

ROBINSON ROADHOUSE HISTORIC SITE

Bibliography of Archival Resources & Site Chronology

compiled by Helene Dobrowolsky
Midnight Arts

January 2020



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Cover photo: Charlie McConnell's farm at Robinson Roadhouse, ca. 1936-1941.
Yukon Archives, Harold Davenport Sr. fonds, 2012/18 #100

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Acknowledgments

As someone who has spent much time travelling and living along what I still think of as the Carcross Road, I have greatly appreciated the opportunity to learn more about this most interesting historic site.

Many thanks to Brent Riley and my project manager Rebecca Jansen from Yukon Government Historic Sites, both of whom provided valuable advice and assistance during this work. I especially appreciated the chance to tour the site with Brent. The redoubtable Alice Cyr and Jonas Vasseur of the Yukon Transportation Museum helped me gain access to a few excellent photos in the Paul Cyr collection. As always, I am indebted to the helpful staff at Yukon Archives, particularly Shannon Olson. Peggy D'Orsay introduced me to the very helpful – and addictive! – Newspapers.com website, a much friendlier alternative to poring through many rolls of scratched microfilm. The Facebook page, Yukon History and Abandoned Places, inaugurated by Murray Lundberg, was a fun resource with some more recent anecdotes about the area. Finally, many thanks to my partner Rob Ingram, my in-house editor, photo wrangler, and graphic designer.

As with any research work of this kind, this should be considering an ongoing project that can be expanded as more sources and stories about the site come to light.

Helene Dobrowolsky
January 2020



Tony Cyr at Robinson Roadhouse, ca. 1940s. YTM 2017-1-977a, Paul Cyr coll.

Introduction



Group on Carcross Rd. – Robinson. Left to right: John and Emma Burns with their three children in front; Cary and Jackie Mackintosh with their four children in front. Each family has one set of twins.
YA, Amy Clethero fonds, 2001/44 #5

The former railway stop of Robinson is located at km 139 on the South Klondike Highway (formerly known as Mile 11.1 on the Carcross Road) and Milepost 89.9 on the White Pass and Yukon Railway. It lies within the traditional territories of the Carcross Tagish First Nation and Kwanlin Dün First Nation. The site was named after William “Stikine Bill” Robinson, a veteran railway builder and a colourful character who – at six foot three inches and 300 pounds – was literally larger than life. During construction of the White Pass and Yukon Railway, he supervised the freighting of construction materials by horse-drawn carts and barge from the White Pass to various locations along the line. He was also in charge of laying the grade between Bennett and Whitehorse.

Unlike the nearby stops of Lorne and Cowley, which boasted two-storey section houses, the railway put little or no infrastructure at this site other than a siding. Robinson did not come into prominence until 1906 when gold discoveries in the Wheaton valley led to a staking rush. This was accompanied by the boundless optimism that envisioned instant and long-term future prosperity in the area. A government road was built from Robinson to the new diggings and William Grainger and H.W. Vance staked a townsite occupying 320 acres at Robinson. Entrepreneur Lewis Napoleon Markle (also known as Louis or simply L.N.) immediately arranged to dig a well and start building a roadhouse.

Louis Markle soon left, selling the roadhouse to his wife, Catherine Markle. In 1907, Grainger died tragically from carbon monoxide poisoning while working in a mine in the Whitehorse Copper Belt. Vance moved on within a few years and the roadhouse became part of a ranch operated by Charles “Charlie” McConnell. Nonetheless the administrative records of the would-be townsite persisted for many years, later hampering Charles McConnell and Mrs. Markle from homesteading the same area [YA, GOV 1960, f. 827]. Nonetheless, McConnell made many improvements to the site and further expanded his holdings in 1909 when he acquired a 100-acre homestead about six miles to the west on a property

initially developed by Herman Olson. McConnell was involved in many enterprises: mining, freighting, farming, ranching, cutting and milling timber, and operating the roadhouse.

In 1908, a road was completed from Whitehorse to Carcross and a post office opened at Robinson. White Pass had built a siding where freight cars were loaded with ore from the Wheaton valley mines. For many years, there was an old caboose at the siding, used as a station and a mail drop after the post office closed in 1915.

During Alaska Highway construction in 1942-43, Robinson was occupied by a US Army work camp and sawmill. The machinery may have belonged to McConnell, who had refurbished his old mill in 1941.

From 1906 to the 1950s, the *Whitehorse Star* diligently recorded a surprising number of comings and goings to this seemingly remote locale. Robinson was a hub for the miners in the Wheaton River area, and geologists checking out the mining prospects or dropping off their horses to overwinter at McConnell's Ranch. It was a centre for woodcutters, trappers, big game outfitters, waterfowl hunters, and visitors spending a few days with Charlie McConnell and his wife Florence. According to Laurent Cyr, White Pass pastured horses here that were used on the winter Overland Trail to Dawson. Thousands of tonnes of ore were transferred from horse-drawn carts – and later trucks – to the railway at this little siding. It was the site of cattle sales, a trial, the capture of lost dogs and an escaped criminal, and even a rest stop for the mysterious Lillian Alling during her odyssey from New York toward Siberia. Although a large US Army camp was based here during the building of the Alaska Highway, little information is readily available about that time. In 1953, hundreds of people boarded BYN busses bound for Robinson to attend a day of picnicking and activities hosted by the Bartenders Union.

Unfortunately, the *Star* did not record the travels of the First Nations families in the area. Although the Robinson flag station and roadhouse were not established until the early 1900s, this area had long been a crossroads of First Nation travel routes. People travelled from Fish Lake southwest of Whitehorse overland to Robinson and from there to Tagish, Caribou Crossing and even over the mountain passes to the Pacific coast. Other routes led west to Kusawa and Dezadeash lakes. More recently, we know that several families were hunting and trapping in this area including Kitty and Billy Smith, the Burns family Albert Sam, Eva Sam, and Mary Billy. Robinson marked one of the boundaries of the hunting territory of noted big game outfitter Johnnie Johns. More research is required to obtain a fuller account of these stories as well as the indigenous names for landmarks in the area.

Some Robinson Personalities

Kitty and Billy Smith

Kitty Smith (ca. 1890-1989), a renowned Yukon storyteller and artist, spent much of her married life at Robinson. At the time she met him, her second husband Billy Smith was hunting and trapping in the Robinson area with his partners John Joe and Kitty's maternal uncle Charlie Brown. When Billy asked to marry Kitty, he promised to build a home at Robinson for her and her grandmother. With help from Charlie Burns, he built a house using lumber purchased from Matthew Watson's General Store in Carcross. He then sent Kitty \$100 to buy furnishings. In 1916, she took the train to Robinson with her purchases: bed, heater, cook stove, chairs, dishes, washtub. "All!"

She later related, "Trainman called out, 'There's your house, Mrs. Billy Smith!'"

Billy and Kitty spent several years in the Robinson and Carcross area. She gave birth to a number of her children during this time. They hunted at *Ddhäl Nàdhäda* – Robinson Mountain. She later related: “Used to be big meat hunts there. Lots of people – Slim Jim, Laberge Bill, John Joe – on top of that mountain.”¹

Kitty cooked at the Carcross Hotel for four years while her husband worked on hunting parties. They operated a gold mine in the Wheaton River area for nearly 10 years. She later recounted: “ ‘Shininook,’ they call it: ‘he gets up.’ My husband’s uncle was Skookum Jim, so I guess he’s got to look for gold. My sons worked it with him. They worked the creek. We got a big house. We got hydraulic . . . But that main creek is no good.”

While on the Wheaton, a particular poplar tree caught her imagination and prompted her to begin carving. She became well-known as a carver, inspired by mythological themes. Today her carvings can be seen at MacBride Museum, Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre, Da Kų Cultural Centre in Haines Junction, and in the Yukon Permanent Art Collection.

When the Alaska Highway came through, Billy and Kitty were trapping at Robinson. They had trouble crediting the rumours of the big highway being built from Edmonton. Billy ended up being one of the guides for road construction crews between Whitehorse and Watson Lake. Kitty recalled the US Army setting up a large camp at Robinson, “over one hundred working people.” Kitty and her family prospered by selling hide and fur clothing to the soldiers, earning enough to buy a truck.²

Lewis Napoleon & Catherine Markle

Based on numerous mentions in the *Whitehorse Star*, Louis Markle seemed to have had a restless entrepreneurial spirit with big dreams and an inability to settle down long enough to carry them through. Within three years, Markle took part in three mineral rushes: to the Kluane area in 1904, to Conrad in 1905, where he purchased a lot planning to build a restaurant; and to the Wheaton river area in 1906. During that same period of time, he was involved in various businesses: the Royal restaurant in Whitehorse (ca. 1902-03) and a draying business in 1904 after his return from Kluane. By August 1905, he had bought a hotel at Bennett with plans to move it to Carcross. In March 1906, he was proprietor of the Bon Ton Café, which boasted a telephone so that “all orders by it will be promptly prepared.” Four months later, he had moved to Robinson, where in July 1906, he applied for a hotel license and made plans to dig a well and build a roadhouse in the townsite staked by Vance and Grainger. By November of that same year, he had moved on to Skagway where he was again “engaged in the restaurant business” and apparently estranged from his wife.

Catherine Markle was equally enterprising and adventurous. She and her two small sons followed her husband north from Seattle in 1903. She even made a trip to Bullion Creek with her husband and two dogs, hauling 800 pounds of freight in a small wagon. She was an accomplished cook, working in a few Whitehorse restaurants including the Vancouver café. She took ownership of the Dominion Hotel in August 1907.

A few months later, in November 1907, she purchased the Robinson Roadhouse, likely from her husband, and announced plans to build a new large up-to-date facility. The following April, she and her

¹ While the Smiths lived in the area of Robinson, the exact location of their home has yet to be confirmed as well as determining which peak is “Robinson Mountain.”

² This summary is based on Julie Cruikshank with Angela Sidney, Kitty Smith and Annie Ned, *Life Lived Like a Story* (University of British Columbia Press, 1990), pp. 230-232; 246-251.

two sons moved out to Robinson to take charge of the roadhouse. The nature of her partnership with Charles McConnell is unclear but the two made an unsuccessful application for a pair of adjoining homesteads at the Robinson site in 1913. After seven years at Robinson, Mrs. Markle moved to Skagway in March 1915 to operate a restaurant. The following November she married Skagway resident Charles Nye.

In October 1915, the *Fairbanks Times* reported that L.N. Markle had gone “broke” at Iditarod but was scheming to make a comeback by shipping ten tons of vegetables to the mining camp. A year later, he married his sister-in-law, Mrs. Bertha Markle of Minnesota, who only met her husband in person for the first time upon her arrival in Anchorage. Markle’s two grown-up sons, William and Charles, were reported as living in Skagway with their mother, now Mrs. Charles Nye.³

Charles McConnell

“Mr. McConnell . . . has been continually residing in the neighborhood since 1907, operating a roadhouse, farming, ranching, freighting, and mining, and is the type of man so dearly needed in this Territory and he should be encouraged by all means to remain here.”

– Percy Reid, Crown Timber and Land Agent, 1926 July 12 [YA, GOV 1960, f. 827]

“He hewed his living from the Yukon Hills in mining, wood-cutting, lumbering, and all the activities the out-of-doors offered. He never saw Skagway and never took a trip “outside”; he took great pride in this. A real HE MAN was Charlie, and we hope he finds a place in Valhalla where his unusual talents will be appreciated. Certain it is that his name will long be remembered in the traditions of his home, Robinson, the Gateway to the Wheaton and the Watson country.”

– W. D. MacBride, *Whitehorse Star*, 27 September 1946

Charles McConnell was born in Prince Edward Island in 1871. According to W.D. MacBride who wrote his obituary for the *Whitehorse Star*, he made an early reputation as a weight lifter and occasionally astonished visitors to Robinson by juggling a full length of railroad rail.

McConnell headed north during the Klondike Gold Rush, working as a packer on the Stikine Trail. When gold was discovered in Atlin in 1899, he hauled a sled to the new mining camp. He then worked on the White Pass Stage Line between Whitehorse and Dawson but made time to join the rush to the Kluane region. He exhibited his Burwash Creek gold findings in the show window of a Whitehorse jeweller in the summer of 1905.

In 1907, McConnell moved to Robinson which, for nearly 40 years, was the base his for many activities. At Robinson, and a homestead six miles to the west, he grew feed, raised dairy cattle, and looked after horses for both the Geological Survey and White Pass during the off season. He acquired a sawmill and advertised timber cut to order. According to one story, he may have logged the property that later became the Annie Lake Golf Course. When Robinson had its own post office from 1908 to 1915, McConnell was the postmaster. He had mining interests including some coal claims. For recreation, he prospected and hunted with friends.

³ Specific references for this section can be found in part 2 of this report, Robinson Roadhouse Chronology.



Charlie and Florence McConnell at Robinson, ca. 1920.
YA, Bud and Jeanne (Connolly) Harbottle fonds, #6126

For seven years, he operated the roadhouse with Catherine Markle. They applied for adjoining homestead properties totalling 320 acres at Robinson. According to the government correspondence, this was not possible due to the previous, and later abandoned, townsite application of H.W. Vance.

Mrs. Markle moved to Skagway in 1915 and a year later McConnell married Florence Pavin in Carcross, the ceremony officiated by Archdeacon Canham. The comings and goings column of the *Star* had many items in subsequent years about visitors to Robinson and the McConnells' trips to Whitehorse, but no reference was found as to the eventual fate of Florence McConnell. The last time she was mentioned in the *Star* was May 1940. It became apparent, however, that McConnell was on his own in his last years and, at his death, his designated heir was a niece in Prince Edward Island.

He died in Whitehorse on September 22, 1946, a few days after entering hospital for an operation.

I. Robinson Roadhouse Historic Site Bibliography

- compiled by Helene Dobrowolsky, 16 January 2020

Abbreviations

EMR Energy, Mines and Resources Library
WPL Whitehorse Public Library
WS Whitehorse Star
YA Yukon Archives
YTM Yukon Transportation Museum

GOVERNMENT RECORDS

CANADA

Library and Archives Canada

Ref. nos.	Description	Dates
FIND085/21924 Mikan # 1591667	Ole Dickson and Mrs. V.B. Schnabel – App'n. [Application] to lease 160 acres of coal lands at Robinson Station on White Pass and Yukon Ry. [Railway]. RG85-A-1-a. Volume/box number: 1812. File no.: 52614.	1910/08- 1912/01
FIND085/21916 Mikan #1591659	Chas [Charles] McConnell – App'n [Application] to lease 160 acres of coal lands at Robinson Station on White Pass and Yukon Ry [Railway].	1910/07- 1915/08
FINDS85/7224 Mikan #2180409	E. Johnson – Estate, Robinson, Yukon Territory. RG85-C-1-a. Volume/box number: 928. File number: 11952. Copied container number: T-13934.	1941
FINDS85/7953 Mikan # 2181045	McKinnon – General file – Robinson, Yukon Territory. RG85-C-1-a. Volume/box number: 958. File number: 13441. Copied container number: T-13954.	1943-1946

Royal North-West Mounted Police

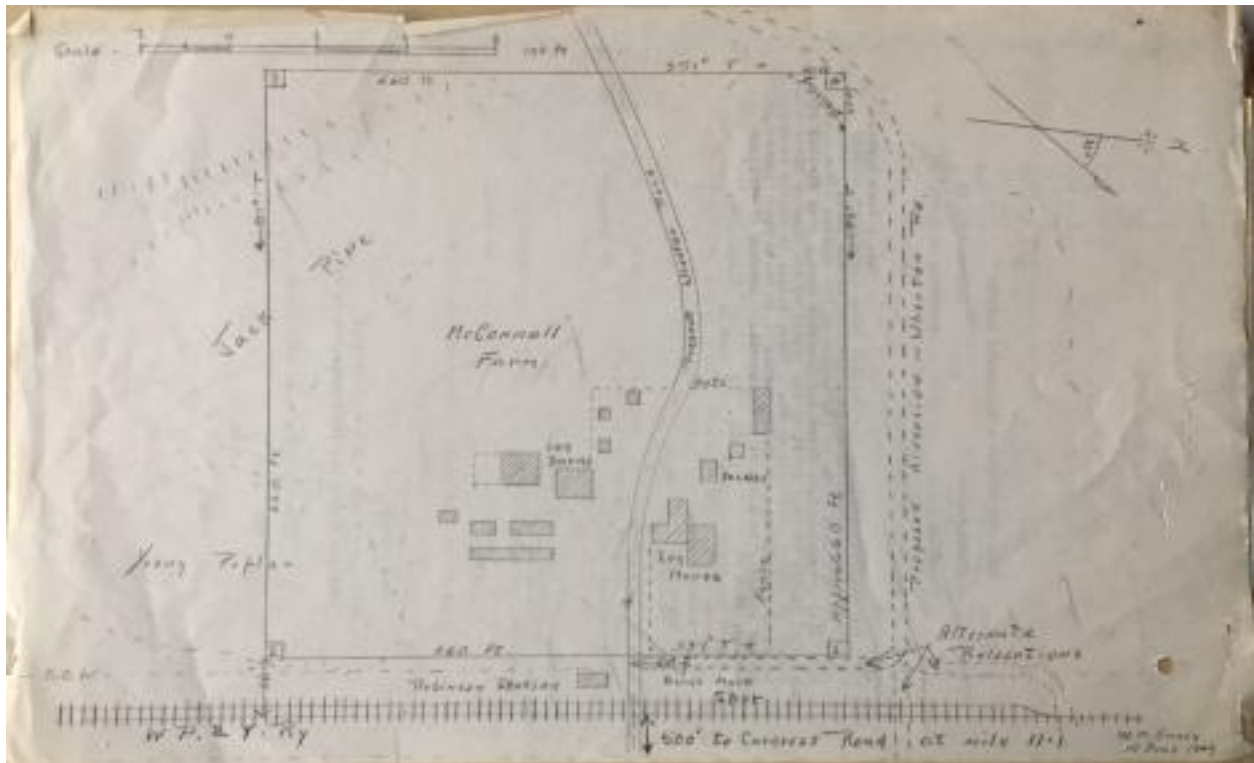
1906 *Royal North-West Mounted Police Annual Report* in Sessional Paper No. 28; Report of Supt. A.E. Snyder, H Division. YA 351.740 62 Nor 1906

YUKON

Records of the Yukon Government, YRG 1, Series 1-12

Location	File	Title	Date	MF #
GOV 1643	20103	Vance, H.V. – Application for 160 acres at Robinson	1906-1911	CM 10-026
GOV 1643	20118	W.P. Grainger. 160 acres at Robinson riding on White Pass and Yukon Railroad	1906-1910	CM 10-026
GOV 1644	21247	Inquest into the death of W. P. Grainger and O. Joyce.	1907	CM 10-028
GOV 1652	28768	McConnell, Chas. Application to lease land at Lewes Lake	1913	CM 10-032

GOV 1671	35383	McConnell, Charles. Coal lease near Annie Lake, Bush Mountains Whitehorse District	1942-1949	CM 10-045
GOV 1674	36182	Agent for C. McConnell Estate 2 parcels of land at Robinson Station	1946-1948	CM 10-047
GOV 1940	771	Estate of Charles McConnell – Succession Duty	1947	
GOV 1950	322	Application for Coal Land – E. Johnson	1900-1901	
GOV 1952	436	A.D. McKinnon – Application for Land *	1903-1953	
GOV 1955	628	Robinson Land – W. P. Grainger	1906-1913	
GOV 1955	629	Robinson Land – H. W. Vance	1906-1921	
GOV 1960	818	Coal Land – W.F. Schnabel	1909-1913	
GOV 1960	827	McConnell Homestead, Robinson Station	1909-1931	
GOV 1961	854	McConnell, Charles	1910-1921	
GOV 1961	858	Coal Location – Ole Dickson and Velma B. Schnabel	1910	
GOV 1857	25076	McConnell, C. – Application for Liquor License at Robinson Station	1909	
GOV 1983	1175	Estate of McConnell, Charles – Coal Mining Application	1942	



Plan of McConnell Farm and proposed route for relocation of Wheaton-Watson Road, 15 June 1947.
From: YA, GOV 1674, f. 36182.

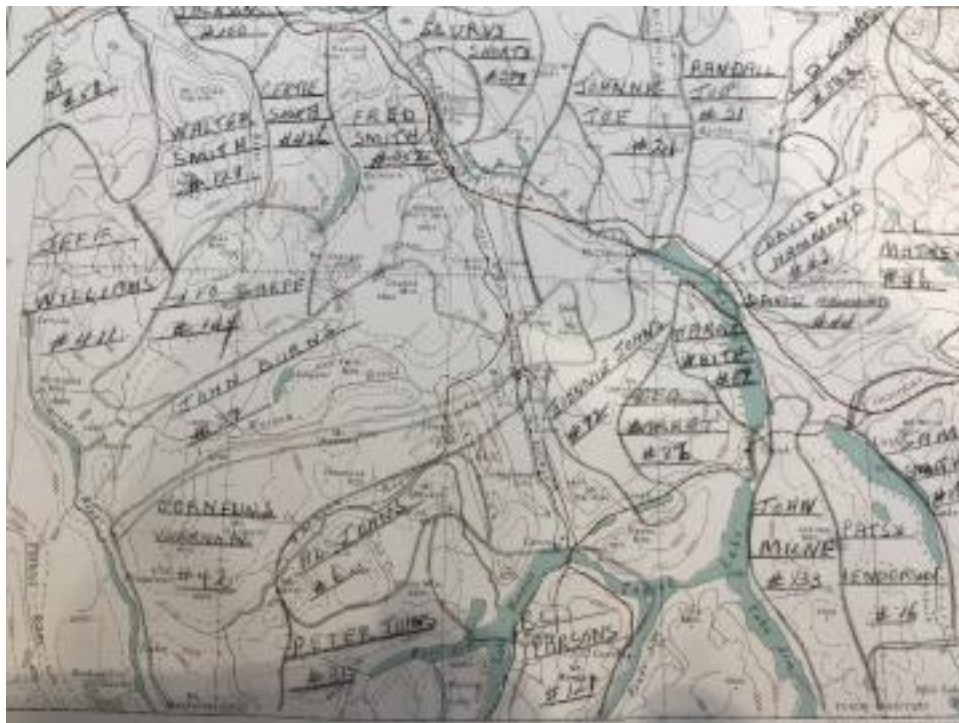
MANUSCRIPTS

Wright, Allen A. "Kluane" unpublished manuscript, n.d.

Accession no. 83/21; Location MSS 151

) refers to Jacquot Bros. of Burwash Landing purchasing three head of stock from C. McConnell of Robinson, Yukon

MAPS AND PLANS



Portion of map showing trapping areas in Whitehorse and Teslin, ca. 1950-1963. YA, H-1603 (3)

Ref. no.	Title / Description	Date
H-782	Mounted Police Stations in Northwestern Canada, Dominion of Canada. Includes Robinson. Scale: 1 inch equals 35 miles.	1906
H-1260(A-D)	N.T.S. 105 d/7 East Half, Robinson Y.T., All 4 maps have annotations; B) N.T.S. 105 d/2 East Half, Carcross, Y.T. concerned with the Carcross Road and other road construction in the area of Mile 10- Mile 50; C) N.T.S. 105 d/2 West Half, Carcross, Yukon Territory; D) N.T.S. 105 d/7 West Half, Robinson, Yukon Territory. Army Survey Establishment, R.C.E. / surveyor.	1955
R-405	Robinson, Yukon Territory. West ½. 1 map: blueprint; 42.8 x 89.2 cm. Scale: 1: 28 800. Army Survey / surveyor. Blueprint. Shows "truck road" for Annie Lake Road and branch heading out to Red Ridge. Covers as far west as Annie Lake.	1949

H-1513	Wheaton, Whitehorse, Alligator Lake, 1949 Army Survey East Half 105 D 7 Robinson. Blueprint. Hard to read.	1949
H-1514	(Formerly R-331) Coal Lake, Cougar Lake Yukon Territory, Group 804, Centre Sheet West of Tenth Meridian 1 mile to 1 inch. Matches R-311 to the south. - Covers Robinson and start of "Wagon Road to Gold Hill", west to North Fork of "Watson River or Two Horse Creek."	1912
R-311	Yukon Territory Group 804– South Sheet. West of Tenth Meridian. Scale: 1 mile to 1 inch Covers from edge of Carbon Hill in SW and Carcross in SE to N of the long E-W leg of Watson River. Shows legal surveys lines, parcels and mineral claims, trails, railway and names of waypoints, trails, creeks. Harrison, Thompson, Polle, Schnabel off Watson.	1912
H-2470	Map: Robinson Station – Grazing Lands [referenced in finding aid to <i>Yukon, Records Office</i> records]	1952
H-2038	Big Game Outfitters Registered Guiding Areas 1977 Map of Southern Yukon. Shows Wheaton in area number twenty.	1977
H-1603 -1 to H-1603-8	Whitehorse Region Traps. 1: 500,000 NTS Series [trapping areas and trappers marked in by hand on topo maps]	1950-1963
H-2001	Land Use Information Series, 1971. Whitehorse Sheet 105 D Game and Hunting and trapping use of the area, and categorization of recreational values. Notes grizzly scattered through region and most common along Watson and Wheaton Rivers. Dall sheep in general area. Medium recreational value.	1971

Aerial Photographs

Yukon EMR Library, Skyline Air Photo locator

Image no.	Description	Date
Roll 10558-82; photo no. 0559	Robinson area, showing original location of Wheaton area road intersecting with Carcross Road through McConnell farm.	1940
Roll no. 6-1678; photo no. 28953	Robinson / Veerman farm area http://yap.gov.yk.ca/fileshare/6-1678/6-1678_28953.jpg	1980

Geomatics Canada, Yukon Lands Viewer

<http://mapservices.gov.yk.ca/Lands/Load.htm>

Image no.	Description	Date
CLSR 41571	Plan of Survey of Lots 268, 269, 272, 273, 274, 275, and Access Roads and Subdivision of Lots 272, 273 and 274, Group 804, Robinson Station	19 Jun 1952

Current Land Disposition

Image no.	Description	Date
105D07-044, PID: 100016596	Heritage Reservation, 40,455 square metres	1984 Aug 2

105D07-056 PID: 200013211	Heritage Reservation, 30, 609 sq metres (two parcels on either side of railway ROW)	1988 Nov 14
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Yukon Government, Tourism & Culture, Historic Sites

Robinson Roadhouse As-found Record, Site Plan. 1:500.

Recorded by B. Riley, T. Dowd, B. Barrett – 19 May 1993

Drawn by B. Riley – 26 May 2011; project no. 3734.

NEWSPAPERS

Whitehorse Star

P – made print-out of article

Note: The following items were found on the very useful website, Newspapers.com. Search words used were *Robinson, McConnell, Markle, and Veerman*.

Not listed were many notices regarding electoral boundaries.

Date	Pg. no / Title	P
1903 Jul 3	"Mr. L. N. Markle who has been running the Royal restaurant for the past year, held an auction sale on Thursday when he disposed of his Whitehorse property. Mr. Markle will leave on Tuesday next for Rampart."	P
1904 May 2	Great Activity on Bullion. On Nearly all the claims the Owners are preparing for a Golden Harvest. L. N. Markle reporting on activity including his own claim.	
1904 May 18	L.W. Markle left for Bullion Creek with 800 lbs. freight in wagon pulled by two dogs, accompanied by wife.	P
1905 Jan 27	"Big Bill" Robinson – re suit against Mackenzie, Moon & Co. for deposing him from his bridge building and tracklaying contract on the Canadian North Edmonton line.	
1905 Feb 24	Ad for L. N. Markle – water delivery, garbage work, draying. [in Whse.]	
1905 Apr 24	Mrs. L. N. Markle takes over Vancouver café in Whse., much previous experience. "Her first dinner was served last night when Barney McGee, as host, had a party of 10 friends to dine with him. The dinner was one of the best ever served in Whitehorse."	P
1905 Jul 29	"Burwash Gold" "Jeweler W. J. Stoddart has on display in the show window of his store 20 oz. of Burwash creek gold . . . Nearly all the gold displayed in the window was brought in from the creek by Chas. McConnell."	P
1905 Aug 11	"Buys a Hotel" L. N. Markle buys Bennett hotel with plan to reconstruct at Caribou.	P
1905 Sep 12	"Hotel Afloat" L. N. Markle arrived at head of canyon with Palace Hotel on the barge Dan McDonald. Plans to float through canyon and rapids the following day. [note: no further mention of whether this was successful]	P
1906 Mar 22	Re increased business of Bon Ton café operated by L. N. Markle, with telephone installed so "all orders by it will be promptly prepared."	P

1906 Jun 4	1 – arrival of geologist D. D. Cairnes en route to Robinson “where he will spend about six weeks compiling information as to the mineral resources of the country.”	
1906 Jul 20	“Goes \$5000 Per Ton – Rich Vein of Gold-Bearing Quartz Discovered Near Robinson – Strike Made at the Headwaters of the Watson River, Forty Miles from Whitehorse – Stampede to New Find” - Strike about 20 mi. from Robinson, nearest point reached by railway “A box car containing camp and prospectors’ outfits were left at Robinson siding yesterday from which place they will be packed by horses and men to the scene of the new strike. Half a dozen pack horses have already been sent from Whitehorse to Robinson and the demand is not yet supplied.”	
1906 Jul 27	New Townsite – W.C. Grainger and H. W. Vance are the Locators. Re application for townsite at Robinson. “The first work on the property will be the digging of a well and the erection of a substantial log house by the locators. L. N. Markle has already made application for a hotel license and will at once begin the erection of a building.”	P
	“To Map Out Town” DLS H. G. Dickson left for Robinson and joined by crew – J. J. Sullivan, Fred MacLennan and Mathew Watson – to lay out townsite at Robinson. “As a hotel license has already been applied for, the first improvement made by the townsite owners will be the digging of a well which will provide the hotel man with water to put in his whisky.”	P
1906 Aug 17	p. 4 – “L.N. Markle came down from Robinson Friday and returned Saturday with additional material for his new hotel. He says Robinson is a lively point.”	
1906 Aug 17	p. 1 – “Robinson City Supreme Court” – spoof article by L. N. Markle re Wm. Weisdippe’s failure to arrive in Robinson with a bottle	P
1906 Aug 24	“Frank Demontier has purchased an interest in L. N. Markle’s roadhouse at Robinson.”	
1906 Aug 31	Sale of Whse Bldgs. Formerly the Bon Ton Café, sold by L. N. Markle to Ed. Marcotte. ... “Mrs. Markle has joined her husband at Robinson, the gateway to the new Gold Hill and Wheaton river mining fields, where he, with his partner, Frank Demontier, is conducting a hotel.”	
1906 Nov 16	“L. N. Markle, formerly of this place, is now engaged in the restaurant business in Skagway.”	
1906 Dec. 21	p. 4 – “Shipping Ore. Wheaton River Product Goes to Smelter.” – Claude Irvine and 4 partners hauling ore to Robinson for shipment to outside Smelter. Quality of ore est. \$175-200 in silver and gold.	
1906 Dec. 28	1 – “Increased activity is shown in local mining circles – heavy shipment of ore from Pueblo to Crofton, B. C., Smelter – Preparations for more extensive operations.” Summary of various mining operations in S. Yukon. “A quintette of Wheaton R. miners is hauling ore out to Robinson from which place it is being shipped to an outside smelter. The ore from Wheaton goes \$300 per ton, principally in silver.”	
1907 Mar 22	3 – re Polling Division boundaries	
1907 May 17	4 – “Chas. McConnell, his face looking like the true inwardness of a strawberry shortcake, the result of working on lake ice for several days,	P

	came to town on Tuesday, operations at the lake being a thing of the past for this spring.”	
1907 May 24	1 – L.N. Markle of Robinson was in town Saturday.	
1907 Jun 14	4 – “L. N. Markle, who has been conducting a roadhouse at Robinson during the past year, moved his family to Whitehorse last Saturday.”	
1907 Jul 27	4 – “L. N. Markle left Wed. morning to begin work on his proposed new roadhouse at Robinson.”	
1907 Aug 9	Mrs. L. N. Markle has taken over ownership of Dominion Hotel, Whse. “Mrs. Markle has an enviable reputation as a cook and under her management the Dominion is bound to become very popular.	P
1907 Aug 23	Advert for Dominion Hotel, Mrs. Markle, Prop.	
1907 Sep 20	4 – Advert for Dominion Hotel, Mrs. Markle, Prop.	P
1907 Oct. 11	p. 4 – two dog thieves caught just above Robinson. “Mrs. Kelsey received her property back Wed. evening after an outlay of \$12 in cash for their keep at Robinson to say nothing of \$50 offered by her to the messenger who overtook the scamps.”	P
1907 Nov. 8	p. 1 – “Wolves at Robinson” – letter from L.N. Markle re wolves eating 2 mountain sheep within a few yards of the Robinson hotel.	P
1907 Nov 22	4 – “Justified by Outlook” “With an abiding faith in the future of the Wheaton and Watson localities as mining fields, Mrs. L. N. Markle has purchased the roadhouse at Robinson and will replace it with a new and up to date building. The new hotel will be two stories and will have accommodations for 75 guests. It will have a large bar and billard room, fine parlor and all the conveniences that go with a modern hotel. Work will begin at once and the building will cost in the neighborhood of \$8,000.”	P
1908 Feb 14	4 – account of successful sheep hunt by William Weisdeippe, Bert Woodridge and Shorty Austen in Lake Arkell locality. Some sheep cached along trail, Weisdeippe took train to Robinson en route to hunting camp.	P
1908 May 29	4 – “Donald Ross went to Robinson on the excursion train Sunday and returned Monday evening with a fine brace of ducks. As there are no duck stores in the locality, the indications are he killed them himself.”	
1908 Jun 19	“New Postoffices” – re establishment of P.O. at Robinson	P
1908 Aug 7	“Prospering at Fairbanks. Word comes from Fairbanks that L. N. Markle formerly of this place, is riding the crest of the wave of prosperity in that town where he is engaged in the transfer and express business.”	
1908 Oct. 16	1 – “Road is Finished – Good Highway Extends from Whitehorse to Carcross.”	P
1908 Nov 13	1 – “New Life Given – Wheaton Mining District Never Looked Better”	P
1908 Nov 20	1 – “H. E. Porter Has Big Outfit On his Wheaton Claims” – mentions machinery and supplies freighted to claims from Robinson station.	P
1908 Dec. 18	3 – “An Isolated Home” Describes George Stevens plans to built a home “at the south end of the long lake which lies about 13 miles out of Robinson station and about halfway from that place to the heart of the mining district.” [Annie Lake?]	P
1909 Jan 29	4 – Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Porter and C.S. Eisenhauer left for Wheaton via Robinson Wed. morning.	

1909 Apr 2	4 – “William Snobble, pioneer prospector and miner of the Wheaton country came in on the train from Robinson Monday evening.”	
1909 Sep 10	1 – “Returned Duckless” – hunting trip of Major Snyder, R.C. Miller, Donald Ross and Ole Dickson. Interesting account of route.	P
1910 Apr 1	1 – “Pueblo to Ship Ore on July 10” – mentions that WP&YR setting new freight rate schedule by which mining machinery to various sites including Robinson, to be carried at reduced rates.	P
1910 Jul 22	“Markle in the Iditarod” – “formerly of this place” running a restaurant in the Iditarod.	P
1910 Aug 26	“H.G. McPherson rode horseback to Robinson and return Sunday, a total distance of 44 miles and has since taken his meals from a shelf. He went to Robinson to meet his sister, Mrs. Percy Reid of Carcross, who was spending a few days at the midway point.”	
1910 Sep. 2	2 – Item re Schnabel Creek coal deposits, 14 mi. from Robinson.	P
1910 Sep 2	p. 1 “Big Coal Deposit – Black Diamonds Located on Schnabel Creek”	P
1910 Nov 25	“Hits De Ceiling” Markle goes “broke” [at Iditarod] but is still hustling.	P
1911 Feb. 24	p. 1 – “Off for Wheaton – Foreman Whitman and Gang go to Carbon Hill”	
1911 Mar. 10	p. 1 – “In From Wheaton – Fred Whitman is Preparing For Busy Season” – re gov’t road wash-out between Robinson and Wheaton	P
1911 Dec. 8	p. 4 – “George Stevens has returned to his home out from Robinson where he has promising quartz holdings. He went to Skagway on the excursion last Saturday and stopped off at Robinson Monday.”	
	8 – H. E. Porter arrived on the train Monday evening with the carcasses of 5 mountain sheep 19 of which he killed about 25 miles back from Robinson. One of the sheep brought in is as large as any ever killed in this part of the country. It had a magnificent pair of horns. Porter will ship the other 14 to town.	
1912 Jan 5	“Wife and Mother. Mrs. Howard Cochran of Wheaton Dies Suddenly” Ref to family returning to Robinson en route home.	P
1912 Jun 7	4 “People who come and go” “Misses Marion and Mavis Cochran who have been in town for some time, the guests of Miss Devo Puckett, left for their home at the Whirlwind Mine, back from Robinson, Monday morning.”	
1912 Nov 15	“Willie and Charley Markle of Robinson, a pair of as fine looking young Yukoners as can be found in the territory, left last Saturday to enter the Seattle Academy for boys. They will remain outside all winter.”	
1914 June 12	p. 3 “For Sale” “Three fine Holstein cows, calved the first of May. Good milkers. Price cheap. Apply C. McConnell, Robinson Station, Y.T.”	
1914 Jun 26	George Brown of Carmacks purchased two Holstein cows from Chas. McConnell which he shipped home.	
1915 Mar 26	4 – “Mrs. C. Markle who has conducted the roadhouse at Robinson on the railroad 22 miles south of Whitehorse, for the past seven years, has gone to Skagway, accompanied by her two sons, where she will open a restaurant.”	
1915 Jun 4	“Geological Survey” D. D. Cairnes left for Robinson en route to Wheaton mining district.	P

1915 Jun 18	p. 4 – “Postoffice Discontinued” “The Robinson postoffice, on the railroad twenty two miles south of Whitehorse has been discontinued recently, the business of that locality not justifying its continuation.”	
1915 June 25	p. 4 – J.H. Brownlee director of surveys at Robinson. Paragraph discussing his planned travels.	P
1915 Aug 20	1 – “Antimony Claims – Vancouver Capitalists Reported to Have Made Deal” - New owners to haul antimony to railroad at Robinson station in motor trucks “which have already been ordered and are now probably on the steamer enroute from Victoria.”	P
1915 Sep 10	“Bonafide Hunters” – re successful hunting trip of assayer W.C. Sime and bank mgr. J.C. Newmarsh to Robinson where bagged 56 ducks.	P
1915 Sep. 24	C. I. Burnside who had been mining Livingstone Creek for 2 years, left Tues. for Robinson to see his partners in the Tally-Ho property in the Wheaton district.	
1915 Nov. 26	1 – “Skagwayites Wed” – Charles Nye and Catherine Markle “a pioneer Northerner, having formerly resided in Whitehorse and Robinson, Y. T.” Nye was general manager and principal stockholder of the Home Power Company.	P
1916 Feb 4	1 – Ltr to editor from Robinson Station, discussing mining activity in region from James Powell.	
1916 Apr 14	“Are now working – several men on Wheaton District Quartz properties.” Another ltr from James Powell from Robinson, Y.T.	
1916 May 12	p. 1 – “Makes Long Hike” “James Powell, the Wheaton district mining man, arrived in town early Friday morning, after an all night’s walk from Robinson station on the W. P. & Y. R., between here and Carcross. He missed catching the train when it passed Robinson coming north on Thursday afternoon, and having important business to transact here could not wait until the next train was due. He returned to Robinson in the same manner on Friday night.”	
1916 June 9	“\$25 and Costs” “James Powell of Robinson was fined \$25 and costs June 7 th by Police Magistrate J. Langlois Bell for pointing a rifle at Chas. McConnell. “Inspector Bell of R.N.W.M.P. accompanied Police Magistrate Bell to Robinson to hold court.”	
1916 Jul 28	“Sourdough Married” – marriage of L. N. Markle, employed by Alaskan Engineering commission, to Mrs. Bertha Markle, his former sister-in-law.	P
1916 Aug 11	p. 1 – re marriage of Chas. McConnell to Florence Parvin of London, Eng., at Carcross, Archdeacon Canham officiating.	P
1916 Sep 29	“Two stray husky dogs, one white, one black and white. Owners apply to Chas. McConnell, Robinson Station.”	
1916 Oct. 27	p. 4 – “No Luck” brief account of hunting party including Mr. & Mrs. McConnell for big game hunt in the Wheaton River country.	P
1917 Apr 20	4- “Mrs. Chas. McConnell of Robinson came to Whse on Monday and remained as a guest of Mrs. W.W. Dickinson until Wed. morning.”	
1917 Jun 8	“Happy” Burnside left for Robinson Tues. and from there to Wheaton district.	

1917 Jun 29	People who come and go – “Johnny Ryan and Kenneth Watson made the round trip between Whitehorse and Carcross in a single-horse buggy last week. Going, they left here at 9:30 one morning, remained over a short time at Robinson station and got to Carcross at 4:30 the following morning. Returning, they left Carcross at 6 a.m. and reached home at 6 p.m. the same day.”	
1917 Aug 17	“Free Eleven Hours – George Coussiman Again is Captured by Police” Escaped prisoner made his way to Robinson where he was re-taken the following day.	
1917 Oct. 17	p. 4	
1917 Oct. 19	p. 1 – “Wheaton District – Big Low Grade Silver Ledge Re-Located”	P
1918 Jan. 18	p. 2 – re boundaries of polling divisions	
1918 Jan. 25	p. 2 – re boundaries of polling divisions	
1918 Jun 21	4 – George Armstrong and Adam Bernie left Monday for Wheaton R. country. Joined by C. McConnell at Robinson.	
1919 May 30	p. 4 – recent prospecting trip of Ernie Johnson. After reaching Robinson “with a cayuse he was intending to turn out to pasture”, he was planning to return to Whse. to work at Copper King	P
1919 Aug 1	1 – “The Outlook Good – Indications of Extensive Development Work in Wheaton” – mentions: F. W. Bradley of Treadwell, Ernest Johnson	
1919 Aug 15	p. 4 “In Fair Shape to Robinson” – report on condition of Whitehorse-Wheaton road. Tony Cyr leading crew repairing road and putting in bridges and culverts.	P
1920 Feb 20	“Wheaton Miner Here” Latest endeavours of Ernie Johnson. Printed	P
1920 Feb. 27	p. 4 – “J.E. French, went to Carcross last Friday on the special train that left here that morning for that place. Getting through the business that called him to Carcross he left there Sunday on a mush for home. He was accompanied as far as Robinson, where he stopped over night, by Scotty Morrison of Carcross with a dog team. Separating from Morrison at Robinson, French resumed his journey to Whitehorse Monday, arriving here early in the morning.”	
1920 Aug 20	4 – “Geo. Stevens of Robinson, Y. T., is visiting in Whitehorse for a few days.”	
1921 Jun 3	Item re Tally-Ho mine. “Considerable work was done on the road from the mines to the railroad station at Robinson by the owners last fall, ...”	
1921 Jul 8	“The McConnells [sic] are making great improvement to their roadhouse at Robinson and a number of cows and horses there. They make their own butter and have plenty of fresh milk. This would be an ideal place to spend the week end.” 3 – “Mrs. S. E. Chambers and little son of Carcross are spending a pleasant vacation visiting with Mr. and Mrs. McConnell at Robinson.”	
1921 Jul 15	1 – “Wheaton-Watson Activity” re Ernie Johnson’s properties, interest by Treadgold people, property about 40 mi. from Robinson, a good trail has been built from Robinson to the Watson R. “it would be an easy matter to build a trail up the Watson R, so that caterpillars could handle the ore economically.”	P
1921 Jul 23	1 – “Wheaton-Watson Activity” – re staking activity up Watson R.	

1921 Aug 19	4 – “Sunday Picnics” re two motor excursions to Robinson. T.C. Richards, wife & family, and Mr. and Mrs. Langholz made trip in two hours and 10 minutes.	P
1921 Sept 23	1 – “It’s a Long Sad Story” story of an unsuccessful duck hunt with overnight stop at Robinson.	P
1924 Apr. 4	1 – “In From Kluahne” – Gene Jacquot and Tom Dickson in from Kluahne. “Jacquot brothers have purchased three head of cattle from C. McConnell of Robinson and they will be taken to Kluahne in June.”	
1924 May 9	5 – “Mrs. Chas. McConnell of Robinson, is a visitor in town this week.”	
1924 May 23	7 – Carcross News. McConnell bought a horse from Andy Butterfield in Carcross. “much needed” new bridge built over Watson R. Logs hauled by Andy Butterfield, work done by Mathew Watson, Const. Blatta and Tom Brooks.	P
1924 May 23	“Mrs. Charles McConnell returned to Robinson on Monday’s train after spending a few days in town, the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gray.”	
1924 Jun 20	6 – George Stevens Stricken. Stricken with paralysis on Monday at or near his cabin at Robinson. Brought to hospital on afternoon train.	
1924 Aug 15	10 – “After spending her holiday with Mr. and Mrs. Charles McConnell at Robinson, Miss Milne returned home on Saturday afternoon and is back at her post in the hospital this week.”	
1925 May 22	p. 12 – “Local Interests” Chas. McConnell in town for the Celebration (Victoria Day holiday)	
1925 Jun 5	1 – “George Stevens leaves for Michigan” Mining in area since 1905, stricken with paralysis at Robinson and was patient in Whse. hospital since prev. Jun.	P
1925 Jun 5	“Two milch cows, one yearling heifer and young calf for sale. Chas. McConnell, Robinson.”	
1925 Oct 2	1 “Mrs. Patterson and daughter, Mildred, left this morning to join Mr. Patterson at Robinson. They will spend a few days hunting before leaving for Vancouver.”	
1925 Oct 16	p. 4 – “Capt. P. Martin was a business visitor at Robinson this week.”	
1925 Nov 13	4 – Ernie Johnson left Wed. for Robinson and from there he goes to the hills on another prospecting trip.	
1926 Mar 12	4 – Item in “Local Interests”: “Frank Mutch and Sam Campell [sic] mushed in from Robinson on Tuesday. The boys spent the winter in cutting wood, making their headquarters at Bearskin Inn on Wounded Moose Mountain. Red Hartney came in with them.”	
1926 Apr 2	4 – “Miss J. B. Milne is spending the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Chas. McConnell at Robinson.”	
1926 Jul 9	“Mr. and Mrs. Chas. McConnell were visitors from Carcross this week.”	
1926 Jul 23	Mrs. E. H. Johnson and Barbara and Trask spent a few days with McConnells.	
1926 Oct. 1	1 – Dr. W. E. Cockfield of GSC back in town. Summary of season’s work and mention that the party’s horses “will again be wintered by Chas. McConnell of Robinson.”	P
1926 Nov 5	4 – “Mr. and Mrs. Charles McConnell were business visitors from Robinson this week.”	
1927 Mar 18	4 – “Mrs. Chas. Robinson is a visitor from Robinson this week.”	

1927 May 6	p. 4 – “Local Interests” “Ernie Johnson was a visitor from Robinson on Tuesday and Wednesday.”	
1927 Jun 10	“Ernie Johnson was in from Robinson this week. He reports good progress on the road construction to the Mascot Mine. The tractor had already made a through trip and from now on the road will continue to improve.”	
1927 Jul 1	“Mrs. Shaw arrived last week from San Diego, California, to spend a week with Mrs. Chas. McConnell at Robinson.”	
1927 Jul 22	“Test Ore Shipment From Mascot Mine” People refs: “Mr. and Mrs. J.R. Foster, their daughter Miss Helen, Miss Mildred McMurphy and Mr. Ernie Johnson motored over from Robinson Tuesday evening and returned Wednesday morning.” - More re 3 T. ore shipment	P
1927 Sep 9	“H.A. Butler and son are taking out several tons of ore from a property in the Wheaton district to be shipped outside for testing purposes. Part of the ore is already at Robinson and the shipment will be made in the very near future.”	
1927 Oct 28	2 – “Mascot Mine Getting Results” The distance from Robinson to the mine is forty miles, and of this only six miles of road was open. A [rail] car of high grade ore is now at Robinson for shipment and a second car will be in readiness very shortly.	
1927 Nov. 11	4 – Chas. McConnell in from Robinson Friday evening and returned Sat. a.m.	
1927 Dec 30	6 – “Ernie Johnson came over from Robinson for a few days last week.”	
1928 Feb 17	“Local and Personal – Mrs. Robert Earle went over to Robinson Wednesday.”	
1928 Jun 22	Miss Margaret Cameron of Choutla School staff went to Robinson Wed. to spend a few days with Mrs. Chas. McConnell.	
1928 Aug 3	4 – “Ernie Johnson came over from Robinson Wed. evening and returned Thurs. morning.” “Mr. and Mrs. Chas. McConnell of Robinson came in Wednesday evening to attend the Days of '98.”	
1928 Aug 31	p. 5 – “Whitehorse Visited by Woman Hiker” – Lillian Alling stopped to rest at Robinson during her mysterious trip north.	P
1928 Sep 28	“Cockfield Party Returns” GSC horses have been driven to Robinson to be overwintered by Chas. McConnell.	P
1928 Oct. 26	4 – “Mr. and Mrs. Chas. McConnell were visitors from Robinson this week.”	
1929 Mar 15	6 – “Ernie Johnson has recovered from an attack of flu and he returned to Robinson Wed. morning, preparatory to leaving on another prospecting trip in the Wheaton area.”	
1929 May 3	Chas. McConnell ad selling Rough Lumber, Square Timber, “any size cut to order” [Display ad appears weekly: May 3, 10, 17, 24]	
1938 Apr 1	5 – “Mr. John Stenbraten, the well known mining man of the Wheaton country, arrived in town on Monday’s train from Robinson on a business trip.”	
1938 Jun 3	7 – “Donald Ross went to Robinson on the excursion train Sunday and returned Monday evening with a fine brace of ducks. As there are no duck stores in that locality the indications are he killed them himself.”	

1938 Jul 8	"Mr. John Stenbraten left on Saturday's train on his return trip to Robinson. He is back in town again."	
1938 Aug 12	8 – "Mr. Earnest [sic] Johnson came in from Robinson on Saturday to spend the week-end in town. He took in the picture show Saturday night and called at the Star Office Tuesday morning just prior to catching the train for his return home."	
1938 Oct 28	6 – Chas. McConnell visiting town "the first of the week".	
1938 Nov 11	6 – "Mr. Claude Irvine came in from Robinson on Monday to enter the local hospital."	
1938 Nov 18	6 – Local and Social Items "Mr. Charles McConnell of Robinson was a visitor in town this week."	
1939 Jan 27	"Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Porter and C. T. Eisenhauser came in on the train Wed. evening from Robinson and will be here until the weather moderates."	
1939 Apr 7	2 – "William Snobble, pioneer prospector and miner of the Wheaton country, came in on the train from Robinson Monday."	
1939 Jun 23	1 – Mr. Chas. McConnell in town for visit. "Mr. McConnell informs us he has been in the Territory for 41 years and that the farthest south he has been in Log Cabin, B.C. That was in 1919. He was in Atlin in April, 1899, and has yet to make his first visit to Skagway."	
1939 Sep 15	6 – "Mr. and Mrs. Chas. McConnell arrived in town on Wednesday night's train from Robinson, Y.T. on a business trip."	
1939 Nov 10	1 – "Mr. Charles McConnell came in from Robinson on a short visit last week and returned Saturday."	
1940 May 24	Mrs. C. McConnell of Robinson was a visitor in town Saturday the guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. Rose over the weekend.	
1940 Sep 20	6 – "Mr. Walter McAllister, the pioneer prospector of the Wheaton country, came in from Robinson last week-end and has now returned to his mining claims again. He is expected to be in town again this week-end."	
1941 Jan 3	6 – "We regret to report that Mr. Ed Johnson of Robinson suffered a paralytic stroke last week and was brought to town on Tuesday's train. He was taken to the local hospital."	
1941 Jan 24	1 – "Another Old Yukoner passes away at the Whitehorse Hospital" - Death and bio of Ernest Johnson from Robinson, "where he had resided for many years."	P
1941 May 9	6 – "Mr. W. Chantler left Wed. for Robinson to assist in putting the McConnell sawmill in operation again."	
1941 Jul 25	"Mr. Chas. McConnell of Robinson, Y. T., was a visitor in town over the week-end last week."	
1946 Sept. 27	Front page "Charles McConnell, A South Yukon Old-Timer Dies in Local Hospital" – includes obit by W.D. MacBride	P
1947 Jan. 24	p. 5 "Estate of Charles McConnell, Deceased – Sale by Tender" detailed list of lands, farm equipment, 19 19ldgs., livestock, etc. printed p. 7 – Notice to any persons having any claims against estate of Chas. McConnell, contact H. Milton Martin, Public Administrator	P
1947 Jan. 31	p. 5 – Sale by Tender, notice of sale of Charles McConnell Estate	P
1947 Aug 22	"Tank car of W.P.Y.R. derailed and set afire wrecking seven cars." Details of accident at MP 90.5 north of Robinson.	P

1947 Nov 7	8 – notice of sale of ranch at Robinson Station by Callison’s Flying Services with “everything that is needed for outfitting big game hunters”.	P
1950 May 19	1 – Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Landstrom of the Clarmar Turkey Farm in Surrey visiting Veermans.	
1950 Jun 9	1 – “First Train to Whitehorse 50 Years Ago” Mention of role of “Stickeen Bill” Robinson	P
1951 Oct 5	“Notice of Sheriff’s Sale between Cornelis Veerman and Philip Wadsworth Forrest” – re sale of livestock and some farm gear at Robinson, Y.T.	P
1951 Oct 12	1 – First Sheriff’s Sale Conducted in the Yukon This Week” – sale of cattle by auction at Robinson re judgment in favour of Cornelis Veerman vs. Philip Wadsworth Forrest.	P
1951 Oct 26	5 – Letters to the Editor. Wardie Forrest setting record straight re recent legal dispute with Veerman.	P
1952 Feb. 1	8 – “LOST—Horse blanket on highway between airforce and McCrae, Saturday morning. Finder please contact Mar-Becks Flower and Gift Shop or Steve Veerman, Robinson.”	
1953 Jul 10	1 – large group photo and detailed account of Bartenders Picnic	P
1953 Dec 11	5 – Game Guardians. Veerman among those appointed a game guardian and with Mike Nolan had successfully poisoned three wolves.	P
1956 Jun 14	Account of grizzly hunt, killing 2 bears with bows and arrows. Assisted by Billy Hall, Nolan took hunters into “bear country” about 50 miles from Robinson by travelling by car and returning to the lodge at Marsh Lake each night.	P
1957 Jul 4	“Business and Professional Women get Charter for their Club Tuesday.” Margaret Veerman elected VP	
1957 Jul 25	“Driving down the Carcross road as far as Robinson a few times recently. Boy that road is sure in good shape. Credit to the territorial highway men.”	
1958 May 22	“Klondike Kid trained locally” Paul Vanderwoude, wrestler who among other jobs worked as a farm hand at the Robinson farm near Carcross.	
1958 Oct 9	“Yukon cattle disease free.” Veerman’s cattle among those tested	P
1962 Feb 5	“Fire Destroys Farm Bldg.” Slaughter house, equipment and pickup inside 20ldgs. All destroyed by fire. Not covered by insurance.	P
1962 Jun 21	12 – Yukon Gazette – lists two properties and title nos. belonging to Cornelis Veerman, both at M.P. 11 Carcross Rd.	
1969 Nov. 10	The Stroller – Steve Veerman in hospital recovering from neck injury after accident while driving to feed sale at the Haines Jct. Farm.	
1976 May 5	p. 1 – “Game Branch Meat Charges First Against a Native”	P
1976 May 21	p. 3 re shooting moose near Robinson	
1976 Jul 21	From the Star Archives: Jul 20, 1906: “Goes \$5000 Per Ton. Rich Vein of Gold-Bearing Quartz Discovered Near Robinson. Strike Made at the Headwaters of the Watson River, Forty Miles From Whitehorse— Stampede to New Find”	P
1976 Jul 27	From the Star 70 Years Ago: July 27, 1906 “Excitement Continues, Watson River Country Shows Every Indication of Being Phenomenally Rich”	P
1976 Aug. 25	p. 23 – “To Ship Ore. Conrad Consolidated Company Getting Busy.” Reprint of item from Aug 1906, ref to Robinson and strikes on Watson and Wheaton	P

1976 Sept. 1	p. 22 – “The Star of 70 Years Ago, Aug 31, 1906: Changes Owners” Re Ed. Marcotte buying Bon Ton Café from L. N. Markle. Mrs. Markle joining husband at Robinson.	P
1976 Sept. 22	p. 39 – The Star of 70 Years Ago: “Local Charges in Province of Commission” Decrying high costs of railway fares between Whitehorse and Robinson, a distance of only 21 miles costing \$4.25. “It is ridiculous to talk about opening up and developing any country where such highway robbery practices are permitted.”	P
1976 Dec 20	Card of Thanks – Margaret Veerman thanking all who helped Steve Veerman during his last illness	
1976 Dec 22	Atlin News by Winnie Acheson. Steve Veerman’s death Dec. 15	P
1977 Jan 26	Mr. Veerman on his farm – Farming Pioneer Dies	P
1977 Jun 17	Notice – Memorial service and placing of ashes of late Steve Veerman to be held at farm, Mile 11, Sunday, June 19, 1977.	
1981 Aug 24	p. 20 – Ad, Tender for addition or renovation for washroom facilities to air navigation buildings at various sites including Robinson, Y.T.	P
1986 Oct. 17	p. 14– “Saving Robinson Roadhouse for future enjoyment” full-page article by Sheila Serup, photos by Paul Erlam	P
1987 Aug 28	p. 47 – Tender Notice, clearing and harvesting Robinson Homesteader Subdivision	
1987 Nov. 10	p. 6 – re grant to Cascade Industries ... Robinson homestead	
1996 Feb 7	“Snapping trees playing havoc with power” – ref. to plans to install a breaker in the Robinson substation in summer “to prevent temporary power glitches south of it toward Carcross”	P
1996 Apr. 10	Smith, Delores “Robinson became the town that never was”	P
2013 Jun 7, 10	p. 55 – re Robinson Roadhouse in relation to orienteering event	

PHOTOGRAPHS



The bartenders' picnic at Robinson, 1953. YA, Rolf and Margaret Hougen fonds, 2009/81 #635

Yukon Archives Catalogued Photos

Photo no.	Description	Date
6126	Charlie McConnell and his wife [Florence née Pavin] by a log house, probably at Robinson. <i>Bud and Jeanne (Connolly) Harbottle fonds</i>	ca. 1920

Yukon Archives Uncatalogued Photos

Peter Bennett fonds

Accession no. 86/9; location – PHO 308

The fonds consists of photographs and ephemera collected on Dr. Bennett's 1948 trip to the Yukon. The photographs were copied from an album and show sternwheelers, scenes along the White Pass and Yukon Route (WP&YR), Carcross, Whitehorse, Minto, Burwash Landing, Stewart, Dawson City and Bear Creek.

Photo no.	Description	Date
86/9 #50 PHO 308	The station waiting room at Robinson on the W.P.&Y.R.R. between Whitehorse and Carcross is an old caboose.	1948

Amy Clethero fonds

Accession no. 2001/44; location – PHO 521

Photo no.	Description	Date
2001/44 #5 (PHO 521)	Group on Carcross Rd. – Robinson. L to R Back Row: John Burns & Emma, Cary, Jackie Mackintosh. 3 kids in front left Burns kids. Four kids	[ca. 193-]

	right is Mackintosh kids. Two sets of twins. [Group of four adults and seven children at Robinson Station on the Carcross Road. Left to right: John and Emma Burns with their three children in front; Cary and Jackie Mackintosh with their four children in front. Each family has one set of twins. A log building is behind them.]	
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Harold Davenport Sr. fonds

Accession no. 2012/18; location – PHO 610

There are five loose photographs taken from an album and 121 photographs on 11 album pages. The loose photographs consist of aviation images and the album pages contain images of Mary Davenport, a nurse at the Whitehorse General Hospital when it was located on Second Avenue, and doctors, nurses, and patients; Ice Lake; a hockey game on December 21; Robinson; Annie Lake; the Wheaton River; and Carcross.

Photo no.	Description	Date
2012/18 #98 (PHO 610)	Robinson [Robinson Road House]	[1936-1941]
2012/18 #99 (PHO 610)	The road to Robinson [Unidentified person standing on sandy road.]	[1936-1941]
2012/18 #100 (PHO 610)	Charley McConnell's place at Robinson [Road House] [Woman standing at left leaning on gate.]	[1936-1941]

William L. Drury fonds

photo no.	Description	Date
93/38 #2 (PHO 453)	Charlie McConnell of Robinson and W.L. Drury at the 1946 Winter Carnival in the Taylor & Drury cutter.	1946

Lucille Gray fonds

Accession no. 2013/50; location – PHO 463

The fonds consists of a photograph album containing photographs depicting Lucille (aka Lou) Gray and her friends in various places in the Whitehorse, Yukon area.

Locations depicted in the photographs include Robert Service Campground, Miles Canyon Bridge, Robinson, and Carcross as well as downtown Whitehorse. Identified people include Mary MacBride, Mary Chambers, Alice Peterson, John Reynoldson, Bobbie Bondy, Wilda Richards, Eileen Cyr, Dave LeRoy, Annie MacKay, Betty Paterson, Lee Gault, and Breta Benson.

Photo no.	Description	Date
2013/50 #54 (PHO 463)	Enid and I at One Mile Creek out of Robinson [Enid and Lucille Gray (right) posing outdoors.]	[ca. 1930-ca. 1939]
2013/50 #55 (PHO 463)	'Toinette and Enid [Antoinette(?) and Enid (right) posing outdoors at 1 mile creek out of Robinson.]	[ca. 1930-ca. 1939]

Georgina (Wilson) Gregory fonds

1 album of 131 photographs, b+w prints.

Photo no.	Description	Date
2000/73 #98 (PHO 517)	"Robinson Station, Yukon." Two men and a boy in front of log structure with sign over door "Post Office". The post office building is next to a larger unfinished log structure.	Ca. 1910-11?

2000/73 #141 (PHO 517)	"A Yukon Ranch" Hay field in front of small log cabin with two women, one holding an infant.	Ca. 1910-1932
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E.J. Hamacher fonds

photo no.	Description	Date
85/75 #77 (PHO 289)	[Colourized postcard of snow-covered buildings, sunset, mountain in background. Possibly Golden Horn Mountain and Robinson Roadhouse]	n.d.

Bud and Jeanne (Connolly) Harbottle fonds

photo no.	Description	Date
81/35 #14	[Cows grazing, log buildings in background.]	n.d.

Rolf and Margaret Hougen fonds

Accession no. 2009/81; location – PHO 666

photo no.	Description	Date
2009/81 #486 (PHO 666)	Bartenders' Union Picnic, Annie Lake Carcross Road [Large group of Bartenders' Union Picnic participants assembled on the grass next to one of the historic Robinson Roadhouse buildings at the corner of Annie Lake Road and Carcross Road. Many of the people are wearing "Coca-Cola" hats. T.C. Richards is standing with the group on viewer's left. Cal Miller is seated wearing sombrero on viewer's left. Photographs 2009/81 #486-#493 taken at same event.] [Additional information provided by Rolf Hougen in 2011:] Organized by Cal Miller.	June 28, 1953
2009/81 #487 (PHO 666)	Bartenders' Union Picnic at Robinson Roadhouse, Carcross Road L-R: T.C. Richards, Cal Miller and Mrs. T.C. [Bernadine] Richards. [Bartenders' Union Picnic participants at Robinson Roadhouse at the corner of Annie Lake Road and Carcross Road. The two men are smoking cigars. Some of the people in the background are wearing Coca-Cola hats. Old buildings in background. Photographs 2009/81 #486-#493 taken at same event.]	June 28, 1953
2009/81 #488 (PHO 666)	Bartenders' Union Picnic at Robinson Roadhouse, Carcross Road [Large group of Bartenders' Union Picnic participants assembled on the grass at Robinson Roadhouse at the corner of Annie Lake Road and Carcross Road. Many of the people are wearing "Coca-Cola" and "Crush" hats. Mount Lorne in the background. Photographs 2009/81 #486-#493 taken at same event.]	June 28, 1953
2009/81 #489 (PHO 666)	Bartenders' Union Picnic at Robinson Roadhouse, Carcross Road [One man on a rearing horse and another man watching, between two historic Robinson Roadhouse buildings, at the Bartenders' Union Picnic. Photographs 2009/81 #486-#493 taken at same event.]	June 28, 1953
2009/81 #490 (PHO 666)	Bartenders' Union Picnic at Robinson Roadhouse, Carcross Road [A woman sitting on a wooden crate at the Bartenders' Union Picnic at Robinson Roadhouse at the corner of Annie Lake Road and Carcross Road. She is holding two cups and a cigarette.	June 28, 1953

	Photographs 2009/81 #486- #493 taken at same event.] Bartenders' Union Picnic, Annie Lake, Carcross Road. [Woman sitting at the picnic]	
2009/81 #491 (PHO 666)	Bartenders' Union Picnic at Robinson Roadhouse, Carcross Road [Three-legged race during the Bartenders' Union Picnic at Robinson Roadhouse at the corner of Annie Lake Road and Carcross Road. Some of the participants are wearing "Coca-Cola" hats. An old fence, old buildings and Mount Lorne in background. Photographs 2009/81 #486-#493 taken at same event.]	June 28, 1953
2009/81 #492 (PHO 666)	Bartenders' Union Picnic at Robinson Roadhouse, Carcross Road [Women's running race during the Bartenders' Union Picnic at Robinson Roadhouse at the corner of Annie Lake Road and Carcross Road. They are approaching the finish line. An old fence, old buildings and Mount Lorne in background. Photographs 2009/81 #486-#493 taken at same event.]	June 28, 1953
2009/81 #493 (PHO 666)	Bartenders' Union Picnic at Robinson Roadhouse, Carcross Road. [Twelve Bartenders' Union Picnic participants posing at Robinson Roadhouse at the corner of Annie Lake Road and Carcross Road. The man smoking a cigar is Cal Miller. Some of the people are wearing Coca-Cola hats and ribbons. Mount Lorne in background. Photographs 2009/81 #486-#493 taken at same event.]	June 28, 1953
2009/81 #549 (PHO 667)	[Group of people sitting at a dinner table in a house in Whitehorse] [Additional information provided by Rolf Hougen in 2011:] Person in centre [Steve Veerman?] had a pig farm near Robinson on the Carcross Road. -	ca. 195-?
2009/81 #635 (PHO 667)	Teresa Porter, later Teresa Smith, Rolf Hougen during a fishing outing to Annie Lake. Seated is Blondie Hougen. [Possibly at Robinson Roadhouse.]	[194-?]
2010/91 #985 (PHO 704)	[Older wedding couple.] [Additional information provided by Rolf Hougen in 2013:] [Steve and Margaret Veerman] he operated a pig farm at Robson [Robinson?] on the Carcross Road – Veerman – She ran a flower shop in Whitehorse.	[194-?]

Mervyn-Wood family fonds

Accession no. 98/87; location – PHO 538

photo no.	Description	Date
98/87 #116 (PHO 538)	White Pass train wreck at Robertson [Robinson?]	n.d.
98/87 #117 (PHO 538)	White Pass train wreck at Robertson [Robinson?]	n.d.

Ryder Family fonds

Accession no. 98/148; location –

photo no.	Description	Date
98/134 #481 (Neg only)	Remains of train wreck near Robinson.	1948

Whitehorse Golf and Country Club fonds

photo no.	Description	Date
77/3 #1 (PHO 77)	Dick White, Bill & Lyna Maule, ?, Bill Monroe & wife (RCAF). Marty Miller – work party. Rob Davies – Surveyor. Steve Veerman – cattle grazer – released rights [Four men and two women standing in a row. Trees and two cars are in the background. Work parties undertook the clearing of fairways and filling up gopher holes at the Whitehorse Golf and Country Club.]	[ca. 1955]

PUBLICATIONS & REPORTS

Beirsto, Colin

2005 *Today and Tomorrow Country: Wheaton Mining History*. Prepared for Heritage Resources Unit, Government of Yukon, March 2005.

Bostock, H. S.

1979 *Pack Horse Tracks*. Subtitled “Recollections of a Geologist’s Life in British Columbia and Yukon, 1924-1954”. Ottawa: Geological Survey of Canada, Open File 650.

YA 921 Bosto

Detailed recollections of each summer’s travel by canoe and packhorse. Described visiting Mascot mine site with Ernie Johnson circa 1940.

1940 *Mining Industry of Yukon 1939 and 1940, Memoir 234*. GSC Ottawa: Queens Printer 1941. EMR QE 185.A2 No.234

Description of road access from Robinson to Becker and Berney Creek locales. Description of old and current work on Becker Creek, Goddell Gulch, Chieftain Hill, Carbon Hill. Assay results. Cabins on Becker Creek, Antimony Creek.

Cairnes, D.D.

1915 “Wheaton District Southern Yukon” Supplement to GSC Memoir 31 in Summary Report of the Geological Survey for the Calendar Year 1915. Department of Mines, 1916, pp. 36-49.

YWIN QE 185.S8 1915

Based on fieldwork in the summer of 1915, Cairnes reviews location, transportation, topography and revises somewhat his geological descriptions of the district. Describes four major types of ore deposits found in the area, and the work that has been conducted on them since his 1909 field work.

1908 “Report on a Portion of Whitehorse and Conrad Mining District, Yukon”, GSC Publication #982 reproduced as part of the GSC report for 1907 in Bostock H.S. *Yukon Territory: Selected Field Reports of the Geological Survey of Canada 1898 to 1933 Memoir 284*. GSC, Ottawa: Queen’s Printer, 1957, pp. 245 – 275.

Reports on the Windy Arm and the Wheaton areas. While Cairnes was in the Whitehorse – Tantalus area in the summer of 1907, it is unclear whether he actually visited the Wheaton area anew in 1907. For the Wheaton, this appears to be a more detailed reporting on his 1906 investigations. Describes methods of physical survey of the land, transportation routes to the area. Government wagon road from Robinson to Gold Hill.

1906 "Explorations in a portion of the Yukon, south of Whitehorse." [in compilation: Bostock, H. S. *Memoir 284, GSC*. Ottawa, Queen's Printer, 1984.]

p. 213 – Watson and Wheaton River properties

"Considerable excitement was caused this season by the finding by D. Hodnett and J. Stagar of quartz carrying free gold and telluride minerals between the Watson and Wheaton Rivers. The first claim, the 'Gold Reef' was staked on Gold Hill which is situated about fifteen or twenty miles southwest from Robinson siding. Within 90 days of the staking, over 700 claims had been located."

Canada

1909 *The Yukon Territory: Its History and Resources*. Ottawa: Ministry of Interior, 1909 pp. 181. Photographs, charts. YA 971.21 Ca

Brief mention of ore shipments from Wheaton. Road mileage chart. One of several editions of the book.

Coutts, R.

1980 *Yukon Places & Names*. Gray's Publishing Ltd.

p. 224 – Has a brief history of Robinson.

Crook, Margaret (Peg) & Helen Horback

1989 "Lost Graves," typed and compiled by Norma Felker, produced by the City of Whitehorse.

[confirms that Charles McConnell was buried in the Pioneer Cemetery, Whitehorse. See ref p. 12; p. 50 for a brief biography of McConnell written by W. D. MacBride.]

Cruikshank, Julie in collaboration with Angela Sidney, Kitty Smith, & Annie Ned.

1990 *Life Lived Like a Story*. University of Nebraska Press.

[several references to the years Kitty Smith and her husband Billy Smith lived at Robinson: pp. 172, 229, 230, 231, 246-53, 368n.28.]

Graves, S.H.

1970 *On the "White Pass" Payroll*. New York City, Paladin Press. (reprinted from 1908 edition)

Hart, Craig J.R.

1989 *Geology of Carcross (105D/2) and part of Robinson (105D/7) map areas*. [Whitehorse] : Aurum Geological Consultants, Inc. WPL 557 Har

Hart, Craig J.R. & J.K. Radloff, Aurum Geological Consultants

1990 *Geology of Whitehorse, Alligator Lake, Fenwick Creek, Carcross and part of Robinson Map areas (105D/11, 6, 3, 2, & 7)*. [Whitehorse] : Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Yukon Region, Exploration and Geological Services Division. 113 p. WPL? 557.19 Hart

Johnson, Eric L.

1998 *The Sea-to-Sky Gold Rush Route: A Guide to the Scenic Railway of the White Pass*. Vancouver, Rusty Spike Publishing. YA 385 Joh

Kwanlin Dün First Nation

2013 *"Listen to the Stories" A history of the Kwanlin Dün: Our Land and People*. Researched, written and produced by Helene Dobrowolsky & Rob Ingram. [Refers to Chief Billy Smith and his wife Kitty Smith, living in various places including Robinson and Wheaton River area.]

Lundberg, Murray

1996 *Fractured Veins and Broken Dreams: Montana Mountain and the Windy Arm Stampede*.
Whitehorse, Pathfinder Publications.

[pp. 83-84 – In 1906, rush to Hodnott and Gold Hill Mountains about 20 miles from Robinson. Col. Conrad set up a box-car camp at Robinson and sent in about 49 men to start work on the claims.]

McGrath, J.J.

1906 “Miles Canyon After Eight Years,” *Washington Magazine*, vol. 2, Oct. 1906, pp. 150-155.
YA Pam 1906-02

p 153 – “Some twenty miles north of Caribou Crossing still another city in embryo is met, to-wit: Robinson which at present is composed of a log cabin road house with its inseparable saloon and two or three tents.”

pp. 153-54 – mentions the Gold Reef, another of Col. Conrad’s mines, on a ledge over 4,000 feet above sea level & about 20 mi. from Robinson

- mentions the mine employing about 20 men and a wagon road having been constructed from Robinson.

Minter, Roy

1987 *The White Pass: Gateway to the Klondike*. Toronto, McClelland & Stewart.

[Has several references to “Stikine” Bill Robinson, a colourful WP&YR employee after whom the Robinson site was named.]

Polk, R. L. & Co. Inc.

1923-24 *Alaska-Yukon Gazetteer*.

Robinson Station – A roadhouse (formerly a p.o.) & flag station on the WP & Y Route, 89 mi. north of Skagway, Alaska, 22 mi. S of White Horse, the nearest banking point and p.o., and 22 mi N of Carcross, also a p.o. [Previous editions of Polk only refer Robinson as a flag stop on the railway.]

Robinson, W.G.

1975 “Robinson Station, Yukon.” YA Pam 1975-57

Woodall, R.G.

c.1976 *The Postal History of the Yukon Territory, Canada*. Lawrencetown, Mass.: Quartermain Publications. WPL 383.097191 Woo

p. 235 – Robinson Station

“On the White Pass and Yukon Route, between White Horse and Carcross. Opened 1 Feb. 1909 by Chas. McConnell. Closed 31 May 1915.”

SOUND & VIDEO RECORDINGS

CKRW [Talkback] – Host John Dumas [and] Johnnie Johns

SR 282 (11) Track A

[Right Click to Download Audio](#)

10 Jul 1973

CKRW radio station (Whitehorse) open line show “Talkback” with host John Dumas speaking with guest Johnnie Johns (on the day of Johns’ 75th birthday). They discuss Johns’ life and adventures as a big game outfitter. Born and raised in Yukon, Johns lives in Carcross.

As an outfitter for 50 years, Johns relates some of his experiences. He mentions a few of the individuals from all over the world he has guided (an Austrian Count, a German Count in 1935) and an Arabian Sheik he declined. Johns comments on the game population levels presently (bears in decline, other game holding their own or doing better, wolf population controls) and historically (difficulty to find sheep in the 1920s). He also mentions his involvement in, and the reason for, establishing outfitting areas in the 1930s in cooperation with the Game Department (noting Game Director J.B. Fitzgerald and Them Kjar). His area, the second smallest, was in Southern Yukon (bordered by Teslin Lake, the Alaska Highway, [Robinson](#), Two Horse Creek, Alligator Lake, Primrose Lake, and the B.C. border). The number of assistant guides Johns had at one time topped out at 14 in the 1960s (one for each hunter by law). Dumas also queries Johns on what publications have been written about him. Johns notes that he has also guided for the RCMP and assisted with searches for downed planes.

Ronald L. Greenslade films

1 videocassette (ca. 56 min.) c. 1930-1951.

4. Film #08: Home movie taken by Ronald L. Greenslade ca. 1943, 1950s. Scenes in this film include: signal corps and crew, Colin Yeulet and dog, rapids in winter, Takhini Bridge, Marsh Lake, [Mary Gennings and Charlie McConnell](#), trapper’s cabin, Squanga Lake, Indian cabin at Marshall Landing, airplane, fishing, Kluane Lake, soldier’s monument, Donjek River, Kluane River, panning gold, Louis Jacquot, Mr. Nazarhat and Mt. Steele. WPL VC 5199

Government of Yukon, Historic Sites

Montague Roadhouse Oral History, interview with Laurent Cyr. Recorded by Bruce Barrett and Brent Riley, May 11, 1994.

“White Pass & Yukon Route used to put a lot of horses up here at Montague Roadhouse in the summer; they had another place in Annie Lake, behind Robinson on the Annie Lake Road. That’s where they used to house most of the horses; they had hundreds of them; they would get them down in the spring and leave them in the summer; they had a caretaker.”

OTHER INSTITUTIONS

Alaska's Digital Archives

Alaska State Library – Historical Collections

<https://vilda.alaska.edu/digital/collection/cdmg21/id/4202/rec/2>

A Souvenir of Alaska and a Tribute from his Friends to the Man M.J. Heney. W.P. & Y. Route. 1898-1900
Physical descript : 56 photographs : b&w ; 11 x 16 cm. and smaller + 15 hand-lettered, illustrated pages.

- A signed tribute including signature of Wm. C. Robinson, Superintendent
ASL-P340-001

Geological Survey of Canada

NRCAN. (Natural Resources Canada).

<https://geoscan.nrcan.gc.ca/starweb/nrcanphoto/servlet.starweb>

Whitehorse District, Yukon; Cockfield, W E; Bell, A H. Geological Survey of Canada, Paper 44-14, 1944, 25 pages (1 sheet), <https://doi.org/10.4095/101275> (Open Access)

Typewritten report mentions briefly Robinson station; the detailed map clearly shows roads leading west from Robinson.

Photograph by H.S. Bostock

88565 Sept. 1 (1940) Charles McConnell's Farm, Robinson, Yukon

Yukon Transportation Museum

Paul Cyr collection (black and white photos)

Photo #	Description	Date
YTM 2017-1-977 (1)	"Paul Cyr, at Robinson Roadhouse along the railroad south of Whitehorse and just off the Carcross Road/S Klondike Hwy, with one of the early CYR TRUCKING trucks and an attack of the giggles."	Ca. late 1940s?
YTM 2017-1-977 (2)	A second shot of Paul at Robinson Roadhouse.	Ca. 1940s?
2017-1-904	Paul Cyr's Model T Ford. "Paul Cyr's prize. Think young Gordon Cameron, later Commissioner, had a hand in it. Could that be Robinson where they retrieved it from?"	ca. 1940s

WEB RESOURCES

Explore North. Robinson Roadhouse Historic Site Rest Area

http://www.explorenorth.com/campgrounds/yukon_rest_area-robinson_roadhouse.html

[Robinson Roadhouse Historic Site Rest Area](#)

Facebook page: Yukon History and Abandoned Places

https://www.facebook.com/groups/yukonhistory/?multi_permaLinks=3923558911003144¬if_id=1578062504908739¬if_t=group_activity

Hougen Group of Companies, Yukon History

McLaughlin, Les

n.d. "Bill Robinson", A CKRW Yukon Nugget.

<http://hougengroup.com/yukon-history/yukon-nuggets/bill-robinson/>

Sites and Sights of the Yukon

Highway #2 – South Klondike Highway, Km 139, Robinson Roadhouse

<https://sightsandsites.ca/south/site/robinson-roadhouse>

II. Robinson Roadhouse Chronology

Note: Most of the following items were gleaned from the *Whitehorse Star*. Although the newspaper had various names throughout the years (*Weekly Star*, *Evening Star*, etc.), it was the same corporate entity and below is referred to as simply the *Whitehorse Star*. From 1906 to the 1950s, the *Star* diligently recorded a surprising number of comings and goings to this seemingly remote locale. Robinson was a hub for the miners in the Wheaton River area, hunters of big game and waterfowl, geologists checking out the mining areas or dropping off their horses to overwinter at McConnell’s Ranch, woodcutters, trappers, and visitors spending a few days with Charles and Florence McConnell. Here thousands of tonnes of ore were transferred from horse-drawn carts and later trucks to the railway. This was also the site of cattle sales, a trial, the capture of lost dogs and an escaped criminal, and even a rest stop for the mysterious Lillian Alling on her long trip from New York toward Siberia, mostly on foot.

Unfortunately, the *Star* was less diligent about recording the travels of the First Nations families in the area. Although the Robinson flag station and roadhouse were not established until the early 1900s, this area had long been a crossroads of First Nation travel routes. People travelled from Fish Lake southwest of Whitehorse overland to Robinson and from there to Tagish, Caribou Crossing and even over the mountain passes to the Pacific coast. Other routes led west to Kusawa Lake. More recently, we know that several families were hunting and trapping in this area including Kitty and Billy Smith, and the Burns family but more research is required to obtain these stories.

For a full list of Robinson references in the *Whitehorse Star*, see the accompanying bibliography. As with the bibliography, this should be considered an ongoing work.

Date	Item	Source
1899-1900	Construction of the final section of White Pass and Yukon Railway between Carcross and Whitehorse, thereby linking the Yukon interior to Pacific shipping and trade.	
1899	Construction of way station at site named after colourful labour foreman “Stikine Bill” Robinson. Robinson was also in charge of early freighting from Summit to Bennett, using both horse teams and boats.	Coutts, 1980: 224
1903 Jan 31	Arrival of Mrs. N. Markle and two children from Seattle, joining her husband, the proprietor of the Royal restaurant.	WS
1903 Jun 20	Details of a banquet at Mr. Markle’s Royal restaurant	WS
1904	L.N. Markle and partner B.F. Hainer placer mining on Bullion Creek in the Kluane area.	WS, 2 May 1904
	Letter published from L.N. Markle describing mining activity at Kluane area and offering to sell half interest in his portions of 3 claims for \$375.	WS, 9 May 1904
	L. N. Markle purchased the outfit and water delivery business of Louis Bell.	WS, 11 Jul 1904
1905	Ad for Wilfret & Markle advertising “gasoline woodsaw”	WS, 23 Jan 1905

	L.N. Markle advertising in Whitehorse Star, water delivery and garbage work. A few months later his water wagon is for sale.	WS 24 Feb., 8 Jul. 1905;
	Mrs. L. N. Markle has taken over the Vancouver café. "Mrs. Markle is no stranger [sic] to the people of Whitehorse who patronize restaurants, she having made for herself an enviable reputation in that line here in the past, . . . " Goes on to describe a dinner party for 11, "one of the best ever served in Whitehorse."	WS, 24 Apr 1905
1905 Jul 21	L.N. Markle sold his water and scavenger business, horse and wagons to Wm. Johnson. Undecided what he will do next.	WS
1905 Jul 29	Re local jeweller's display of Burwash gold brought in from the creek by Chas. McConnell.	WS
1906 Feb 7	L.N. Markle back from Conrad where he purchased a lot "on which he will erect a building to conduct a restaurant business".	WS
1906	Robinson station becomes jumping off point to new mineral discoveries and a staking rush to the upper Wheaton and Watson rivers area.	
c. 1906	Construction of a government wagon road from Robinson to "Gold Hill" in Wheaton valley area.	D.D. Cairnes, 1907
1906	RNWMP constable and saddle horse stationed at "Robinson's Siding" for a short period during the height of the rush to Wheaton valley gold discoveries.	RNWMP Ann. Rep. 1906
1906 Jun 4	Geologist D. D. Cairnes en route to Robinson "where he will spend about six weeks compiling information as to the mineral resources of the country."	WS
1906, Jul 20	Markle among stampedeers from Whse to the Watson river country, having left town by foot the previous day.	WS
1906, Jul 27	W.C. Grainger and H.W. Vance locate and file application for a townsite at the railroad siding known as Robinson, 21 miles south from Whitehorse.	WS
1906 Jul 27	New Townsite – W.C. Grainger and H. W. Vance are the Locators. Re application for townsite at Robinson. "The first work on the property will be the digging of a well and the erection of a substantial log house by the locators. L. N. Markle has already made application for a hotel license and will at once begin the erection of a building."	
1906 Jul	DLS H. G. Dickson left for Robinson and joined by crew – J. J. Sullivan, Fred Maclennan and Mathew Watson – to lay out townsite at Robinson.	WS
1906 Aug 17		WS

	Markle in town from Robinson to purchase additional material for his new hotel. "He says Robinson is a lively point."	
1906 Aug 24	"Frank Demontier has purchased an interest in L. N. Markle's roadhouse at Robinson."	WS
1906 Nov 16	Brief notice that L.N. Markle "now engaged in the restaurant business in Skagway."	WS
1906 Dec 28	Increased mining activity in Wheaton area, ore being hauled to Robinson for shipment outside.	WS
1907 May 17	Item re Chas. McConnell just back from freighting on Lake Laberge ice before spring break-up.	WS
1907 Aug 9	Notice that Mrs. Markle had taken over proprietorship of the Dominion hotel, serving meals and supplying rooms at "the formerly unheard of price in Whitehorse of \$10.50 per week."	WS
1907 Nov 22	Mrs. Markle purchases roadhouse at Robinson (presumably from her husband) and announces plans to build new large up-to-date facility.	WS
1908 Apr 10	Mrs. Markle and sons to Robinson to take charge of roadhouse.	WS
1908 Jun 08	Establishment of Post Office at Robinson	WS
1908 Oct 16	Completion of road between Whitehorse and Carcross.	WS
1909	Charles McConnell makes homestead application for 160 acres six miles west of Robinson. Previously developed by Herman Olson. Letter dated 30 Jul. 1924 provides full list of assets and improvements on the property.	Gov 1960, f. 25076
	McConnell applies for liquor license at Robinson station.	GOV 1857, f. 25076
1911 Mar 10	Gov't road washout between Robinson and Wheaton mining area.	WS
1912 Nov 15	Willie and Charley Markle of Robinson depart to enter the Seattle Academy for boys.	WS
1913	Charles McConnell and Mrs. Markle apply for two homesteads at Robinson.	YA, GOV 1955, f. 629
1914 Jun	Charles McConnell sold two Holstein cows to George Brown of Carmacks.	WS
1914	Outbreak of World War I, many of the miners left to enlist.	
1915 Mar 26	Mrs. C. Markle who operated Robinson Roadhouse for past 7 years, moved to Skagway where she will operate a restaurant.	WS

1915 Jun	Robinson post office closed due to insufficient business.	WS
1915 Nov 26	Catherine Markle married Charles Nye of Skagway. Nye was gen. mgr. and principal stockholder of the Home Power Company.	WS
1916 Jun 9	“\$25 and Costs” “James Powell of Robinson was fined \$25 and costs June 7 th by Police Magistrate J. Langlois Bell for pointing a rifle at Chas. McConnell. “Inspector Bell of R.N.W.M.P. accompanied Police Magistrate Bell to Robinson to hold court.”	WS
1916 Aug	Marriage of Chas McConnell to Florence Pavin of London in Carcross, officiated by Archdeacon Canham.	WS
1921 Jun	Owners of Tally-Ho mine did “considerable work” on road from mine to railroad station at Robinson	WS
1921 Jul	Report that McConnells making improvements to roadhouse at Robinson, also have a number of horses and cows. Recommended for a week end getaway.	WS
1924 Apr.	Jacquot brothers of Burwash Landing purchase three head of cattle from C. McConnell with plans to transport them to Kluane in June.	WS
1924 May	“much needed” new bridge built over Watson R. Logs hauled by Andy Butterfield, work done by Mathew Watson, Const. Blatta and Tom Brooks.	WS
1925 Jun 5	McConnell advertising cattle for sale – two milch cows, one yearling heifer and young calf.	WS
1926	Horses belonging to Geological Survey of Canada to “again” be overwintered at McConnell ranch.	WS, 1 Oct.
1927	Large shipments of ore from Mascot Mine transported to Robinson for shipping by rail.	WS
1928 Sep 28	GSC horses belonging to Cockfield party delivered to Robinson for overwintering.	WS
1928 Aug	Lillian Alling stopped to rest at Robinson during her mysterious trip north.	WS
1929	McConnell in the sawmill business, advertising the sale of rough lumber, square timber, “any size cut to order”.	WS
1941 May 9	McConnell reactivates his sawmill with the assistance of W. Chantler.	WS

Ca. 1942-44	US Army set up a camp and sawmill at Robinson to assist in road-building and railway operations.	
1946	Death of Charles McConnell, obituary in Whitehorse Star by W.D. MacBride.	WS
1946-48	McConnell's executor, Margaret Bourne, applied for two parcels of land at Robinson Station.	YA, GOV 1674, f. 36184
1947 Jan. 24	Advertisement of sale of McConnell estate including detailed list of lands, farm equipment, 12 buildings, livestock, etc.	WS
c. 1947	Pat Callison purchased 10-acre site with roadhouse from McConnell estate. Objected to location of Wheaton River road through the property. Some correspondence re rerouting to the road north of the BYN railway doubletrack. [file includes various site plans showing bldgs., railway, road and proposed new route for road from Carcross Road which was likely built that same year]	YA, GOV 1674, f. 36184
1947 Nov.	Notice of sale of ranch at Robinson Station by Callison's Flying Service.	WS
1948	Train wreck near Robinson. (Ryder family fonds caption - 98/134 #481; Mervyn-Wood family fonds 98/87 #116, 117)	YA, 98/134 #481
ca. late 1940s	Cornelis "Steve" and Margaret Veerman take over property now known as Veerman's farm. For a time, Veerman also had a trapping lease in the area.	
1953 Jul 10	Account of the Bartenders' Picnic at Robinson, 28 June. Estimated attendance of 500 people. (Rolf and Margaret Hougen fonds)	WS; YA 2009/81
ca. 1955	Work party clear fairways and fill gopher holes at Annie Lake Golf Course. Rancher Steve Veerman had released grazing rights. (caption from Whse. Golf and Country Club fonds)	YA, 77/31 #1 (PHO 77)
1956	McConnell Lake just north of Robinson Roadhouse is named after geologist and explorer Richard George McConnell who based some of his surveys in this area.	Coutts, p. 169
1962	Fire at Veerman's farm – destroys slaughter house, equipment and pickup inside building. Not covered by insurance.	WS

1948 - 1996	Ownership of Robinson Roadhouse site taken over by government. Land formally transferred as a historic reserve, Feb. 1996. Title history as follows:			
	Date	Title holder		Title no.
	1948	Property surveyed		
	1952	Patent issued to Geo. Van Roggen on behalf of estate.		Patent 20005
	1959	Ltr from Public Administrator that land was sold & Estate had no interest in the land.		
	1964-10-5	Judge's order transferring property to YTG for non-payment of taxes		
	1964-09-12	The Commissioner of the Yukon		316 PP
	1966-04-21	Her Majesty the Queen		383QQ
	1988-05-06	Her Majesty the Queen		88Y1607
1996-02-01	Commissioner of Yukon	13055		
1960s – 1970s	When Steve Veerman was farming in this area, his cattle used to shelter in the abandoned buildings at Robinson. Delia Broswick hauled manure out in the spring to start her garden on the Annie Lake Road.		FB: Yukon History & Abandoned Places page	
1975 Dec 15	Death of Steve Veerman		WS	
1981 Aug 24	Star ad - Tender for addition or renovation for washroom facilities to air navigation buildings at various sites including Robinson, Y.T. (no indication of whether these renovations were done and where)		WS	
1989	Aug 28 – tender issued for clearing and harvesting Robinson homesteader subdivision.			