

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY

# Survey and Inventory - Part I

OF HISTORICAL ASSETS OF THE VICTORIA DISTRICT

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE



SUBMITTED TO

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Municipal Heritage  
Partnership Program



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SMOKY LAKE COUNTY

## Acknowledgements

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SMOKY LAKE COUNTY

# Final Report





## **Smoky Lake County Report**

### **1.0 Introduction**

The Survey and Inventory of Historical Assets within the Victoria District National Historic Site of Smoky Lake County project received funding from the Government of Alberta's Municipal Heritage Program (MHPP) and Smoky Lake County. The project has two portions: the first was to create a survey of potentially significant buildings in the area and enter the data in the Alberta Heritage Survey Site Forms; the second portion was to prepare an inventory of the County's heritage sites that would meet the prescribed criteria for significance and integrity. The criteria for significance and integrity used to create the inventory were identified by the province to ensure that historic places meet the requirements for listing on the Alberta and Canadian Register of Historic Places.

### **2.0 Smoky Lake County Inventory Project Objectives**

The main objectives of the Survey and Inventory of Historical Assets within the Victoria District National Historic Site of Smoky Lake County were:

- To complete a review of potential historically significant sites within the Victoria District National Historic Site of Smoky Lake County
- To create a context paper that described Smoky Lake County's major historical themes and trends
- To document, research, and conduct fieldwork to develop the Smoky Lake County survey
- To photograph and document historic sites within the Victoria District National Historic Site of Smoky Lake County to include on each site's Resources Survey Form
- To prepare Statements of Significance for five selected resources

### **3.0 Smoky Lake County Advisory Committee Role**

A number of Smoky Lake County residents volunteered their time for this project, and a number of meetings were held with the advisory committee to assist in the identification and subsequent research of buildings to be evaluated as potential candidates for the Survey and Inventory of Historical Assets within the Victoria District National Historic Site of Smoky Lake County.

## **4.0 Description of Report Content**

### **Introduction**

#### **Smoky Lake County Context Paper**

The preparation of the context paper is an MHPP requirement designed to establish a framework for the evaluation of heritage resources. The context paper provides an overview of the major historical and cultural themes and events associated with the Victoria District National Historic Site of Smoky Lake County. This report is used as an historical reference point for the review and evaluation of the county's heritage resources.

#### **Smoky Lake County Draft Statements of Significance**

Five draft Statements of Significance have been prepared for the heritage resources selected through the Victoria District National Historic Site of Smoky Lake County Heritage Inventory. Each heritage resource was researched and photographed. A draft Statement of Significance was prepared and includes the three major sections required by the MHPP: a description of the heritage resource, a description of the heritage values associated with the resource, and identification of the character defining elements of the heritage resource.

#### **Municipal Heritage Survey Review Forms**

The resource evaluation process involved the completion of Municipal Heritage Survey Review Forms for all five of the sites suggested for inclusion on the Victoria District National Historic Site of Smoky Lake County Heritage Inventory. These forms provide the reader with an easily navigable structure that outlines basic information regarding a surveyed historic place, and enumerate the criteria of significance and integrity as required by the province of Alberta.

#### **Survey Forms (Part II)**

A review of the sites, buildings, and structures within the Victoria District National Historic Site of Smoky Lake County, as proposed by the Advisory Committee, identified eighty-six historic resources that were to be included in the Smoky Lake County survey. An Alberta Heritage Survey Site Form was completed for each of the eighty-six buildings with architectural information, all available history, and black and white photographs included on each.



SMOKY LAKE COUNTY

# Context Paper



## Smoky Lake Historical Context Paper

### Pre-History

Prior to the arrival of Europeans in the nineteenth century, the future county of Smoky Lake was occupied by the Plains and Wood Cree, evidence of whom can be found in a recent archaeological excavation of a campsite from around 4000 BCE.<sup>1</sup> The region was covered by tall, dense forests of black and white poplar in the higher areas, and spruce in the lower, swampy areas.<sup>2</sup> The forests provided an excellent habitat for wildlife, especially for the animals whose fur was coveted by Europeans.<sup>3</sup>

### European Arrival and Settlement

In 1810, the Hudson's Bay Company and the North West Company established rival trading posts within a common palisade wall in the Smoky Lake area.<sup>4</sup> This fort was located where the White Earth and North Saskatchewan Rivers converge, and was named Fort White Earth.<sup>5</sup> The post was not profitable, and was abandoned in 1813.<sup>6</sup>

It was not until the mid-1800s that Europeans made further forays into the area in the form of Catholic and Protestant missions set up to convert the local Cree to Christianity. One of the first was at Whitefish Lake, nearly fifty kilometres northeast of the present-day town of Smoky Lake.<sup>7</sup> Founded in 1857 by the Ojibwa minister Reverend Henry Bird Steinhauer, the Whitefish Lake mission was unique for several reasons.<sup>8</sup> It was the first permanent aboriginal agricultural settlement in the West, it was not associated with the fur trade, and it was the first Protestant mission established by a person of native descent.<sup>9</sup>

A second missionary, Reverend Thomas Woolsey, arrived in the area in 1860 and established a mission on the north end of Smoky Lake at a site later named Mission Hill. It is to Reverend Woolsey that some attribute the name 'Smoky Lake'.<sup>10</sup> It is said that Woolsey chose his mission site because it was where local Cree gathered to hunt and smoke their peace pipes. The area was called "Smoking Place", and eventually the name evolved into Smoky Lake.<sup>11</sup> A second theory as to how the name Smoky Lake came to pass is that the lake always appears as though there is a haze above its waters, which

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<sup>1</sup> The Editorial Staff of the Smoky Lake and District Cultural and Heritage Society, *Our Legacy: History of Smoky Lake and District and Family Histories of Men and Women who Pioneered this Area* (Winnipeg: Inter-Collegiate Press of Canada Limited, 1983), 1; Peter J. Melnyky, *A Veritable Canaan: Alberta's Victoria Settlement* (Edmonton: The Friends of Fort Victoria Historical Society, 1997), 6; Leslie J. Hurt, *The Victoria Settlement: 1882-1922*, Occasional Paper No. 7 (Alberta Culture Historical Resources Division, 1979), 107.

<sup>2</sup> *Our Legacy*, 1.

<sup>3</sup> *Our Legacy*, 1.

<sup>4</sup> *Our Legacy*, 1.

<sup>5</sup> *Our Legacy*, 1.

<sup>6</sup> *Our Legacy*, 1. A cairn now stands at the site to commemorate Fort White Earth.

<sup>7</sup> *Our Legacy*, 1.

<sup>8</sup> Hurt, 3.

<sup>9</sup> Melnyky, 8; Hurt, 3.

<sup>10</sup> Melnyky, 8; *Our Legacy*, 1.

<sup>11</sup> *Our Legacy*, xxii.

looked like smoke from the surrounding hills.<sup>12</sup> This second theory maintains that the name was a translation of the Cree name *kaskapatau sakahigan* (Smoking Lake), which was later shortened to Smoky Lake.<sup>13</sup>

In 1862 Methodist missionaries Reverend George McDougall and his son, Reverend John McDougall, arrived at Reverend Woolsey's fledgling mission.<sup>14</sup> The two McDougalls convinced Woolsey to move his mission thirty miles south, where it would be better situated.<sup>15</sup> The area they suggested was known as "Hairy Bag" by the Cree, as it was a favourite feeding ground for the bison.<sup>16</sup> It was rich in natural resources, had fertile soil, and was the centre of a nexus of trails which connected the Plains (south) and Wood (north) Cree.<sup>17</sup> The site was also on both the North Saskatchewan River and the 1400 kilometre trail that linked Fort Edmonton with Fort Garry.<sup>18</sup> The location was easily accessible to both the Cree, whom the missionaries wanted to convert, as well as other Europeans, and it was here that the Victoria Settlement, named for England's Queen Victoria, began.<sup>19</sup>

In the summer of 1863 George McDougall's wife and six children arrived at their new home via Hudson's Bay Company York Boat.<sup>20</sup> Unfortunately for the McDougall family, there was no house built for them and they had to stay in a canvas tent while a one-room cabin was hastily constructed.<sup>21</sup> The McDougalls were industrious, and by 1864 they had built a church, a stable, an eight-room house, and had converted their original cabin into a schoolhouse, all surrounded by a palisade wall.<sup>22</sup>

### **The Hudson's Bay Company and Fort Victoria**

In 1864 the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) opened a trading post near the newly founded Victoria Mission to trade with the local Cree, and they named their post Fort Victoria.<sup>23</sup> By the early 1870s the fort consisted of seven buildings, including a stable, a trading shop and press room, a dairy, a general store, the men's house, a blacksmith shop and the clerk's quarters, all surrounded by a palisade wall.<sup>24</sup> Though the fort made a profit it was still considered a minor post, and it accounted for approximately 4% to 5% of the greater district's revenue.<sup>25</sup> Fort Victoria was also not without problems: the

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<sup>12</sup> Harry Sanders, *Alberta Names* (Calgary: Red Deer Press, 2003), 275.

<sup>13</sup> Harry Sanders, 275.

<sup>14</sup> Melnyky, 10.

<sup>15</sup> *Victoria District: National Historic Site of Canada, Commemorative Integrity Statement 2007*, 6.

<sup>16</sup> Melnyky, 6.

<sup>17</sup> Melnyky, 6; Hurt, 107.

<sup>18</sup> *Victoria District*, 6.

<sup>19</sup> Melnyky, 10.

<sup>20</sup> Melnyky, 10. Sources differ as to whether Mrs. McDougall brought five or six children.

<sup>21</sup> Melnyky, 10.

<sup>22</sup> Melnyky, 10.

<sup>23</sup> *Our Legacy*, 1; Hurt, 59.

<sup>24</sup> Melnyky, 19, 20. Fort Victoria's status as a minor post can be surmised by the fact that the highest-ranking employee at the fort was a clerk. Hurt, 63. The clerk's quarters survives today, and is the second oldest surviving building in Alberta, and the oldest building still on its original foundation.

<sup>25</sup> Hurt, 63, 66.



company had trouble keeping the fort stocked with goods, and had to contend with competition from both free traders and the HBC fort at Lac la Biche.<sup>26</sup>

### **The Métis Settlers**

In the early days of missionary work in the northwest the Hudson's Bay Company supplied missions with provisions, but this practice ceased in 1864.<sup>27</sup> That year John McDougall had to make the four-month roundtrip journey to Fort Garry for supplies, and the following year George McDougall made the voyage.<sup>28</sup> On his return the elder McDougall stopped and convinced a number of Protestant, English-speaking Métis from the Red River area to follow him west to settle.<sup>29</sup> During 1865 between twenty-five and thirty-five Métis families arrived and settled east of Fort Victoria in the Victoria Settlement.<sup>30</sup>

The Métis sustained themselves through farming, fishing, and spring and fall bison hunts.<sup>31</sup> A map from 1878 shows that the Métis settlers used a river lot pattern to settle their land – a strategy they brought with them from the Red River area.<sup>32</sup> The lots lined the north side of the North Saskatchewan River and were long and narrow to allow as many settlers as possible river access. The Victoria Settlement was the largest of about thirty Alberta settlements to use the river lot method, and is now one of only a few that retains physical evidence of the system.<sup>33</sup> The houses of the new arrivals were located at the south end of their properties, on relatively flat terraces near to the riverbank, and small gardens and a few acres of grain were planted behind the houses to the north.<sup>34</sup>

With the influx of Métis settlers the Victoria Settlement began to grow. In 1867 the elder McDougall recorded a population of one hundred Métis in the area.<sup>35</sup> That same year a contract was signed to build a cart road from Fort Edmonton to Fort Victoria, which was to be twelve feet in width and would use timber bridges when necessary.<sup>36</sup> This facilitated travel and can be assumed to have boosted the number of new settlers in the area, and by 1870 McDougall recorded 130 Métis living in the Victoria district.<sup>37</sup> Despite the worldwide economic recession between 1870 and 1895 that prevented large-scale settlement, Victoria continued to experience modest growth, and by 1871-1872 church attendance was as high as 250 and seventy children attended the school.<sup>38</sup> The

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<sup>26</sup> Hurt, 67, 74.

<sup>27</sup> Hurt, 13.

<sup>28</sup> Hurt, 13.

<sup>29</sup> Melnyky, 14.

<sup>30</sup> Hurt, 19, 108. It should be noted that before the arrival of the Métis, there were at least two white families in the area – the Felts and the Connors. Hurt, 108.

<sup>31</sup> Melnyky, 15; Latremouille, Joanne. *Victoria District NHSC, Smoky Lake County, Alberta: Cultural Landscape Inventory and Analysis*. Public Works and Government Services Canada, 2007, 8.

<sup>32</sup> Melnyky, 16.

<sup>33</sup> Melnyky, 16.

<sup>34</sup> Latremouille, 7-8.

<sup>35</sup> Melnyky, 14.

<sup>36</sup> Latremouille, 8.

<sup>37</sup> Melnyky, 14.

<sup>38</sup> Latremouille, 9; Melnyky, 14. Hurt claims the population in 1871 was 150, and that a school and hospital also existed in the community (26).

community now extended twenty kilometres to the west and included the Lobstick Settlement.<sup>39</sup> It should be noted that the area was a popular site for the Cree as well, and there were usually many tents erected along the river to house the native population.

The Métis and Aboriginal population in the Victoria Settlement peaked in the 1870s but soon decreased for several reasons. In 1870 there was a smallpox epidemic that killed fifty Métis and Aboriginal settlers – nearly 40% of the settlement's total population.<sup>40</sup> Surprisingly, the mortality rate was significantly lower than many other affected missions.<sup>41</sup> The outbreak would have been much worse had John McDougall not instructed the area's residents to camp in the bush until the pestilence had passed.<sup>42</sup> Numbers declined further as some families left the area to escape the epidemic including that of Sam Livingston, who had married in the settlement in 1865.<sup>43</sup> Livingston remained in the Victoria Settlement with his growing family until the 1870 smallpox outbreak prompted him to move south and settle on the Elbow River, where he became Calgary's first citizen.<sup>44</sup> Three of George McDougall's children were also victims of the epidemic.<sup>45</sup> This was a major blow to the McDougall family, who had been so instrumental in establishing the community. When John McDougall's wife Abigail (née Steinhauer) died the following year, the McDougall clan left the area, with John going to Morley, and George and his wife settling in Fort Edmonton.<sup>46</sup>

Also to blame for declining Métis and Aboriginal numbers was a lack of resources. In the 1870s the traditional bison hunt was beginning to fail and Aboriginal families began moving to the southern plains where their traditional quarry was more plentiful.<sup>47</sup> In 1873 fourteen families were recorded abandoning the area for the south where bison were in greater supply, and figures for 1874 and 1876 show the continuance of this trend.<sup>48</sup> The decline in resources affected the local Métis population as well, who counted on their semi-annual bison hunts to augment what they could grow on their farms. The Hudson's Bay Company noticed this decline in resources and in 1873 built a gristmill three kilometres northeast of the trading post.<sup>49</sup> After so many years of encouraging settlers to trap fur rather than farm, the construction of this mill represented a stark change in policy and was symptomatic of the failing fur trade. The declining numbers of fur-bearing animals, as well as the fact that many trappers turned to farming for their livelihoods, meant that the Hudson's Bay Company post closed in 1883.<sup>50</sup> The closure of the trading post was likely also a contributing factor in the gradual decrease in the area's Métis

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<sup>39</sup> Latremouille, 9.

<sup>40</sup> Melnyky, 12; Victoria and District Inventory Analysis, 8.

<sup>41</sup> Hurt, 24.

<sup>42</sup> Hurt, 23.

<sup>43</sup> Melnyky, 14.

<sup>44</sup> Melnyky, 15.

<sup>45</sup> Melnyky, 12.

<sup>46</sup> Melnyky, 12.

<sup>47</sup> Latremouille, 10.

<sup>48</sup> Hurt, 30.

<sup>49</sup> Latremouille, 9.

<sup>50</sup> Melnyky, 21.

population. An 1878 census records that the population had diminished to thirty-three men, twenty-five women and ninety-eight children.<sup>51</sup>

Another factor in the declining Métis and Aboriginal population was 1876's Treaty Six, through which the Federal Government moved local native people to reserves. In 1869 and 1870, preparations began for the transfer of Hudson's Bay Company land to the federal government, which in turn was interested in acquiring land from the Métis and Aboriginals in order to open it up to large-scale agricultural development.<sup>52</sup> The Federal Government pushed forward a series of treaties to acquire traditional lands from Aboriginal peoples. Treaty Six was signed at both Fort Pitt and Fort Carlton in 1876, and the treaty affected the Smoky Lake area.<sup>53</sup> By signing the treaty the Aboriginals lost their land but were promised a lump sum of money; reserves of land at Saddle Lake, Whitefish, Goodfish Lake, Wahsatenaw and Egg Lake; hunting and fishing rights; and assistance with healthcare and education.<sup>54</sup> In turn, the federal government acquired a large amount of land to redistribute for agricultural settlement. While some natives went willingly to the reserves, others felt antagonized, and today there is still considerable controversy over the treaties. Though some aboriginals stayed in the area, most left in the 1880s and 1890s when white settlers began arriving in larger numbers.<sup>55</sup>

Throughout the Métis tenure of the land at the Victoria Settlement, their population was very fluid and people constantly came and left.<sup>56</sup> Though the Métis population peaked in the 1870s, there were never more than thirty or forty households at any one time.<sup>57</sup> As a result of the decreasing numbers of Métis and Aboriginals, missionary work was no longer as important as it had been. The Victoria Mission became a "home mission", as classified by the Methodist Church, and its administration was transferred to a number of different Edmonton based ministers.<sup>58</sup>

### **The Northwest Rebellion**

Canada experienced insurrection on the prairies during the mid-1880s. In 1885 Louis Riel led the Northwest Rebellion, which had a significant impact on many Albertan communities. Tensions ran high, and when the Victoria Settlement was attacked by men from Saddle Lake (who were quickly repelled by a single guard), the inhabitants of the community fled and established a guarded camp twelve kilometres away.<sup>59</sup> A few days after this event, the Alberta Field Force was mobilized and arrived at the Victoria Settlement.<sup>60</sup> The settlers confidently returned to their homes once their community had been transformed into an armed camp, complete with 700 troops, scores of wagons, and a

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<sup>51</sup> Melnyky, 14.

<sup>52</sup> Melnyky, 28.

<sup>53</sup> Melnyky, 28.

<sup>54</sup> Melnyky, 28.

<sup>55</sup> Hurt, 33.

<sup>56</sup> Melnyky, 14.

<sup>57</sup> Melnyky, 14.

<sup>58</sup> Hurt, 36.

<sup>59</sup> Melnyky, 30.

<sup>60</sup> Melnyky, 31.

military field hospital.<sup>61</sup> Though the forces only stayed in the region for two days and the remainder of the Northwest Rebellion played out further east, many locals made a good deal of money selling provisions to the military .<sup>62</sup>

### **Milestones of Growth**

The Victoria Settlement experienced important milestones in its growth in the mid-1800s. In 1884 the first survey of the Victoria area was undertaken by a man named Tom Kains, who officially divided the area east of Fort Victoria into nine river lots and noted all improvements on the land.<sup>63</sup> A second surveyor, J.E. Woods, reached the area in 1896 to survey the terrain west of the fort, including the Lobstick Settlement.<sup>64</sup> Woods was instructed by his superiors to reflect the use of the river lot system in that area as well, though Woods did not always record the names of the owners or the improvements made on the lots.<sup>65</sup>

In 1886 the Dominion Telegraph line reached the community, where it maintained an office until the mid-1920s.<sup>66</sup> Also in 1886, the Victoria School District No. 75 was founded.<sup>67</sup> In 1886 a small detachment of North West Mounted Police was stationed at Victoria to keep order in the region, but the compliment of two constables was recalled to their headquarters in Fort Saskatchewan in 1889.<sup>68</sup> In 1887 postal service began in the community, but in order to avoid confusion with Victoria, British Columbia, the post office (and later the community as well) was renamed Pakan.<sup>69</sup> In 1888, the first Victoria public school was opened, though if students wanted to continue their education into secondary school they were required to do so in Edmonton.<sup>70</sup>

In 1889 the HBC trading post was reopened as an independent post.<sup>71</sup> Independent traders had been present in the region since the first Métis arrived in 1865, including David McDougall, a son of Reverend George McDougall, and the well-known Edmonton based entrepreneur John Alexander McDougall (no relation to the missionary family).<sup>72</sup> The post closed sometime between June of 1897 and May of 1898, although the trading shop at the fort was renovated and used as a village store for the next twenty years.<sup>73</sup>

In 1892 a ferry service was initiated to facilitate the travel of settlers and government officials across the North Saskatchewan River. The ferry service was established at the edge of River Lot 6, and it operated from that location until 1972.

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<sup>61</sup> Melnyky, 31.

<sup>62</sup> Melnyky, 31,32.

<sup>63</sup> Hurt, 111.

<sup>64</sup> Hurt, 111.

<sup>65</sup> Hurt, 111.

<sup>66</sup> Melnyky, 35; Hurt, 118.

<sup>67</sup> Hurt, 122.

<sup>68</sup> Hurt, 131.

<sup>69</sup> Latremouille, 13. The name Pakan was in honour of a local Cree Chief who stayed loyal during the Northwest Rebellion.

<sup>70</sup> Latremouille, 13; Hurt, 123.

<sup>71</sup> Melnyky, 21.

<sup>72</sup> Melnyky, 18.

<sup>73</sup> Latremouille, 16.

### **Natural Resources**

There were some natural resources in the Victoria Settlement area, but never enough to make a substantial impact on its growth. Coal was mined along the riverbanks as early as the 1870s, although large-scale mining operations were never economically viable.<sup>74</sup> As early as 1886 there are records of gold miners in the area, but by the early 1900s land's bounty seems to have run out.<sup>75</sup> Although the gold miners made a decent living in the 1890s, even at its peak there was never enough gold to support more than about ten miners.<sup>76</sup> In 1897 the Geological Survey of Canada tried drilling for oil at the settlement.<sup>77</sup> After three seasons and drilling to 1800 feet they gave up after finding only a small amount of natural gas.<sup>78</sup> Though they were unsuccessful, their venture is significant as it was the second place in Alberta to be drilled.<sup>79</sup>

### **Arrival of the Ukrainians**

Between the 1870s and 1900 the Victoria area became predominantly agricultural, though agricultural expansion on a larger scale was minimal.<sup>80</sup> It was in 1899 that the next phase of the Smoky Lake area began with arrival of the first thirty Ukrainian homesteading families to settle the region.<sup>81</sup> The Ukrainians came to Canada to take advantage of free, accessible land, and to escape the oppressive conditions that prevailed in their native country.<sup>82</sup> Many of the Ukrainian settlers had farmed in Ukraine, and thus adapted to life on the Canadian prairies very quickly. In 1902 the land north of Pakan was surveyed into quarter sections, upon which many Ukrainians filed for homesteads.<sup>83</sup> The Ukrainian population grew quickly and by 1906 there were 250 Ukrainian families homesteading north of Pakan.<sup>84</sup> The increasing number of European immigrants arriving in the Smoky Lake area was part of the mass influx of settlers that characterized prairie settlement in the early 1900s, encouraged in part by the Homestead Act.<sup>85</sup>

Pakan grew into a small commercial centre due to the large increase in the surrounding rural population. In 1905 a steam powered flour mill was built on the riverbank near the community, in 1906 a new Methodist Church was built, and in 1907 the George McDougall Hospital was built.<sup>86</sup> The Ukrainian Methodist Church was built in Pakan between 1911 and 1912.<sup>87</sup>

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<sup>74</sup> Hurt, 125.

<sup>75</sup> Hurt, 124.

<sup>76</sup> Hurt, 124.

<sup>77</sup> Melnyky, 36.

<sup>78</sup> Hurt, 125.

<sup>79</sup> Hurt, 125.

<sup>80</sup> Hurt, 116; 109.

<sup>81</sup> Melnyky, 36.

<sup>82</sup> Hurt, 105.

<sup>83</sup> Hurt, 134.

<sup>84</sup> Latremouille, 17. Though most of the newly arriving immigrants were Ukrainian, some were from other parts of Eastern Europe.

<sup>85</sup> Hurt, 106.

<sup>86</sup> Latremouille, 18.

<sup>87</sup> Latremouille, 18.



By the time the First World War began in 1914, the remaining Métis in the Smoky Lake area were migrating out of the community for the less settled area around Lac la Biche. By 1930 they were almost all gone.<sup>88</sup> In the 1910s and 1920s the river lots that had belonged to the Métis were sold to Ukrainian farmers, who combined them for use in intensive mixed farming and grain cultivation.<sup>89</sup>

### **Arrival of the Railroad**

Pakan reached its commercial peak in 1914 with a population of 120 people.<sup>90</sup> The arrival of the Ukrainian farmers made Pakan a thriving supply centre, complete with a hotel, two general stores, a flourmill, three equipment dealers, a livery barn, and two blacksmith shops.<sup>91</sup> When the Canadian Northern Railroad (CNR) came through the Smoky Lake area in 1918, it did so through the hamlet of Smoky Lake, nine miles (14.48 kilometres) north of Pakan, and Pakan suffered tremendously as a result.<sup>92</sup>

The community of Smoky Lake was established when a few businesses opened in 1915 amid rumours of the coming railroad, and by October of 1917 it was designated a hamlet.<sup>93</sup> When the railroad arrived, people left Pakan for Smoky Lake, and the area's service centre quickly moved to the new settlement. By 1920 the population of Pakan had dropped to only fifty, where it would remain for the rest of the decade.<sup>94</sup> Pakan was removed from the Methodist Church's list of missions in 1921 and in 1922 the George McDougall Hospital was hauled to Smoky Lake on skids.<sup>95</sup>

Though Pakan was hurt by the arrival of the railroad, the surrounding agricultural areas thrived since the railroad made transporting their produce to market much easier.<sup>96</sup> In 1920 the first Ruthenia school was built by Ukrainian settlers, Ruthenia being another name for the Ukraine. This demonstrated just how well-established the Ukrainians had become in the Smoky Lake area.<sup>97</sup>

Smoky Lake was incorporated into a Village in 1923, and farmers in the surrounding area prospered.<sup>98</sup> After the Second World War farmers began to use rubber tires on their tractors, which enabled them to cultivate increasing amounts of land and as a result the aspen and pine lots slowly disappeared.<sup>99</sup> The Pakan post office closed in 1960, and the community effectively ceased to exist.<sup>100</sup> Two years later, in 1962, that Smoky Lake formally became a town.<sup>101</sup>

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<sup>88</sup> Melnyky, 37, *Victoria District*, 7.

<sup>89</sup> *Victoria District*, 22.

<sup>90</sup> Hurt, 149.

<sup>91</sup> Melnyky, 39.

<sup>92</sup> Melnyky, 40.

<sup>93</sup> *Our Legacy*, 43, 44.

<sup>94</sup> Hurt, 149.

<sup>95</sup> Latremouille, 20; Hurt, 54.

<sup>96</sup> Latremouille, 20.

<sup>97</sup> Latremouille, 20.

<sup>98</sup> *Our Legacy*, 46.

<sup>99</sup> Latremouille, 21.

<sup>100</sup> Melnyky, 35.

<sup>101</sup> *Our Legacy*, 50.

As Leslie Hurt states in his seminal 1979 work *The Victoria Settlement: 1882-1922*, “The chronicle of Victoria’s development prior to 1900 is indeed a microcosm of early prairie settlement as a whole”.<sup>102</sup> Hurt goes on to write, “Victoria was in many ways a representative example of most pre-railway prairie settlements during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.”<sup>103</sup> Following the norm, when the railway arrived in 1918, residents and local commerce followed. The arrival of the railroad led to greater agricultural potential, and the increasing mechanization following the end of the Second World War allowed for even further productivity, helping to ensure the continued success of the area.

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<sup>102</sup> Hurt, 132.

<sup>103</sup> Hurt, 159.



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## Statements of Significance Municipal Heritage Survey Review Forms





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# Contents

Statements of Significance and Municipal Heritage Survey Review Forms

Sites selected for the Smoky Lake County Inventory:

NAME	LEGAL LAND DESCRIPTION	PAGE
Ukrainian Settlement SOS Ukrainian Settlement MHSRF	NE 35-58-17-W4	1
Cybuliak Farm SOS Cybuliak Farm MHSRF	NW 25-58-7-W4	5
2nd Ruthenia School SOS 2nd Ruthenia School MHSRF	NW 6-59-16-W4	9
"The House in the middle of the Road" SOS "The House in the middle of the Road" MHSRF	NW 11-58-17-W4	13
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## **Goryniuk Homestead**

**NE-35-58-17-W4**



### **Description of the Historic Place**

This collection of five buildings includes two homes, two outbuildings and a ruin, and is located on a lot of approximately 80 acres in the Victoria District National Historic Site of Smoky Lake County along Range Road 171, south east of the Town of Smoky Lake. The two homes are distinguishable by their high-pitched gable roofs and the whitewashed mud plaster on the long façades. The outbuildings are of log construction with vertical planking on the gable ends.

### **Heritage Value**

The Goryniuk Homestead, with its vernacular Ukrainian architectural style, is associated with the theme of Ukrainian settlement and development in the Victoria District National Historic Site of Smoky Lake County. The Goryniuk Homestead is also a significant representation of a complete Ukrainian settlement showing the progression of homes and buildings built on site.

The Goryniuk Homestead is valued because it represents the evolution of homestead construction from early dwellings to larger, more elaborate buildings. The settlers initially built modest homes reminiscent of those in their homeland of Bukowina, Ukraine. The first settler who owned this homestead was Iwan Goryniuk. He immigrated to Canada in 1899 and lived with his parents on the adjacent farm. In 1903, he acquired homestead entry for this site and took up residence in 1908. Typical Ukrainian homesteads such as the Goryniuk Homestead have a quickly built smaller house to provide shelter until money and resources are available to construct a larger home. The homestead was inherited by Petro Goryniuk in 1920 and the larger home was built that same year. Petro passed away in 1923 and in 1926, the property was sold to the John Rewega family, friends of Iwan Goryniuk. The Rewega children and grandchildren currently own the homestead.

The two homes on the Goryniuk Homestead are representations of the Bukowinian vernacular architectural style. Both homes are rectangular in shape and the long façades of both the dwellings are oriented south, as the southern exposure gets the most sunlight. The orientation of the house is also likely due in part to Ukrainian Orthodox religious



tradition, whereby the interior end wall of the larger room in the home would be decorated with icons and religious calendars and always faced east. The roof on both the homes is a high-pitched gable covered by wood shingles, which encourages water run-off. The gable ends also encourage water run-off because they are covered with vertical planks and a pent, which separates the lower level from the upper level. The horizontal chopped log construction, straight cut on two log faces, is designed with round log simple saddle notch jointing, a characteristic of Bukowinian architecture. The long façades are covered with a whitewashed mud plaster made from a mixture of mud, dung and straw, and covered with a lime coating. Another type of plaster covers the interior walls as well; its purpose was aesthetic and to provide insulation, and the plaster was often mixed with river sand for a finer finish. The two outbuildings and ruin were made of rounded horizontal logs and the outbuildings have vertical planking, to better guard against the northwest wind, on the gable ends.

### **Character Defining Elements**

The character defining elements as expressed in the form, massing, and materials of the various buildings on the Goryniuk Homestead include:

Larger 1 ½ storey home:

- The rectangular shape
- The high-pitched hipped gable roof with wood shingles
- The long façade with a south orientation
- The round log simple saddle notch jointing
- The deteriorated whitewashed mud plaster on the long façades
- The pent on the gable ends to keep the water off
- The functional plan: rectangular two-room plan with offset hallway
- The pattern, style and construction of all wooden windows and window openings

Smaller 1 storey home:

- The rectangular shape
- The high-pitched gable roof with wood shingles
- The exposed rafter ends
- The round log simple saddle notch jointing
- The mud plaster exterior with lime coating on the long facades
- The vertical planking on the short façade walls
- The pattern, style and construction of all wooden windows and window openings

Outbuilding 1 and 2:

- The rounded log with simple saddle-joint construction
- The vertical planking on the gable ends

Ruin:

- The rounded log and simple saddle-joint construction

**Goryniuk Homestead**

**NE-35-58-17-W4**

<b>Description</b>	Five buildings of Ukrainian vernacular design influenced by the vernacular architecture of the Bukowinian region in Ukraine, including two houses (a smaller one-storey and a larger one and a half storey), two outbuildings and one ruin
<b>Significance Criteria</b>	A: Theme- progression of a complete Ukrainian homestead C: Style- Ukrainian vernacular architecture
<b>Context</b>	<p>The Ukrainian homestead is located on Range Road 171 near Township Road 585 in Smoky Lake County. The land title originally belonged to Iwan Goryniuk, who homesteaded this site in 1908.</p> <p>The buildings follow traditional Bukowinian architecture by orienting their dwellings southward, for both religious and environmental purposes, as well as covering the long façades with a mud plaster for insulation and preventing rainwater leakages.</p>
<b>Period of Significance (POS)</b>	1908- present
<b>Integrity Criteria:</b>	The overall integrity of the building is satisfactory, except for some deterioration over time.
<b>1. Location</b>	The location of the buildings has not changed.
<b>2. Design</b>	The design of the buildings has not been significantly altered.
<b>3. Environment</b>	The environment, or surroundings, has not changed significantly over the years.
<b>4. Materials</b>	The original materials of the buildings have not changed except for some deterioration over time.
<b>5. Workmanship</b>	The workmanship of the buildings is original except for some deterioration over time.
<b>6. Feeling</b>	The feeling of the buildings and site has not changed.
<b>7. Association</b>	The associations of the buildings have not changed since the use is the same as original.

**Goryniuk Homestead**

**NE-35-58-17-W4**

<p><b>Character Defining Elements (CDEs)</b></p>	<p>Site: Shows evolution of construction from early dwellings to more developed larger buildings</p> <p>Larger 1 ½ storey home:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The rectangular shape</li><li>• The high-pitched hipped gable roof with wood shingles</li><li>• The long façade with a south orientation</li><li>• The round log simple saddle notch jointing</li><li>• The deteriorated whitewashed mud plaster on the long façades</li><li>• The pent on the gable ends to keep the water off</li><li>• The functional plan: rectangular two-room plan with offset hallway</li><li>• The pattern, style and construction of all wooden windows and window openings</li></ul> <p>Smaller 1 storey home:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The rectangular shape</li><li>• The high-pitched gable roof with wood shingles</li><li>• The exposed rafter ends</li><li>• The round log simple saddle notch jointing</li><li>• The mud plaster exterior with lime coating on the long facades</li><li>• The vertical planking on the short façade walls</li><li>• The pattern, style and construction of all wooden windows and window openings</li></ul> <p>Outbuilding 1 &amp; 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The rounded log with simple saddle-joint construction</li><li>• The vertical planking on the gable ends</li></ul> <p>Ruin:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The rounded log and simple saddle-joint construction</li></ul>
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**Millhouse at Cebuliak Farm**

**NW-25-58-17-W4**



**Description of the Historic Place**

This one-and-a-half storey gable-roofed L-shaped millhouse is located on a lot of approximately 160 acres on Range Road 171 in the Victoria District National Historic Site of Smoky Lake County, south east of the Town of Smoky Lake. The millhouse is of round log construction with simple saddle jointing, vertical planking on the second storey, and a shingle roof. The millhouse is built into a slope.

**Heritage Value**

The Millhouse at Cebuliak Farm is significant for its association with the theme of Ukrainian settlement and development in the Victoria District National Historic Site of Smoky Lake County, and for the architecturally distinct style and construction of the building.

Representative of Ukrainian development and settlement in the Victoria District National Historic Site of Smoky Lake County, the Millhouse at Cebuliak Farm is unusual because it has remained in the Cebuliak family since 1903. Todor Cebuliak immigrated to Canada from Bukovina, Ukraine in 1899 and lived with his parents on the adjacent farm. The Cebuliak family was one of the first eleven Ukrainian families to arrive in the Smoky Lake area. Todor applied for a homestead on this property in 1903 and took up residence in 1908. The home and outbuildings were built shortly after 1908 and the millhouse was built several years later. Todor Cebuliak owned the property until 1954 when he passed it on to his son, William. Currently, Todor's grandchildren are in possession of the property.

The Millhouse at Cebuliak Farm is significant for its association with Ukrainian vernacular architecture in the area. The millhouse was built between 1917 and 1918, and was later converted into a stable. The medium-pitched gable roof with wood shingles, the rounded notch log construction on the first level and the vertical plank on the gable ends of the second level, along with the mud plaster finish are characteristic of Ukrainian vernacular architecture. The L-

shaped plan is unique to the structure, and allowed the building to be built into the sloping terrain.

### **Character Defining Elements**

The character defining elements as expressed in the form, massing, and materials of the c.1917 Millhouse at Cebuliak Farm include:

- The vernacular architecture
- The medium-pitched gable roof with wood shingles
- The L-shaped plan
- The intersecting gables
- The rounded notch log construction on the 1<sup>st</sup> level
- The vertical plank on gable ends on the 2<sup>nd</sup> level
- The deteriorated mud plaster finish
- The central chimney



**Millhouse at Cebuliak Farm**

**NW 25-58-17-W4**

<b>Description</b>	One-and-a-half storey L-shaped converted millhouse of log construction, c. 1917.
<b>Significance Criteria</b>	A. Theme- early Ukrainian homestead C. Design/Construction- Vernacular architecture
<b>Context</b>	Todor Cebuliak immigrated to Canada from the Ukraine in 1899. He filed for a homestead in 1903 and the family took up residence on the property in 1908. The original house was built prior to the homestead application approval in 1912.  The style of the millhouse is characteristic of vernacular Ukrainian architecture. The medium-pitched gable roof with wood shingles, the rounded notch log construction, the vertical planks on the gable ends and the mud plaster finish are elements of this type of architecture.
<b>Period of Significance (POS)</b>	c.1917- present
<b>Integrity Criteria:</b>	The overall integrity of the building is satisfactory, except for some deterioration over time.
<b>1. Location</b>	The location of the building has not changed.
<b>2. Design</b>	The design of the building has not been significantly altered.
<b>3. Environment</b>	The environment, or surroundings, has not changed significantly over the years.
<b>4. Materials</b>	The original materials of the buildings have not changed except for some deterioration over time.
<b>5. Workmanship</b>	The workmanship of the buildings is original except for some deterioration over time.
<b>6. Feeling</b>	The feeling of the building and site has not changed.
<b>7. Association</b>	The building retains its agricultural associations, although it was converted from a millhouse to a stable.
<b>Character Defining Elements (CDEs)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The vernacular architecture</li> <li>• The medium-pitched gable roof with wood shingles</li> <li>• The L-shaped plan</li> <li>• The intersecting gables</li> <li>• The rounded notch log construction on the 1<sup>st</sup> level</li> <li>• The vertical plank on gable ends on the 2<sup>nd</sup> level</li> <li>• The deteriorated mud plaster finish</li> <li>• The central chimney</li> </ul>

*Smoky Lake County*

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Ruthenia School

SW-6-59-16-W4



### Description of the Historic Place

This one-storey gable-on-hip roof schoolhouse has a rectangular porch and clapboard siding, and is located on a 168 acre lot on Township Road 590 near Range Road 165 in Smoky Lake County, south east of the Town of Smoky Lake. The schoolhouse has a red brick chimney in the front-centre of the roof and a wooden sign indicating the school name and district.

### Heritage Value

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Ruthenia School is significant for its association with the institution of Ruthenia School District #2408, for the architecturally distinct style of the building, and for its status as a local landmark.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Ruthenia School is valued for its association with the institution of Ruthenia School District #2408. The school district was established on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 1911 to serve the families of Ukrainian and Romanian settlers who came to the area between 1899 and 1905. The name Ruthenia, which refers to the Ukraine, was chosen for the district and is indicative of the large population of Ukrainian settlers in the area at that time. The 1<sup>st</sup> Ruthenia School was built in 1913 on SW 5-59-16-W4. In 1920, two acres of land were purchased from Mrs. Maria Vitaychuk, the widow of Gregory Vitaychuk who had homesteaded the property, and the school was moved on skids by a team of horses to SW 6-59-16-W4. In 1924, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ruthenia School was built on the same property and served the senior students (up to fifteen years of age), while the 1<sup>st</sup> Ruthenia School continued to serve the junior students. The school was opened from April to December and closed between January and March for the holidays so that the students wouldn't have to walk to and from school during the winter months. Classes continued at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ruthenia school until 1950, at which point the building was converted into a community centre. The building was closed in 1980.

The design of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ruthenia School is representative of county schools built in the 1920s. The hipped roof, clapboard siding with corner boards and the wooden sign reading "Ruthenia School District #2408" are representative of school houses built during this time. Other important

design elements include the shed roof projection entranceway, the exposed rafters, the brick chimney and the 6 over 6 and 12 over 12 style wooden windows.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Ruthenia School is a local landmark. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Ruthenia School is positioned adjacent to the busy Township Road 590, within view of the road. The building stands tall and its unique style means it is easily recognized by passing motorists and local residents of the Victoria District National Historic Site. The building is also familiar to residents of the Victoria District National Historic Site as many people or their extended family members attended the school as children. Its use as a community hall from 1950 to 1980 would also be familiar to local residents as it served as a common gathering place for the community.

### **Character Defining Elements**

The character defining elements as expressed in the form, massing, and materials of the 1924 one-storey 2<sup>nd</sup> Ruthenia School include:

- The gable-on-hip roof
- The clapboard siding
- The wooden sign that reads “Ruthenia School District 2408”
- The red brick chimney
- The exposed rafter ends
- The shed roof projection on the south side of the building for the entranceway
- The pattern, style and construction of all wooden windows
- The cement foundation

**2<sup>nd</sup> Ruthenia School**

**SW-6-59-16-W4**

<b>Description</b>	One-storey gable-on-hip roof building with clapboard siding and corner boards, a small shed roof on the south side of the building for the entranceway
<b>Significance Criteria</b>	B: Institution- Ruthenia School District # 2408 C: Style- county schools ca. 1920s E: Landmark- building is visible from road
<b>Context</b>	The 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ruthenia School is located on Township Road 590 near Range Road 165 in Smoky Lake County. The Ruthenia School District was established April 10, 1911 to serve the families of the Ukrainian and Romanian settlers that had immigrated to the area between 1899 and 1905. The 1 <sup>st</sup> Ruthenia School was built in 1913 on SE 1-49-16-W4 and was moved by a team of horses in 1920 to SW6-59-16-W4. The 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ruthenia School closed in 1950, and was used as a community hall until 1980.
<b>Period of Significance (POS)</b>	1924- present
<b>Integrity Criteria:</b>	The overall integrity of the building is satisfactory, except for some deterioration over time.
<b>1. Location</b>	The location of the building has not changed.
<b>2. Design</b>	The design of the building has not been significantly altered.
<b>3. Environment</b>	The environment, or surroundings, has not changed significantly over the years.
<b>4. Materials</b>	The original materials of the buildings have not changed except for some deterioration over time.
<b>5. Workmanship</b>	The workmanship of the buildings is original except for some deterioration over time.
<b>6. Feeling</b>	The feeling of the building and site has not changed.
<b>7. Association</b>	The associations of the building have not changed since the use is the same as original.
<b>Character Defining Elements (CDEs)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The gable-on-hip roof</li> <li>• The clapboard siding</li> <li>• The wooden sign that reads “Ruthenia School District 2408”</li> <li>• The red brick chimney</li> <li>• The exposed rafter ends</li> <li>• The shed roof projection on the south side of the building for the entranceway</li> <li>• The pattern, style and construction of all wooden windows</li> <li>• The cement foundation</li> </ul>

*Smoky Lake County*



**Anderson House  
Lobstick Settlement River Lot 14**

**NW-11-58-18-W4**



**Description of the Historic Place**

This collection of ten buildings located on the Lobstick Settlement, River Lot 14, of Smoky Lake County includes a one-and-a-half storey house with a shingled gable roof, a gable roof wall dormer, squared log construction with shingle cladding, and a central doorway. The site also has six wood frame granaries with shingled gable roofs and shiplap siding, a shingled gable roof stable with vertical planking, and the ruins of two buildings of chopped log construction.

**Heritage Value**

The Anderson House, also known as “The House in the Middle of the Road,” is significant to the residents of the Victoria District National Historic Site of Smoky Lake County as a local landmark. It is also significant as a representation of the progression of a homestead settlement, and for its representative Red River Métis vernacular design.

River Lot 14 is valued by many residents in the Victoria District National Historic Site because the house is a landmark on Victoria Trail. The house is located only a few feet from the road, on the inside of a slight curve. When approaching the home from the east (heading west), the house appears to be in the middle of the road, hence the local nickname, “The House in the Middle of the Road”. The residence was used as a post office and a stopping house on the Victoria Trail, which explains its proximity to Victoria Trail. The house was known as Northbank when it was used as the post office. Henry Anderson was the post master, and he remained in the position from August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1907, until the property was sold in 1914.

This site is a good example of a complete homestead settlement showing the progression of earlier to later homes and buildings on the site. Simon Whitford lived on River Lot 14 with his family in the earlier buildings (the ruins) that are located nearer to the river. He applied for a homestead in 1905, but passed away before the application was approved. His wife then applied for the homestead; however, she passed away in 1906 prior to the application’s approval. Henry Anderson, the Métis husband of the Whitford’s daughter, acquired the land after Mrs. Whitford’s

death in 1906. He built the larger home now known as “The House in the Middle of the Road” between 1906 and 1907. Henry Anderson’s homestead application was approved in 1912. The granaries and stable were built after the construction of the “The House in the Middle of the Road”. The method of construction varied from rounded log construction in the earlier buildings (the ruins), to squared log construction on the house. The locations of the homes and buildings moved up from the bank of the river over time. In 1914, Spurge Van Iderstine bought the property from the Andersons, and then sold it to Ivan Ference in 1926. In 1948, two brothers, Sam and Tarus Charuk, purchased the land and lived in the house until 1974, at which time it was abandoned. They sold the land to Donald Van Iderstine, the grandson of Spurge, in 1974. Brent Fletcher purchased the land from Donald in 1988 and still owns the property.

The style of the house is significant as a representative example of the Red River Métis vernacular design in the Lobstick area. The one-and-a-half storey home with a shingled gable roof and dormer, the squared log construction with the shingle cladding, and the double-hung wooden windows, make this house unique for the location and time of construction. Prior to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, homes were generally built as one room, rectangular structures with a crude roof and chinking between logs; however, as more settlers moved to the area new styles of development were introduced, including multi-levels, squared log construction, interior plaster, and wooden shingle cladding.

### **Character Defining Elements**

The character defining elements as expressed in the form, massing, and materials of the various buildings on “The House in the Middle of the Road” site include:

#### House:

- The shingled gable roof
- The gable roof wall dormer
- The squared log construction with shingle cladding
- The central doorway
- The pattern, style and construction of all wooden windows

#### Granaries (6):

- The shingled gable roof
- The shiplap siding
- The central doorway
- The central loader opening above the doorway

#### Stable:

- The shingled gable roof
- The vertical planking
- The central doorway
- The central loft opening above the doorway

#### Ruins (2):

- The rounded log construction
- The medium-pitch gable roof

**Anderson House  
Lobstick Settlement River Lot 14**

**18167 Victoria Trail**

<b>Description</b>	Homestead with one-and-a-half storey shingled gable roof house with gable roof wall dormer, squared log construction with shingle cladding, and central doorway; six granaries with shingled gable roofs and shiplap siding; shingled gable roof stable with vertical planking
<b>Significance Criteria</b>	A: Theme- progress of a complete homestead C: Design- vernacular architecture E: Landmark- “The House in the Middle of the Road” (early Metis stopping house)
<b>Context</b>	<p>This site is located on River Lot 14 in the Lobstick Settlement. It is a good example of a complete homestead showing the progression of homes and buildings on the site. The earlier homes are found closer to the river and the later, larger home, granaries and stable are found up close beside the road.</p> <p>The land originally belonged to Simon Whitford but was passed down to his daughter and her husband, Henry Anderson after Simon and his wife passed away in 1905/06.</p>
<b>Period of Significance (POS)</b>	Prior to 1905- present
<b>Integrity Criteria:</b>	The overall integrity of the building is satisfactory, except for some deterioration over time.
<b>1. Location</b>	The location of the buildings has not changed.
<b>2. Design</b>	The design of the buildings has not been significantly altered.
<b>3. Environment</b>	The environment, or surroundings, has not changed significantly over the years.
<b>4. Materials</b>	The original materials of the buildings have not changed, except for some deterioration over time.
<b>5. Workmanship</b>	The workmanship of the buildings is original.
<b>6. Feeling</b>	The feeling of the buildings and site has not changed.
<b>7. Association</b>	The associations of the buildings have not changed since the use is the same as original.

**Anderson House  
Lobstick Settlement River Lot 14**

**18167 Victoria Trail**

<p><b>Character Defining Elements (CDEs)</b></p>	<p>Site: Shows evolution of construction from early dwellings to more developed larger buildings</p> <p>House:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The shingled gable roof</li><li>• The gable roof wall dormer</li><li>• The squared log construction with shingle cladding</li><li>• The central doorway</li><li>• The pattern, style and construction of all wooden windows</li></ul> <p>Granaries (6):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The shingled gable roof</li><li>• The shiplap siding</li><li>• The central doorway</li><li>• The central loader opening above the doorway</li></ul> <p>Stable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The shingled gable roof</li><li>• The vertical planking</li><li>• The central doorway</li><li>• The central loft opening above the doorway</li></ul> <p>Ruins (2):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The rounded log construction</li><li>• The medium-pitch gable roof</li></ul> <p><i>Inc., March 2009</i></p>
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**Granik Homestead  
Victoria Settlement River Lot 5**

**NE-12-58-17-W4**



**Description of the Historic Place**

This homestead includes two buildings: a house of dovetail log construction with a medium pitch gable roof, and a stable with a sliding wooden bay door. The Granik Homestead is located in the Victoria Settlement River Lot, River Lot 5, on Victoria Trail in Smoky Lake County, south of the Town of Smoky Lake.

**Heritage Value**

The Granik Homestead on River Lot 5 is significant for its association with the Granik family, who were early settlers in the Victoria District National Historic Site of Smoky Lake County. River Lot 5 is also significant for the two distinct methods of log construction used in the homestead buildings.

The original land grant of River Lot 5 belonged to Andrew Whitford (the upper portion) and Philip Whitford (the lower portion). In 1873, Louis Thompson purchased the upper portion from Andrew Whitford, and in 1875 he purchased the lower portion from Philip Whitford. Louis Thompson moved to Canada in 1871 from Norway and lived in the Pakan community for several years. The Granik family purchased River Lot 5 in the early 1900s, and the property has remained in their family ever since. This house was likely built soon after the Graniks settled on the land.

The dovetail log construction of the house and the vertical log construction of the stable represent two construction methods circa 1900s and possibly earlier. The clapboard siding on the house and stable is consistent with Métis construction methods in the Victoria District National Historic Site of the time. The vertical log construction of the stable is one of the simplest methods of construction. The dovetail log construction of the house is more complex and required greater skill to execute.

### **Character Defining Elements**

The character defining elements as expressed in the form, massing, and materials of the Granik Homestead include:

House:

- The dovetail log construction
- The medium pitch gable roof
- The one-and-a-half storey home
- The brick chimney
- The clapboard siding
- The corner boards
- The wood shingles
- The pattern, style and construction of all wooden windows

Stable:

- The one storey outbuilding
- The clapboard siding with corner boards
- The vertical log construction
- The sliding bay door
- The medium-pitch gable roof
- The wood shingles
- The brick chimney
- The pattern, style and construction of all wooden windows



**Granik Homestead  
Victoria Settlement River Lot 5**

**NE-12-58-17-W4**

<b>Description</b>	River lot settlement with a two buildings including a one-and-a-half storey house with clapboard siding and a central chimney, and a stable with a sliding wooden door
<b>Significance Criteria</b>	B: Person- Granik family C: Design- early rural architecture in Smoky Lake
<b>Context</b>	<p>This site was owned by Louis Thompson, who moved from Norway to the Victoria District National Historic Site area in 1871. He sold River Lot 5 to the Granik family in the early 1900s, and the property remains in the Granik family to this day.</p> <p>The site includes two buildings, including a one-and-a-half-storey house with clapboard siding and a central chimney, and a stable with a sliding wooden bay door.</p>
<b>Period of Significance (POS)</b>	1872- present
<b>Integrity Criteria:</b>	The overall integrity of the building is satisfactory, except for some deterioration over time.
<b>1. Location</b>	The locations of the buildings have not changed.
<b>2. Design</b>	The designs of the buildings have not been significantly altered, except for some deterioration over time.
<b>3. Environment</b>	The environment, or surroundings, has not changed significantly over the years.
<b>4. Materials</b>	The original materials of the building have not changed, except for some deterioration over time.
<b>5. Workmanship</b>	The workmanship of the building is original.
<b>6. Feeling</b>	The feeling of the building and site has not changed.
<b>7. Association</b>	The associations of the building have not changed since the use is the same as original.

**Granik Homestead  
Victoria Settlement River Lot 5**

**NE-12-58-17-W4**

<p><b>Character Defining Elements (CDEs)</b></p>	<p>House:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The dovetail log construction</li><li>• The medium pitch gable roof</li><li>• The one-and-a-half storey home</li><li>• The brick chimney</li><li>• The clapboard siding</li><li>• The corner boards</li><li>• The wood shingles</li><li>• The pattern, style and construction of all wooden windows</li></ul> <p>Stable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The one storey outbuilding</li><li>• The clapboard siding with corner boards</li><li>• The vertical log construction</li><li>• The sliding bay door</li><li>• The medium-pitch gable roof</li><li>• The wood shingles</li><li>• The brick chimney</li><li>• The pattern, style and construction of all wooden windows</li></ul>
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