

The Pioneer Cemetery

Taylor Forsgren

While discovering the rich heritage and colourful sceneries of Whitehorse, you may happen upon a harmonious, grassy field. Surrounded with spruce and pine trees, this peaceful setting lays to rest many influential people who contributed to the development of Whitehorse in the early 1900's. The Pioneer Cemetery, formerly known as the 6th Avenue Cemetery was authorized in 1900, though not without some controversy. Beneath lay religious leaders, politicians, and entrepreneurs, as well as disaster and murder victims.

The first burial is said to be James Brown, whom died of pneumonia at the Windsor Hotel (now the Edgewater Hotel) in October 1900. Unfortunately he is among the many who are no longer locatable. A set of grave stones that are well marked, however, is that of Isaac Taylor and William Drury. The two men met in 1898 on the Poor Man's Route to the Klondike in search of gold, and their friendship

was destined for greatness from there. After crossing paths again the following spring in a gold town near Atlin, both men decided to stick together and pursue business ventures of their own. With two hundred dollars and a twelve by fourteen foot tent, they began buying outfits off of disappointed gold seekers for five dollars and reselling the clothes for twenty-five dollars to new hopefuls seeking gold. This simple, but profitable business was just the beginning of their partnership and would later form Taylor and Drury Ltd., Yukon's oldest commodity retailer. Taylor and Drury lay side by side in the Pioneer Cemetery; a friendship that would truly last forever.

As the cemetery is located in the heart of downtown Whitehorse, there was much controversy over the potential contamination of well water from the decaying bodies. In 1908, a petition was signed by one hundred people in an attempt to relocate the cemetery to where the airport (Cont. pg 2)

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Photo Credit: Old Log Church Museum 2014

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is now. The petition was unsuccessful. The cemetery suffered from serious neglect during the 1960s due to a quarrel about upkeep responsibilities between the Yukon Government and the City of Whitehorse. The cemetery closed in 1965. In an attempt to restore the disregarded lot in the 1970s,

a misguided cleanup resulted in many worn down grave markers being discarded. The exact number of people buried in the cemetery is unknown, however it is estimated over eight hundred bodies lie there today. Sadly, many gravesites are unaccounted for and it is easy to walk on graves belonging to

people whose identities are lost forever.

The Pioneer Cemetery continues to enrich our community with stories and history from the past and is a must see if you have never been. Tours of the Pioneer Cemetery are offered daily at the Old Log Church Museum.

Architectural History

October 7th of 1900. Made from local spruce wood with simple joints, this church has moved away from its humble beginnings, to being the cathedral of the Yukon Diocese, to its current status as the Old Log Church Museum. The very name, and not just the building, has become a symbol within the Whitehorse community. Over the years some of the changes to the building have been small, such as the shingles being replaced, but more comprehensive changes have been done as well, including the addition of a full basement below the church. With its opening as a museum, it is important to remember that though the building itself full of history, the physical history of how the structure was made should be highlighted as well.

The quality of the information contained within more than makes up for the modest size of the church, however, the opposite reaction is to marvel at the sheer size of the log building that was made over one hundred years ago. I believe that these are

both accurate representations of the magnificence of the OLCM. However, there is more to be discovered by actually visiting, by stepping inside the history. It makes an impression on you, and furthermore, knowing the specifics of how the church was built gives an entirely different experience when added to the story of how Bowen built it.

This summer here at the Old Log Church Museum we are offering a new tour on the architecture of the building and the story of how it was made. Through this we hope to convey the feeling of wonder that comes with being inside of the church as well as share some of the specific building practices that have made the building what it is today.



Photo Credit: Old Log Church Museum 2001-213-23
Zoe Lommerse

As one of Whitehorse's oldest buildings, the Old Log Church Museum holds a lot of history. With over one hundred years of constant service to the community, this building is full of memories and stories of the residents of Whitehorse. However, many people don't stop to think about the building itself. The wood, the joints, the renovations and everything that makes the OLCM a one-of-a-kind building are part of why the building is such an important pillar of the community.

At its beginning, due to the time constraints of a winter fast approaching, Reverend Bowen and a group of volunteers constructed a simple log church in just over two months. It was ready for the first service held inside on

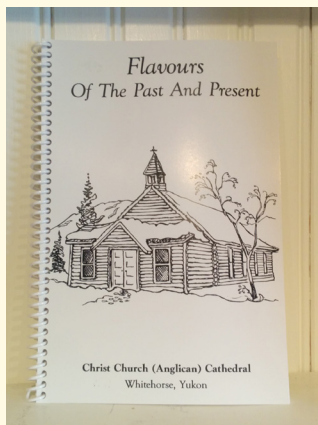


Photo Credit: Old Log Church Museum 2014

Gift Shop Picks

Flavours of the Past and Present

Taste the flavours of the past with this old fashioned community cookbook!



Impress your friends and family with tried and true recipes for everything from dinner to dessert, and much more, all provided on behalf of the Anglican Church Women. Great gift for the cookbook collector in your life.

Price: \$11.20

Old World Christmas Ornaments

Some of the most beautiful items in our gift shop are the Old World Christmas Ornaments. Take home a sparkling icicle, the three wise men, or even a member of a tiny penguin band for your Christmas tree this year.



Price: \$5.99 - \$ 24.99

Retro Game Sets

If you're feeling nostalgic for a less plugged in era, the Britannia Compendium of Games or the Roy Toy Log Building Sets are for you. The games inside range from tiddlywinks to jacks, while the wooden blocks allow for infinite creativity. Great alternative to electronics!

Britannia Compendium Price: \$35.00

Roy Toy Price: \$60.00 - \$99.00



Bare Nature Products

Looking for a Yukon themed gift for someone special? Come browse our Bare Nature Products. With beautiful



beadwork and traditional First Nations designs, these products made of all traditional materials, such as moose and seal skin, are sure to be a perfect gift for someone special.

Doll: \$160.00

Hair Clip: \$65.00

Drum: \$24.95

Visit the Old Log Church museum to view the designs that we have to offer.

Photo Credit: Old Log Church Museum 2014

Collections Corner

Kylie Budzinski

Every year the museum takes in new items, either by donation, gifts, or loans. These new items are always welcome as they add to our collection and our knowledge of the church, its history, and the history of the Yukon.

This year we were very lucky to be offered several items that personally belonged to Bishop Tom Greenwood, the sixth bishop of the Diocese of the Yukon. The items were donated by a member of the Greenwood family: Sarah Witty Bishop Greenwood was born in Yorkshire England in 1903 and became a priest in 1934, when he moved to Fort Macpherson. In 1952 he was elected the Bishop of the Yukon and served until 1961, which was the centennial of the Anglican Church in the



Photo Credit: Old Log Church Museum 2014

Yukon. He then moved back to England with his family. In 1974 Greenwood passed away while in Toronto for a meeting.

One item that was donated was a blue book of Hymns in Tukudh, which is the language of the Gwich'in First Peoples of the north. This hymn book was first translated by Robert Macdonald, the man who also painstakingly created the written component of the previously oral tradition of Tukudh. The front of the book was signed by Bishop Greenwood, and is made more unique by his own personal notes throughout the copy of the book. The copy itself is quite old, adding even more to its history. Despite the fact that Bishop Greenwood was elected in 1952, the copy of Tukudh hymns was published in 1924.

Another book we received was a copy of the New Testament also in the Tukudh language. This book was also owned by Bishop Greenwood and there is no doubt that he would have used it both in his time as a priest at Fort Macpherson, and in his missions to northern Yukon. Once again, the copy was very old, having been published in 1920.



Photo Credit: Old Log Church Museum 2014

The last two books that were donated, were owned personally by Bishop Greenwood. These were a Hymn book and a Book of Common Prayer, both used quite regularly in the Anglican Church in services. The Book of Common Prayer was a guideline to important dates, used as a makeshift calendar for the Anglican Church. It was set on a three year cycle, which the church followed very diligently. This book was published in 1962, a more modern version that Bishop Greenwood would have used. The Book of Common Prayer that Bishop Greenwood would have used was replaced in 1985 with the Book of Alternative Services, which is still used today. The Hymn book we received was much older, having been published in 1938.

These are some of the new and interesting donations we have received. To learn more come to the Old Log Church Museum.

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The Greenwood Family and their Travels

Kylie Budzinski

Bishop Tom Greenwood was born January 1903 in Yorkshire England. In 1925, at age 22, Tom Greenwood moved to the United States where he worked as a Church Army Officer for the following four years. After completing his work there, he moved on to study theology at Trinity College in Toronto. In 1934 Tom Greenwood became a Priest of the Anglican Church. That same year he married Isabel Dunham Gilbert. Isabel was born in 1908 in Buffalo, New York and had a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry as well as a Medical Doctorate from McGill University from 1935. She was quite possibly the first woman Doctor to practice north of the Arctic Circle.

Shortly after getting married, Mr. and Mrs. Greenwood travelled back to England, but in 1946 they returned to Canada and their journeys to the north began. Their first stop was to Fort McMurray, and then to Yellowknife where

Tom Greenwood served as a rector until 1952. During this time Isabel served on the school boards for the region. On January 30th, 1952 Tom Greenwood was elected as the sixth Bishop of the Yukon, and moved to the Cathedral in Dawson City. Shortly after their move, they relocated to the Old Log Church, when it became the official Cathedral of the Yukon Diocese, following the change of the capital from Dawson to Whitehorse. Greenwood was



Photo Credit: Old Log Church Museum Database
Bishop Greenwood 2006.10.1

consecrated as Bishop on April 27th, 1952, and enthroned on August 20th.

Bishop Greenwood built many new churches in the Yukon, including ones at Elsa, Watson Lake, and Haines Junction, as well as many rectories. Bishop Greenwood also oversaw the construction of a new Cathedral in Whitehorse, which is currently situated next to the Old Log Church Museum. He was the first Bishop of the Yukon who experienced the luxury of driving on roads to the communities, rather than by steamboat and dogsled. Greenwood was also Bishop during other historical moments, such as the transfer of cathedral to the newly built Christ's Church Cathedral in 1960, as well as the Royal Visit by Prince Philip and Queen Elizabeth II in 1959. He was one of the first Bishops to authorize the sending of a woman to represent the diocese in the general synod of the national church, and was overall an amazing man. (cont. pg 6)

Summer Events and Programs

Programming Update

This summer has been a great one so far at the Old Log Church Museum. We've been keeping busy doing tours and researching, as well as developing new programming for our visitors. Right now we're working on two new tours as well as a new exhibit that should premier this summer for guests.

If you're interested in how one of Whitehorse's oldest buildings was constructed, our new Architecture Tour is definitely for you! This tour will provide a history of the building and upkeep of the church since 1900, while focussing on the Old Log Church Museum's historical architecture.

The second tour that is being developed will be in conjuncture with our new exhibit highlighting the life and accomplishments of the amazing Hilda Hellaby. Our new Five Pioneer Women Tour will focus on a few of the inspiring women who were a part of the Anglican Church's presence in the Yukon, and who helped shape our territory's history.

Along with the new tours and exhibits we are developing, we also worked to provide fun programming for all ages on Canada Day. Thanks to everyone who visited and made it a success. Our tours and activities went over great, and we are excited to provide the same activities on Discovery Day (August 18, 2014). Come out and bring the family and learn more about the Yukon's amazing and vast history.

Until then, we will be giving tours and preparing exciting new things to share with our guests. We hope to see you soon!

Summer Tours

The OLCM offers two interpretative tours a day, free with admission.

Herschel Island: Past and Present - A detailed look at the Yukon's only coastal island, including the history of the missionaries, whalers, and Inuvialuit people.

First Nations Art & Beading - Explore the different beading artifacts on display in the OLCM and learn about their history and significance.

Anglican Church in Yukon through the Centuries - Learn the story of the Anglican Church through the artifacts at the OLCM.

Famous People of the North - Find out about the spirited characters connected to the Anglican Church in the Yukon.

Pioneer Cemetery Tour - A historical walking tour that introduces some of the Yukon's amazing residents that rest in the cemetery. By request, minimum 3 people. Usually takes an hour.



Photo Credit: Old Log Church Museum 2014

(Greenwood Family cont.)

After celebrating 100 years of the Anglican Church in the Yukon in 1961, Bishop Greenwood moved back to England. When he left, the community as a whole was saddened at the loss of such a great man. They gifted Bishop with a golden nugget spoon with the names of each school, parish, and mission that he visited and had an impact on.

Tom Greenwood passed away on February 1, 1974 while he was in Toronto to attend a meeting of the Church army. His funeral took place a week later on February 8, 1974. The entire northern community was saddened by the Death of "Yukon" Tom Greenwood. His wife, Isobel Greenwood, lived to the age of ninety-nine, and died in 2007. They are survived by their four children, eleven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Old Log Church Museum Staff

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