation, and community involvement.

Village staff attributes their success to a strong team effort in the coordination and presentation, which combined, highlight the many outstanding features of the entire site. This includes historical interpretation, farm program, marketing, community support and partnerships, Alberta Infrastructure’s site maintenance involvement, and volunteer efforts.

by Arnold Grant



VILLAGE VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



Last season, over 1100 volunteers donated their time and energy to the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village. During a busy event day, volunteers can be found flipping pancakes, dishing out pyrohy, welcoming visitors to the site, interpreting buildings, and helping out in countless other ways. Their contribution is invaluable to a successful summer season.

The Friends of the Village Society would like to thank all volunteers for their support during the 2004 season.



