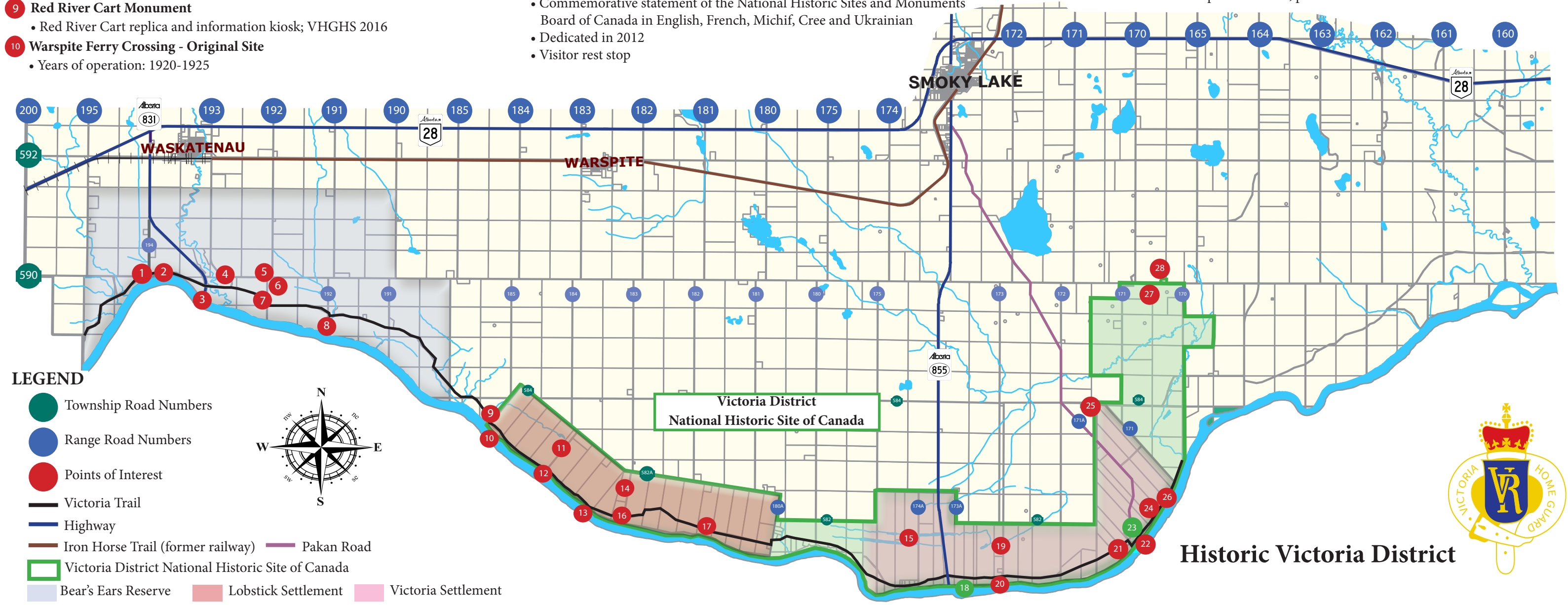


- 1 Victoria Trail**
 - First “highway” in Alberta; last leg of the Carlton Trail (Winnipeg - Edmonton)
 - Used by explorers, traders, freighters, missionaries, Mounties and settlers
- 2 The Elbow, VHGH Sign 2019**
 - Most northerly point on the North Saskatchewan River
 - Resting place for travellers and their horses through the centuries
- 3 Waskatenau Ferry Crossing, VHGH Sign 2019**
 - Years of operation: 1919-1963; ferry built by local farmers
- 4 Elseys’ Hill, VHGH Sign 2019**
 - Became known as “Elseys’ Hill” after vehicles having trouble on the muddy or icy steep slope ended up in Elseys’ yard at the bottom of the hill
- 5 St. Nicholas Anglican Cemetery**
 - Known in the community as the Old Timers’ Cemetery
- 6 Henry House, VHGH Sign 2019**
 - Jack Henry operated the first store in the district, 1905-1919
 - First post office and land sub-agency in the area
- 7 Bear’s Ears Reserve, VHGH Sign 2019**
 - Years of occupation: 1889-1896; wheat, barley, hay, potatoes, turnips grown here
 - Land exchanged for more acreage at Saddle Lake
- 8 Pine Creek/McDonald Stopping House**
 - Sam McDonald built a log home/general store in 1908; post office 1913-1920
 - Designated as a Registered Historic Resource in 1993
- 9 Red River Cart Monument**
 - Red River Cart replica and information kiosk; VHGH Sign 2016
- 10 Warspite Ferry Crossing - Original Site**
 - Years of operation: 1920-1925

- 11 Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church**
 - Commonly known as the Northbank Church
- 12 Steamboat Landing, VHGH Sign 2019**
 - Landing site and nearby store served by steamboats
- 13 Warspite Ferry Crossing - Second Site**
 - Years of operation: 1925-1963
 - Site of VHGH restoration 2003
- 14 Lobstick Settlement & 15 Victoria Settlement**
 - River Lot system traced to New France and the Red River Settlement
 - Characterized by long, narrow lots fronting the river
 - One of the few river lot sites in Alberta
- 16 RCMP Memorial Sculpture**
 - Erected in 1998 by VHGH
 - Commemorates RCMP trek west along Victoria Trail in 1874
- 17 House in the Middle of the Road (Anderson House)**
 - Constructed circa 1900; incorporates the Red River style of log construction
- 18 Métis Crossing**
 - Premier centre for Alberta Métis culture, education, interpretation and gatherings
 - 670-acre site includes the Cromarty house and barn, and the Sinclair house
- 19 Victoria Park Cemetery**
 - Established by the Methodist Church circa 1896; about 100 graves
 - Restored by the VHGH and re-consecrated in 1999
- 20 Plaque Site, Victoria District National Historic Site of Canada**
 - Commemorative statement of the National Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada in English, French, Michif, Cree and Ukrainian
 - Dedicated in 2012
 - Visitor rest stop

- 21 McDougall Graves**
 - Remains of three of George McDougall’s children and John McDougall’s first wife
 - All were victims of the 1870 smallpox epidemic
- 22 Pakan Ferry Crossing**
 - Opened in 1875; in operation for nearly 100 years
- 23 Victoria Settlement Provincial Historic Site/Fort Victoria/Pakan**
 - Mission established in 1862 by Methodists George and John McDougall
 - Included a school, church and hospital
 - Fort established in 1864 by the Hudson’s Bay Company
 - Clerk’s Quarters is the oldest building in Alberta on its original site
- 24 Free Trader’s House**
 - Located on River Lot 3; a Provincially and Municipally Designated Historic Site
 - Built in 1873 by trader Edward McGillivray; oldest privately-owned building in Alberta
- 25 St. Elias Orthodox Church Pakan**
 - Began as a parish in 1902 by Ukrainian settlers; completed and dedicated in 1906
 - Prayer garden being established
- 26 Former Grist Mill / Former Fort White Earth, VHGH Sign 2019**
 - Grist Mill established by the Hudson’s Bay Company in 1873
 - One of the earliest industrial sites in Alberta; averaged 50 bushels of flour daily
 - Fort White Earth was a joint venture of the Hudson’s Bay Company and the North West Company (1810-1813)
- 27 Ukrainian Settlement 28 Ruthenia School**
 - First settlers arrived from Bukovina in 1899 and settled north of Victoria
 - First Ruthenia School opened in 1913, present school in 1924



Historic Victoria District

Victoria Home Guard Historical Society (VHGHS)

The original Victoria Home Guard was organized in 1885 from settlers at Victoria and Lobstick settlements in response to the North West Rebellion.

The Home Guard was revived as a historical society, and incorporated in the Province of Alberta on February 14, 1997.

Our Mission is *"To seek out, and to preserve and promote the history of the Victoria District for the benefit of present and future generations"*.

To this end, our projects have included the RCMP Memorial Sculpture, restoration of Victoria Park Cemetery and the Warspite Ferry site, as well as the Red River Cart Monument, the Welcome to Victoria District Sign and seven interpretive signs.

Achieving National Historic Designation for the Victoria District was one of our original objectives and was realized in 2002. The Victoria District National Historic Site of Canada was dedicated May 26, 2012.

Our membership includes persons from all walks of life, many having roots in the area. We always welcome new members.

For membership inquiries, or for more information about the Victoria Home Guard Historical Society, please write to:

Victoria Home Guard Historical Society
P.O. Box 28
Warspite, AB T0A 3N0



Located at west boundary of Victoria District



Dedication of Red River Cart Monument

Historic Victoria District

Smoky Lake County, Alberta



Victoria Home Guard Historical Society
2019