



OLD LOG  
CHURCH  
MUSEUM

*Yukon's Spirited History*

## THE OLD LOG CHURCH MUSEUM

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# The Belfry Post

Summer 2010

## James Quong's Church

June 3, 2010 marked the Old Log Church Museum's opening of the James Quong's Church exhibit, one of four exhibits featured at the Yukon Transportation Museum, Arts Underground and the Dawson City Museum. The subject of Mr. Quong's photos range from everyday church life to some of the more exciting events at Christ Church Cathedral during the 40s, 50s and 60s. Over 40 people came out to celebrate the life and works of this extraordinary man and to recognize Mr. Quong's great commitments to the Anglican Church during the Quong family's 37 years in the Yukon.



Quong display at the Old Log Church Museum. Credit OLCM

James Quong was a graduate of the University of Saskatchewan's engineering program, and joined U.S. Public Roads Administration after graduating to draft temporary bridges during the construction of the Alaska Highway. It was during this time in the construction camps that James had ample opportunity to practice his photography hobby, using both the Yukon landscape and the Alaska Highway construction as his subjects. He and his wife Diamond only planned to stay in Whitehorse for six months following their wedding in 1944, but ended up living in Whitehorse for many years, raising their four children and being active members of the Christ Church Cathedral. Mr. Quong photographed important church events like the Royal Visit in 1959, and the opening of the new Christ Church Cathedral in 1960, as well as the daily church life. Always active in church life, Mr. Quong not only helped to design the new Christ Church Cathedral, he also held every position available to church members at one point or another during his time in Whitehorse. Mr. and Mrs. Quong left the Yukon for Coquitlam, B.C., where Mr. Quong passed away in 2003 after many years of commitment and service to the Anglican Church in Yukon.



Quong photo album. Credit OLCM

Among those who came to see the Quong exhibit were parishioners, friends of the Quongs, community members and the occasional tourist, all who shared memories of the Quongs and enjoyed the evening celebrating, as the government representative for the evening and Speaker of the Yukon Legislature Ted Staffen put it, "a very special Yukoner who had a very special talent". The Old Log Church Museum is also host to several personal items belonging to James Quong, such as his prayer book, and a commemorative plaque recognizing his commitments to the Anglican Church in Yukon, donated by his son Ken Quong. In addition, the Old Log Church Museum's gift shop has in stock black and white prints of the Old Log Church in winter, each signed by James Quong. The James Quong's Church exhibit will be running at the Old Log Church Museum until August 27th, 2010, and both locals and visitors to Whitehorse are encouraged to view this temporary exhibit during this summer season.



Visitors enjoying the exhibit on June 3, 2010. Credit OLCM



## Canada Day Celebration

Free admission, new museum tours and interactive crafts-brought in crowds of visitors to the Old Log Church Museum this Canada Day. Beading and stained glass inspired crafts along with a variety of tours were found to be popular amongst locals and tourists both young and old. Many of



Visitors busy working away. Credit Old Log Church Museum

those who tried beading left with appreciation and respect for those with true beading talents. Another popular

craft on Canada Day were the fun and simple stained-glass creations using popsicle sticks and colorful cellophane to mimic the design of the stained glass window from Rampart House in the OLCM's collection.

Don't worry if you missed the activities and free admission on Canada Day; the OLCM will have the same activities on August 16<sup>th</sup> for Discovery Day. Hope to see you there!



Beading with glass beads. Credit: Old Log Church Museum

*New to OLCM...*

## Inuvialuit Exhibit

One of our new temporary exhibits comes from our travelling exhibit "Bishop Who Ate His Boots" and features the Inuvialuit of Herschel Island. The Inuvialuit are the Inuit group of the Yukon's northern coast. They have a fascinating history which is captured by our exhibit.

But what does the Inuvialuit history have to do with the Old Log Church Museum? The Inuvialuit faced some trying times when the whalers came to Herschel Island because of the abundant population of bowhead whales and a safe harbor from ice and the sea at Pauline Cove.

Unfortunately this also meant that alcohol, tobacco, and illnesses were being introduced as well. Rumors of these stories reached the Anglican Church who promptly sent missionaries to Herschel Island. The Stringers went there to lessen the negative impacts of the whalers and traders on the Inuvialuit, and to bring Christianity to everyone who resided there.

No one resides on the Island anymore but it is still visited by Inuvialuit from the mainland for summer hunting and fishing, and by others for bird watching, sight-seeing, and research. To learn more about the Inuvialuit and see some of the tools they used, come on down to the OLCM and see this temporary exhibit!



Whalers in Winter Quarters at Herschel Island May 1895. (Copyright Mystic Seaport, Mystic, CT 1950.762)

## Historic Anglican Church Music in the North

This summer the Old Log Church Museum is running four different museum tours, all written and given by summer students. The following is an excerpt from “Anglican Church in Yukon: Centuries Past and Present”, written by Alisha Kuipers.

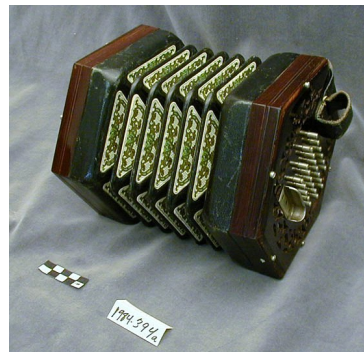
Music in Canadian churches has changed greatly over time, for example, in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century churches played whatever instruments that were available, like bassoons, violins and organs. Today, churches have a wider array of musical choices available, with the use of bands and the inclusion of more modern and technologically advanced instruments and equipment. The singing of hymns also continues in today’s churches. Missionaries coming to Yukon were immersed into the small rural churches or would build new churches themselves.

One such missionary was Bishop Bowen, who in 1894 volunteered to come to Yukon and help Bishop Bompas. Bishop Bowen built the Old Log Church with his tools that he brought over to Canada from England. During Bishop Bowen’s journey to the Yukon he brought with him his concertina to pass the

time while on the ship. While learning how to play he actually got some rather rude threats regarding his musical skills:

“Either you or your concertina will go over board,” one man had once said to him.

Bowen was eventually able to learn to play the concertina and it became quite a hit in the Yukon. People ended up asking him to play favourite hymns at weddings, funerals, baptisms and other church events. Bowen also took the instrument to other churches in Yukon and shared the music with the people there as well. To hear more about the history of music, Bowen’s story and the Christ Church Cathedral’s history, join us at the Old Log Church Museum for the tour: Anglican Church in Yukon: Centuries Past and Present.



Anglo Concertina owned by Bishop Bowen. 1984.394a-b

### Collections Corner

Marina Piza, Collections Technician

This year the collections’ corner gives an inside look into a new donation made by Bishop Ron Ferris. Bishop Ferris recently brought to the OLCM 14 items, including beaded stoles, artwork and a stained glass window. The Acquisition Committee will evaluate the items and if accepted they will be part of our collection. Donations like these are very important to the Old Log Church Museum, and we are very pleased to have been chosen to house and care for these items.



Beaded moccasins. 2010.1.10 a-b

If you have items that constitute an important, unique or interesting example of Yukon church history, please contact the Old Log Church Museum for information about artifact donation.

## Summer Programs At OLCM

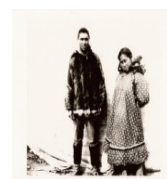


*Yukon's Spirited History*

The Old Log Church Museum's new summer programs have started as of July 1st! Tours are running twice daily at 11:30am and 3:30pm and are included with the price of admission. Four unique museum tours are available at the OLCM during the 2010 summer season:

### Yukon has an island? Herschel Island: Past and Present

Explore Herschel Island's Inuvialuit, whaling, missionary, and RCMP history. This tour leads you through the history of these very different yet key groups on Herschel Island.



Anglican Church of Canada. PHO 91 78/67 #92. Ref # 236

### Celebrating Cultures-First Nations Art and the Anglican Church

Discover First Nations Art through the missionaries work in the late 1800 and 1900's in the Yukon, learn about the traditional quillwork of pre-contact beading, and discover the connections between the First Nations beading and the Church.



Beaded Moose hide Book Cover. Credit: Old Log Church Museum Collection # 1992-46-b

### Anglican Church in Yukon: Centuries Past and Present

Learn about the history of Anglicanism in Canada and Anglican music, garments, clergy and the order of service as you discover some of the most important missionaries of the Anglican Church in Yukon.



Interior Photo of Old Log Church, Whitehorse. Credit: Old Log Church Museum Collection # 2003-7-111.

### Spirited Characters of Yukon's Early Church

Learn about the lives of influential and interesting people in the Northern Anglican Church before, during and after the Klondike Gold Rush.



Portrait of Robert Service circa 1906-1910. Credit: Old Log Church Museum Collection # 1996-1-60

We are also offering Who Lies Beneath: Guided Walking Tours of Pioneer Cemetery by request (minimum three people): Hear the stories of some interesting characters buried in Whitehorse, learn about some people who made the Yukon what it is, Taylor and Drury, and Martha Black are some highlights and names you may already know.

**Come join us for one of these exciting and unique tours, offered until August 27th!**



## Staff Bios



My name is Marina Piza and I'm the Collections Technician for this summer. I'm currently living in Quebec, but I was born in Brazil. The Old Log Church Museum is helping me decide what I will do after getting my Museum

Studies degree next year. I just love museums! I must say the collection at the OLCM is challenging me, although I'm enjoying every minute of it. Each artifact has a different story to tell, and as the Collection Technician I'm researching more elements of their stories and updating the information we have on file. We've just received a new donation, and I had better go back to work and finish accessioning all the items before the summer ends.



My name is Eilidh Fraser, and I'm the Heritage Interpreter for my second summer at the Old Log Church Museum. I am from the Yukon originally, and attend Carleton University in Ottawa during the school year, where I will be entering

my 2<sup>nd</sup> year in Communications and Journalism. I appreciate the opportunities the OLCM gives me in terms of experience when editing this newsletter, my favourite duty I have been assigned this summer. I recommend that all Yukoners visit the Old Log Church Museum this summer, especially to see the great temporary Quong exhibit.



Hi! My name is Linda and I am the Curatorial Assistant this summer. I was born and raised in Whitehorse but spend the school year in Lethbridge, Alberta at U of L studying history and mathematics. I know, weird right? My goal is to become a teacher so it does make a

little bit of sense with such a bizarre combination. I'm actually a 5th year student, and I agree that it is about time for me to graduate already! I also have a diploma of Business Administration. My project for this summer at the museum is continuing the education kit, which I'm extremely excited about since I do want to teach, and creating programs will be a big part of that. As the summer progresses I feel like I could tell you more than you ever needed to know about Herschel Island since I developed one of our new tours "Yukon has an Island? Herschel Island: Past and Present". I hope to see you on your next visit to the Old Log Church Museum!



Hello, my name is Alisha and I am currently going into my third year of Museum Studies at Algonquin College in Ottawa. I come from Caledonia Ontario and have been working at this museum for the past two summers. I have decided to come back to the Old Log Church Museum

for a 2<sup>nd</sup> year because I absolutely love the hospitality and adventure of the Yukon, the biking trails, and how each place seems to have its own unique character. Last year I worked as the collections Technician and am now the Museum Attendant, which gives me more opportunity to work with visitors and gain more front desk experience. I am also giving a tour called the Anglican Church in Yukon: Centuries Past and Present. I am excited to see what comes out of this summer and am glad that you can get a little taste of what's going on at the museum from this newsletter.



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Taryn Parker,  
**Director/Curator**

**Yukon Church**  
**Heritage Society**  
**Board of Directors**

**2010-2011**

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Tara McDowell  
Gina Alaric  
Clare McDowell  
Millie Jones  
The Most Rev. Terry Buckle,  
Archbishop of Yukon (ex-  
officio)

**Summer Students**

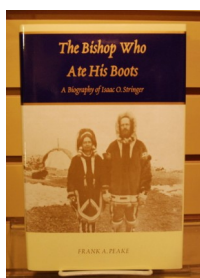
Eilidh Fraser  
Alisha Kuipers  
Marina Piza  
Linda Brandvold

# The Belfry Post

## Gift Shop Highlights

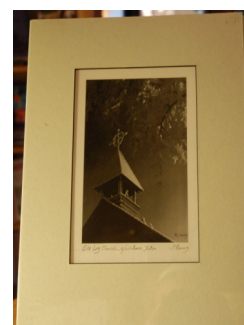


The Old Log Church Museum has a great selection of varied and unique items for sale, ranging from historical church books to locally made art and crafts. Come in and see what we have to offer!



**The Bishop Who Ate His Boots: A Biography of Isaac O. Stringer**  
By Frank A. Peake, \$32.95

This book tells of Bishop Isaac O. Stringer and his wife Sadie who were missionaries for the Anglican Church in Herschel Island and across Yukon in the early 1900s.

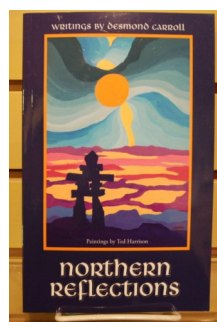


**James Quong Print**  
Unmatted- \$11.99  
Matted- \$19.99

The Old Log Church Museum has a beautiful signed James Quong print of the Church's bell tower in a black and white winter scene, available in matted and un-

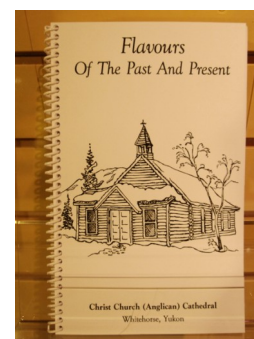
**Northern Reflections**  
By Desmond Carroll  
\$18.95

This collection of writings by the former Dean of the Yukon, Desmond Carroll, are selections initially written for Sunday Bulletin.



**Flavors of the Past and Present**  
By Christ Church Cathedral  
\$11.20

Try testing a new recipe from this cookbook compiled to celebrate Christ Church Cathedral's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



## Museum Hours

10 am-6 pm daily  
May 22-September 6

## Admission

Adults: \$6  
Students/Seniors: \$5  
Children under 6: Free  
Family: \$12

Membership: \$20.00

## Tours Daily

11:30 am and 3:30pm