FORT BATTLEFORD: A STRUCTURAL HISTORY
VOLUME I: BUILDING REPORTS

by
WALTER HILDEBRANDT

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Final Report
1978
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This report is not the first to deal with an aspect of the history of Fort Battleford. In 1965 David Lee's "Report on Fort Battleford" appeared in volume number 167 of the manuscript Report Series. The other, Terry Smythe's "Report on Fort Battleford National Historic Park", was also presented for the Manuscript Report Series. The present study substantially expands upon David Lee's work and although it does not entirely supercede Terry Smythe's report, it does update his structural history. It is hoped that this study will make a further contribution through its emphasis on the cultural and intellectual influences which underly the establishment of Fort Battleford.

This report will appear in three volumes: The first will include an introduction, a structural analysis of the buildings at Fort Battleford and a discussion of diagrams, plans and photographs; the second will be an annotated collection of photographs, diagrams and plans; and the third, a collection of annotated documents. These volumes will be the product of ten months spent collecting material, researching and writing.

I would like to acknowledge those who assisted me in the completion of this report. The staffs at the Fort Battleford Library, the University of Saskatchewan Archives at Saskatoon, the Glenbow in Calgary, the Hudson's Bay Archives in Winnipeg and the Public Archives of Canada in Ottawa were always helpful. I would like particularly to thank Joe Guthrie for his invaluable assistance in identifying the
buildings on old photographs, and for kindly giving me an interview with him. I would also like to acknowledge Dr. F. Pannekoek and Sarah Carter for criticisms of my work. I am also grateful to Menno Fieguth who reproduced the photographs. Also thanks to Judy Gayton who typed and proofread this report.
Introduction

Fort Battleford is the focal point for a crucial segment of western Canadian history. Its significance as a Northwest Mounted Police fort grew rapidly up to 1885, then declined as the major task of pacifying the native population had been completed. The military defeat of this uprising and the subsequent humiliation of the Indians and Metis in the courts, lessened the importance of the Mounted Police as intermediaries between the incoming settlers and the native population. Their presence in the West eased the fears of some eastern politicians who were worried that disorder on the plains might encourage American annexationists and threaten the dream of a nation from sea to sea. The influence of this police force on the society into which it came was enormous. Wide powers embodied in "An Act respecting the Administration of Justice, and for the Establishment of a Police Force in the North-West Territories" in 1873 made the Northwest Mounted Police a potent force in moulding the political and social ideas of the Territories. These legal powers were reinforced by equally intimidating psychological and cultural pressures. At the time, it was considered an indication of status to be a member of the Northwest Mounted Police; many of its members were Canadian-born and drawn from the governing elite of eastern Canada who had adopted Victorian ideals for direction in cultural and intellectual matters. Not all members of the force conformed, however, to the image of the English gentleman as is evident from the
observations of General Middleton who wrote in 1885 that: "....among them are some of the greatest scamps in the country, broken-down gentlemen who in many cases are called here inebriates, being sent here by their friends because no liquor is admitted in these territories." Middleton further remarked that even though stopping the liquor trade was one of its primary functions, the police had "by no means a good character for sobriety." The Mounted Police as agents of the elite of eastern Canada were the forerunners of a society which "at this time looked to English society as a model for their life style." From this British inspiration, a Canadian imperialism emerged, as an anti-intellectual, Victorian spirit which emphasized ideas such as liberty and progress. To an imperialist, "progress" was associated with the British constitution and notions of racial superiority. The idea of liberty embodied racial overtones and was regarded as peculiar to certain races: "....the Anglo-Saxon race displayed a special genius for self-government and political organization [which] seemed as undeniable to many English Canadians as did the idea that history was the record of progress." These ideas were almost certainly influenced by similar superior attitudes the British had towards natives in other countries they explored and colonized. Social Darwinist themes were common in the latter half of the Nineteenth Century and affected the way natives were treated by colonizers: The decline of aboriginal populations during the nineteenth century in New Zealand, Hawaii, Tasmania, America and South Africa, with which the British Aborigines Protection Society had been struggling since 1843 was considered again in the light of popular Darwinianism. The principle of survival of the fittest seen to be working itself out in these regions, was proving conclusively that civilized and uncivilized
races could not mix and in a conflict situation the latter must perish. 10

These Victorian ideas were introduced to western Canada through the Northwest Mounted Police who came to symbolize, for many, British concepts of law and justice. The Mounted Police were to ensure that the West would become a colony of Ontario: "To the Mounted Police, the West represented an opportunity to create a new and better version of Eastern Canadian society; a chance to prove Canadian institutions were fundamentally better than those of the United States." 11 The Mounted Police hastened the establishment of a paternalistic, hierarchical society of the Upper Canadian Tory tradition rather than of the American reform tradition. These traditions brought by the Mounted Police were endorsed by P. G. Laurie, an influential journalist who came from eastern Canada to establish a newspaper, the Saskatchewan Herald, at Battleford in 1878. Laurie, a friend of John Christian Schultz and supporter of the Canadian faction at Red River in 1869, extolled the Mounted Police for casting the form for an Anglo-Canadian society. Laurie emphasized in the Herald that Indian grievances could not be tolerated unless they were voiced through acceptable channels. Though he hoped that the destitution of the natives would be alleviated, he reacted violently against the Indians and Metis when they took matters into their own hands. He demanded that the most severe punishments be meted out to the "rebels", which would serve as an example for others, and then the rest of Canada could see that the West was once again a stable place to settle. 12 He also saw the Indians as being inherently inferior to civilized Anglo-Saxon settlers and being "slow to adopt a new mode of life". 13 In an article entitled "Repatriated Pets", Laurie writes: "The Indian is nothing if not a nuisance. The shifts an able bodied one can make to get out of work would shame his Jeremy Diddler of a higher
civilization....Their [the Indian's] memory is good when a benefit is to accrue to themselves, but exceedingly short when anything is required at their hands. They remember how many horses and cattle the treaty promised them, and insist on full count; but they forget that they promised to pay up hay for them."¹⁴

Laurie praised the work of the Northwest Mounted Police in helping to implant in the minds of immigrants ideas which would ensure that the west would become a Canadian rather than an American society. A "wholistic" society represented by the Tory tradition¹⁵ could not accept "the practice of putting into isolated settlements large bodies of non-English speaking aliens". This was a practice which, according to Laurie, "Always works harm to the country...."¹⁶ For Laurie the Northwest Mounted Police, by their example and influence over immigrants, were an important factor in "Canadianizing" the West. Laurie was adamant on this issue: "This country needs men who will adapt themselves to its methods as taught by experience and not large bodies of aliens who seek to perpetuate in our midst customs and habits unsuitable to it. It is better for the immigrant that he should adapt himself to the ways of his new surroundings and become a citizen as quickly as possible."¹⁷

Through his newspaper, Laurie helped to mould the image of the Northwest Mounted Policeman for both his local readers and those he hoped to attract to the West. The image of the virtuous Mounted Policeman remains an important symbol for all of Canada.¹⁸ To some degree the un tarnished image of the Northwest Mounted Policeman was grounded more in myth than in reality, as the actions of the Mounties during the first two decades at Fort Battleford indicate.

The large number of Indians in the Battleford area, who were drawn to the shelter of the Thickwood and Eagle Hills, especially in winter, was one of the major reasons
for moving the police from the more southerly Swan River post to Battleford. So in 1876, shortly after Battleford had been declared capital of the Northwest Territories, plans were made to establish a major Mounted Police fort there. The police would be required to protect new residents and expected immigrants; they would also have to deal with discontented Indians, especially those in the retinue of Big Bear's band. It would be their job to act as intermediaries between the Indians, unfamiliar with and mistrustful of the rapidly increasing settlements, and "with a settler population, many of whom believed that the only good Indian was a dead one."

The primary concern of the police was with the Indian population. Assisting with annuity payments was an important function of the Mounties and it was often the first contact that the native population had with the police. In 1879 annuity payments were made at Fort Pitt, Standing Lake, Duck Lake, Prince Albert and Fort a la Corne. These payments were often made in difficult and tense circumstances as a handful of Mounties distributed supplies to mistrustful, often emaciated Indians. For example, in 1879 two thousand Indians of Cree, Saulteaux, Assiniboine, Souix, Sarcee and Blood bands began coming to Battleford "in an almost starving condition looking for food." Superintendent Walker feared at the time that Indians from so many different tribes might cause trouble, but the Mounties were able to distribute food and supplies efficiently enough to avert any trouble.

Subduing the Indians and getting them onto reserves as soon as possible was a major concern of the Government in the late 1870's and early 1880's, and the Northwest Mounted Police played a significant role in implementing this policy. Indeed, in 1880, Commissioner Irvine wrote, with regard to selecting a new headquarters, that a site should be chosen "where the presence of the police would further the
advancement of civilization, and at the same time materially aid the Indian Department in successful adoption and carrying out of the policy of Government." A cursory look at statistics in the Northwest Mounted Police Reports in the Sessional Papers show that the Mounted Police undertook their task as administrators of Government policy with some vigour as the arrests in the Battleford area increased in direct proportion to the number of police stationed at Fort Battleford. Apprehended disorder among the Indians in the late 1870's and 1880's up to 1885 saw a gradual increase in the force at Fort Battleford:

1877.......14 men
1879.......53 men
1881.......43 men (Ft. Battleford became the 2nd largest N.W.M.P. fort)
1882.......58 men
1883.......105 men (2nd largest behind Regina's 162)
1884.......103 men (largest N.W.M.P. post)
1885.......219 men (largest force)
1886.......135 men (2nd largest force but with the most patrols)
1887.......59 men (2nd to Regina)
1888-89.... (5th in size)
Nov. 1889.. (dropped to 6th in size out of 10 N.W.M.P. forts.)

Arrests increased during this period as well:

1879.......5 cases heard
1880.......37 arrests (11 of these were Indians; of these 11 were 8 charges for shooting cattle)
1881.......36 arrests (14 were Indians)
1882.......36 arrests (7 Indians and 14 Metis)
1884.......40 arrests (11 Indians)
1885.......132 arrests (71 Indians, 42 Metis)
1886.......30 arrests (none were Indians)
1887.......28 arrests (none were Indians)
1888.......420 arrests in the Territories, but only
17 cases were heard from the Battleford
area (lowest of 8 centres reported)
and only 1 of these 17 was an Indian.

It is difficult to draw any broad conclusions from
these statistics though it is worth noting that as govern-
ment concern with settling Indians on reserves as quickly as
possible increased, so arrests increased, indicating the very
significant part played by the Mounted Police in facilitating
government policy. These statistics further show the rise of
Fort Battleford as a Fort of increasing importance until
the 1885 uprising, and shortly afterwards its decline as an
area of major concern. There were, of course, other reasons
for the decline of Fort Battleford as a major post, such as
the re-routing of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1881 and
the change of the Territorial capital to Regina in 1883, but
the most significant reason was that another Indian uprising
was no longer seen as a threat. Ten Indians had been hung
in November of 1885 at Battleford for killings\textsuperscript{25}, most of
them at Frog Lake, and the alleged leaders of the uprising,
Big Bear and Poundmaker, were humiliated at their trials and
then imprisoned (even though the role of Big Bear as a
leader of the uprising remained doubtful). This mass hang-
ing, one of the largest ever in North America, was the cul-
mination of the increased surveillance of the Indians, as
the statistics show. Until 1885, the arrests of Indians and
Metis steadily increased, while after the uprising arrests
of Indians dropped off markedly.\textsuperscript{26}

The increased arrests up to 1885 and, in some instances,
harsh sentencing after the uprising, combined to pacify what
Laurie saw were ungrateful rebels.\textsuperscript{27} These tactics assured
that the West would again be peaceful and safe for settle-
ment. This was a special concern of Laurie who continually
spoke out in the \textit{Herald} against exaggerated stories of "the
wild west" which were appearing in eastern newspapers. Now with the natives brought to their knees, it was hoped that settlement could resume and proceed more rapidly than before. But the major task of the Mounted Police at Fort Battleford had been completed. Their intermediary role was no longer required, and it was in this capacity that the force now began to concentrate in other areas. Settlement and commercial "Progress" as the motto for the Herald tolled, would now be inevitable as would be the role of the Anglo-Canadian settlement in ensuring this ideal.

The so-called "Seige of Fort Battleford" was portrayed dramatically in the reminiscences of survivors. These accounts emphasize the danger faced by those "beseiged" and the heroics of the Mounted Police in the defense of the Fort. At the same time the wanton destruction of buildings is seen as being incomprehensible; though it is not surprising that starving and frustrated Indians in search of food would destroy the stores and homes abandoned by the frightened townspeople. This "seige" of Fort Battleford was more apparent than real. The magnitude of the Indian threat was exaggerated because the townspeople were not aware of the situation that most Indians on the reserves found themselves in after the difficult winter of 1885. White settlers rushed to the fort "panic stricken" from conjured images of savage reprisals. Of the deference paid by the press to the Mounted Police, one author writes: "Exaggerated accounts of its [N.W.M.P.] prowess brought recruits from all corners of the British Empire and it became the beneficiary of the sentimental adulation that marked the heyday of British imperialism." General Middleton did not agree with the praise and adulation heaped on the Mounties by the Herald:

At Battleford, in a fort jammed with able-bodied men, Inspector W. S. Morris used his telegraph to sent piteous appeals for help. More redoubtable officers, like Superinten-
dant Herchmer and Inspector Sam Steele, demonstrated unusual fortitude and leadership. However, it is hard to disagree with Middleton, the British Officer responsible for bringing the campaign to an early conclusion that, when good, well-trained troops were needed, the Mounted Police did not qualify.

The social life of a Mountie was commensurate to that of an English country gentleman. The force had an orchestra which gave concerts regularly in the Concert Hall. Here also, plays were performed for the community by the Mounties. The Concert Hall housed a substantial library for a time, which was "well supplied with daily papers, etc., a splendid billiard table and piano." It was described as being "the pride of the men and the envy of the local civilians." Dances were also sponsored by the Mounties with the entire community invited, which afforded the Mounties a variety of opportunities... "The annual ball of the Mounted Police came off on the 26th December and was all that could be desired. The attendance was larger than on any former occasion, the magnificent new barrack room, twenty five by eighty feet being well filled with dancers during the entire evening, while many others were to be found in different parts of the barracks." The Concert Hall was also used as a gymnasium and shooting gallery; sports such as basketball and indoor baseball were also played. Outdoors the police played cricket and soccer, often in competition against teams from the town. They also built an eighteen-hole golf course which though not comparable to the links back east, was regarded as adequate. They went to considerable lengths to transplant their lifestyles to this new environment.

Existential discomforts brought on by the extreme cold of winter and the dust and heat of summer significantly altered the lives of men, who at first were not accustomed to the hardships of the frontier. William Parker, stationed
for a time at Fort Battleford, wrote home to his sister:

   Ever since our arrival here [we] have been worked like niggers. It is one continual grind; the men are getting very discontented. We hardly ever get five minutes to ourselves. We thought when the winter set in that there would be an end to the fatigues, but...they are just as thick as ever. The weather for the last three weeks has been very severe, from ten to thirty-six below zero every night and below zero all day.

The summers often offered little relief as dry weather resulted in prairie fires which the Mounties had to battle to prevent the destruction of their barracks and the settlement. Droughts and insect infestation produced discomforts for men formerly accustomed to a more palatable way of life. But even though the environment had a profound effect on the day-to-day lives of the men, it did not have as great an effect on the structures erected at Fort Battleford.

Many of the more important buildings constructed at Fort Battleford were inspired less by the environment than by ideas from eastern Canada, Britain and the United States. The image represented by some of the structures was at least as important a symbol of the impending Anglo-Canadian advancement as was the image of the Northwest Mounted Police officer. Some of the buildings at Fort Battleford were inspired by the "Romantic Revival" in architecture of the Nineteenth Century, prevalent in Britain, the United States and Canada. Structures which represented this new movement were Gothic, Italianate and Bracketted Style houses. These new styles reflected new Victorian conceptions of beauty -- a proportioned, harmonious, classical building was no longer pleasing to the eye of most Victorians. A building was not only to be judged for its aesthetic appeal, but also for the ideas that it represented. One of the major themes intended to be conveyed by the Gothic influence was that of a Christian home. Structures of the "Romantic Revival" were also
intended to represent the ideals and ambitions of the "new, private, domestic" middle class. This rising class found its ideals expressed by the Herald whose motto "Progress" stood as its beacon.

Instead of emphasizing public order and republican virtues, this emerging middle-class stressed private discipline and self-control. These introspective Christian sentiments were given expression in the floor plans and detail of Victorian homes. The cross became an important symbol; houses were designed in the shape of crosses and in some houses a cross was attached to the gable. Stained glass windows using three principal colors to represent the Trinity also became popular. Pump organs were purchased for family "hymn sings" and in some houses stoves and bedroom furniture were designed in the Gothic style. This outlook emphasized the family and providing children with a proper Christian home: "The housing reformers set out to design as Christian a home as possible."

The layout of Victorian homes reflected the outlook they portrayed. Official rooms such as the parlour or drawing room were located on the first floor as were rooms for the elderly. At the back of the house the kitchen and washing rooms were usually found. On the second floor were the more private rooms of the family, such as bedrooms and bathroom. The needs of the woman of the house were given primary considerations. Divisions between public and private sections of the house were for the women's benefit; the woman of the house was not to be seen working, so kitchens were at the back of the house or in the basement, and servants were given separate entrances to "keep them out of sight."

Special rooms were also provided for family functions. The parlour was specifically set aside for "public" visitors.
Children, where possible, had their own rooms to allow each person freedom within the house and time for themselves. The Christian home was to protect children from the outside world and it was thought to be of particular importance that young girls and women have the freedom to pursue literary and artistic interests within the home rather than having too great a curiosity for the outside world. Each room carried with it an accepted kind of behaviour; some rooms like the parlour, were reserved for formal public functions, while others such as bedrooms and washrooms were for personal, private behaviour.

Most buildings at Fort Battleford were constructed at a time when the influences of Victorian architecture were strong in Canada. In fact, of the buildings still standing at Fort Battleford, all were built in the last quarter of the Nineteenth Century. In 1880 Thomas Fuller was appointed Chief Architect for the Department of Public Works. The submission by his firm, Fuller and Stent, of a Gothic design for the Parliament buildings had been accepted as the national style in 1859. The trend set by the Parliament buildings pervaded most architecture of the late Nineteenth Century; Fuller's appointment in 1880 ensured that Gothic remained the dominant style even for relatively insignificant buildings like those designed for the Northwest Mounted Police.  

To Victorians architecture was seen not only as providing shelter, but as a means for communicating ideas; architectural forms were chosen "for their symbolic implications rather than for their fitness for particular building needs."  

Regionally the buildings erected by the Department of Public Works were among the first buildings that were not simple log shelters. The official residences were built with style and panache to leave impressions and communicate ideas to newcomers. The Gothic style structures
occupied by the Northwest Mounted Police were instrumental in communicating Anglo-Canadian ideas to the West. Though most immigrants may not have understood the significance represented by Gothic styles, the ideas these buildings stood for were no doubt passed on to them by the Police, as many prospective settlers waited for their lands in so-called immigrant "sheds" provided for them by the government on police property.

Although there is some difficulty in placing all buildings at Fort Battleford into a definite architectural category, one building definitely represents the style of the Early Victorian Period. The Commanding Officer's Residence, built in 1876-77 and still standing, is clearly in the Gothic style of the Romantic Revival. Its vertical lines, ornamental gables and "picturesque setting" make it typical of this style. The influence of the Gothic style, which stood for the British tie in Canada, came from the works of two Americans, A. J. Downing and A. J. Davis. However, Downing and Davis did not choose the Gothic style for the imperialistic feelings it aroused in Canada, but rather because it inspired religious feelings: "In forms of the Gothic Cathedral are embodied the worshipping principle, the loving reverence for that which is highest, and the sentiment of Christian brotherhood or that perception of affiliation which is found on recognizing in man goodness and truth, and reverencing them in him."

It is not surprising that the Italianate and Bracketted style houses also advocated by Downing as appropriate forms of the Romantic Revival were more popular in the United States than in Canada. As one authority explains: "....to Americans generally gothic seemed undemocratically pretentious, and what was worse, un-Americanly foreign." So the Gothic style became more popular in Canada because the British fact was more readily accepted. In western Canada,
Gothic buildings, especially those erected by the Mounted Police, became harbingers for the advancing Anglo-Canadian civilization.

The features of the interior of the Commanding Officer's Residence are consistent with those of other Romantic Revival houses. Immediately to the left of the front entrance there is a large living room or parlour for public or official occasions. There is also a large dining room for official occasions. To the back of the main floor is the kitchen and dining room for servants and out of sight attached to the back of the house is a summer kitchen. A stairway at the back of the house, to be used by servants, was another feature common in Romantic Revival housing. To the right, upon entering the front door is a stairway leading to the private section of the house, making the division between public and private parts of the house immediately apparent. On the second story are the bedrooms and a small landing where the woman of the house might have done sewing or reading.

The Commanding Officer's Residence is an example of an indigenous Western Canadian style of architecture. The same Christian and especially Protestant influences that produced the "Romantic Revival" in the United States were also responsible for this new architecture in western Canada:

If we accept the proposition, that Gothic forms are "good", in a moral sense, then they are just as well used on a house as on a church. So it is, that what we might call "Protestant Gothic Revival" was never exclusively concerned with churches but at once became an accepted way of building houses, colleges, stores and stables. The Protestant attitude in a word, made Gothic into a common and unselfconsciously accepted way of building, almost like folk architecture.

Western buildings then inspired by the Gothic example
were original in that they altered to some degree the Gothic style to suit the environment in which they were built. They were adaptive and original in that they used wood instead of stone which was the material for which the Gothic had become symbolic. But in spite of this, the ideas represented by the Gothic were unmistakably derivative, although the "picturesque" features and asymmetrical designs seemed more suitable to their environment than the more formal buildings of the "classical revival."

The Commanding Officer's Residence is an example of the early Victorian period, but there were Gothic features in some of the other buildings. The Officers' Quarters, with its French-style mansard roof and decorative trimming is an elegant example of the eclecticism of the later mid-Victorian period. The cross-shaped floor plan of the Surgeon's Quarters and its gingerbread gables might be considered to be in the Gothic style. Other examples of the Gothic are evident in the original Chinese-style cupola which sat on top of the Sick Horse Stable (not the one now on the Stable). This again reflects the eclecticism of the mid or late Victorian period; the Gothic arch in the Concert Hall and the decorative trimming and pinnacle on the Lavatory in photograph 60 are also within this tradition. The slightly peaked window casings in many buildings might be considered to be an altered form of the Gothic arch.

This Gothic style gave Western Canada its first "real claim to being a Canadian style" whose form and inspiration was derivative but which developed into an original style which was indebted to the freedom of expression that the Protestant influence in architecture allowed:

The way Protestant church builders used Gothic details haphazardly, borrowing from, here, there and everywhere and applying them without regard to structure or original use, is entirely logical;
only by using them in this way could you be sure the church would not become an end in itself, that it would encourage and not inhibit personal spiritual experience.

In conclusion, it appears that though the content of the major structures of Fort Battleford was dictated by what could be got from the environment, the theme and style of these buildings were inherited from Britain and eastern Canada, and were the determining factors for other architecture in western Canada. In the same way that the elaborate Georgian structures of Upper Canada suggest inspiration from the mother country, so the log houses and false-fronted buildings of western Canada represent traditions borrowed from Europe, the former from Sweden, the latter from the Classical revival of eighteenth century English architecture. If one accepts this argument, that Canadian architecture was largely derivative, then it becomes easier to understand why Canadians were slow to adapt their architecture to greater harmony with their environment and why instead, buildings were constructed to stand for traditions brought from Europe. The pedantic structures of Canada in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries were constructed as cynosures for the kind of society to be established in Canada and there was little opposition to these ideas on the frontier. As Louis Hartz points out: "...when a part of a European nation is detached from the whole of it, and [is] hurled outward onto new soil, it loses its stimulus toward change that the whole provides. It lapses into a kind of immobility." Accordingly, in the United States the popular styles corresponded to republican virtues that Americans wanted to portray to the world. Similarly, in Canada, the Gothic style, as part of the Victorian tradition borrowed from Britain, stood unimpeded as the Canadian ideal until the 1930's.
II Organization and Sources
This report attempts to identify the buildings that stood at Fort Battleford and to provide as much information as possible about these buildings. It is not a definitive structural history; further work needs to be done in analyzing and identifying materials and construction techniques. Further information could also be obtainable from archaeological studies which could assist in identification of materials and techniques. Where possible, construction techniques and materials have been identified, but more comprehensive work is required in areas such as: determining lathing and plastering techniques; identifying hardware used; identifying framing techniques and chimney construction, etc. Comparative studies with other Northwest Mounted Police forts might also be useful. The work done by Marion MacRae and Anthony Adamson in "The Last Word" of their book The Ancestral Roof might be used as a model for a comparative study.

It was decided -- for greater clarity -- to arrange the structures by categories rather than in chronological order of construction. It might have been useful to have the buildings grouped into the two main construction periods (1876-77 and 1885-87) however not all buildings fit into these two periods and a more specific breakdown of the structures is provided by the approach taken. Within each category, the buildings have been listed chronologically so that some sense of progression is maintained. The categories have been chosen simply to provide a more convenient focus for discussion and analysis. Some categorizations have been arbitrary since some buildings easily fit into more than one section. The categories are: Residences, Barracks, Immigration Sheds, Hospitals, Stables, Lavatories, Service Buildings,
Sources
Most of the documentary information used in this report came from the reserves of the Public Archives of Canada and from parliamentary Sessional Papers. These two sources provided the most complete, detailed and reliable information. Most of the information taken from the P.A.C. was from the Records of the R.C.M.P. or R.G. 18 Series; in this series was found correspondence relating to buildings, diagrams, plans, contracts for construction, various kinds of reports and suggestions for changes to buildings. Two other sources, which contained less information though in some cases equally as useful material, were the Department of Public Works records (R.G. 11) and the Department of Interior Records (R.G. 15). The kind of information available in these two sources was similar to that obtained from the R.G. 18 Series. There were two problems with this material which should be mentioned. One is that there is such a vast amount of material in these series, that it is quite possible (in spite of the helpful assistance of the archivists) that further information might be lurking in these huge reserves. The second difficulty frequently encountered with the evidence contained in these governmental files was that in some cases letters appeared to describe actual changes to buildings when in fact they were only suggested changes. There was one case where a building was reported to have been completed, when it had not even been started. Pitfalls of this kind can only be avoided by careful comparison of all the evidence on each building so as to detect any inconsistencies. Where such discrepancies exist they have been discussed in the text.

The other major source of evidence is the Annual Reports
of the N.W.M.P. in the Sessional Papers. Here can be found progress reports on buildings, maintenance reports, and other substantial changes made to the buildings. Reports of the Surgeon and Veterinarian are also included for most years, and they provide valuable information on sanitary conditions in buildings and stables as well as suggestions by the veterinarian or surgeon for changes to buildings, many of which were implemented. Some diagrams and maps useful for comparative purposes are also included in these reports.

Other significant information can be found in the holdings at the Fort Battleford Library which includes a collection of reminiscences, important documents and reports. Of greatest significance among these materials are the Walker Letterbooks, which contain useful information on the original buildings. Also of significance are some reports, especially the ones on the stockade done by Harry Tatro, a former Superintendent of Fort Battleford. The first-hand accounts in these holdings are generally reliable, but some of the reminiscences and reports need to be carefully scrutinized. The Saskatchewan Archives at Saskatoon has some significant material in the Innes Papers. This collection is most significant since Campbell Innes was a driving force behind establishing Fort Battleford as an historic site. In his papers are included: correspondence related to the buildings, diagrams of the fort and reminiscences sent to him by old-timers. The Saskatchewan Archives also houses taped interviews with Joe Guthrie, a long-time resident of the Battleford area. These tapes contain important and interesting information on the life at Fort Battleford in its later years, and details of structures still standing in the 1920's. Joe Guthrie was also extremely helpful in assisting with identification of buildings from old photographs taken of Fort Battleford. The Saskatchewan
Herald was also a necessary and important source for a variety of information. There were other sources which provided valuable information though not as comprehensive or reliable as the above-mentioned sources. These, along with all secondary sources consulted will be listed in the bibliography.

Photographs, diagrams, "as found" drawings and plans were also an important source of information, and will be discussed in a separate section. Most of the photographs used were from the collection at the Fort Battleford Library. These were supplemented by photographs from the Archives at the University of Saskatchewan, the Glenbow, the Public Archives of Canada and from the private collection of Fred Light at Fort Battleford. Diagrams and plans were mostly from the Public Archives of Canada while other materials of this kind were discovered in the Innes Papers and the Fort Battleford Library. The 'as found' drawings are the property of Parks Canada.
Introduction

1 McLeod, R. C., The Northwest Mounted Police and Law Enforcement 1873-1905. p. 74. It was hoped that this impression would be achieved by modelling the Northwest Mounted Police after the Royal Irish Constabulary — a semi military force sent to Ireland to maintain the British presence there when invasion by France threatened an internally disordered Ireland during the Napoleonic Wars.

2 The psychological influence the Northwest Mounted Police officers had over the native population was a matter of particular pride to the red-clad police. Self-congratulatory accounts of police action during the period of initial contact with the Indians emphasize how numerically inferior police patrols were able to psychologically dominate dangerous situations by daring initiative and military appearance. See for example A. L. Haydon's Riders of the Plains, p. 49. "Several times a tragedy was narrowly averted by the presence of mind and bold bearing of the Inspector and his officers. On one occasion a large number of Sioux, followers of the redoubtable chief, Sitting Bull, skulked in the underbrush of the hillside and were ready for any excuse to fire upon the troopers below. In this critical moment the commander of the little garrison went out bravely, tackled the old chief in person, and bluffed him so successfully that the band moved on without giving further trouble. On this occasion, by the way, Inspector Walsh literally carried his life in his hands. When he rode towards the Sioux camp he had on a short blue jacket with black braid, while his men were all wearing greatcoats. At the sight of the hated blue, the "American colour" to all Indians, the rifles of the "braves" went up instantly, covering the Inspector. Seeing his danger, one of the foremost troopers had the presence of mind to throw open his coat, revealing the scarlet tunic beneath, and in a moment the weapons dropped. These were the 'Queen's soldiers'. all was well."

3 The N.W.M.P. and Law Enforcement. p. 74.

5 Ibid. p. 31.


7 Houghton, Walter. The Victorian Frame of Mind, i.e. p. 31: "Carlyle and Mill were not reflecting the general outlook in England of 1830. They were attempting -- and successfully -- to form it. They were trying to revive the idea of progress which had lost its hold on the generation of the twenties, and by doing so, to check the impotent dis­may which the revolutionary changes of the period produced in the minds of many."


9 Ibid. p. 117.


11 McLeod, R. C. "Canadianizing the West: the North­West Mounted Police as Agent of the National Policy, 1873-1905", in Essays of Western History. p. 110.

12 Saskatchewan Herald, May 18, 1885.

13 Ibid. Dec. 9, 1882.

14 Ibid. Aug. 4, 1883.

15 The tradition Laurie admired was described by Carl Berger in The Sense of Power as "...the respect for history, the primacy of the community over individual selfishness, society as conceived as an organism of functionally related parts and structured to reflect different human aptitudes, religion as the mortar of the social order and the distrust of materialism." p. 103.

16 Herald, Aug. 20, 1891. Furthermore, on January 18, 1886 Laurie wrote: "If any class of people choose to come
here and make homes for themselves, well and good. They may settle either in a colony or scatter about the country, whether the immigrants be French-Canadian or anything else. Farming colonies of another class, especially if they are not English speaking, does not promote the same advancement and general prosperity, the same improvement, in the conditions of the colonists as to be secured by a free admixture of races. Colonists of a particular class are too apt to strive for preservation of customs and methods that however well suited they may be deemed for old and thickly settled districts, are out of place in a new country, whose development calls for the best energies of its people and the best system of management."

17 Ibid. August 4, 1883.

18 It might be of value in some future study to analyze the reasons for a society accepting a police force as its super-ego. See for example Sigmund Freud, Civilization and Its Discontents: "I believe the line of thought which seeks to trace in the phenomena of cultural development the part played by a super-ego promises still further discoveries. ...But there is one question which I can hardly evade. If the development of civilization has such a far-reaching similarity to the development of the individual and if it employs the same methods, may we not be justified in reaching the diagnosis that, under the influence of cultural urges, some civilizations, or some epochs of civilization -- possibly the whole of mankind -- have become 'neurotic'? An analytic dissection of such neuroses might lead to therapeutic recommendations which could lay claim to great practical interest."

19 The site chosen was described picturesquely by Captain Hamlyn Todd; his reminiscences are included in the Innes Papers: "The wooden stockaded Fort stands on a commanding site between the Battle and Saskatchewan rivers, about two miles from the point of land where they join one another. The surrounding country appeared to be ideal farming land. The Saskatchewan and Battle rivers flow in their winding swiftness of muddy color, skirted by deep banks, down which are still visible the old buffalo trails of bygone days; the only evidence of those denizens we came across on our march was their bleached skulls scattering the prairie. From the high elevation about Battleford, the vision of this grand panoramic view, after the monotony of the bare prairie we passed over, is truly magnificent."


23. Ibid. 1880.


25. The "Report of the Commissioner of 1885" pp. 112-116. There is some controversy over this point: George Stanley in *The Birth of Western Canada* claims though his source remains unacknowledged that: "Eleven Indians were condemned to hang for murder but three were ultimately reprieved."*, p. 378. Desmond Morton in *The Last War Drum* p. 164 also states that eight Indians were hanged, although he too makes no reference to his source. W. B. Cameron in *Blood Red the Sun*, p. 203, claims only six were hung. And A. L. Haydon in *Riders of the Plains*, p. 154 is blatantly wrong in claiming that: "Big Bear and seven other Indians who had figured in the Frog Lake massacre" were executed.

26. Statistics for the Metis are not as reliable as those for Indians since French-Canadian names need not necessarily lead to the inference of Indian parentage.

27. See also, W. B. Cameron, *Blood Red the Sun*.

28. See for example the unpublished manuscript of Effie Storer (daughter of P. G. Laurie) in the *Storer Papers*, U. of Saskatchewan Archives, especially the chapter entitled "Inside the Stockade."

29. Smythe, p. 74.


31. Ibid. p. 33.

33 Herald, January 9, 1885.

34 William Parker, Mounted Policeman, ed. Hugh Dempsey.


36 Clark, p. 37.

37 Ibid. p. 44.

38 Ibid. p. 50

39 See Gowans pp. 118-119: "...Gothic was the style chosen for them [the Parliament buildings]. That was no surprise; the architects hardly had an alternative. It was practically mandatory on them to express the country's close ties with Britain by taking as their model Westminster New Palace, home of the 'Mother of Parliaments' in London...." Also T. Ritchie's Canada Builds p. 18.


41 This picturesque quality was not only to be achieved by the building but also by trees and landscaping. See A. J. Downing's Landscape Gardening. Also Downing in his book, The Architecture of Country Houses writes: "The picturesque is seen in ideas of beauty manifested with something of rudeness, violence or difficulty. The effect of the whole is spirited and pleasing, but parts are not balanced, proportions are not perfect and details are rude. We feel that at first glance of a picturesque object the idea of power is exerted, rather than the idea of beauty which it involves. p. 28-29.

42 See Alan Gowans: "Gothic had originated in England, so the argument ran whereas Roman and Greek were 'foreign'; Gothic then was England's true 'national style'."

considered the picturesque visual relief it offered from the monotony of the classical squareness and regularity whether eighteenth century or Revival!" p. 102.

44 Gowans, p. 102.


46 Ibid. p. 98.

47 Ibid. p. 98.

48 Louis Hartz, The Founding of New Societies. p. 3.
Part 1  Residences
Commanding Officer's Residence

In the spring of 1876 construction of the buildings for the new territorial capital of Battleford was beginning. One of the official residences planned was a house for the Commanding Officer of the Northwest Mounted Police. The buildings to be used by the Northwest Mounted Police and the Government buildings were all constructed by the Department of Public Works under the supervision of Hugh Sutherland, the director, and John Oliver, the foreman. Despite numerous obstacles encountered by the workmen such as the shortage of lumber and supplies, the Commanding Officer's Residence was substantially completed by the fall of 1877. Materials were obtained from a number of sources:

His [Oliver's] quest for large timber took him far afield, riding horseback, crossing lakes in a canoe and tramping through wooded areas. Some of his logs were cut 60 miles beyond Edmonton and rafted down the Saskatchewan. They were then hauled to the site of his work where he had set up his portable sawmill. Smaller timber was obtained from the neighbouring Eagle Hills. Soon lumber, shingles and laths were seasoning in the sun. Windows were being brought over the prairie from Winnipeg. Brick and lime kilns were set up for by good fortune suitable sand and limestone were plentiful.

By September 20, 1877, Hugh Sutherland, responsible for completing the buildings, wrote to Ottawa: "The residence for the Commanding Officer of the Northwest Mounted Police is finished and occupied some time ago...." However, according to Inspector Walker the building was not yet
completed by December, when he reported that: "[the] Married Officers’ Quarters is all finished except about two-thirds of the Weather Boards to put on the outside and the doors and windows to paint outside...."³

Some problems resulted from lumber that was not properly seasoned. This wood shrank, cracking the mud filling and leaving gaps which allowed snow and wind to pass through. On July 28, 1878, Walker complained about the quality of the wood used for construction: "the half-inch stuff used for clap boards of spruce obtainable here soon cracks and admits the wet."⁴ The cottonwood or poplar used was even more susceptible to shrinkage and in addition tended to rot when wet. Walker’s disappointment with the construction was reflected in his report to the Commissioner in 1878 wherein he wrote:

"...what work is done does very little credit to those in charge of the works.... The base boards and casements were put on the inside before it was lathed and plastered consequently there is no plaster under them and as the lumber was not properly seasoned they have shrunk away from the plaster which makes the House very cold."

In spite of Walker’s complaints, the workmanship was tolerably competent considering the difficulties faced by the workers. The architectural merits of this structure lie in the completeness of an unpretentious Gothic Revival house created from the materials of the area. Using the wood of the region, instead of stone, to express an admittedly borrowed idea has been seen by at least one authority as the first original piece of architecture in western Canada.⁶

The Commanding Officer’s House still standing at Fort Battleford is a remarkably pure example of Gothic Revival architecture of the early Victorian period. A. J. Downing, a popularizer of the Gothic Revival style expressed the essence of this style when he described its picturesque
quality:

The picturesque is seen in ideas of beauty manifested with something of rudeness, violence or difficulty. The effect of the whole is spirited and pleasing, but parts are not balanced, proportions are not perfect and details are rude. We feel that at first glance of a picturesque object the idea of power is exerted, rather than the idea of beauty which it involves.

Features of this style can be seen in the layout, exterior details and landscaping. The layout of the ground floor of the house is similar to plans of Gothic Revival styles of the "cottage houses" in Downing's The Architecture of Country Houses. Exterior details such as decorative trimming on the gables and the stylized crosses of the pinnacles on the apex of each gable are further features of the Gothic Revival style. The curves above the windows with the slightly peaked casements provide a further Gothic flavour. Landscaping was considered an important factor in completing the total effect of a Gothic Revival building. At Fort Battleford this is achieved by the evergreen trees, especially those planted around the Commanding Officer's House and the Officers' Quarters. They accentuated the vertical lines so essential to the Gothic.

Inside the Commanding Officer's House influences of the "Romantic Revival" style are reflected in features such as the dominant official sitting room, the kitchen out of sight and at the rear of the house, by the large bedrooms and by a stairway at the back of the house so servants could remain unseen by visitors.

Foundation

In a report on the buildings being constructed by the Department of Public Works, the foundations were described as being
built, "of substantial masonry, with a stone cellar to each." This is the only information available describing the foundation. Some changes to the foundation have been noted in the "as found" drawings.

Exterior Walls
The lack of lumber in the area made it necessary to build the walls out of logs. Hugh Sutherland reported in 1877 on the construction of the walls:

The walls of the buildings are constructed of hewn logs put up "Red River style" joints of which are plastered with lime and sand on both sides -- The inside of all walls are strapped, lathed with sawn lath, and plastered with good lime and sand in a first class manner. The outside of the buildings are again strapped and clap-boarded and all wood work both inside and out usually painted is receiving three coats of lead and oil paint.

The plates and corner posts were 8 inches by 8 inches, the posts were "grooved out to receive filling logs and placed on the average 10 feet apart. Filling logs flattened on both sides to six inches in thickness and [illegible] on both sides to fit grooves in posts, edges rossed [sic] and fitted close together." 10

In addition to basic maintenance, there were other changes to the walls: in 1890, the walls were tar-papered and clapboarded to add to the comfort of the house. 11 Cracking of plaster and weathering of paint were the usual kinds of problems that required maintenance.

Roof
From the south side of the building the roof appears to be an ordinary high-pitched saddle-back roof. But a view from
the north side shows a more complicated connecting saddle­
back roof structure perpendicular to the roof line running 
east and west. The result is a modified L-shaped roof. In 
an early report in 1877 about the construction, which in­
cluded the Commanding Officer's House, Hugh Sutherland de­
scribed the roofs being built as follows: "All the buildings 
are covered with good sawed shingles, eaves finished with 
bracketted cornice as per plans, gables with ornamental 
verge boards which I think has added greatly to the outward appearance of the building...."\(^{12}\) This roof has remained 
basically unchanged since it was originally constructed in 
1876-77.

Apertures

The west side of the building has two second storey windows 
with four panes of glass in each; there is a slight curve 
in the woodwork immediately above the window and a peaked encasement above this. It appears that an additional window was put in at a later date; compare for example photograph number 1 (1885-1890) to photograph number 4 (1925-39). No written record of this addition could be found. This newer window is on the first floor and differs in style from other windows in the house. Photograph number 4 (1925-30) shows it lacking the slightly peaked casement and the curve immediately above the window, features evident in the original windows. It differs in style from the other windows, being wider than the originals and having smaller panes of glass.

The east side has three original windows: two on the second story and one on the first. These windows are similar in size and style to the second story windows on the west side. This east side also has a door with a peaked casing, a curve immediately over the door. On each side of the door are decorative wooden pilasters.
On the south side there are two windows, both on the first story. One window of the style previously described is towards the back of the house. The other window (photograph 10, 1879-80) is an elaborate alcove window with a projecting roof and includes three separately encased windows.

On the north side there are two windows, one on the second story and one on the first. These also were original in the building as is evident from their style.

Appendages
A summer kitchen which was not part of the original structure was attached to the western side of the building. It appears that it was built some time before 1885 since a photograph of that period (photograph 10, 1879-80) shows its existence, but the exact date of its construction has not been determined. Photograph 10 (1879-80) also shows a porch on the west side of the house towards the southern side. The walls and roof were constructed with the same material as the main structure. The windows are smaller and without the decorative features found on the windows of the original house. There was one small window on each of the three sides of the kitchen and a door on the southern side of this addition; these appear to be part of the original addition which was built some time between 1879 and 1885.

There were a number of other appendages to the Commanding Officer's House. Photograph 6 (1911) shows a storage shed on the southern side of the summer kitchen. Another shack-like addition, probably built between 1885 and 1890, can be seen on the northern side of the summer kitchen. This, according to Joe Guthrie, a former resident in the Commanding Officer's House, was used for storing wood and coal.
The dark structure on the northwest corner in photographs 5 (1925-30) and 6 (1911) was, according to Joe Guthrie, just a small verandah. Another larger verandah was added onto the northeast corner in 1898.

**Chimneys**

There were two chimneys in the original building of 1876-77: one through the middle of the main roof and one through the peak of the adjoining roof at its northern end, as is evident from photograph 1 (1885-1890). This photograph also shows a chimney through the western end of the roof on the summer kitchen which was built in the late 1880's.

**Interior**

**Basement**

One of the only references found for the basement is one that describes all cellars built in 1876-77: "The foundations are built of substantial masonry, with a stone cellar to each." Another description of the basement was found in the Fort Battleford collection; its accuracy should be questioned, however, since it makes no reference to its source.

The building was placed on a foundation of masonry and the cellar was also lined with masonry. A second cellar was dug below the level of the first, and walled with planks, for what special purpose can only be surmized.

This second cellar was probably nothing more mysterious than a root cellar.
First Floor
The interior measurements of the Commanding Officer's House have been substantially recorded in the "as found" drawings of the Fort Battleford Preliminary Photo Report.

There are four rooms on the first level and a hallway. The hallway is located immediately inside the front door, as is the stairway leading to the second story. To the left, on entering the front door, is a large sitting room where official visitors would have been entertained. In the back northwest corner of the house is a large dining room for the Commander and his family. On the eastern wall of this room is a cupboard. Opposite this room and to the south is the winter kitchen, at the back of which is the servants' stairway (a later addition built between 1880 and 1885) to the second story and the stairway to the cellar. At the back of this level is the summer kitchen, built between 1879-1885, which also served as sleeping quarters for male servants. The walls on this level remained unaltered but for the summer kitchen addition and the back staircase.

Three major rooms comprise most of the second floor. In the southeast corner is the master bedroom, in the northwest corner another smaller bedroom, and in the southwest corner a similar bedroom. At the west end of this story is a stairway down to the first floor. This stairway was a later addition since it blocks part of the window on the second floor (see photograph 12, circa 1940). This stairway was likely intended as a private passage for the maid who might have slept in one of the bedrooms on the second floor. At the east end of the house the main stairway opens onto a large area which might have been a reading or knitting room. A small attic is located above this second story. The "as found" drawings recorded no major changes to the second story except for the addition of the staircase at the back of the house.
Endnotes


3 Walker's Letterbook. Dec. 17, 1887.


5 Report of the Commissioner. 1878.


9 Ibid.

10 Ibid. Sept. 25, 1876.

11 Report of Commissioner, 1890.


13 Ibid.

14 Fort Battleford Library. No date or author acknowledged on the document.
Officers' Quarters

Construction of the Officers' Quarters, still standing at Fort Battleford, was begun in 1884. Its completion was delayed until 1886 due to the intervening uprising. Identification of information for this building posed some difficulties since references to the building changed over the years; it was variously called the "Inspector's Quarters and Orderly Room", "Officers' Cottage" (1887), "Married Officers' Cottage" (1887), "Orderly Room" and also the "Officers' Quarters" (1897), as it is now referred to. This confusion caused problems not only in discovering which building certain material pertained to, but also because information thought to refer to the Officers' Quarters might actually refer to the Single Officers' Quarters built in 1877, or to the Sergeant's House. So, in the future, caution must be exercised in using any new material unearthed. It is unfortunate that very little information exists about the Officers' Quarters, as this building is a fine example of mid-Victorian architecture. However, a number of photographs, two floor plans and extensive "as found" drawings provide an abundance of technical information on dimensional details.

The building, as it stood originally, was a balanced, pleasing structure, reflecting the discreet eclecticism of mid-Victorian architecture. The oldest photograph of the building, photograph 39 (1890's) shows the Officers' Quarters as it stood on completion in 1886, without any of the shack-like additions appearing in later photographs which
detract from its architectural purity. The French-style mansard roof is perhaps the most remarkable feature of the building, and is a trait of mid-Victorian style. The Victorian flavour of the building is also evident in the peaked windows, decorative trimming on the roof, and pinnacles topping the casements on the windows of the second story. The effect later created by surrounding evergreens gave it the same "picturesque" appearance as the Commanding Officer's House. Later additions of the 1890's such as the porches around the doors (which seriously detract from the appearance of the building) were likely needed to help keep this large building warm. The additions which cluttered the appearance of the Officers' Quarters can be seen in photographs 3 (1930's) and 5 (1925-30), and are included in a description of the building:

Inspectors Quarters and Orderly Room. Frame 1 1/2 story -- stove heated -- 4 rooms upstairs -- 4 rooms downstairs -- cellar in kitchen -- verandah screened -- House in good repair throughout. Orderly Room Section -- Has rooms below all in good repair. 16 x 14 x 7 East addtn. 30 x 37 x 14 main. 13 x 16 x 9. 8 x 26 x 8 Back Door. 16 x 6 verandah screened.

No record of the sources of materials used in construction was found. Materials for the Officers' Quarters were likely obtained locally or regionally, the lumber probably having been purchased from Prince Brothers in Battleford or from mills in Prince Albert. Other supplies, such as hardware probably came from Winnipeg. The brick for the chimneys was probably manufactured locally.

The uses made of this building varied over the years. Its main purpose was as an unmarried officers' quarters. The second story provided the sleeping quarters, and the main floor was used for a dining room and an office area. A later addition in the 1890's to the building's east side
might have been a dining room or a bedroom, while the addition on the south-rear of the building in the early 1890's became an Orderly Room after the old Orderly Building was torn down.

Foundation
No written information could be found describing the original foundation. However the "as found" drawings show the basement walls to be made of concrete. 3

Exterior Walls
The walls constructed in 1886 were clap-boarded with "ship-lap cove siding" and were covered at each corner by corner boards. 4 Wall boards ran along the top of each wall. Full details of the measurements can be found in the Extant Drawings; here also minor changes to the walls probably caused by settling ground are recorded.

Roof
The original roof is a French-style mansard roof. 5 The boards now on the roof are covered by red wooden shingles with iron flashing along the peak and hips. 6 The kind of wood used for shingles is not known. The roof of the eastern addition was "built up tar and paper roofing on 7/8 inch thick roof boards." 7 This was likely due to repairs to the roof over the years. The original roof on the rear extension is a sloping roof with wooden shingles. The side porch, as it was originally constructed in the 1890's, again had a sloped roof with wooden shingles. Photograph 11 (1940's) shows the roof of the Orderly Room extension as a slightly sloped roof with shingles. Changes to the roof over time
have been difficult to document since little information has been discovered describing the original materials.

**Apertures**

On the north side or the front of the building there are five windows, all originals. Three dormer windows are located on the second story; these windows are curved along the top and peaked in a manner similar to the windows in the Commanding Officer's Residence. The decorative trimming and the pinnacle above the window is more elaborate than that on the Commanding Officer's House. The two windows on the main level are on either side of the door; they are less elaborate than the second story windows, but do have peaked casements above. These windows have not changed significantly from their original state.

There are three doors on the north side of the building: one in the centre of the main building, one on the eastern addition and one on the western porch. The original door of the main building built in 1886 had a peaked casement and some decorative wood trim above it. This door was, however, not always an exterior door, as a photograph dated 1911 shows a porch over the front door. The door in the eastern addition built in the 1890's was a square door with a slightly peaked casement above it. The other door in the western porch is an ordinary square door with no decorative trimming. Photograph 34 (1940'4) shows a window instead of a door in the eastern addition.

The eastern side of the Officers' Quarters (for which no older photograph exists) originally had four windows. The window on the second story was a dormer window similar to the windows on the second story on the north side; the three windows on the main level were also similar to the ones described for the main level on the north side. These
three windows on the main level can be seen on the 1890 dia-
gram (D-13) of the ground floor. This diagram also shows a
proposed door near the back or towards the southern end of
the building, a door apparently never built. The later
eastern addition onto the building (circa 1890), however,
changed the number of apertures on the eastern side. The
one-story eastern addition eliminated a window towards the
front of the building so that now only two windows appear
on the main level.⁹

Originally in 1886 the southern or back side of the Off-
ciers' Quarters had six windows: three dormer windows on
the second floor and three more ordinary windows on the main
floor. There were no doors on this side. Subsequent chan-
ges in the 1890's, however, eliminated one of the original
windows on the first story (the one toward the western end)
and added two others — one on the back porch to the west of
the door and one on the eastern addition. Both these win-
dows are similar in style to the first story casements of
the original windows. Though there was no door on the south
side of the original building, there is now a door built
around 1890 facing south on the porch. This door is an or-
dinary square door with a slightly peaked casing.

Originally, according to the 1890 diagram, there were
no windows on the second story on the western side, but two
windows on the main level and a kitchen door near the south-
ern end of this side. The diagram shows a proposed addition
of a door south of the first window, a door that was later
added, as can be seen from the photographs. The western
side, as it now appears, has three windows, with the window
towards the northern end likely being the only original one
left. The next window moving southward is a window in the
porch. The most southerly window might be original, although
it appears, looking at the diagram (D-13), that this window
is where the old kitchen door once was. There was also a
door facing west on the Orderly Room addition as can be seen in photograph 3 (1930's).

Appendages
Subsequent to the building's construction in 1886, six appendages were added to the Officers' Quarters, all of which detract from the original appearance of the building. No exact dates for any of these additions have been pinpointed, but they were likely built in the 1890's. It appears that the Orderly Room addition was not built until after 1891, since the old log Orderly Room was used up until that time.

There were two additions to the north or front of the Officers' Quarters. One was a porch over the front door, as seen in photograph 5 (1925-30). The other was a verandah, probably a later addition, which can be partially seen on photographs 4 (1925-30) and 5 (1925-30).

There was a major addition to the eastern side in the 1890's. This addition was a large room, likely a room used by the officers for leisure reading or smoking. This was a single story addition, which, though attempting to remain consistent with the style of the original by adopting the peaked casements of the doors and windows, detracts seriously from the original symmetry of the building. There was, according to an 1898 diagram, a porch addition onto the eastern side of the Orderly Room addition. There is no early photograph of this porch, so the nature of its construction remains unknown.

The southern side of the building had two additions. One addition probably built in the 1890's was an Orderly Room addition. This one-story, lean-to type addition ran along the entire length of the southern side of the original building and overlapped at both ends, as is evident from the 1898 diagram (D-14). Five small windows can be seen on the
southern wall in photograph 11 (1940's). An entrance to this addition to the southern side was a porch now situated over the back door. Photograph 11 (1940's) shows the seriously deteriorated condition of this building by 1940.

The western side has one small annex which is a small porch over the door. This porch is still standing.

Inside

Basement
The basement now in the Officers' Quarters is under the south-eastern corner of the building. The 1890 diagram shows a stairway, apparently to the basement, near the kitchen door along the western wall of the building. It is therefore not clear where the original cellar was...perhaps there were two. The existing cellar is made of concrete. The "as found" drawing team found evidence of changes to the basement as they indicated in their report:

The information for this drawing was gathered in June 1975, two years after the original fieldnotes. As is apparent, this plan is not complete; this was due to a combination of time limitations and lack of facility in gaining information. There is only a small full basement in the building. A crawl space extends through part of the basement but in most areas there is only clearance for the joists. It is apparent that there have been extensive alterations made in the basement, which would take considerable time to study.

First Floor
There have been many changes to the inside of this building, as there have been to its uses, so that much of the information describing the inside is of uncertain reliability.
On entering the front door there is a hallway and a stairway leading to the second story. To the right or west, there is a room labelled "Parlor", an area probably used as an office. Behind this room, to the south, the 1890 diagram (D-13) indicates a large dining room. This area was apparently always used for that purpose. The kitchen was located to the south of the dining room. The wall which once separated the kitchen and the dining room has been removed so that there is no division now. To the east of the kitchen, the diagram shows a bedroom, although no bedroom is located there now. To the east of this, the diagram proposes a kitchen, however there is no evidence available as to whether or not a kitchen was placed there. To the north of the proposed kitchen was a proposed space for a dining room, but again, there is no evidence that this space was so used. The 1890 diagram gives no indication of the use made of the room in the northeast corner of the original building. On the northeast corner is the annex which is now portrayed as a leisure room for the officers, though there is no firm documentary evidence that this was its purpose.

No evidence to date gives any indication of what the interior of the Orderly Room addition was like. Presumably it would have been divided into a number of smaller rooms for supplies.

Second Story
The second story was apparently officers' bedrooms. There are two larger rooms to the west side of the building and two smaller rooms on the eastern side. No major changes were made to these rooms.

Details about material used for the interior construction were obtained largely from the "as found" drawings, as
no corroborative written evidence could be found. All floors were apparently hardwood floors; in some places these were two layers of hardwood.\textsuperscript{16} Floorboard patterns can be seen in drawings 10 and 12. Details of baseboards are provided on drawing 21. Stairways, room ventilation and framing details are also provided, as are details of hardware. Some description of the attic appears in drawing 41.

Chimneys
The original building had two chimneys, evenly balanced at the back (south) of the building. Another chimney was later added to the northeast corner of the eastern annex. Details of the brickwork are provided in the "as found" drawings.\textsuperscript{17}
Endnotes

1 It might be appropriate to pull down remaining additions and to restore this building to its pure mid-Victorian style.

2 1925 Assessment.

3 Drawing number 8.

4 Drawing number 4.

5 "A mansard roof has a double slope, the lower being longer and steeper than the upper; named after Francois Mansart." from A Dictionary of Architecture.

6 Drawing number 15.

7 Ibid.

8 Photograph number 5.

9 See "as found" drawing number 5.

10 1898 Diagram.

11 See "as found" number 6.

12 See "as found" numbers 8 and 11.

13 See "as found" number 8.

14 Details of stairway in "as found" number 28.
15 See 1890 Diagram.

16 See "as found" number 10.

17 Drawing number 29.
The Surgeon's Residence, or the Assistant Surgeon's House, or Dr. Pare's Residence as it was also referred to, was built in 1890. The resident surgeon's position was considered prestigious enough to carry with it a separate, relatively comfortable and large home. Little written material describing the Surgeon's House appears to have survived, but a valuable sketch of the plan of the house (D-12) has survived, which, along with photographs, provides the bulk of the information on the structure of the house.

Initially, there were some problems as to which direction the house was to face, but there was apparently little that could be done to correct the situation:

Superintendent Antrobus received instructions to place the Surgeon's House in line with the Hospital. This he did but instead of placing it west of the Hospital and guard room he placed it east and consequently instead of facing on the proposed front square as intended it faced on the back square and stables. It was too far advanced to move at a reasonable price....

The building as it stood in 1925 was described by assessors as follows: "The Surgeon's House. Frame. 2 storey-cellar, stove heated. 3 rooms below. Fair repair. Plaster broken in places". The house was torn down in 1945 and according to Joe Guthrie, a long-time resident of the area, the lumber from the building was used in the construction of a house on 22nd Street in the town of Battleford. Guthrie concurred with the assessors, indicating that at the time the
Surgeon's House was dismantled, it was still in fairly good condition. The style of the building does not appear to have had any of the Gothic features of the Commanding Officer's Residence. The structure was more symmetrical than the Commanding Officer's House, balanced in proportions and in the placement of windows, features more fitting the earlier Classical Revival housing. However, the cross-shaped roof visible from the air, might suggest a Gothic influence -- such eclecticism being popular in building in the last decade of the Nineteenth Century.

**Foundation**
Very little is known of the foundation. The drawing of the building shows brick as the fabric of the foundation, with windows in the cellar. The photographs do not show such construction or any basement windows. Joe Guthrie also indicated that no such construction existed for the foundation.

**Exterior Walls**
As can be seen from photograph 68 (1940's), the exterior walls were clapboarded and were covered on the corners by vertical boards. There is no indication of wood tone.

**Roof**
A front view shows the roof running north and south, hipped at each end. Above the two windows, at the front, on the second story is a saddle-back roof with a simple support for the gables. A side view of the building shows a similar saddle-back roof only at a lower level at the back of the house. The roof was covered with what were likely sawn unfinished shingles. The type of wood used for shingling is
Apertures
There are no photographs of this building from the north side. The plan of the building, dated November, 1900, shows two small windows in what would presumably be the attic. Two large windows, one on the first story and one on the second, also appear in the drawing. These are square windows with four panes in each. The casements of the windows have none of the Gothic features of the windows in the Commanding Officer's House. The back portion of the house has a rear door facing north with a covering roof. As there are no photographs of this side of the building there can be no certainty about the position of the windows on this side; however, Joe Guthrie indicated that the two small windows shown on the drawing immediately under the gable were not present.

There were four windows on the west wall; two on the second story under the peak, and two further apart on the first story on either side of the door. A discrepancy exists between the door as it appears in the drawing and in the photographs. All photographs show the front door having a porch, while the drawing shows no porch, but a small roof overhang. This porch has a door facing south and a small rectangular window facing west. The boards on the porch run vertically, unlike the clap-boarding on the rest of the house. The porch may have been added the year after completion, since there is a request for a porch in 1891:

A decided improvement would be made by putting on a permanent porch and opening the front door outwards. The hall is so very small that when the front door is opened the entrance to the sitting room is closed as there is not room to get between the wall and the door.
There were three windows on the south side of the building, two on the main building and one on the back addition. On the main, larger building there were two windows, one on each story and in line with each other. The window in the back addition is on the first story.

Photograph 37 (1905) shows three windows on the east side, one in the middle of the building on the second story and two on the first story positioned symmetrically.

Chimneys
On the drawing only one chimney appears. But all photographs show that two chimneys existed; one close to the middle of the main building, slightly to the north and west, and one at the rear of the back addition. The pattern of the brickwork cannot be identified from the photographs.

Interior
Information on the interior of the house is taken almost exclusively from the drawings of the house, although other documents provide a sprinkling of additional specifications.

There was apparently a cellar under this building although there is no indication from the drawing where the stairs for this cellar were. The dimensions for the cellar as given by the 1925 Assessment of the building were 12 feet by 12 feet. The drawings show windows to the cellar, but no windows can be detected in the photographs.

According to the drawings, the main part of the first floor of the building had two large rooms 12 feet by 15 feet, located on either side of the hallway and staircase. These were likely a living room and a dining room. At the rear of this level was a kitchen 7 feet 9 inches by 12 feet 4 inches; on either side of the kitchen were a number of smaller rooms,
likely storage rooms. On the north side of the kitchen was the back door, enclosed by a stoop.

On the second floor were two large chambers 12 feet by 15 feet and a smaller bedroom. The purpose of these large chambers on the second floor has not yet been determined.

Changes to this building over time have been almost impossible to describe because of the scarcity of comparative evidence.
Endnotes

1 P.A.C., R.G. 18, vol. 51, file 354. October 31, 1890.

2 1925 Assessment, Battleford Library.

Sergeant's House

As is evident from the photographs, the Sergeant's House was a house of crude construction, unlike the other three official residences at Fort Battleford. Very little written material has been uncovered on the Sergeant's House. According to Joe Guthrie, it was in later years inhabited by the families of two Sergeants, Sergeant F. W. Light and Sergeant Shephard. Some information which seems to refer to the Sergeant's House must be used with caution. References which appear to describe the Sergeant's House are in fact references to the "Sergeant's Room" in one of the Barrack buildings. The two most important sources of information about this building are the photographs and the interviews with Joe Guthrie. Where there was "reasonable doubt" as to the reliability of references to the Sergeant's House or the Sergeant's Room in the Barracks, the material was not used. There is some difficulty in dating the origin of the building. It seems to have appeared in the late 1890's. It is unlikely that the House was actually constructed at this time, since almost all structures built after 1885 were frame structures rather than log. One source suggest that the Sergeant's House was not built at Battleford, but was moved there:

Relating to the Quarters now occupied by the Sergeant-Major of this division.
This building you will remember was purchased from Mr. D. Mowat of Regina. It stands within the Barracks Square here.

The date of this letter, July 9, 1897, along with the reference "will remember" would suggest that the building might
possibly have been acquired shortly before this date. The statement that it was "within the Barracks Square" is somewhat confusing, since in fact it was on the fringe of the buildings at the Fort. This statement might, however, be broadly interpreted to mean that all buildings of the Fort were part of the Barrack Square. The Barrack Square was really never clearly defined at Fort Battleford. The Sergeant's House is the only building to which the letter's references could sensibly be attributed, there being no other log structures in the immediate area. The nearby Doctor's House was not constructed of logs. There is, of course, the unlikely possibility that the building referred to was moved to the Fort and destroyed before any photograph of it was taken. It seems highly improbable that during this time interval a building would have escaped either being photographed or recorded in a diagram.

By 1897 the building had received substantial maintenance:

> Since the purchase was made very considerable and important repairs have been made by our own labour; for instance, it has been lathed and plastered inside, good ceilings put up, chimney built etc. The building as it now stands is worth at least $500 besides meeting our requirements well. I would point out however that one very essential portion of repairs necessary has not been done viz: willowing and plastering on the outside. This should be done at once; no matter how well done "mudding" is not satisfactory.

The only technical description of what is apparently the Sergeant's House, and one substantially corroborated by Joe Guthrie, is found in the 1925 Assessment:

> House. Log. Rough cast -- shingle roof -- 2 rooms upstairs -- 5 rooms downstairs -- verandah screened -- in good repair. 20 X 20 X 15. 12 X 30 X 9. 20 X 11 X 8 shed addition. 20 X 7 verandah screened.
Foundation
No evidence has been unearthed as to whether the Sergeant's House had a foundation or, if it had, what the foundation was made of. If this building was moved to the Fort, it probably had a stone foundation of some kind.

Exterior Walls
According to Joe Guthrie and the 1925 Assessment, the walls of the main building were constructed of logs. They were then plastered both inside and out. In spite of repairs made to other parts of the building, those to the walls were neglected, leaving the walls porous.

During the present rainy weather water is daily being driven through the space between the logs onto the finished plastered walls on the inside; if this goes on the effects of the inside repairs will disappear. The building is well worth preserving.

Roof
The roof of the Sergeant's House was a simple saddle-back roof. Photograph 81 (1920's) shows the shiplap underlay of the roof, and shingles can be seen covering this shiplap. The ridge of the roof was covered by boards. There were no gables or eaves.

Apertures
The south side or front of the building appears to have had three windows: One window on the second story and two on the main level, though the windows on the main floor cannot be clearly seen (see photograph 81, 1920's). The window on the second floor was a simple square window with no decorative trim. Photograph 80 (1910-20) also shows a window facing
south on the western addition. There was a door facing south between the two windows on the main level, though details of this door cannot be seen in the photographs because of the verandah.

The east side of the building had two windows (photograph 77, 1920's): one large rectangular window toward the north end of the building and one smaller square one toward the front or south end of the building.

There is no clear picture of the back or north end of the Sergeant's House. Photograph 77 (1920's) shows a window on the second story. Joe Guthrie thought there were windows facing north on the main floor. No back door is discernible.

No photograph exists of the west side of the building. The only aperture which can be seen on this side is in photograph 80 (1910-20), where a window can be seen through the front window on the eastern annex. Lack of comparative evidence makes it difficult to note any changes to this building over time.

Appendages
Three appendages can be seen in the photographs. A screened verandah is evident on the front of the building. It had a slightly sloped roof which does not appear to have been shingled in photograph 81 (1920's); it may never have been shingled. The building was also surrounded by a wooden wall approximately three feet high. This wall was covered on the outside by vertical boards (see photograph 80, 1910-20).

Photographs 35 (1900-10) and 80 (1910-20) show a "lean-to" with a sloped roof attached to the west side of the building. Horizontal clapboarding covered the outside of this annex. No information exists on the purpose of the lean-to. It was, however, a later addition, since it does not appear on photograph 81 (1920's).
The addition to the back of the main building was, according to Joe Guthrie, a summer kitchen. Photograph 77 (1920's) shows the slope of the roof of this "lean-to" addition, but because of the long distance from which the photograph was taken, no further details can be seen.

Fences
Photograph 81 (1920's), probably the oldest one of the Sergeant's House, shows it surrounded by a picket fence. In photograph 77 (1920's) a higher fence can be seen enclosing the back yard. A wire fence is evident from a front view of the building in photograph 80 (1910-20).

Chimneys
The only chimney in the Sergeant's House was at the back of the main building. It rose through the peak of the roof at the back of the northern end of the house.

Inside

Basement
No evidence exists whether or not there was a basement in the house.

First Floor
The 1925 Assessment indicates that there were five rooms on the first floor. This conflicts with Joe Guthrie's recollection. He stated that there were three rooms on this level.
south on the western addition. There was a door facing south between the two windows on the main level, though details of this door cannot be seen in the photographs because of the verandah.

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**Chimneys**

The only chimney in the Sergeant's House was at the back of the main building. It rose through the peak of the roof at the back of the northern end of the house.

**Inside**

**Basement**

No evidence exists whether or not there was a basement in the house.

**First Floor**

The 1925 Assessment indicates that there were five rooms on the first floor. This conflicts with Joe Guthrie's recollection. He stated that there were three rooms on this level.
Second Floor
Joe Guthrie thought there were three rooms on the second story, whereas the 1925 Assessment indicates only two rooms.
Endnotes

1 See Photograph 35, item number 6.

2 It is possible to further speculate on the advent of this building and conjecture that it appeared in the late 1890's since the Barracks Building seems to have been the residence of the Sergeant in the early 1890's.


5 1925 Assessment.

6 See Photographs 80 and 81.


8 Joe Guthrie tapes.
Part 2 Barracks
In 1876 a Single Officers' Quarters was begun, and according to Hugh Sutherland, was half completed by September. It was probably constructed "Red River style" as were other structures built at this time. In 1878 Commissioner MacLeod reported on the appearance of the Single Officers' Quarters: "No. 2 is not clap-boarded at all and the rooms are only half plastered and the rest left bare. The rain pours thro the chinks." Initially the building served various purposes; Superintendent Walker wrote in 1877 that: "I will use it for Quartermaster's Stores for the winter the other part of the kitchen is now used as a Quartermaster's Office and Post Office. I intend using part of the front for an Orderly Room and I have given Dr. Hagarty the use of part of it until it is required for police purposes...." In later years, probably after 1886, the Single Officer's Quarters became primarily an "Orderly Room" which it remained until 1890. At that time it was in poor condition: "The building at present used as an Orderly Room and Division Office is an old log building. The walls are bad and the roof leaks in several places, although new shingles are constantly being put on. Every storm causes additional repairs to the roof." In July of 1890 it was recommended that the building be destroyed: "With regard to pulling down old buildings I would suggest that the building at present occupied as Orderly Room." As is apparent from the 1878 Diagram (D-1) of Fort Battleford, the Single Officers' Quarters was a T-shaped building.
Exterior
The Single Officers' Quarters, number three on photograph 1 (1885-90), was clearly a log structure. In 1887 Superintendent Walker reported that the "Single Officers' Quarters [was] shingled and the walls chinked and plastered." The view in photograph 1 (1885-90) of the south-west side of the building exposes four apertures, three rectangular windows and a door. Two chimneys are also visible, one on the north-east end of the building and one in the south-east end, though only the tip of this last chimney can be seen.

Interior
Very little is known about the interior of the Single Officers' Quarters. The Diagram drawn in 1887 (D-1) shows that the building was used as an office and store. We also know it was used as a Post Office, Quartermaster's Store, Hospital or Doctor's Residence and Orderly Room. The interior walls were likely lathed and plastered in a manner similar to other buildings at Fort Battleford. This building also apparently had a kitchen which was described by Superintendent Walker as follows: "The front part and half of the kitchen lathed and plastered on the ceiling and a rough unmatched inch Floor, the balance of the kitchen is without a floor but there is sufficient lumber lying about to put on a floor...."
Endnotes


3 Walker Letterbooks. December 17, 1877.


6 Walker Letterbooks. December 17, 1877.

Married Men's Quarters

There were two buildings referred to as "the Married Men's Quarters". On the 1877 diagram (D-1) both buildings are labelled number four. The building farthest north is simply labelled "Married Men's Quarters", while the one next to the Men's Barrack Rooms is marked "Constables Mess and Married Men's Quarters". Compare this to the 1878 diagram (D-2) where building number 9, the one furthest north, is marked "Married Quarters" while building number 8 is labelled "Married Quarters and Hospital". No evidence has been discovered to help in deciding whether the more southerly of the two buildings was used as a Constables' Mess or a Hospital, or whether it was used as both, or neither. The two Married Men's Quarters can be vaguely seen in photograph 9 (1880-85) as the buildings numbered 8 and 9.

The construction of these two buildings was begun in 1876, but when they were entirely finished is not certain. In 1878 it was reported that the Married Men's Quarters "are not floored and without windows. The windows are however on hand and can be put in but these rooms are utterly useless as a mens quarters without floors -- They are about two feet from the ground." The accuracy of this statement is thrown into some doubt by a report of Superintendent Walker in 1877 which stated that "rough hewn logs were on the floor". Also it seems unlikely that the Married Men's Quarters would have remained uninhabitable until 1878, even though they may not have been finished completely.
Location
The Married Men's Quarters can be seen at the northern fringe of the police buildings in the diagrams of 1877 (D-1) and 1878 (D-2), and in photograph 9 (1880-85) as buildings number 8 and 10.

Exterior
In 1877 Superintendent Walker reported that the two buildings known as the Married Officers' Quarters were 20 by 20 and required two stoves in each to keep them warm. He further stated that "No. 4 -- are shingled the walls chinked and plastered and have rough hewn log floors the ceiling lathed and plastered." Photograph 9 (1885-90) shows that each building had a chimney through the middle of the roof, and that both had similar hip-backed roofs. Three apertures can be seen on the northern face of the most northerly building (visibility of the other structure is obstructed by a fence). Two rectangular windows on both sides of a door appear to be present from this perspective.

Inside
The only information available on these buildings indicates that they were lathed and plastered. No evidence on the number of rooms in each of the buildings has been found. The labels on the diagrams seem to suggest that the more southerly of the two buildings might have been used in the 1880's as a Hospital and Mess Hall in addition to being a Married Men's Quarters.
Endnotes


2 Walker Letterbooks. December 17, 1877.

3 Ibid.
Men's Barrack Rooms

The Men's Barrack Rooms (evident in the Diagram of 1977 [D-1] as building number 3) was one of the largest of the original structures erected at Fort Battleford and was intended to provide sleeping quarters for unmarried men. The progress of the construction begun in 1876 was reported by Superintendent Walker as follows:

"No. 3 -- Is all shingled and walls chinked and plastered, the kitchen and dining room lathed and plastered on ceiling and have rough unmatched Floors, all the front of the Barrack Rooms are without Floor or Ceiling. I am using Dining Room as a Barrack Room this winter. I had a Root Cellar built under it this fall to keep vegetables."

The construction of this building was likely of logs in "Red River style" similar to other structures built at the Fort during this time. As Walker's report indicates, this Barrack building was not complete in 1877, and was probably not finished until 1878.

The Men's Barrack Rooms were apparently very cold in winter:

Would you try and get a few hundred dollars from the Department to have the Men's Barrack Room lathed and Plastered as well as the house I live in. You have no idea the hardship men and officers suffered here last winter with cold. Mr. Duffern will plaster a room in the Barracks next month that he has already been paid for. If the Minister would allow to do what I asked for at some time it would make the Barracks very comfortable and save the cost in fire wood alone. I may not
be stationed here myself, but in the interest of whoever may, I write, as I know the hardship we have suffered here for the last six months.

Location
The Men's Barrack Rooms were located northeast of the Commanding Officer's Residence between the Single Officer's Quarters and the Married Officer's Quarters as is evident on the Diagrams of 1877 (D-1) and 1878 (D-2).

Exterior
The exterior of this structure can be seen in photograph 9 (1880-85, numbers 6 and 7) and in photograph 1 (1885-90, number 2); the hip roof of sections number 3 and 4 on the Diagram of 1878 (D-2) are visible in photograph 9 (1880-85). The hip-roof construction of the western wing is visible in photograph 1 (1885-90). These were features of the original building as completed in 1878.

Exterior Walls
The original log construction of the exterior walls is evident in photograph 1 (1885-90). Building number 1 in photograph 1 (1885-90) does not appear to be part of this building and was probably a separate storage house, though it is difficult to be sure of this from the photograph. However, it should be noted that a separate storage house does not appear on the 1878 Diagram (D-2). Lack of evidence has made it impossible to note any changes to the exterior walls.
Chimneys
There appear to have been three chimneys in the original building: one through the eastern roof, visible in photograph 9 (1880-85) and two in the western section.

Ventilation
A ventilator was an original part of this building and is visible in photograph 1 (1885-90). It was probably used as an outlet for air from the kitchen.

Appendages
A porch is evident in photograph 1 (1885-90) over the front door, though it is not known whether this was part of the original structure or a later addition.

Interior
The Diagram of 1878 (D-2) shows that sections number 3, 4, and 5 were Men's Quarters, while number 6 was a Guard House and number 7, a kitchen. These were the original divisions of the building when completed in 1878. Part of this is corroborated by Superintendent Walker who reported in 1877: "I had a partition put up across the kitchen of NO. 3 and had the half of it filled up for a Guard Room and Cells which would do for the present but in the event of a full troop being stationed here I would recommend that a separate Guard Room be built."
Endnotes


Men's Barracks (1886)

The North Barracks or Quartermaster's Store as it was later referred to, was a building similar in design to the Concert Hall. It was to the north of the Mess Hall, while the Concert Hall was to the south. The Men's Barracks was one of two barrack buildings intended to serve the increased force at Fort Battleford after 1885. The dimensions of the North Barrack building were to be identical to the measurements of the Concert Hall, 102 feet by 32 feet. Construction on the building was begun in 1886 and substantially finished in 1887, though it was not entirely completed until 1888. In 1890 a washroom addition was built:

In my report of last year I stated that a washroom was required at this Post. One has lately been built, which is a great comfort -- I might say almost a luxury -- to the men, and the barrack rooms are in consequence much cleaner and healthier.

The Men's Barracks were, like the Concert Hall, built to be readily convertible into stables. They were to be constructed "to permit of their being hereafter available as stables, for which they are in all respects thoroughly suitable." Up to approximately 1900 (though it may have been later) the Barracks were used as quarters for constables. But as the size of the force decreased after 1885, three barrack buildings were no longer required and the Men's Barracks was converted into a storehouse or Quartermaster's Store.

As a storehouse it was used mainly to keep supplies,
clothing and rations, though there were also rooms used as offices. Joe Guthrie indicated that part of the building was also used for a time as a place to keep women prisoners. This is supported by a report dated 1915 which states: "The north-east portion of the Quartermaster store is being altered for the accommodation of female prisoners, this was an absolute necessity as we frequently have female prisoners and lunatics arriving, and no regular place has been available hitherto." The building at one time had "quite a number of rooms," many of which were likely offices. In later years, according to Joe Guthrie, the building was purchased by a Mr. Stewart, who used it for storing grain. Photograph 59 (1930's) shows the boarded-up windows, indicating that the building was probably being used for grain storage at the time this photograph was taken. Two descriptions of the Men's Barracks provide important details of the building:

Quarter-Masters Store -- with office addition -- Frame one storey, plastered -- shingle roof. stove heated -- in good repair. At one time Barrack Room -- now fitted with bins for grain. main 102 X 33 X 20. addtn. 10 X 32 X 11.

Another description indicates:

Foundation
It seems that there was a foundation under the Men's Barracks, though no details of this foundation have been discovered. It was, however, likely a stone foundation similar
to that built for the Concert Hall or Mess Hall.

**Exterior Walls**
The walls of the Men's Barracks, like those of the Concert Hall and Mess Hall, were sided with tongued and grooved clapboards. On the corners the clapboards were covered by vertical corner boards.

**Roof**
The roof of the main building was a saddle-back roof covered with shingles and with ridge boards. The roof on the lean-to and porch was a simple sloping roof. (See photograph 21 (1900-10).

**Apertures**
It is evident from photographs 13 (1890's), 38 (1900-10), 53 (1900-10), 56 (1900-10) and 62 (1900-10) that there were originally two apertures on the north side: one small window in the attic and a door on the main level. The door was covered by a porch. None of the photographs of this side of the building are clear enough to see any detail of window or door trim.

The southern end of the Men's Barracks is visible in photographs 21 (1900-10), 28 (1900-10), 36 (1900-10), 57 (1930's), 59 (1930's) and 69 (1885-90). These photographs show that the southern end of the building was identical to the northern end. One small window is evident in the attic and a door covered by a porch is visible on the main floor.

Upon its completion in 1886, there were nine windows on the eastern side of this building, three in the lean-to addition and three on either side of the lean-to. A door
facing south on the lean-to addition is also visible on this side. These details are evident in photographs 21 (1900), 26 (1930's), 36 (1900), 57 (1930's) and 69 (1885-90).

Seven windows and a door are visible on the side of the Men's Barracks, facing west. The door was situated near the southern end of the building. This side can be more clearly seen in photographs 53 (1900-10) and 59 (1930's).

Appendages
There were three appendages on the Men's Barracks; two of these were porches probably built in the late 1880's at the southern and northern ends of the building. The other appendage built around 1890 was the lean-to addition to the eastern side of the building. The southern end of this lean-to had a door and the eastern front had three windows. This addition was 11 feet by 34 1/2 feet. There are no older photographs showing the northern end.

Chimneys
There were two chimneys in this building: one through the peak of the roof in the middle of the building and one through the eastern side of the roof towards the southern end of the building. The chimney through the eastern roof was built in 1890. This chimney cannot be seen in early photographs of the building.

Inside

Basement
There was apparently a basement under this building:
I have the honor to submit the following report on the cellar in the Q.M. Store, which instead of being under the centre of the building is under one end of it, close to the door of the store. In addition to this, the walls of the cellar are too close to the outside of the building. The dimensions at present are 8' x 14'. As the building is only 21' in width, this only allows a distance of 3 1/2' on each side, between the walls of the cellar and outside of building; which is not enough to keep the frost out. It is also too shallow, being only 4 1/2' in depth. This has the effect of keeping the cellar too warm in summer, whereby the potatoes are as likely to be spoiled as in the winter. On account of the sandy soil, the walls are continually falling in. I should suggest that the old cellar be filled in, and a new one built under the centre of the building; the walls to be boarded up with rough lumber, the lumber to be kept in place by means of posts driven into the ground at intervals.

There is no evidence that this new basement was ever built. But a diagram (D-19) drawn of the proposed cellar may help determine where it is located if it was built.

Main Floor
Little is known of the inside of this building, because little descriptive material has been found. It apparently saw many alterations as the use of the building changed from barracks to storehouse (circa 1900) to granary (1930's and 40's). But the details of these changes are not available. One diagram (D-18) of the interior of the building has survived, but its accuracy is questionable. By 1891, the date of the diagram (D-18), there were offices in the building which are not included in the drawing. Also the placement of the exterior doors in this diagram is inaccurate. There were apparently washroom facilities in the building, which might have been in the lean-to addition at one time. Joe
Guthrie stated that he thought a family once lived in this lean-to addition, probably during the 1920's. This apparently conflicting evidence makes any conclusion about the use of the building purely speculative. Maintenance reports include shelving and cupboard construction for the Men's Barracks in 1891. 9
Endnotes

1 Commissioner's Report, 1890.

2 Commissioner's Report, 1886.

3 Commissioner's Report, 1915.

4 Taped interviews with Joe Guthrie.

5 1925 Assessment.


7 P.A.C., R.G. 18, vol. 51, file 354, Nov. 24, 1890.

8 P.A.C., R.G. 18, vol. 1259, file 29, April 5, 1893.

Part 3  Entertainment and Mess Halls
Concert Hall

What was at times referred to as the Concert Hall, Drill Hall or Recreation Hall was originally a Barracks Building. In this building the men at the Fort participated in a wide variety of social and athletic activities to balance the sometimes boring routine of police service. The Concert Hall was begun in 1886 to accommodate the larger force stationed at Fort Battleford in the aftermath of the fighting of 1885. It was one of "two large buildings, capable of comfortably accommodating all men here."¹ Both barrack buildings were to be 102 x 32 feet and were "balloon frames, double sheeted with tar paper between on the outside."² The architects had the buildings constructed so that they could be easily converted into stables:

The barrack rooms are so constructed as to permit their being hereafter available as stables, for which they are in all respects thoroughly suitable. In the meantime they will afford comfortable, airy and healthy barrack accommodation for the winter.

The building was never used for stables, though in 1894 permission was given to build a canteen in the building, an addition considered to be "a great boon to the men."⁴

There is no canteen at this Post but it is proposed to start one. The only available space is in the North end of the building in which the recreation room is. The barber's shop is at present in one corner, but the remainder of the room will suffice. A partition can be built from near the door across the room to the partition of the recreation room. The estimated cost is about
$75.00. A cellar can be dug under this part. The difficulty appears to be to get draught beer to Battleford, none ever having reached there, the haul over land being too long.

The building was also put to use as a drill hall and court room:

The old recreation hall which we now term the "drill hall", as now completed presents a very fair appearance and would do credit to any barracks. The work was done by our carpenter, Reg. No. 2593 Constable A. M. Frizzel, under my directions. Such a hall has long been wanted for drill instruction purposes during the winter months. It also makes a suitable court house and is used as such at the sittings of the Supreme Court.

In 1905 the building was supposed to have been renovated to provide more room, though it is unlikely that this was ever carried out, even though it was reported that, "The concert hall has been extended 18 feet, and we now, in addition to a first class gymnasium and ball-room, have a good basket and indoor baseball room, to say nothing of the miniature rifle range already mentioned. All of which contributes to the contentment and efficiency of the division." This report also asked for alterations so that, "we will have a drill hall, gymnasium and shooting gallery, to say nothing of the dancing and concert hall, at present it makes a most indifferent gymnasium, and is so blocked with various machines as to be practically useless for anything else...." Though this building may have been used for all of the above purposes, there is no evidence that it was ever extended by eighteen feet. The measurements of the 1925 Assessment provide conclusively that the building was never extended beyond its original dimensions.

The Concert Hall at one time also housed a billiard table and had "a very good library." It also had a "theatre with stage benches."
The Concert Hall was still standing in 1925, at which time it was described as follows:


Foundation
When described in 1925, the Concert Hall was found to have a stone foundation.

Exterior Walls
Like the Mess Hall and Men's Barracks, the Concert Hall was originally a frame building, lined with paper and sided with tongued and grooved clap-boards. The corners were covered by vertical corner boards. There were no major changes to the exterior of this building before it was destroyed around 1940.

Roof
The roof was a simple saddle-back roof, covered with wooden shingles and boards along the ridge.

Apertures
Only one photograph shows the north end of the building, that being photograph 53 (1900-10). In this photograph a small window can be seen in the attic and a door is evident on the ground level. The photograph is not clear enough to detect any details of the window or door.

Photographs 36 (1900) and 78 (1900-10) show the east
side of the building. These photographs show eight windows and a door. The windows are all of equal size and appear to have the same peaked casements as those on the Mess Hall. The door is approximately two-thirds of the way towards the northern end of the building. A diagram dated 1891 (D-18) shows two doors on this eastern side, but these doors do not appear in the photographs, making the accuracy of this diagram questionable.

The southern side of the building can be most clearly seen in photograph 18 (1930-35). Here, two apertures, one on the second storey and one on the first, are evident. The window on the second storey was a very interesting particular of an otherwise ordinary building. It was characterized by an arc-shaped Gothic slope which peaked at the top of the window. There was some decorative woodwork under the peak. (Behind this window was the stage.) The door on the main storey had the same peaked casement as the windows.

The west side of this building had eight rectangular windows, each with peaked casements.

Appendages
The photographs show only one appendage, that being the porch on the east side of the building. The 1891 diagram (D-18) shows two entrances, two porches and a bathroom addition on the west side. The accuracy of this diagram is severely in doubt since none of these additions appear on the photographs. There is a remote possibility that a bathroom existed which was later torn down, although photograph 18 (1930-35) reveals no evidence on the exterior wall of there ever having been an addition onto this side.
Chimneys
Photograph 18 (1930-35) shows the Concert Hall had two chimneys: one near the middle, through the ridge of the roof, and another through the eastern slope of the roof towards the south end of the building.

Inside

Basement
One reference suggests that a cellar be dug under the Concert Hall, but no evidence was discovered which indicated that this request was carried out.\textsuperscript{12} Neither description of the buildings of 1925 makes any mention of a basement in the Concert Hall.

Ground Floor
The 1891 diagram (D-18) shows a division of the interior of this building, however this division must be viewed skeptically since none of the diagram's external details of the building appear to be accurate. These divisions were possibly suggestions rather than actual illustrations of the building.

Only one description of the interior was found, recorded in 1905. A profile of a cross-section of the hall is described as follows:

\textldots for 8 ft. from the walls it is only some 11 ft. high, then in the centre it goes to nearly 20 ft. but this height is only 14 ft. 6 in. wide, the stage itself takes up over one third of the length of the room, leaving only 31, ft. 2 in. for drill and other purposes....

The 1925 Assessment of the buildings indicates that
there were two rooms in the main part of the Concert Hall, and that the interior walls were plastered and painted; no mention was made of the colour of the paint used. Joe Guthrie stated that there was a small dressing room in the south end of the building underneath the stage. He also stated that there were balconies at both ends of the room. One of these balconies can be seen in photograph 74 (1910-20). A stairway to the stage balcony is evident in this photograph as is the decorative trimming along the top of the walls. One can also see a hardwood floor. If there were balconies at each end of the room, it is difficult to tell which end of the building this photograph exposes. A spruce floor was apparently put down in 1897.14

It is possible that photograph 69A (1900) is of the interior of the Concert Hall, but it is probably a photograph of the interior of the Hospital.
Endnotes

1 Saskatchewan Herald, September 27, 1886.
2 Herald, October 11, 1886.
3 Commissioner's Report, 1886.
4 Commissioner's Report, 1894.
6 Commissioner's Report, 1897.
7 Commissioner's Report, 1905.
8 Ibid.
10 Ibid.
11 P.A.C., R.G. 15, vol 327, 1925.
In 1885, half a dozen new buildings were planned for Fort Battleford, among which was a Mess Hall. This new Mess Hall was to be the dining place for all constables at Fort Battleford. The building was used as a dining hall until the 1920's when part of it became a barracks or sleeping quarters for non-commissioned officers. Some evidence also indicates that there was a small library and billiard room in the Mess Hall at one time. The changes in the use made of this building makes identification of some references to the Mess Hall difficult. Sources referring to the building are variously cited as Mess Hall, Mess Hall and Kitchen, Constables' Mess, Mess, Mess Cottage, Men's Mess or Men's Mess Kitchen. There are even some references to the building as the Sergeant's Quarters, before a separate residence for Sergeants was established. Today the building is somewhat erroneously called "Barracks 5", since for most of the vital life of the Fort the building was used as a Mess Hall.

On September 26, 1886, a contract was entered into with Mr. Smart and Mr. Mitchell "for one barrack and mess room, $1,700.00." Like other structures being constructed at this time, it was to be balloon framed, "double sheeted with tar paper between on the outside, lined and ceiled on the inside with paper and tongued and grooved lumber." An Article in the October 11, 1886 Saskatchewan Herald described other features of the buildings: "The floors are double with paper between. The roofs, which are to be covered with
shingles, are exceptionally strong, and taken together the buildings give promise of being more comfortable as they are more commodious, than any heretofore erected at this post." Though the contract for the work was awarded by September 1886, construction was not begun until the following year and the building was not completed until 1888. The plan drawn up by the Department of Public Works was for the Mess Hall to be 80 ft. by 30 ft. "with a wing 30 ft. x 25 ft., for kitchens." As it stood in 1925, the building was described as follows:

Barrack Quarters -- Kitchen etc. Frame.
One storey -- plastered -- shingle roof.
stove heated -- stone foundation -- in good repair. Main. 83 x 32 x 20 (4 Rooms).
addtn. 26 x 32 x 20 (3 Rooms).

Foundation
The only reference to the foundation was in the 1925 Assessment which indicated that the building had a stone foundation.

Exterior Walls
As is evident from photograph 18 (1930-35), the walls of the Mess Hall had been clapboarded with tongued and grooved lumber on the outside. These boards were covered with vertical corner-boards. Underneath, the walls were "lined and ceiled .... with paper." There were no major changes to these exterior walls over the years.

Roof
The roof was a simple saddle-back roof, with a similar roof over the kitchen, running perpendicular to the main roof,
giving the building a "T"-shape. Originally in 1886 this roof was covered with wooden shingles (the type of wood is unknown), but now it is covered with asphalt shingles.

Apertures
No substantial changes have been made over the years to the apertures in the Mess Hall. There were three windows in the north end of the main building, two large windows in the first storey and one smaller one in the attic. (See photograph 46, 1950's). The windows all had a slightly peaked casement over the lintel boards. The north side of the kitchen addition also had three windows, all on the main level.

The east side of the building had eight apertures, two doors and six windows. The two doors were symmetrically placed in the back of the kitchen addition. The windows were on the main building, three on each side of the kitchen addition. The windows all had peaked casements similar to the other windows on the north side.

The southern side of the Mess Hall had three windows placed in similar positions to the windows on the north end: two large windows on the main storey, with a smaller window in the attic. The southern side of the kitchen addition had three windows, all of the same size.

The western side of the building had ten apertures: eight windows and two doors. The square doors were placed towards each end of the building, with four windows between them. The other four windows were at either end of the building, two at each end.

Appendages
The main appendage to the Mess Hall was the kitchen addition. This addition has already been substantially described. It
was an original part of the building and had two doors on the eastern side. It also had six windows, three on either side. There were two other appendages to this building, built in the late 1880's, which were porches over the doors on the western side. These small porches had slanting roofs with the exterior walls covered by vertically placed boards.

Chimneys
There were two chimneys in the Mess Hall, one through the peak in the centre of the main building, and one in through the peak of the roof at the eastern end of the kitchen addition.

Inside

Basement
Very little conclusive evidence exists for the basement. In spite of the 1891 diagram (D-18) showing a basement, it is unlikely that there was one under the kitchen. The broken lines of the diagram might mean that a basement was only a suggested addition.

First Floor
There is conflicting evidence on the interior divisions of the Mess Hall. The "as found" drawing of the floor plan shows two large rooms in the main part of the building and two small rooms in the kitchen addition. An 1891 diagram (D-18) of what is apparently the Mess Hall shows more divisions in the southern end of the building. The diagram shows four small rooms, 10 ft. by 12 ft. and two larger
rooms on the first floor. If this diagram refers to the Mess Hall, (and there is some doubt that it does) then it is possible that these were merely suggested changes to the interior which were not carried out. Perhaps a careful examination of the inside of this building could reveal whether or not these divisions ever did exist. The 1925 Assessment indicates that there were four rooms in the main part of the building and three in the kitchen addition. Unfortunately no early photographs of the inside exist to assist in determining the number of rooms in the building. Joe Guthrie thought that photograph 69A (1900) might have been of the inside of the Mess Hall, but it is difficult to be certain as to where this photograph was taken. The chimney at the end of the room throws some doubt on the photograph being of the Mess Hall since there were no chimneys at the end of the building in the manner shown in the photograph. The wall in the photograph may only be the end of a room, and not the end of the building, however this seems unlikely since there would probably be a door leading to other parts of the building. Only the hospital appears to have a chimney in the end wall consistent with this photograph. If the photograph could be more definitely identified, it would provide valuable information about the building's interior.

The "as found" drawings indicate that there was a hardwood floor of painted fir in the Mess Hall, but no evidence has been found to indicate whether this floor was original or whether it was a later addition.

Attic
There was a rather large attic in the Mess Hall, probably used as storage space.
Endnotes

1 P.A.C., R.G. 18, vol. 301, file 547. Sept. 8, 1905. This evidence is also corroborated by Joe Guthrie. See taped interviews.

2 P.A.C., Public Works, SP 7-8B, vol. 21, no. 9, 1888.

3 Saskatchewan Herald, October 11, 1886.

4 Ibid.

5 Saskatchewan Herald, October 11, 1886, and P.A.C., Public Works, AP 7-8B, vol. 21, no. 9, 1888.

6 Report of Commissioner, 1885.

7 1925 Assessment.

8 Saskatchewan Herald, October 11, 1886.
Part 4  Immigration Sheds
Immigration Sheds

It appears there might have been two buildings used as "Immigrant Sheds" at Fort Battleford. These "sheds", as they were referred to, were to provide shelter for immigrants awaiting access to their lands. Some references mention only one "Immigrant Shed", however two pieces of evidence lead to the conclusion that there might have been two such buildings. The first bit of evidence is the 1906 Diagram (D-5) which shows two buildings in the northwest corner of the Police grounds labelled as Immigration buildings: the one furthest north is simply shows as "Immigration building", while the one closer to the other buildings is labelled "coal shed or Immigration building". The following evidence shows that one of the buildings used as an Immigrants' Shed was converted to a coal shed.

I have the honor to request authority to have the Immigration Building nearest to the Stable fitted up as a coal shed. This is practically the only building in the Barracks that could be used as a coal shed, and I believe it would be much safer for the Barracks if coal was stored here....there are seven stoves in the building in question and in the event of any immigrants setting the place on fire it would mean practically the loss of all the buildings, on account of them being so close to the stables.

The overflow of immigrants to the barracks in the 1900's presented more than just an increased threat of fire. Their inherent vices made them less than whole-heartedly welcome:

The old quarter master's store has been turned into an immigration shed, and is always more...
or less full and occasionally they overflow [sic] and have to be allowed to enter the female prison, when vacant. Immigrants in barracks are, to say the least a nuisance. They simply cannot help annexing small articles, and the children do a certain amount of damage.

The building furthest north was the original Immigration Building and the one further south on the 1900 Diagram (D-4) was a converted Quartermaster's Store. The exact date of the disappearance of these buildings is not known, but neither of them appears to have survived past 1925, since they are not included in the 1925 Assessment.

Location
One of the Immigrants Sheds is visible in the northwest corner of the grounds on three photographs: photograph 33, number 1 (1920's); photograph 13, number 1 (1890's); and photograph 56, number 2 (1900-10). The building seen on these photographs seems to be the more southerly Immigrants' Shed on the 1906 Diagram (D-5). Both Immigrants' Sheds appear on the 1906 Diagram, while only one is included in the 1900 Diagram (D-4).

Exterior
The photographs are not clear enough to identify details of the construction of the buildings or to allow detection of any changes over time.

Roof
Photograph 33 (1920's) shows this building to have a hip-roof construction.
Apertures
In Photograph 33 (1920's) a number of windows are visible, however, whether they were original or later additions is not known.

Chimney
No chimneys are evident, though there must have been chimneys in this building.

Interior
Very little is known of the interior other than the presence of the seven stoves which were in the more southerly building (mentioned in the previous quotation).
Endnotes


2 Commissioner's Report, Nov. 30, 1905.
Part 5    Defense
Stockade

In 1879 plans were made by Superintendent Walker for a stockade, or palisade as it was also referred to, to defend against possible attacks and to keep loitering Indians off Police property. His case for a stockade was as follows:

I expect a large number of Plain and Wood Indians of different nationalities will come around the settlements for assistance and a moderately strong force here might be the means of preventing serious disturbances. The Ass't. Commissioner will be here shortly on a tour of inspection. I will then point to him more urgently for having the barracks more better protected [sic] and enclosed by a Palisade.

Walker also argued that a stockade was necessary to protect the surrounding population: "I would also recommend that the buildings of this place be moved more closely together and a palisade put around them should there ever be any trouble here there is not place where the residents could go for protection." Walker further explained that a stockade was needed to prevent Indians "from wandering about the buildings, smoking and lighting their pipes in the vicinity of the stables and hay yard." A similar protection was more bluntly phrased by Commissioner Herchmer who requested "Strong picket fences....as the annoyance caused by cattle is great, and without proper fences it is impossible to keep both Indians and cattle outside the post."

By April 23, 1880 preliminary preparation for a stockade was complete, when it was reported by John French that:
Supt. Walker got out logs for a stockade and they are lying on the ground ready to be put up. I would therefore request permission to make arrangements to have this stockade completed. I can have it done by contract for $120.00. I strongly recommend that the stockade be finished this summer. It will be a great protection against storms and any danger that may threaten.

The stockade was apparently substantially completed by the winter of 1880:

The stockade has been erected; this was a difficult matter, as, owing to more pressing work and being short-handed, it was left till the last and then the ground was frozen hard. There were not sufficient pickets, so log fence rails had to be used to fill up; the number required can be procured this winter. I would suggest that I be authorized to erect bastions at the corners."

Builders of the Stockade

The Mounted Police provided much of the labour, but Indians of the area also assisted in the completion of a stockade intended to keep them off Police property: "Mr. Dickinson the Indian Agent got the Indians to cut most of the pickets, he had to feed them anyway and had them cut pickets." Prisoners were also employed: "The prisoners for the next week will be kept cutting timbers for the stockade....The timber will be got along the Saskatchewan on the flats below the Barracks. S. C. Shaw will draw this timber to the barracks with a team of horses and will be assisted in loading by prisoner or Quinn."®

Area Enclosed by Stockade

The Saskatchewan Herald reported in 1879 that: "A stockade is being erected around the police barracks here. It
embraces an area 480 by 510 feet, the posts 10 feet above the ground." The dimensions are the same as those quoted by Campbell Innes in a later report on the stockade.

Materials Used
There is some controversy over the kinds of logs used in the construction of the original stockade. In 1941, Effie Storer, a journalist from the Battleford area, wrote: "In 1879 a stockade of tamarac posts eight inches in diameter and ten feet high was built. The posts unpeeled, stood side-by-side and enclosed an area 480 ft. by 510 feet."

This claim is contradicted to some degree by another report, probably written by Campbell Inness, who interviewed a number of old-timers of the Battleford area for information on the stockade. From this evidence Innes concluded that "The Indians under Big Bear who did the first building under Police supervision used some poplar, later I believe, the Police used all tamarac." He further states:

The stockade was built under the direction of Colonel Walker in 1879. D. M. Finlayson had the contract for transporting the logs which were secured from Pine Island some 45 miles up the Saskatchewan River, which is still heavily wooded. The logs were floated down. They were spruce. Some pioneers argue tamarac and some state that 25 per cent of the logs were poplar. They were 8 inches in diameter and unpeeled. They were placed side by side 2 1/2 feet in the earth and above ground 10 feet, some say 8 feet. The earth was piled up on the inside a foot or two to strengthen the palisade. Sacks filled with sand by the beleaguered garrison of 1885 were piled at the port holes on the inside. Some say that bracing timber was placed on top....The survey shows the exact position of this [stockade] included police grounds but the gardens were not in the stockade. The maps in the Battleford town office prepared by R. C. Laurie show the exact site really the area marked Police
Barracks on your map. [Map dated 1908].

Another report written by Harry Tatro, a former Superintendent at Fort Battleford claims that "The largest portion of the timber was undoubtedly poplar. This is born out by the fact that poplar is the only satisfactory timber that is abundant in the area." He supports this claim by citing photographs of the stockade, on which he apparently identified the kinds of posts used and from logs he dug up near the fallen stockade in 1956. Mr. Tatro sent samples of the logs he dug up for identification of J. H. Jenkins, Chief of Forest Products Laboratories of Canada. The specimens were identified as "Spruce and willow or poplar."

From this evidence it appears that various kinds of logs were used for the stockade, though further work by archaeologists might provide information on the numbers of each kind of log that made up the stockade. Whether tamarac logs were used, as the old-timers claimed, remains unanswered.

Changes to the Stockade
Early photographs in which the stockade is visible are not clear enough to make possible any accurate conclusions as to its construction. It appears to have been a fairly orderly stockade with logs of at least six inch diameter. [See photographs 1 (1885-90), 20 (1880's) and 85 (1885). These photographs show that the posts of the stockade are (at least of more substantial girth than the pickets that are evident in photograph 10 (1879-80).] It has been believed to date that the pickets in photograph 10 (1879-80) were part of the original stockade. However, the position from which this photograph was taken, along with the flimsy appearance of these pickets when compared to other photographs of the stockade, makes it doubtful that this was part of the stockade. The picket fence seen in photograph 10 was probably an
enclosure for chickens or possibly horses. Other photographs clearly show that the stockade was much sturdier than the fence shown in photograph 10 (1879-80). The earliest photograph of the stockade shows that the top of the stockade was not as uneven as the fence in photograph 10.

The original logs of the stockade were reported to have been pointed; this changed by 1882 when the Saskatchewan Herald reported that "The top of the stockade at the barracks have been trimmed off, which greatly improves its appearance." It was trimmed to a height of ten feet.

In 1885 further changes were made to the stockade:

As you will be aware, the stockade was in a more or less dilapidated condition, and my first care was to make it as strong as possible. I caused boards to be nailed all around the top, and throw up a four post embankment against it on the inside. Through this breastwork I pierced portholes at suitable distance, and so arranged them with sand bags as to secure the greatest possible protection for my men, while at the same time affording them every facility for pouring a destructive fire on any hostile body approaching to attack. At the south-east and north-west corners I built bastions for the accommodation of the one 7 pr. at my disposal and around each trenches were dug sufficiently wide and deep to effectually stop any sudden rush of the enemy in that quarter. [sic]

Very little is known about the construction of the bastions, (and some evidence suggests there was only one) there being no surviving photographs uncovered to date. Harry Tatro, in 1958 wrote of the bastions:

There is no evidence but the impression of old-timers on the bastions. The belief seems to be that the logs were horizontal. Some years ago a local artist did two pictures of the Fort from impressions of old-timers; in one the logs are horizontal, probably square in shape, and saddle joined. In the other lots are upright. In both the covering on the roof is sod. Both saddle joins and groove joins (Red River style) were used here at this
post. The bastions were put up in a hurry at the commencement of the trouble in 1885 so it could be assumed that the fastest method would be adopted. They were built to accommodate a seven pounder which was in use here at the time, so the loopholes would have to be low enough for the purpose, about two feet from the ground. I suggest making as little change as necessary to the present construction, because people have become accustomed to it as it is and changes will be questioned. However, if change is practical or more suitable, I think there is nobody who can say that we are wrong and they know what is right.

The present bastion is hexagon with wall about one foot above the height of stockade and a long narrow loophole on each side at Stockade level, there is one large loophole on each of the three outermost walls and two smaller ones on the two walls close to the stockade wall. The roof is of slabs laid horizontally. There is no walk within for riflemen to make use of the upper loopholes. We cannot too critically question the height of the lower cannon loopholes for there is no reason why the interior floor could not have been built up with dirt to raise the small cannon. I doubt if the original bastion roofs were shingled because of the scarcity of material and rush of construction.

Another report by Campbell Innes states that "There was a bastion made of four foot poplar wood in a circular formation of 12 feet some 9 feet high. There were openings of 4 feet front, left and right in order to point 7 pounder gun in these directions." Innes' more specific account was based on reminiscences of old-timers. Both Innes and Tatro agree that there were two bastions; they are supported in this by Superintendent Morris who wrote in 1885: "At the south-east and north-west corners I built bastions for the accommodation of the one 7-pounder at my disposal, and around each trenches were dug sufficiently wide and deep to effectively stop a sudden rush of the enemy in that
Perhaps excavation could provide some more information. At the northeast corner some boards are exposed which may have formed the base of the original bastion. If this is the case, the original bastion is not far off of the original site.

There were, according to Campbell Innes, only two gates in the stockade:

There was a gate at the west side 12 feet wide, wide enough for a load of hay and 150 feet from the south-west corner. This was used by the Department of Indian Affairs. The Mounted Police used the gate on the east side. This was 12 feet wide and placed some distance from the southeast corner. The gates faced each other."

These gates can be seen on the Maps of 1908 (M-5) and

In 1886 plans were made to extend the stockade but these were apparently not acted upon. A new stockade was to replace the original which had fallen into disrepair and offers for tenders were advertized in the Saskatchewan Herald. A contract for supplying logs for the stockade was awarded to W. J. Barber, and some logs were delivered, but the stockade was never built. In 1889 it was reported that "On the night of the 26th April a severe gale raged; a large portion of the stockade was blown down. As it is no protection to the post, I would recommend that the balance be pulled down and used for fire wood." By 1890 an alternative plan for an enclosure was adopted and the plan for a new stockade was scrapped: "The work of enclosing the Mounted Police barrack square has made another step towards completion. The long delayed stockade has been abandoned and gives way to a neat wire fence, the posts for which are being planted. The fence is far more sightly than a stockade and quite as successful as a means for defence in the event of an attack -- a contingency not likely to arise."
Present Accuracy of Stockade

The Stockade as it now stands is not in its original position, although Joe Guthrie thought it was "fairly close". The possibility that there is greater error is evident from a report made by Harry Tatro in 1956 after his own excavations:

If what we uncovered is the buried part of the original stockade logs, and I believe there is no doubt of this, then it would appear that all four sides are slightly off the actual site and not quite parallel to original walls. Distances range from 19 feet to 5 feet in error. Gates appear to be in the right location and with the digging we did we were unable to find any evidence of bastion. The bastions may have been only surface structures and would have left no remains."

Perhaps further digs could discover where the original stockade ran, since photographic evidence is of little assistance.
Endnotes


3 Ibid. Dec. 19, 1879.

4 Commissioner's Report. 1886.

5 Walker Letterbook. Apr. 23, 1880.

6 Commissioner's Report. 1880.


8 Ibid. Aug. 11, 1879.

9 Saskatchewan Herald. Aug. 11, 1879.

10 Campbell Innes, "The Stockade", unpublished report at Fort Battleford Library.

11 Effie Storer, "Description of Stockade" in Innes Papers, U. of S. Archives.

12 Innes Report.

13 Ibid.


16. **Saskatchewan Herald.** April 15, 1882.

17. Commissioner's Report. 1885. See also Mulvaney, *The North-West Rebellion*: "A trench has been excavated inside the palisades, which are loop-holed for purposes of defense. Then there is a bastion at the south-eastern angle for a gun which flanks the southern and eastern faces to a certain extent". P. 372.


19. **Innes Report.** One of the reminiscences sent to Innes was a letter from Fred Bagley written Sept. 27, 1941. Bagley was a former member of "C" Division at Fort Battleford. Though Innes chose not to emphasize the points made by Bagley, perhaps considering them unreliable, they are worthy of consideration:

(1) -- no sand bags were used in 1885, but the earth from shallow trench was piled against the lower part of the logs of the stockade.

(2) -- There were no port holes as such -- the intention being to fire, if necessary, through the chinks between the logs of the stockade.

(3) -- Up to the time I left Battleford late in the Fall of 1885 no Indian Dept. Official ever entered the Fort except for a brief social call.

(4) -- No bracing timber was placed on the tops of the logs of the stockade.

(5) -- There was a fairly large gate, and also a small postern gate on the West side, but the main gate was on the N. side.

(6) -- There was no gate at all on the E. side.

(7) -- There were no bastions at all, wither at the S.W. or N.E. corner nor at any other point, but there was an improvised, open gun pit at the N.W. corner.
20 Commissioner's Report. 1885, Appendix I, p. 81.

21 Ibid. See footnote 19, where Fred Bagley claims there were more than two gates.

22 Commissioner's Report. 1889.

23 Saskatchewan Herald. May 14, 1890.

Guard House

The Guard House which is still standing at Fort Battleford was begun in 1887 and probably completed in 1888. Walker reported early in 1877 that, "....there is no Guard House of lock up of any description built. Mr. Sutherland informed me that it was struck off the plan at Ottawa."¹ Little conclusive evidence is available on which buildings were used to keep prisoners prior to 1887. At one time an old Barrack building apparently housed prisoners: "....we decided that the best plan would be to make a temporary guardroom and cells in the old Barrack building inside the stockade, the unused parts would be available for harness room and store ...."² It appears that there were only temporary prisoner facilities, probably in different buildings up until the construction of a new Guard House in 1887.

The construction of the Guard House was not begun until late in 1887. On September 10 of that year the Saskatchewan Herald reported that, "The contract for the building of the new guard house had not yet been awarded". But later in the month the contract was awarded: "The contract for the new guard room has been awarded to Mr. Pomerleau for about $2400. The next tender was about $500 higher and one other nearly double the amount of the successful bid."³ The exact date of the completion of the Guard House has not been determined but it was likely sometime in 1888. Not all prisoners were kept in this Guard House -- female prisoners were kept in the Men's Barracks (1886).
Some concern was expressed by an inspector over the ventilation in the Guard House. The air space in the large guard room inside the door was found to be adequate and in compliance with the British regulation of 1,000 square feet per head. However the prisoners section was found lacking: The "Lock-Up" part which is divided into six cells would present an air space of 5691 cubic feet but allowing 214 feet for the cell walls it leaves 5477 feet which still offers a fraction over 900 feet of breathing space per head supposing the 6 cells to be all occupied, which in my experience has never been the case. The light here is poor, the windows being only 2 ft. 2 in. x 2 ft. 9 in. The ventilation in summer and as is the custom at present having one of the windows on each side kept open all the time, partially if not completely is not altogether bad but there is no provision for the renewal of air in the cells especially at night in the three iron lined cells when the doors are locked.

I would therefore recommend that a ventilator be placed in the ceiling of each cell which with spontaneous ventilation that necessarily takes place through the body of the building of that dimension and the vast open space overhead would allow a proper circulation of air. The presence of a trap door in the ceiling of the guard room proper from which the "lock-up" is only divided by barred doors, also contributes largely to accelerate and increase the supply of air and in winter also to somewhat heat this supply.

The Guard House was moved at least twice. Once it was moved from its original position, which can be seen in photograph 13 (1890's) closer to the barracks: "....the guard room at present is being moved to near the Q.M. store from its present isolated position, and placed on a stone foundation and cement floor." This new location is visible in photograph 48 (1900-1910). The Guard House was also later moved to its present site before its restoration.

By 1914 there were serious problems of overcrowding as is evident from the following report:
I would respectfully call your attention to the accommodation for prisoners in the guardroom, which has but six cells, and is not up-to-date. We have had a daily average of 18 prisoners and, as you will readily see, the accommodation for them during the night (especially in hot weather) is not of the best. If a lunatic is admitted to the guard-room, as is frequently the case, a separate cell has to be kept for the patient and leaves very limited accommodation for other prisoners confined. There is also no female accommodation. There are no facilities in the guard-room for washing or bathing, and a wash-room with a farmer's boiler is required. This would serve the double purpose of washing prisoners, and their clothes.

By 1917 the prison was no longer in use: "In Saskatchewan all prisoners in our guard rooms were transferred to provincial jails on January 1, and in Alberta on March 31, 1917, except the female prisoners, who were transferred on August 31, 1917."  

The only general description of the building was found in the 1925 Assessment: "Guard Room. Frame — metal-lined — 2 rows (6) of cells — and quarters for guard — in good repair 24 x 40 x 18"  

Foundation
A provision was made in the 1897 budget for a stone foundation for the Guard House, though one cannot be entirely certain that a foundation was actually built. When the Guard House was moved in 1908 it was reported to have been moved onto a foundation of stone and cement.

Exterior Walls
As is evident from photograph 41 (1940's), the outside walls were clap-boarded and covered by vertical corner-boards; they
changed little but for weathering.

Roof
The original roof was a simple saddle-back roof, covered with shingles. No substantial changes were made to the roof over the years.

Apertures (Directions used are from the way the building now stands.)
There were 6 apertures on the north side of the building: five windows and a door. A small square window with a peaked casement was immediately over the door. To the west of the door was a large rectangular window with a peaked casement. To the east of the door were three small square windows, each with a peaked casement.

On the west side there were two rectangular windows, both with peaked casements.

There are no photographs showing the apertures on the south side of the building. However the "as found" drawings show two doors and three windows on this side. (Descriptions to follow later.)

In photograph 43 (1940's) the east side of the building has a boarded area in the middle of the wall. This was probably once a door leading to a latrine.

Appendage
There was one addition to this structure, that being the porch over the front door, likely built in the 1890's. The construction of this porch can be most clearly seen in photograph 43 (1940's); a slightly sloped roof, with the walls built of vertically running boards.
Chimneys
There were two chimneys in the original building, one in the east end and one in the west end. Both emerged through the ridge of the roof. By the 1940's both chimneys had fallen, as is evident in photograph 43 (1940's). Now there is only one chimney in the building at the west end, rebuilt during restoration of the Police buildings in the 1950's.

Fence
A high fence was built onto the rear of the building (see photograph 28 (1900-1910): "...A high fence has been put at the back of the guard-room, making an inclosure which is used for an exercise yard for prisoners awaiting trial." The date of the disappearance of this fence is not known.

Bell
A bell connected the Guard House with the barrack room, probably used in case of an escape.

Inside

Basement
No evidence has been found of there ever having been a basement in this building.

First Floor
Inside the door facing north was a large room where the guards stayed their watch.

In the eastern end of the building are the six cells
for prisoners. These small cells are surrounded by a walkway. In 1891 some deficiencies were found in the hinges of the cells: "I would suggest with regard to these hinges that strong strap hinges be put on ... and that they be bolted on, the nuts to be on the outside of the cells and the ends of bolts rivetted. One strap of hinge to be 12" long and the other 6"."¹¹ There were also some other problems:

The doors opening from corridor to Guard room are very weak and should have another thickness of Board bolted diagonally across present door with sheet iron between the two thicknesses. The way in which the bars in these doors are fastened is faulty. Three of four horizontal bars of iron securely bolted across the present ones and between the thicknesses of board would ensure the necessary strength. The doors of the three cells on the south side are not cased with iron and are very weak... The windows are very loose and allow the dust to blow in all around them. This could be remedied by nailing strips of wood to the window frames on the outside and close to the Sashes.

The "Giant" locks in use on some of the doors are not strong enough for a Guard room, in my opinion."
Endnotes

1 Walker Letterbook, Dec. 17, 1877.


3 Saskatchewan Herald, Sept. 24, 1887.


8 1925 Assessment.


10 Ibid.


12 Ibid.
Part 6    Hospitals
There were two hospitals built at Fort Battleford during its active years: one built in 1877-78, and the other in 1886-87. A reference also was found to the construction of another hospital apparently begun in 1894: "Battleford Daily Journal, 1894. March 1. Frame of new hospital erected." The author of this information has not been traced, though the material was found in the files of the Fort Battleford Collection. No evidence has been found to support this reference. It is unlikely that a new hospital would have been built at this time, when the hospital completed in 1887 was still in good repair. In 1894 a report of the buildings read: "At Battleford a small outlay will be required for some time, with a possible small addition required to the inspectors quarters...." No mention is made of a new hospital, nor was any evidence found in either the Commissioner's Reports or in the Surgeon's Reports requesting or requiring new facilities.

Hospital Built in 1877-78

Very little material has survived describing the first hospital at Fort Battleford. According to an early reference to the hospital, it was a crude building: "No. 5 [the hospital] has thatched roof no Floor and walls only chinked and plastered...." This building was initially used for storage: "the Department of Public Works have their supplies and stores in it [the hospital] at present." From the above it
is safe to assume that building number 11, labelled "Dom. Pub. Works" on the 1878 diagram (D-2), and building number 5, labelled "Hospital" on the 1877 diagram (D-1) are in fact the same building. Very little can be delineated from the diagrams, though the hospital seems to have been a small, square building with a saddle-backed roof.  

No information has been found indicating the date this building was destroyed, though it is known that it was still standing in 1885. The most recent reference to the old hospital read: "No. Four barrack room, lately occupied by the Battleford Rifles, has been converted into a hospital, the old hospital building being made a storehouse."  

There are no known photographs of this building and little written material exists other than general descriptions of all the early buildings. From these early descriptions we can be fairly certain that the building was constructed of logs, that it was lathed and plastered with lime and sand, and that it might have been painted with lead and oil paint.
Endnotes

1Fort Battleford Files, "The Buildings at Fort Battleford." p. 4.

2Commissioner's Report, 1894.


4Ibid.

5See Diagram, 1878.

6Saskatchewan Herald, July 13, 1885.

A new hospital was begun in 1886 to replace the old log structure in use since 1877. The new hospital was much larger to meet the requirements of an increasing Force at Fort Battleford following the troubles of 1885. The old hospital still stood, but was no longer adequate: "The patients in the police hospital have been moved to the building owned and until lately occupied by Constable Guthrie...."\textsuperscript{1} The old hospital was also heavily used during the so-called "Seige of 1885": "Owing to the confusion arising from the number of refugees, in the barracks at the time of the outbreak, which necessitated the occupation of the hospital by half-breed families, and shortly after as a barrack room, it was impossible for some time to keep any record of our prescriptions...."\textsuperscript{2}

After numerous pleas for a new hospital, plans were made to begin construction. A new hospital was one building to be erected in a general expansion of Fort Battleford. The building was to be 71 x 26 feet, with a small wing, 20 x 14 feet.\textsuperscript{3}

When completed, the hospital at this post, which is well laid out and amply suited to our requirements, will be thoroughly serviceable and an exceedingly comfortable building. This building should, next year, be sided with tongued and grooved lumber and painted.\textsuperscript{4}

On October 3, 1887 the building was almost finished. "The hospital has been occupied since October the fourth and is a light commodious building consisting of two large wards,
sergeants and staff sergeants room and kitchen. It will when completely finished be equal to any hospital in the force." By 1891 this hospital was too large for the Fort and other plans for it were being advanced:

The hospital at this Post is suitable to treble the number of men stationed here. One large ward is entirely unoccupied and unless during an epidemic likely to remain so.

It appears to me that it might be made useful in some way, it is a warm and well lighted, low and comfortable room.

The building was converted into quarters for married men by 1902. The last written record for the hospital described it as follows:


No floor plan and not much written material has been uncovered for the inside of the hospital, however numerous photographs allow ample description of the exterior.

Foundation
There is no evidence to indicate whether or not there was a foundation under the hospital when it was built in 1886-87. A reference to a foundation for the hospital shows that money was allocated either for a stone foundation to replace an old one, or for a new foundation.

Exterior Walls
According to Joe Guthrie, the exterior of the hospital was made of shiplap siding, probably purchased locally. This
supports the earlier reference requesting that the walls be "sided with tongued and grooved lumber", a suggestion obviously carried out. The shiplap boards running horizontally were covered on the corners by vertical boards. The photographs show all visible walls were finished in this manner.

Roof
The roof was a simple saddle-back roof running east and west on the main building, with a roof on the northern annex running perpendicular to the main roof. The ridge of the roof of the annex was slightly lower than the main roof. Shingles covered the roof and boards ran along the ridge of both the main roof and the roof of the annex. Photograph 63 (1900-1910) also shows a ladder on the north side of the main roof.

Apertures
There were originally seven windows in the front or south side of the building. Six large rectangular windows with twelve panes in each were situated symmetrically on either side of the door. One smaller, oblong window above the front door had four panes. There were no trimmings on the windows except for a small peak in the casement above each window. There was also a double door in the centre of the building.

There were four windows on the east end of the main building: two small rectangular ones with four panes in each in the attic, and two larger rectangular windows with twelve panes in each on the main storey. There was one small rectangular window facing east on the back annex.
Not all windows on the northern side of the building can be seen from the photographs. A picture of the northwest end of the building shows four windows, all of equal size but not symmetrically placed in the building. That of the annex shows two small rectangular windows in the attic, and at least one window on the main floor. In this picture the fence around the back of the annex makes it difficult to see if there are any more windows. Photograph 37 (1905) shows the edge of one window on the northeast end of the building, but no other apertures are evident on this side.

No photographs exist of the east side of the building. It might, however, be safe to assume that this side looked similar to the west side, since most of the building's visible apertures were balanced.

There were some problems with the construction of the windows, which according to Dr. Paré threatened the health of the patients:

\[\ldots\text{I would suggest that the casings of the windows be raised, and the spaces, which allow considerable and dangerous draughts, be well filled with oakum or some other material that would stop these draughts.}\]

Appendages
The north annex has already been mentioned, but there was also another addition to the building. There was apparently a back door and a porch built for the hospital, probably during the late 1880's. This might have been constructed on the east side, since photographs 67 (1920's) and 68 (1930's) show what appears to have been an addition to the building. The addition was to be, "one large porch at back including platform and steps."
Chimneys
The photographs show four chimneys on the Hospital. Three of these chimneys could be seen from a front view and were symmetrically spaced along the main roof. The other chimney was in the annex, towards the northern end of the roof.

Interior
Very little is known of the interior of the hospital. According to Joe Guthrie, only one floor in the hospital was used, and an attic above this main floor.

The 1925 Assessment indicates that there were, originally two wards, with orderly's quarters between.\textsuperscript{13} We also know that there was a kitchen and a sergeant's and staff room.\textsuperscript{14} This apparently changed when the hospital was converted into married men's quarters, the large wards having been divided into, "9 rooms in the main building. two rooms on annex".\textsuperscript{15} Joe Guthrie indicated that there was room in the hospital for 40-50 beds, the annex being used as a kitchen and dining room for the patients. The inside walls were constructed of lath and plaster.\textsuperscript{16}
Endnotes

1 *Saskatchewan Herald*, Oct. 12, 1885.

2 Commissioner's Report, 1885.

3 Commissioner's Report, 1886.

4 Commissioner's Report, 1887.


7 Commissioner's Report, Dec. 1, 1902.

8 1925 Assessment.


10 Report of Commissioner, 1887, p. 27.


13 1925 Assessment.


15 1925 Assessment.

16 Joe Guthrie tapes.
Part 7  Service Buildings
Artificer's Shops

In 1876 a shop for artisans was begun at Fort Battleford; it was likely completed in 1878. Both Diagrams of 1877 and 1878 show the Artificer's Shop to be a rather large building. It was described by Superintendent Walker as follows: "No. 6 -- Has thatched Roof...rough floors the walls chinked and plastered. I intend using part of it for Carpenters and Blacksmiths Shop during the winter". No other written material on the Artificer's Shop has survived. It is possible that in photograph 9 (1880-85) building number 11 might be the roof of the Artificer's Shop (although no precise dating of this photograph is possible).

It appears rather odd that a building the size of the Artificer's Shop should not have survived to appear on some of the photographs taken of the Fort in the 1880's, especially since it occupied such a central position in the square. Because of this it has been concluded that the Artificer's Shop was probably the "Old Board of Works Office" destroyed in the fire of 1881.

One other factor led to this conclusion. The Artificer's Shop in the 1878 Diagram (D-2) appears to be divided into a number of sections, each of which could have been used for a different purpose. Perhaps even a few horses might have been kept in a building as large as this. The report in the Saskatchewan Herald indicates that the building which burned down was a multi-purpose building, and that when it burned the fire threatened to spread to other barrack
buildings. These factors lead to the conclusion that even though this building was called the "Old Board of Works Building" in the report, it was never-the-less the Artificer's Shop under a different name. It also seems quite plausible that this building might have been used as a headquarters for the Board of Works. This conclusion was arrived at with some difficulty since no corroborating evidence was found -- The only source describing this fire was an article in the Saskatchewan Herald. The full report as it appeared in the Herald follows, dateline Monday, April 11, 1881:

Fire at the Barracks

About two o'clock on Saturday morning a fire broke out in the building of the barracks known as "Old Board of Works Office", which was completely destroyed with all its contents. The northern half of the building was occupied as stables for the officers' quarters, and the southern half a grain room, harness room, blacksmith and carpenter shop, and apartment for the stableman. At the time of the fire there were in the stable six of the best government horses of this post and a handsome pony belonging to Superintendent Herchemer, all of which perished in the flames or were suffocated to death. When the alarm was given the fire had such headway and the smoke was so dense in the building as to prevent anyone from entering it to attempt their rescue, and the efforts of the men were therefore wholly directed to protecting the adjoining property and confining the fire to this one building. In addition to the loss of the horses, a large quantity of saddlery and harness were consumed, including all private horse trappings of the Superintendent and some saddles belonging to members of the force. The entire outfit of tools belonging to the carpenters and blacksmith and outfit were destroyed. It was only by the greatest exertions that the fire was kept from communicating with the barracks the wind blowing toward them at the time.

Constable Gelderf, who occupied the quarters in the burned building suffered severely, as everything he owned in the world except the
clothes on his back were burned. The fire was first discovered issuing from the roof on the south side of the building, but how it originated is a mystery that had not been cleared up at the time we went to press on Saturday.
Endnotes

1 Walker Letterbooks. Dec. 17, 1877.

2 Saskatchewan Herald. April 11, 1881.
A Dry Kiln was erected at Fort Battleford by 1878 though very little evidence describing it has been found. It was built somewhere between the river and the police grounds and might have been used for making bricks. In 1877 Hugh Sutherland wrote that 130,000 bricks for chimney which were of a "very good quality" had been baked in their own kiln. The only written reference about the Dry Kiln follows:

I have the honor to enclose you a copy of my Report to the Commissioner in reference to the N.W.M.P. Barracks at this place. I forgot to mention in the enclosed report a building being used by the Dominion Board of Works as a Dry Kiln. It stands on the side of the Banks of the Saskatchewan about 150 yards from the front of the Barracks. It has a good roof and if floored would make a good Blacksmith and Carpenters Shop.
Endnotes


2 Walker Letterbook, Jan. 22, 1878.
Bake House

There were two bake ovens built at Fort Battleford: one in 1878 and one in 1887, but their exact locations are not known. It is possible that the bake oven built in 1876 is the small building shown on the 1878 Diagram (D-2) west of the Commanding Officer's Residence, near the place where the Officer's Quarters now stands. This Bake House stood until 1887 when it was replaced by a new bake oven:

Instead of "building up" [the] old bake oven, as originally intended, the construction of a perfectly new one outside the post was authorized. Over this oven a thoroughly good and substantial log building was erected by the judicious use of such materials as we had at hand.

The second Bake House was apparently destroyed in 1891 when it was reported that, "The bake house has been transferred into a blacksmith shop and answers well for that purpose. The old building is to be taken down in the spring." Both Bake Houses were built of logs and had brick ovens.
Endnotes

1 Commissioner's Report, 1887. See also R.G. 11, 7-8B, vol. 21, no. 9, 1888.

Blacksmith's Shop

To replace the Artificer's Shop, which had burned to the ground, a number of smaller buildings for artisans were constructed. Some facilities such as those for the Carpenter, Tailor, Armourer and Tinsmith were moved into the Orderly Room Building.¹ At some time after the fire in 1881 a Blacksmith's Shop was erected, probably close to where the old Artificer's Shop had stood. Two Blacksmith shops might have been built after 1881 since it was reported in 1894 that: "During the past year I have had an old building standing in the middle of the square pulled down. This building was known as the old blacksmith's shop and its removal has done away with a very old eyesore, and adds greatly to the appearance of the barracks"² This evidence indicates that a Blacksmith Shop stood until 1894 somewhere in the middle of the square and that it was a log building.³ This building was replaced by another Blacksmith's Shop though the date of its construction is not known.

The Blacksmith's Shop still standing at Fort Battleford in 1925 was described as follows: "Size 21 x 31 ft. One room. Heated by stove (when used). Intended for Carpenter and Blacksmith Shop. Now used as repair shop when required. Log building -- requires plastering."⁴ This description conflicts with that of an assessor who reported: "Blacksmith Shop. Forge Bellows. Frame -- rough cast -- shingle roof -- good repair 20 x 30 x 12."⁵ Though the dimensions in both reports are similar, indicating that they are probably
describing the same building, there is disagreement over the
mode of its construction. Unfortunately none of the photo-
graphs provide a close enough view of the building to settle
this controversy.

Location
The Blacksmith's Shop is evident in the 1900 Diagram (D-4).
Also a number of photographs show the Blacksmith's Shop
north of the Sick Horse Stable (stable's original position).

Exterior
As mentioned above, the question as to whether the Black-
smith's Shop was a log or frame building remains unresolved.
In photograph 33 (1920's), building number 7, the hipped
roof of the Blacksmith's Shop can be clearly seen. In the
same photograph, a chimney is visible through the western
slope of the roof. Here also, two large rectangular windows
are evident in the side. No apertures appear on the west
side of the building. The southern side of the structure is
visible in photograph 26 (1930's) as building number 16
wherein two apertures are evident: a window towards the
western side of the building and a large door towards the
eastern end. This door was probably used to allow waggons
inside to be repaired. In photograph 61 (1930's) the eastern
side of the Blacksmith's Shop (building number 8) can be
vaguely seen, and it appears that there is one rectangular
window in this side.

Inside
According to Joe Guthrie there was only one room inside the
Blacksmith's Shop. This room had a forge and bellows and
was where horses were shod, and where wagons and other vehicles and implements were repaired.
Endnotes


4 P.A.C., R.T. 15, vol. 327, 1925.

5 1925 Assessment.

6 See photograph 13, #8; photograph 15, #2; photograph 26, #16; photograph 27, #4; photograph 33, #7; photograph 37, #3; photograph 38, #6; photograph 45, #2; photograph 56, #8; photograph 61, #8; photograph 62, #4; photograph 63, #1; photograph 69, #5.
Indian Department Store

There is very little information on the Indian Department Store. The approximate location of this building is known, but descriptions of its construction have not been discovered. The building was used to store supplies guaranteed to the Indians by the treaties, and as such, did not play an integral part in the duties performed by the Police. Having the Indian Department Store on the Police grounds was a convenient way of acquainting the Indians with the nature and strength of the Police.

The date of the construction of the Indian Department Store is not known. Its original site is marked by a plaque at Fort Battleford, immediately in front of the present location of the Guard House. The Indian Department Store stood close to the area where a Store House was built in 1876-77. This area is occupied in the 1878 Diagram (D-2) by building number 17 and in the 1876 Diagram (D-1) by building number 7. Photograph 39 (1890's) may also depict the Indian Department store as the building labelled building number 1. This leads to the possible conclusion that part of this original Storehouse was used as storage space for the Indian Department and later was converted into the "Indian Department Store". It is also possible that the original Storehouse was torn down and a new storehouse for the Indian Department then erected. It is known, from one of the excerpts which mentions the Indian Department Store, that the building was moved in 1897:

With reference to my letters of the 8th April
1895 and the 8th October 1896 in which I urged the advisability of the above named storehouse being removed from the Police Enclosure. I now have the honour to report that the building in question has been removed by the Indian Department to a position on the south side of the Battle River.

A Diagram (D-21) shows the location of the Indian Department Store in relation to what was then the back gate.
Endnote

\footnote{P.A.C., R.G. 18, vol. 1377, file 33, Aug. 4, 1897.}
Paint Shop

There are a number of references to a Paint Shop in the evidence collected to date, but it is unlikely that this was a separate building.\(^1\) The Paint Shops "near [the] Officers Quarters" were probably located in the "Artisan's Shops" in the 1900 Diagram.\(^2\)
Endnotes

Quartermaster's Stores

There were two buildings used as Quartermaster's Stores besides the facilities provided by the Artisans' Shop and the Barracks Building which was converted into a Quartermaster's Store in the 1890's. Little is known about these buildings; the following description of one of the few available:

Both buildings now used by [the] Quartermaster are fairly good ones. They are badly located as regards the new square but otherwise they are suitable. Alterations are required in the interiors of each. More shelf room is needed for clothing and small articles. And proper partitions for the different classes of goods would ensure safer keeping. If stores are to be kept proper facilities for neatness and tidiness must be provided. Stores carelessly and negligently kept are usually found to be short.

Both Quartermaster's Stores appear on the 1900 Diagram (D-4) of the Fort. It is possible that both Quartermaster's Stores later became the structures used as Immigrants Sheds, as it seems that the position of the two Quartermaster's Stores in the 1900 Diagram (D-4) correspond roughly to the position of the two Immigrants Sheds in the 1906 Diagram (D-5).
Endnotes

1 Caution must be exercised when using references to the Quartermaster's Stores, not to confuse these two buildings with the Barracks building which later became a Quartermaster's Store.


3 See section on Immigrants Sheds for photograph on which these buildings might appear.
Carpenter's Shop

A building labelled "Carpenter's Shop" appears on the 1906 Diagram (D-5). No other evidence exists on any such building and it is possible that it was mislabelled, being in fact the Blacksmith's Shop, which is known to have been used as a shop for carpentry work.
Part 8 Storage Buildings
In 1876 a Storehouse was planned for Fort Battleford at a proposed cost of $2,000.00. This structure was to keep supplies, but it was also to be used as sleeping quarters for the men. Whether it was ever actually used for sleeping quarters is not known.

The Storehouse was, according to early reports, poorly constructed, which resulted not only in damaged goods but in theft as well. Superintendent Walker reported to the Commissioner in 1877 that "problems of theft from the Storehouse were partially the result of police being unable to guard the storehouse, [it] being too cold at night to leave a constable on guard." Supplies were frequently damaged due to the shoddy construction of the Storehouse, as is evident from the following reports:

I have the honor to request information respecting the disposal of a quantity of damaged stores I have here such as Flour, Rice and Biscuit which got damaged lying in a wet storehouse altho' I had it up some distance off the ground and covered by Tarpaulins to keep off the water that came through the Roof yet the dampness of the Building penetrates the Stores. I am unable to say to what extent these Stores are damaged as nearly all the bags are more or less damaged.

To the Commissioner, Walker wrote:

There are also some articles of clothing damaged by rain and eaten by Mice. I have given up the large Store House altogether. Mr. Sutherland promised to floor it several times during the summer but he did not do so I believe for want of plank which they did not
get down the River until near the end of
the season and now they will not have suf-
ficient plank to finish it and the Stables
so I have asked them to leave the Store
House as it is and finish the Stables, as
they intended leaving the thatched roof on
the Store House it would be useless to at-
tempt keeping anything liable to be damaged
in it even if it had a good floor. So I
intend taking out the sleepers and putting
in waggons and machinery.

In an early report about construction, Supervisor Hugh
Sutherland indicated that the Storehouse was finished in
1876. This seems unlikely in view of reports of damage to
the supplies in the building. If it was considered completed
by Sutherland it must have been hastily and shabbily con-
structed.

Evidence about this building has been entirely gleaned
from written sources, no photographic evidence having been
found.

Location
The Storehouse was located on the southern edge of the police
grounds, south and west of the Commanding Officer's Resi-
dence, as is evident from the 1877 Diagram (D-1).

Exterior
Like other buildings erected at Fort Battleford in 1876-77,
the Storehouse was built of logs, probably "Red River style".
Superintendent Walker described the Storehouse as follows:

No. 7 -- has thatched Roof and no floor it was
partially chinked and plastered a year ago but
a great deal has fallen out it is [sic] so
loosely put up that it has to be propped up
with Poles to keep it from Falling. I only
use it now for storing Machinery.
Walker explained the problems encountered with the walls of the structure when he wrote in 1877: "...as the logs were green they kept shrinking away from the Plaster all winter and the plaster kept dropping out [. .] [F]rom time to time sheets and Ox hides were put on the Stores to keep the snow off as much as possible." 8

**Interior**
All that is known of the interior is that it was "floored with rough hewn logs, very uneven." 9
Endnotes


3 Walker Letterbooks, June 22, 1877.


5 Ibid. to Commissioner.


7 Walker Letterbooks, Dec. 17, 1877.

8 Walker Letterbooks, June 22, 1877.

Ice Houses

Only a small amount or written evidence has been uncovered about the Ice Houses. From the evidence that has been found, it appears that there were at least two Ice Houses built at Fort Battleford: one in 1876 and another at some time after 1877. The main purpose of the Ice Houses was to store ice, especially during the summer months. According to Joe Guthrie, ice was cut from the river during the winter months, hauled to the Ice House and packed in sawdust until summer.

The Ice House constructed in 1876 was built just west of the stables, and can be seen as number 9 on the 1877 Diagram (D-1). [Notice it does not appear on the 1878 Diagram (D-2).] This structure was a small building, probably built of logs. It only remained in its original location for one year, after which time it was annexed to the Commanding Officer's Residence: "No. 9 -- was used as an Ice House last season but was not suitable[.] [T]he Ice was all melted in it by the middle of June this year. I have moved the building over this week and attached it to my Quarters as a wood shed."¹

No evidence has been discovered indicating when a new Ice House was built, but it seems that it would have been soon after 1878. The new Ice House appears in numerous photographs and was described in 1925 as follows: "Size 34 x 22. One Room. Not heated. Ice House. Used as ice house. This is a log building and is in bad repair. One wall requiring to be propped up. Needs plastering."² The fact that this
building was built out of logs lends some credence to the assumption that it was likely built shortly after 1877, since most buildings constructed after this time were frame buildings.

Location
There are some problems in pinpointing the precise location of small buildings like the Ice House since many of these smaller buildings were moved numerous times during the life of the Fort. In some of the older photographs, there is also some difficulty identifying the smaller buildings, since the clarity of the buildings is not good in all of the photographs. However in some of the more recent photographs, the Ice House consistently appears south of the Mess Hall, between it and the stables.

Exterior
The Ice House appears to be plastered in most photographs. Its pyramid-shaped roof is most clearly visible in photograph 19 (1903), where the Ice House is building number 8. The only visible aperture in this building is a door in the southern end, evident in photograph 19. Another door might also have existed; but the vagueness of the photograph makes conclusive identification difficult; this aperture would be a door in the northern end of the building evident in photograph 63 (1900-1910) where the Ice House is building number 6.

Interior
All that is certain about the interior of the Ice House is that it had one room.
Endnotes

1 Walker Letterbooks, Dec. 17, 1877.


3 See for example the different locations of what appears to be the Ice House: Photograph 15, number 1 (1910-20); photograph 26, number 6 (1930's); photograph 33, number 11 (1920's).

4 See photograph 13, number 13 (1890's); photograph 19, number 9 (1903); photograph 37, number 8 (1905); photograph 38, number 11 (1900-1910); photograph 62, number 6 (1900-1910); photograph 63, number 6 (1900-1910); photograph 64, number 3 (1900-1910); photograph 78, number 2 (1900-1910).

The granary on the western extremity of the original police grounds was planned in 1876, at a proposed cost of $800.00. Its completion was given low priority: The "Granary [will] not [be] required this year as there will be no crop...." By October 3, 1877, it was reported by Superintendent Walker that, "none of the other buildings (except Granary) are finished yet but as they are all partially finished it will not take long to complete them." In 1878 the Granary was found to be in poor shape. After an inspection, Commander James Macleod described it as, "useless as the rain comes thro' the thatch and it is not fit for men's quarters or storehouses." Its early completion was deemed necessary to Walker who wrote, "I got Mr. Sutherland to finish the Granary ...which I intend using as a store for oats provisions. etc." So it appears that although the Granary was given low priority for completion in 1876, in 1877 Walker gave it top priority. The size of this first-completed building at Fort Battleford was 24 x 68.

There has been no photographic evidence of the Granary uncovered to date. Descriptions of the building were found in a number of brief excerpts from written documentary sources.

Location
The 1877 Diagram (D-1) shows the Granary on the western edge of the grounds as building number 10.
Exterior
The walls of the Granary were likely logs, constructed "Red River style", and were lathed and plastered in a manner similar to other buildings erected during the first few years at Fort Battleford. Superintendent Walker described the interior as follows:

No. 10. Has shingled Roof and plank floor[.]
The walls chinked and plastered. I am using it now as a general store House for Grain provisions, Harnesses, etc.

This claim contradicts Commander Macleod's description of the roof, which he described as thatched. Unfortunately there are no photographs to indicate what kind of a roof was on the Granary.

Interior
The only evidence about the interior that has been discovered reveals that the Granary had a cellar. Superintendent Walker stated in 1877 that, "I am having a cellar dug under it [Granary] to keep Ice and fish meat in summer."
Endnotes


2 Ibid.

3 Walker Letterbooks.


5 Walker Letterbooks, Oct. 3, 1877.

6 Ibid.

7 Walker Letterbooks, Dec. 17, 1877.

8 Ibid.
To prevent vegetables from spoiling, a number of Root Houses were constructed at Fort Battleford. In 1876 plans were made for two Root Houses, though one in fact was only a cellar dug under a Barracks building [number 3 in the 1877 Diagram (D-1)].\(^1\) The site of the other Root House to be built is not known, though it might have been the small building southwest of the Commanding Officer's Residence on the 1878 Diagram (D-2). Another Root House, built of logs, was constructed shortly after 1886, although, again, the site of this structure is not known: "An excellent root-house has been built, over the door of which a small log building has been erected in order to do away with vegetables being frozen during the winter months, as well as to make proper ventilation safe."\(^2\)
Endnotes

1 P.A.C., R.G. 11, vol 576, April 18, 1876.

2 Commissioner's Report, 1886.
A Magazine was built at Fort Battleford to store and protect ammunition. This structure was also, according to Joe Guthrie, referred to as the Ammunition House, Cannon House and Arsenal. The Magazine was apparently built in 1884, but replacement for it was requested four years later in 1888:

For the safe-keeping of ammunition, powder, etc. a new magazine is required. The one in use was built in the winter of 1884 to meet an emergency, and is now in want of considerable repair. During the wet weather of last spring and early summer it was found necessary to remove all the small arm ammunition to the Quartermaster's store, an undoubtedly dangerous proceeding. The artillery ammunition, being packed in metallic cases and waxed, kept in good order, but this only comprised a small portion of our stores.

There can be no certainty that a new magazine was built, nor is there any certainty when it was built. The above quotation seems to indicate that the old magazine was unusable, and therefore it seems probable that a new magazine was constructed (especially since it survived until 1925). The new magazine as it was found in 1925, was briefly described as follows: "Size 22 x 6. One room not heated. Intended for magazine. Empty (not used). In poor repair."

Location
The location of the magazine was near the north-east end of the police grounds. Joe Guthrie indicated that the magazine
was near where the northern section of the stockade now stands. The 1906 Diagram (D-5) shows the Magazine approximately half-way between the Commanding Officer's House and the Immigrants' Shed.

Exterior
The exterior of the Magazine was described by Joe Guthrie as a wooden frame covered by copper sheeting. The copper sheeting was to protect the ammunition from being destroyed by lightning. The nails used were also made of copper. The pyramid-like covering for the magazine is visible in photographs 65 (1930's) and 66 (1930's) Photograph 66 most clearly shows the frame construction underneath the copper covering. Leading into the Magazine was a roof structure seen in photograph 65.

Interior
The only evidence about the magazine's interior is that obtained from Joe Guthrie. He indicated that the entrance into the magazine was at the north end of the structure. He stated that there was a door going into the ground, and he estimated the depth of the room to have been from six to seven feet.
Endnotes

1 Report of Commissioner, 1888.

Waggon Shed

A Waggon Shed was built at Fort Battleford in 1891. A request for such a shed had been made in 1888: "A waggon shed is a necessary addition at this post. There is also a log building, not otherwise used which would fill all requirements with little alterations."¹ A similar request was made in 1891: "There is no suitable building for that purpose [Waggon Shed]. It has been proposed to erect one out of an old stable which was recently torn down. Authority should be given to go on with this. The building should be made large enough to store winter transport and house summer."²

As a result of these representations, a new Waggon Shed was built. It was probably destroyed around 1913, shortly after the following report: "The old coal shed is situated in an awkward place, the building is falling to pieces and is an eyesore to the place; the latter remarks would apply to the old transport shed."³

Location
The location of the Waggon Shed can be seen in the 1900 Diagram (D-4), southeast of the Concert Hall. Unfortunately no photographs of the Waggon Shed have been found.

Exterior
The plan of the Waggon Shed (D-22) shows that it was a log
building 95 x 28 x 8 feet with a pitched roof of 3 feet.
Endnotes

1 Commissioner's Report, 1888.


3 Commissioner's Report, September 10, 1913. It should be noted that there is a reference to the destruction of an old waggon shed in the Commissioner's Report of 1893. This reference could not be for the Waggon Shed constructed in 1891.
Concern was frequently expressed by Commanders at Fort Battleford over the lack of fire-fighting equipment and facilities. Up till 1893 when a new Fire House was constructed, facilities for fire fighting were primitive and make-shift: "...arrangements made for the supply of manual fire engines and hose, will, with our usual bucket system and babcocks, which is fully kept up, render us tolerably safe from fire..."¹ Some improvements were made by 1890 when it was reported that "...a tank has...been erected, with a house over it, capable of covering the fire engine, so that it can now be worked in bad weather."² By 1893 plans were made for a new "Building for Pump, Fire Engine and Hose and reels".³ The building, as found in 1925, was described as follows: "Fire Engine House -- with Hand Fire Engine, Reel and Hose Attachment in good repair. Lots -- rough cast -- in good repair -- shingle roof."⁴

**Location**

The Fire Engine House was located northwest of the Commanding Officer's Residence; it is visible as building number 4 in photograph 33 (1920's) and as number 2 in photograph 16 (1940's). On the Diagram of 1900 (D-4) the Fire Engine House would have been located close to where the "Old Store Room" is situated.
Exterior
As is evident in photograph 6 (1911), the original log structure was covered by lath and plaster. The sections of fallen plaster are evidence of changes to the appearance of the exterior walls by the 1930's.

Roof
The original pyramid-shaped roof can be seen in photograph 6 (1911).

Chimney
A chimney which was probably part of the original building can be seen coming through the eastern slope of the roof.

Apertures
Only two apertures are visible in this building, although only three sides can be seen from the photographs. There is no photograph of the south side of this structure. A large door is visible on the western side of the Fire Engine House in photograph 33 (1920's). A small square window is evident in the north end of this structure. No major noticeable changes to the exterior are evident from the photographs.

There is some difference between the dimensions for the Fire Engine House given on the original plans for the House and in the building as recorded in the 1925 Assessment. The plans indicate that the structure was to be 20 x 14 x 8, whereas the building was found to be 16 x 16 x 9. This discrepancy was probably due to changes to the original plan, or changes made during construction.
Interior
The 1893 plan (D-15) of the Fire Engine House provided some details of the structure, but there is no way of knowing for certain whether this was the actual layout of the interior -- especially since other portions of the plan were not accurate. The plan shows the pump in the east end of the building with the hose reel near the door at the opposite end. The fire engine occupied the centre of the building.
Endnotes

1 Commissioner's Report, 1886.

2 Commissioner's Report, 1890.


4 1925 Assessment.

5 P.A.C., R.G. 18, vol. 2359, file 29. May 9, 1893.
Storehouse

A building labelled "Store building" appears on the 1906 Diagram (D-5) northwest of the Commanding Officer's Residence. Nothing is known of this building and it does not appear on any of the photographs. It is possible that this was a remnant of the old Orderly Room or a temporary storage shack.
Part 9  Stables and Related Facilities
Stables

Horses played an important part in the life of the Northwest Mounted Police. During the early years at Fort Battleford they were, along with steamships, the most significant form of transportation, and locally, an important form of communication. Reliance on horses lessened when the railway was completed in 1905, but horses continued to be used until the Fort was abandoned in 1924. Some of the services horses provided are evident in photographs such as number 15 (1910-20) where a horse can be seen pulling a waggon, in photograph 39 (1890's) where a horse is seen pulling a cannon, and in photograph 20 (1880's) where the horse performs its traditional role as a mount for the Police.

Besides the Sick Horse Stable and the stable built in 1885, both described in separate sections, there were at least two or three other stables built at Fort Battleford. Unfortunately material on these other stables is scarce; no clear pictures of these stables have been discovered to date and inaccurate diagrams of the grounds make the location of some of the stables uncertain. The first stable constructed by the Police was begun in 1876, on the western edge of the barracks buildings completed to that date: It is evident on the 1877 (D-1) and 1878 (D-2) Diagrams of the Fort. This stable was partially described by Superintendent Walker in 1877 when he reported: "No. 8 -- Has a shingle roof on the south east wing. The same wing is chinked and plastered, about half of it is floored and stalls build.[sic] The balance of the wing has no floor or stalls. The remainder
of the building has only the bare walls having neither roof, floor or plastering."¹ This building remained in an unfinished state until 1879 when Walker reported that: "I had the unfinished portion of the stable propped [at] the beginning of winter, otherwise it would have been a total wreck as it was almost blown down."² Early building reports indicated that this stable was a fairly large stable, but its exact dimensions are not known. It is known that it was a log building, probably constructed in the "Red River" style similar to other buildings constructed at this time. The roof of this stable might possibly be building number 12 in photograph 9 (1880-85). In 1877 this stable was reported to be in good condition: "The old stable is a good building inside the square [but] must be refloored."³ A rough sketch of the building as it looked in a 1905 Diagram (D-25) shows some detail of the building which was probably considerably altered from its original composition.

In 1888 it was reported that: "There are four stables in occupation here, three of which are log buildings and one frame, similar to the barrack buildings...Only one of the log buildings is in any way suitable for stables; but, owing to the important drainage, none of the log buildings are in my opinion healthy. Being built of logs they are low, and cannot be easily ventilated, nor are they warm in winter."⁴ The above excerpt provides some insights into problems encountered with these log stables, however only two of these stables can be clearly identified. The frame building is the stable constructed in 1886, but only one of the remaining log stables can be definitely accounted for; and would be the original stable begun in 1876. One of the remaining two stables might have been the Sick Horse Stable shown on the Diagram of 1900 (D-4). Identifying the last stable provides difficulties, since no fourth stable is included in any of the diagrams of the Fort. Joe Guthrie
indicated (in a telephone conversation) that there was a stable on the southwest edge of the barrack grounds, close to where the "Waggon Shed" is situated on the 1900 Diagram (D-4). He stated that it was a low building with one side being used as a rig shed. Therefore the possibility exists that the building labelled "Waggon Shed" on the 1900 Diagram was in fact a fourth stable. It is also known that the Artisans' Shop (described in a separate section) housed some of the Officers' horses, but whether it was ever referred to as a stable is not known. As is apparent from the above, precise identification and location of all stables remains uncertain.

Shortcomings of the log stables were again reported in 1889:

No alterations have been made in the stables at this post since last year. The buildings are one of frame and three of logs. The latter are very old, and are not healthy in summer, while in winter they are cold. The other is a very good and comfortable stable. I would recommend that as soon as practicable three more stables similar to the latter be built.

In 1890 one of the old log stables was pulled down: "One of the three log stables mentioned in my report of last year has been pulled down, and the logs will be used to build a new waggon shed."

In the Surgeon's Report of 1900 it was stated that more than one stable was pulled down: "A good many of the much and long used stables and outhouses have been pulled down, which if not adding much to the sanitary condition of the Post, adds considerably to its cheerfulness and general appearance, which is something, even in a sanitary point of view." In 1891 it was also recommended that an old stable be removed, but whether this was carried out is not known. Whatever stables were pulled down, it was not the stable labelled "No. 2" in the 1900 Diagram (D-4), as it was reported in 1894 that: "No. 2 is in very fair
order. It is not being used since horses were put on herd."¹⁸

In 1905 fire destroyed what is labelled as "No. 2 Stable" in the 1900 Diagram (D-4). The fire was apparently started by Constable Glacken shortly after lunch on March 21. Constable Glacken was in the habit of smoking after lunch and the evidence led to the conclusion that Glacken lit his pipe, then threw the match into a haystack near the stable, starting the blaze. The report shows conclusively that this stable was made of logs which had to be cut from one of the walls to save a horse whose stall was surrounded by the flames.

With hay in the barn and a strong east wind the fire enveloped the east end of the stable in minutes and threatened the Men's Barrack Rooms where "a piece of burning shingle [set] fire to the chips in the wood yard...over one hundred yards away, the flames rose to about two feet but were soon put out."⁹ Men working with "babcocks, water pails and wet blankets" were able to save "the winter transport that was close up to the North side" before the blaze destroyed the whole building.¹⁰ The Quartermaster's Store next to the stable was threatened but miraculously escaped the flames. Superintendent Macdonell was proud of the courage his men displayed while battling the fire:

I do not believe anything could have saved the stable, it literally went up like tinder, the flames leaping out of the ventilator in the centre of the stable almost instantly. I am very proud of the pluck and determination shown by the men in saving the horses, all did well, but Constable Glacken who got his hair singed in saving my saddle horse and Constable Wallis who stuck to his team and saved them after another man was driven back, come under my notice as doing especially well, Constable Forsyth also worked especially hard.¹¹

A number of girls were the only group singled out for
their lack of "pluck and determination" in battling this conflagration. But this was attributed to the lack of courage of their gender more than anything else, as the following excerpt indicates: "I am holding a Board and taking the evidence of every man also the evidence of the two little boys, who say they noticed the grass burning near the hay rack and at once ran over, the little girls were afraid and would not go, so much for the male and female courage."\textsuperscript{12}

A list of the articles destroyed precedes the endnotes.

Of the three log stables mentioned in the above discussions, only one remains a mystery. If one of the three was the original log stable (the one which burned in 1905) and the other was an old Sick Horse Stable (probably the one pulled down in 1890), one log building remains unaccounted for. This was possibly either the "Waggon Shed" on the 1900 Diagram (D-4) or a log stable that does not appear on any of the diagrams. This would have to have been a building that stood until around 1900 since Joe Guthrie remembers it standing at the southeast edge of the barrack grounds.
Articles Destroyed in Fire

Harness lead sets.................1
Harness wheel sets.................1
Pads, Collar........................4
Pads, sweat..........................2
Bags, nose...........................13
Blankets, horse......................12
Blankets, saddle......................3
Boots, interfering...................2
Circingles.............................6
Whips, Buckboard....................1
Brooms, stable.......................4
Brushes, dandy.......................4
Brushes, horse.......................6
Combs, curry.........................6
Combs, mane..........................4
Forks, hay............................1
Forks, manure.........................3
Waggons, dec. lst. 03. ............1

Funnels...............................1
Lamps, bracket and swinging........6
Padlocks..............................1
Pails, G.P............................2
Axes, felling.........................3
Rakes, iron...........................3
Shovels, short.......................1
Endnotes

1 Walker Letterbooks, Dec. 17, 1877.

2 Ibid. Dec. 20, 1879.


4 Commissioner's Report, 1888.

5 Commissioner's Report, 1889.

6 Commissioner's Report, 1890. Nov. 30, 1890.

7 Report of Surgeon Paré, Dec. 9, 1890.


10 Ibid.

11 Ibid.

12 Ibid.
Stables (1885)

Among buildings to be erected at Fort Battleford after 1885 was a new stable. It was reported in the Saskatchewan Herald that, "The new stables at the barracks are finished, giving accommodation to forty horses."¹ This, however, was an inaccurate report; two new stables, each for 32 horses, had been planned, but only one was constructed: "In addition to this, two new stables, 80 feet by 30 feet, were also decided on. It was subsequently only found possible to finish one of them owing to want of material."²

Considerations for the welfare of the horses resulted in changing the location of lavatories and in structural adjustments to the stable. The proximity of lavatories to the stable threatened the health of the horses. In 1890 Veterinarian J. Pringle reported: "[I] would strongly recommend the removal of waterclosets from their present position, they being too close to No. 1 stable, as in the spring and summer they are liable to generate disease."³ In 1893 it was reported that "Nos. 1 and 2 stables have had the front stalls filled in several times with clay, which is of great benefit to our horses."⁴ The built-up clay floors in the stalls protected the feet of the horses and also had the effect of "stopping draughts from the outside."⁵ Lean-to additions were also considered for the comfort of the horses, for in 1893 the Veterinarian requested: "a lean-to be built at the end of each stable, close to [the] door, for the purpose of protecting the bedding from rain and snow, and also high winds which we have here during the summer months,"
which scatter the bedding all over the square. This could be built at a small expense."

Buildings As Found in 1925
The stable was described in two separate reports in 1925 as follows:


and

Stable -- Frame -- stone foundation -- harness room -- etc. -- with waggon shed attached all in good repair. Stable 82 x 30 x 21. 18 x 30 x 11. Waggon Shed 50 x 18 x 10.

Contract for Construction of the Stable
The building, as it was to appear in 1886, was substantially described in the contract between the Department of Public Works and the contractor, William J. Barker. Because of the detail of the construction specifications, it is worth quoting at length:

Levelling Ground The site of the buildings to be levelled and from the lowest part grade the ground forming trenches for the foundations of all walls.

Trenches Trenches for all walls to be two feet wide.

Ground levelling When the buildings have been erected, level the ground sloping from outer walls of buildings.

Removing rubbish All earth and rubbish to be disposed of as directed. All superfluous stuff to be removed from the site, as also all rubbish arising from the several works.
Foundations The foundations for all walls to be constructed with two by ten inch plank laid longitudinally breaking joints over these lay transversely at an angle of forty five degrees, two inch plank. The transverse planks to be well spiked to longitudinal planks. Over foundations place sills properly half checked at angles and scarfed at joints and properly pinned together with pins.

The construction of the buildings are to be balloon framing, studs six by two or five by two inches in one length placed at two feet centres and double at all angles and door openings, and to have studs or wind braces at all angles as directed. Wall plates to be same size as studs, double breaking joints and all well and thoroughly nailed together and to studs.

Joisting, etc. The sills that support joists to be placed at two feet centres and to be all well nailed to sills and studs.

Roofs Roofs to be constructed as shown on detail drawing (seven principals being required for each stable) but to be open having no ceiling, covered with boarding laid close and well nailed to each rafter and all to be covered with shingles laid on tarred paper, well nailed with two nails to each shingle, and laid four and a half inches to the weather, put double course at all eves. All shingles wider than six inches to be cut in two.

The whole of the external and internal walls to be sheeted with rough boards closely jointed, well nailed to studs.

The outside of all external walls to be covered with tarred felt paper properly lapped at the joints, then sheet vertically with rough boards closely jointed and well nailed, three nails in width of each board and four if required. Joints of all vertical boards to be covered with battens.

Ridges, Eaves, Etc. Ridges to be finished as shown with two inch rolls and five inch by one inch wings. Fix eaveboards as shown. Saffits of all eaves to be sheeted with narrow sheeting and to have bed moulding at angle of saffit.
Floors Stables to have floors as shewn, of two inch plank well nailed to joists with 4" nails.

Windows All the windows to have solid rebated frames two inches thick, the full thickness of the walls; two and a half inch sunk and weathered sills, one and a half inch moulded sashes hung with three inch butt hinges with plain outside architraves as shewn.

Doors The styles and top rail for doors to be two and a quarter inches thick; lock rail, bottom rail, and braces to be one and a quarter inch thick. Doors to be covered on the outside between styles with one inch V jointed narrow sheeting of a uniform width. Doors to be in two leaves and each leaf in two halves.

Ventilators Construct ventilator as shewn. The whole of the materials and workmanship required for windows, doors and ventilator to be supplied and performed by the Contractor. The most of the lumber required for the construction of the barrack buildings, etc., is now piled at the barracks, but the parties tendering are requested to examine it, and make themselves acquainted with its condition before sending in their tender, as no after claim for any extra or alleged extra labor required on the lumber will be allowed.

The site on which the buildings are to be erected is distant about four hundred yards from where the lumber is piled. The contractor to include in his tender the handling and haulage of the lumber to the site. All additional lumber, etc., other than that referred to will be delivered on the site.

Should the contractor be delayed owing to the Department of Public Works, failing to supply material, etc., at the time or times required; for such delays the Contractor will be allowed an extension of time, equal to the delay, to complete his contract, but no claim will be entertained for such delays.

Should the Contractor fail to carry on the work to the satisfaction of the Honorable the Minister of Public works or party appointed by him to superintend the work, he may notify the Contractor to that effect in writing and should the Contractor still continue to neglect to
employ sufficient workmen, then the party in
charge may employ workmen and pay such workmen
out of any money due the Contractor, or he
may take the work out of the hands of the Con-
tractor, and complete the contract at the ex-
pense of the Contractor.

The various buildings to be completed and
ready for occupation by the 3rd November, 1886.
Time being the essence of the Contract.

(Signed)      D. Ewart,
Architect

Exterior Walls
The clapboarded walls of the original stable appear to have
remained (except for weathering and maintenance) for the
most part unaltered. Later additions such as the lean-to
and waggon shed altered the appearance of the building
though not the walls. In 1905 sliding doors were added to
the north and south ends. Maintenance repairs were plan-
med in 1913: "New Sills 8 x 8 and new joists and stringers
were required. New floor throughout of 2" planking. Stud-
ding to be spliced at bottoms. Sheeting and drop siding to
be renewed as far up from foundation as necessary about two
feet more or less. Whole building to be plumbed and braced.
Concrete foundation all round 1 ft. thick and 2 ft. high.
Concrete piers under supporter posts 2 x 2 x 2. Contractor
to supply lifting apparatus as required. Building should
be left plumb and in good shape."11

Roof
From 1886 to the last photograph taken of the stable in the
1930's when the stable was dismantled, its saddle-back roof
remained unaltered. However, in 1905 deteriorated wood on
the roof had to be replaced:
Mr. Rogers commenced work on the stable yesterday, but on stripping the shingles found the planking underneath completely rotten, in most places you can put your finger through, although at a little distance the plank looks sound. I believed the stable to be a fairly recent date, I am now informed that it was erected in 1886, and the boarding has never been renewed. I have never seen wood go in an exactly similar way before. All the boards were bad, but those on the West side are worse than those on the East, and simply crumble away with pressure of your hand.

Cupola

A cupola or ventilator was built onto the original building in 1886 and remained on the roof until the last photograph taken in the 1930's (number 27). Its construction can be most clearly seen on photograph number 29 (1900-1910).

Apertures

The south side of this building saw a number of changes over the years. Some of the early photographs of the building, such as number 36 (1900), show three small windows with peaked casements over a large sliding door. This remained unaltered up to around 1900, when photographs 29 and 30 show a number of changes to this side of the building. A small opening is evident underneath the gables, which was likely an opening for better ventilation. Also a small round hole is visible toward the east end of this building. This was, according to Joe Guthrie, a hole for a stove pipe which led from a stove used to heat a small office in this stable.

The apertures on the west side of the building remained unchanged over the years, except for deterioration from lack
of maintenance. In photograph 82 (1900-10) the sixteen original windows can be seen in good repair. In photograph 30, taken in the 1930's, the dilapidated state of the windows is evident.

There were a number of changes to the north wall over the years. An early photograph, number 13 (1890's) of the stable shows no apertures in this wall. But in photograph 32 (1930's) a large aperture in the second storey of the structure is visible. Part of this building was covered by a lean-to addition built in the 1890's.

In photograph 61 (1930's) sixteen small windows are visible on the east side, identical in number and kind to those on the west side. Photograph 61 (1930's) is the only picture which shows these windows; in other photographs the windows are covered by a waggon shed.

**Appendages**

There were two lean-to additions to this stable over the years. One appendage, the addition to the north wall, was built after 1892, when a request was made for a lean-to addition at this end to prevent draughts in the stable. According to Joe Guthrie this lean-to was used as storage space for hay. Photograph 82 (1900-10) shows a large door in the top corner of the west side of this lean-to. Two later photographs, 29 (1900-10) and 32 (1930's) show that a small window was later cut into the lean-to, and in photograph 61 (1930's), a window on the east side is evident.

The other appendage to the stable was a waggon shed built onto the east side of the building, an addition that does not appear on earlier photographs such as number 69 (1885-90). This addition, as its name suggests, was a shed to protect wagons and other machinery. The exact date of its construction is not known, but it was probably built
around 1895. The best photograph of this waggon shed is photograph 21 (1900-10) wherein a clapboard covering on the south side is evident, as is the open-ended east side. The diagonal supporting beams are also visible here. This addition was torn down around 1930, as it is not present in photograph 61 (1930's). The unweathered area on this photograph would be where the waggon shed stood.

**Interior**

Information on the interior of the stable is scarce. Originally it was intended for thirty-two horses so that a substantial part of the building would have been stalls. There were changes to the interior over the years though the precise nature of them is not known. In the 1920's a number of changes were made; Joe Guthrie indicated that a Harness room and a heated office were constructed at the south end of the stables, though no details of these rooms have been uncovered.

Joe Guthrie also stated (in a telephone conversation) that a loft ran along the entire length of the stable and that hay could be thrown into it from both the inside and outside. Hay from the outside was likely thrown through the opening in the second story seen in photograph 15 (1910-20).

Information from Joe Guthrie further indicates that each stall in the stable had a label above it giving the name and particulars for each horse.
Endnotes

1Saskatchewan Herald, Dec. 7, 1885.

2Commissioner's Report, 1886.

3Report of the Veterinarian, 1890.


5Ibid.

6Ibid.

7P.A.C., R.G. 15, vol. 327, 1925.

81925 Electrical Light Assessment.


Sick Horse Stable

A new Sick Horse Stable was requested at Fort Battleford in 1891; this stable, however, was not built until 1900. The Sick Horse Stable now standing at Fort Battleford is the structure built in 1900, but it is not in its original spot, having been moved to its present site from its original position north of the main stable. This is evident in photographs 15 (1910-20) and 40 (1890's). Up to the completion of the Sick Horse Stable now standing, sick horses were either treated in sections of regular stables or in older stables used specifically for sick horses. One building used as a stable for sick horses was apparently torn down in 1890: "The old sick horse stable has been pulled down and I am having the logs laid down for the new wagon shed." In 1891 it was reported that: "At present we are using....the end of one of the old log stables; it is not at all suitable for a sick horse stable." Inadequacy of existing facilities was further related in another report: "That [the Sick Horse Stable] now in use is not suitable. A portion of an old stable has been partitioned off to form it. They [new stables] should be built from the old material with conveniences for the proper treatment of sick horses." In 1892 the necessity of a new building for sick horses was again put forward: "A comfortable stable is urgently needed at this post, isolated from division stables and in close proximity to the surgery. If this were done it would be the means of making the work of the veterinary surgeon much easier and more attention should be paid to our invalid horses."
Prior to 1900 it is not clearly evident which building provided the facilities for sick horses; no building in any of the photographs can be identified as a sick horse stable. One source stating that, "the sick horse stable is an old and poor building", seems to indicate that as late as 1894 there was a separate stable for sick horses. Another source that indicates there might have been a separate building states: "It will be necessary next summer to rebuild the sick stable, the veterinary office and another small building...." This might have been the building labelled "Sick Stable" in the 1900 Diagram (D-4). Other sources indicate that the treatment of horses was provided for in separate parts of existing stables. Perhaps both facilities existed. Even though evidence points to the existence of buildings used as sick horse stables, no written description of such facilities has been uncovered.

A new stable was being planned in 1893 and requests were made for, "a veterinary office, Boiling room and oat and bran storage." By November a more detailed description of the building was available:

This stable which is being built by our own labour is not quite finished, but I trust it will be soon. It is built on a plan drawn by me, and which I am quite confident, and I speak with experience, will be found satisfactory in every respect. The building is not a large one, being 30 feet by 32 feet; it should however, be large enough for a post of this size. It contains two loose boxes, four stalls, a veterinary surgery and office, as well as a boiling room, also ample room for oat bin, stable utensils, etc. It also has a good stone foundation. The importance of ample ventilation has been carefully considered and provided for. In fact I hope that on your next inspection you will consider this small sick stable a model one of its kind.

The building took another year to finish and it is not clear whether all of the features described were included. In
1925 the building as found by the assessors was: "Frame. Stone foundation in good repair 34 x 32 x 20." A further report of 1925 described the building as: "Size 32 x 34 ft. One large room, two small rooms, two box stalls. Not heated. Intended for Sick Stable. Used in case a horse gets sick. Also for keeping straw. Requires plastering on outside. Logs."

Foundation
There was a "good stone foundation" built for the Sick Horse Stable in 1900.

Exterior Walls
The Sick Horse Stable, as it was originally constructed, is a frame building with vertically running corner boards on each corner. Photograph 44 (1940's) shows the construction of the walls: diagonal boards underneath lathing which is covered by plaster. The nature of the construction of the exterior walls is peculiar in that most other buildings constructed after 1885 were covered with clap-boards on the outside. There were some changes due to weathering to these walls over the years, as is evident in photograph 44 (1940's)

Roof
The roof constructed in 1900 is a simple saddle-back roof covered by shingles.

Chimney
There is one chimney in this building, seen emerging through
the roof at the eastern end of the structure. This chimney was still standing in 1930, as photograph 30 (1930's) indicates.

Cupola
An interesting Chinese-style cupola originally sat on top of the roof of the Sick Horse Stable (not the cupola presently on this building). The purpose of the cupola was probably primarily for ventilation, but the windows on the north and south sides suggest that it might also have been used as a "look-out", though there is no certainty that it was so used. The windows may simply have been used to allow more light in. The Chinese impression created by the cupola was achieved by the upward tips on the corners of the cupola and by the adorning crown-like topping. This decoration is a clear example of mid-Victorian eclecticism.

Apertures
The north side of the building as seen in photographs 15 (1910-20) and 33 (1920's) has three windows. Two of these windows (those towards the west end of the building) are rather small. The other larger window is set lower than the two small windows and towards the east end of the building.

A large stable door and a window are visible on the west side of the building (see photograph 44, 1940's). The stable door is a large double door provided with two detached swinging, gate-like doors, the gate on the top third of the door likely facilitating ventilation of the building. As is evident from photograph 44, this door remained in remarkably good condition over the years.

There are two large, rectangular windows on the east end of the building, both on the ground floor.
Inside

The actual construction of the Sick Horse Stable was very close to the plans submitted in 1898 (D-23). Inside the door on the south side of the building is the veterinarian's office. Further down this south side toward the west are three stalls. Between the stalls along the south and north walls is a ten-foot wide passageway.

Along the south wall from east to west were a saddle room and two box stalls. The dimensions for these stalls can be seen on the "as found" drawings.

There are some minor discrepancies between the early plans and the way the inside now appears, such as the position of the oat bin and the number of stalls along the south wall. These differences may have been due to renovations to the inside over the years, though there is no documentary proof of this.

There is a small hay loft in this stable, though none of the diagrams show a loft. It was accessible by a ladder.
Endnotes

1 P.A.C., R.G. 18, vol. 51, file 354, Nov. 24, 1890.


4 Report of the Commissioner, Nov. 30, 1892.


7 P.A.C., R.G. 18, vol. 1403, file 33, April 16, 1898.

8 Report of the Commissioner, Nov. 30, 1898.


10 1925 Assessment.

Harness Room

Very little is known of the Harness Room, in fact, the only indication of there ever having been a Harness Room is its presence on the 1900 Diagram (D-4). It appears there as a small building to the southeast of and about the size of the Blacksmith's Shop. It was likely built to replace harness facilities in the Artificer's Shop which was destroyed in the 1881 fire. This new Harness Room was probably built of logs in a manner similar to the Blacksmith's Shop, since both were built in the early 1880's. The exact date of its disappearance is not known, though it was probably early in the 1900's since the Harness Room does not appear on the 1906 Diagram (D-5).
Saddle Room

It is very doubtful that a Saddle Room ever stood at Fort Battleford, however two pieces of evidence permit specula-
tion that one might possibly have existed. In 1891 a request
was made for a "Saddle Room":

A large saddle room conveniently arranged
near the stables and convenient to the
waggon shed should be erected out of old
material. This building should be capable
of being heated and have plenty of light.
Very little expense needs be incurred as the
old logs are good and there are plenty of
windows, doors, etc. in old buildings. In-
cluded in this should be a room for Division
stores.

There is however, no evidence to determine whether these
plans were ever carried out.

The second bit of evidence suggesting the existence of
a Saddle Room is the 1891 Diagram (D-3) which shows a "Sad-
dle Room" behind the row of Barrack Buildings on the western
edge of the Police grounds. This positioning is extremely
dubious since no building can be seen in such a position in
any of the numerous photographs of this area. A further
problem with the 1891 Diagram is that it is grossly inaccu-
rate with regard to the position of other buildings, so that
if there was a "Saddle Room" this placement must be ques-
tioned. This plan also shows a Recreation room which, as
far as can be determined, never existed. The possibility
that a Saddle Room never existed is, therefore, reasonable.
Endnotes

Veterinary Depot

A Veterinary Depot appears on the 1900 Diagram (D-4) though other information on this building is scarce. It was probably built in the 1880's since it does not appear on earlier diagrams of the Fort. This building has not been identified on any photographs or Diagrams. The Veterinary Depot seems to have been a relatively small building as it stands on the Diagram. The only reference mentioning the Veterinary Depot states: "The Veterinary Department now uses the building lately occupied by Sergt. Kirk."¹ This excerpt tells little about the building other than that it was formerly a residence. It might have been one of the Married Men's Quarters built in 1877. The details of the construction of the Married Men's Quarters can be found in a separate section.
Endnotes

Part 10 Utility Buildings
Pumphouse and Windmill

In 1886 the conditions for a windmill were ideal: "A good tank and windmill should be erected at all posts next season, the wind blowing nearly every day in this country being sufficient to keep the tank constantly full, and with proper construction and stone underneath, there would be little fear of the tanks freezing in the coldest weather." But it was not until 1898 that a windmill was constructed; it was to provide a variety of services:

The pump and windmill are in store at Battleford and I should advise that the windmill be erected so as to saw wood as well as raise water as proposed by Mr. Peck. I went over to the Industrial School and saw a windmill in operation there. It is a wooden tower built over the mill with a small metal tower supporting the wheel. It is about 40 ft. high to the centre of the wheel. Mr. Matheson reports that it works most satisfactorily. It stands about fifty yards or more from the main building and pumps water up to a tank on the top of the building. Mr. Matheson is getting one of the steel towers, similar to the one proposed for our use, to be erected behind the stables, and intends to use it for cutting wood and crushing feed as well as raising water.

By 1925 the windmill had been dismantled. It was described at that time as follows: "Size 12 x 29 One Room. Heated by Stove. Intended for Pumphouse. Not used (Store for old fire engine) In full repair. There is a well under this building but it is not used."
Location
The pumphouse and Windmill are evident on photograph 78 (1900-10); photograph 19, numbers 4 and 5 (1903); and photograph 64, numbers 7 and 8 (1900-10), just north and west of the Concert Hall.

Exterior
In 1925 the Pumphouse was described as a frame building, 12 x 28 x 10. It was clapboarded and covered on the corners with vertical boards. The windmill was probably of steel as the earlier reference indicated, however its height is not known.

Roof
There were no changes made to the saddle-back roof over the years.

Apertures
Only one aperture can be seen from the photographs, that being a window in the south end of the building; it was probably an original part of this structure.

Interior
All that is known of the inside is that it was one room. No indication of changes to the interior were discovered.
Endnotes

1 Commissioner's Report, 1886.
2 P.A.C., R.G. 18, vol 255, July 11, 1898.
4 1925 Assessment.
Wells and Tank Houses

Besides the Tank House and Windmill dealt with in a separate section, there were other Wells sunk and Tank Houses built, although the lack of precise evidence prevents the exact location or the nature of their construction being known. A sufficient water supply was a constant problem at Fort Battleford and even by 1891 water had to be hauled up from the river. Water drawn from the wells was often unfit to drink and disease of both men and livestock was frequently the result of its use.

By 1893 there were at least three wells with tank houses as the following report indicates:

I was rather mixed on [the] tankhouse, what I should have asked for was a second new tank. I have been trying to get a tank built in the paint shops for a year but so far it leaks, and I have let the job to another man, who is now putting one in. We are digging a new well and the tank house will go over that and I should like to put a tank in alongside the well if we get the water. This would give us three tanks, one at the old well which can be filled from [the] new well, one at paint shops near [the] Officers' Quarters, and one at the new well.

Locations
There were two wells near the Barracks buildings: one was the new well built in 1893 with the windmill, the other labelled "Old well and tank house" was located east of the Concert
Hall on the 1900 Diagram (D-4). The other well was at the east end of the Barracks Square as is evident in the 1900 Diagram. A well was also sunk in 1876-77 near the Commanding Officer's Residence; though its exact location is not known, it may be the unlabelled building on the 1878 Diagram (D-2), southwest of the Commanding Officer's Residence.

One Tank House, probably the one at the eastern end of the Barrack grounds was described in the 1925 Assessment as follows: "Tank House: Frame -- shingle roof -- with metal tank for water -- below ground -- good repair. 14 x 14 x 8."\(^2\)
Endnotes


2 1925 Assessment.
Part 11   Lavatories
Lavatories

Disposing of human waste was a major problem at Fort Battleford. The greatest difficulties arose when outhouses or water closets were placed too close to the wells, often resulting in a contaminated water supply. The cold of winter, and especially the heat of summer also created unpleasant results for those men in barracks located close to the outhouses. Over the years improvements were made to the waste disposal system, and galvanized pots which were emptied on a regular basis replaced the "pit system".

Some toilet facilities were separate outhouses, but others were built into existing structures. This latter arrangement caused unpleasantries: "A wash-room is much required here. At present a portion of each barrack room is partitioned off for use as a lavitory, but this is inconvenient, and produced a degree of dampness in the room that is not agreeable." The impractical nature of these attached washrooms was further bewailed in another report: "A bathroom is urgently required. A small washroom was attached to one of the Barrack rooms last Fall. It is of no use as a bathroom."

By 1891 the problems created by the latrines had still not been solved and it was asked that, "....a latrine at present close to [the] new stable be removed further away it being too close for the health of the horses." However, later that year the following report indicated that the situation had been rectified:

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The closet [latrine] used by the residents of the barracks I found clean and in fairly good condition. It would be improved if covers were provided for the seats and ventilators were made to pass from the seats through the roof. The closet at the rear of the Orderly room is in a bad condition of repair and does not fulfil the fulfiments of a closet. It is of the pit variety but the pit has caved in. As soon as practicable a new pit should be made close by and the closet placed over it. The earth should be used to fill up the old one. It will then be as good as ever. The closets connected with the Officers' quarters are also of the pit variety. By the free use of lime and deodorants these have been pretty well kept. The one connected with Inspt. Parker's quarters has caved in, the closet has sunk and it has become nearly full. It should be remedied in the same way as advised for the closet at the rear of the Orderly room.

Twelve dollars will purchase twenty-four galvanized pails, the boxes in the closet used by the residents of the barracks should be done away with and pails set close up under the seats. Wood is an absorbent and when the boxes are empty they give rise to offensive gases.

In the other closets the pits should be done away with altogether and hinges provided for the seats and nests made so that the pails can sit close under them. With the use of a little dry earth these closets will always be sweet and clean. etc. etc... Things will then be more in harmony with the discipline of the Fort which aims at cleanliness, good health and physical culture.

His recommendations were ordered to be implemented a week later: "With regard to the latrines, you are authorized to have proper galvanised iron lined boxes made. You are also authorized to employ a scavenger to clean the latrines as often as necessary."

Little specific information was discovered describing the construction of any outhouses. Early outhouses were probably log and those built after 1880 were likely frame
structures. Some of the outhouses were single and, according to Joe Guthrie, some of the later latrines were larger, double-seated buildings. One of these larger, double-seated latrines is evident in photograph 40 (1890's). This frame structure has an interesting Gothic accent provided by the decorative pinnacle above the apex of the western roof. The small dormer above the front door also gives this otherwise ordinary outhouse a distinctive appearance.

Location
It would be difficult, if not impossible, to give the exact location of all latrines built at Fort Battleford; some were constructed without being recorded in reports or on photographs or documents. Records about the destruction of latrines are almost non-existent. However, those latrines which appear on documents and photographs will be listed below. Those latrines which were part of buildings have already been described in the sections dealing with the individual buildings.

Latrines on Documents
1878 Diagram (D-2) -- one northwest of the stables and one northwest of the Men's Quarters.
1900 Diagram (D-4) -- one south of the Guard Room, one north of the Hospital and one southwest of the Surgeon's Quarters.
## Latrines in Photographs

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Photograph #</th>
<th>Building #</th>
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<tr>
<td>2 (1920's)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 (1930's)</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>13 (1890's)</td>
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<td>19 (1903)</td>
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<td>26 (1930's)</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>28 (1900-10)</td>
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<td>64 (1900-10)</td>
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<tr>
<td>83 (1930's)</td>
<td>5 (?)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Endnotes

1 Commissioner's Report, 1888.


In 1876 the Mounted Police had only purchased an area large enough to establish the buildings of the fort. But by 1879 the Police requested that more land be purchased for agricultural purposes. Gardens were kept and grains grown to supplement purchased supplies. In 1879, for example, the following harvest was reaped: "16,742 lbs. oats; 5,237 lbs. barley; 36,117 lbs. potatoes; 1,060 lbs. beets; 3,850 lbs. turnips; 200 lbs. carrots; cabbage 200 head. We also had a full supply of small vegetables during the summer, such as lettuce, radishes, peas, cauliflower etc."\(^1\) Hay and grains for feeding horses and grazing fields were the major reasons necessitating the purchase of more land; the case was put by Superintendent Walker as follows:

I have the honor to enclose you a tracing of a rough sketch I made last summer of Battleford showing the position of lands I would like to have reserved on behalf of the N.W.M.P. for pasture, etc. The Block to the South and West of the Barracks enclosed by the dotted line containing about fifty acres I would like to have reserved as a Mounted Police ground, pasture, for Horses that are in constant use and for a Troop farm; by cultivating about two thirds of the land properly it would produce almost sufficient Roots and Grain to supply the Troop, the other third could remain pasture.

I would also recommend that the Flats enclosed by the dotted lines be reserved for pasturage. It is useless for any other purpose as it is sometimes flooded by high water in the spring.
The map described by Walker is probably the 1877 Map, labelled below (M-2). A more detailed outline of the land owned by the Police can be seen on the 1908 map (M-5).

**Hay Corral**
By 1900 a hay corral had been established at Fort Battleford and it is evident on the diagram of that year (D-4) on the southwestern edge of the barrack grounds.

**Police Cemetery**
A Police cemetery can be seen on the 1908 map northwest of the barrack grounds (M-5).

**Recreational Areas**
Land was also set aside for recreational purposes. The 1906 Diagram (D-5) shows a football field at the southwestern edge of the grounds. By 1915 a golf course was completed:

> During the past year an eighteen-hold golf course has been laid out on the Police reserve and it affords good recreation to the members of the division and civilians. It will be understood that the greens on this course are not as they should be, owing to the fact that we have no water system laid on, it is impossible to keep them in perfect order at the present time, but these minor difficulties are being overcome.

The location of this golf course is not known; but for this excerpt, no further mention of this golf course has been found.
Endnotes

1 Commissioner's Report. 1879.

2 Walker Letterbooks. March 10, 1879.

Comments on Photographs, Diagrams and Maps

Photographs
The photographs, which will appear in another volume, will be accompanied by a page providing acknowledgments and identification of the subject matter on each photograph. The photographs are not arranged in any particular order: they were numbered and buildings on them identified before the approximate dates were determined. Since the buildings on each of the numbered photographs were identified and discussed on tape interviews with Joe Guthrie, it was not possible to rearrange the photographs. Not all of the buildings on each photograph have been identified, in most cases buildings not identified were not clearly visible and/or were too far in the distance. Some buildings on a number of photographs could not be identified with certainty, where this was the case, the building was either followed by a question mark (?) or a number of possibilities were listed.

Identifying the photographs and dating the photographs presented problems. In only a few cases was it possible to identify the photographer, since most of the photographs used were not originals and in some cases even when they were originals the photographer was not acknowledged. If the photographer (whether amatuer or professional) could be identified, some light might be shed on the kind of camera used, kind of film used, etc. which could be useful in determining the degree of "photographic distortion" on some pictures. The proportions on a number of buildings and the distances between buildings on some photographs have obviously been distorted either
intentionally or accidently. Precise dating of many photographs was not always possible, this was due to a number of reasons, but in most cases it was simply because there was not enough information on the photographs to determine the exact date.

Photographs 86 to 94 have been included for comparative purposes and reveal similar styles of various buildings at other North-West Mounted Police posts. They could provide the basis for a more detailed comparative study of North-West Mounted Police structures.

Diagrams
The diagrams in volume two are arranged into three sections: the first section consists of diagrams 1 - 11 which are plans of the layout of Fort Battleford, the second section including diagrams 12 - 28 are plans of individual buildings, and the last section, diagrams 29 - 37 are comparative diagrams. The contents of those diagrams have already been discussed in the body of this report, making additional identification here redundant.

After examination of the plans of the layout of the buildings a large discrepancy in their accuracy became apparent. After careful study and comparison of these diagrams with photographs and written material Diagrams 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 were found to be most reliable. While Diagrams 3, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 were found to be inaccurate. Though there is some valuable information in this latter group caution must be exercised in using them. The shortcomings of these diagrams have already been discussed in the body of this report.

The usefulness of the diagrams have been discussed in relation to the buildings they describe. Diagrams 12 - 25 and Diagram 28 have generally been found to be accurate though some discrepancies have been found in some of the details for
certain buildings. Diagrams 26 and 27 show the location and details of the fence, stockade and bastions.

Diagrams 29 to 37 have been included for comparative purposes. These are the master plans for buildings to be erected for the North-West Mounted Police as drawn by the architects of the Department of Public Works in 1877 (the originals are accompanied by some written description of the buildings). These diagrams might assist in providing details for buildings where no other evidence is available.

Maps
The eight maps included in this report require little explanation. They present some perspective of North-West Mounted Police property to the surrounding land. The first map (M-1) shows the land around Telegraph Flats before the police purchased their land. The next four maps illustrate various details of the police property in relation to surrounding farm land and the settlement. The last four maps (M-6, M-7, M-8 and M-8a) provide some historical and geographical information.
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Appendix. Transcript of the taped interview with Joe Guthrie

Part 1 General Discussion
Hildebrandt (italics): When did your relatives first come here and when was this house built?
Guthrie (Courier type): Well, my dad's uncle came out here when the first six Mounted Police came out in 1876. His name was Richard. He came out and was with the first Mounted Police that came to Battleford to form the Barracks here in 1876. And then my Dad came out in 1882, to visit his uncle. He liked it out here, joined the Mounties, and stayed. He was at Duck Lake during the Rebellion, and after stayed in the force for 23 years. Then he took his pension, which was $30.00 every three months. Then they only got their pension every three months. They had to send a form in every three months for this pension. It came to $30.00. And then later on, back in the '30s, they had it changed and they got about $36.00 a month. That's what he was getting when he died in uh '74.

When he first came out here, was this house built? Did he live in this house?

No, this house wasn't built until 1897. When he came out my dad's uncle had a house in the hollow between here and the Barracks and my father stayed with him. When he joined the Mounties Quarters. Well then he built this house in 1897—that's when he got married. You had to be in the force seven years and had to have $500.00 in the bank and be clear of all debts when you got married so that you could support a wife
Joe Guthrie because the pay was very poor. Their first pay when he joined was only 50¢ a day you know, 50¢ a day and keep.

Why was this house built here?

Because after my dad's uncle, Richard Guthrie, was transferred in the Police he sold this place to my dad. This place right here. And he homesteaded here too. There were so many acres here, but he had homesteaded it when he first came and so my dad bought it from his uncle. And so naturally it was his own land and place and he was in the Police Force so he built here on his own place so he'd be close to work.

Did he supply the Police with any grain or livestock?

No, no, he never supplied them. Actually he was a saddler and shoemaker by trade. And then afterwards I think they got 25¢ extra a day for working as a tradesman in the Police Force so he used to fix the harness and the saddles and Police boots and things like that. And he had a Blacksmith Shop and a Harness Shop, then they had a store up there and they had a different place to keep up their own equipment, like their wagons, their harnesses, their tents and things like that. Of course, they had to do other duty besides that. That was just in their spare time, like when they weren't out on patrol, they had to do duty like that.

Do you know of what materials this house was built?

Yes, it was lumber, spruce lumber. It was milled right here in Battleford, ferried down the Saskatchewan River to the Princess Mill just on the north side there, between the two bridges. And they milled it there and they started the building. In fact I got the bill and everything for it, you know. I'll
show it to you after. I got the bill...so much for nails, so much for windows, so much for doors, and things like that, which it wasn't very much in those days. Of course the pay wasn't very much either.

Do you remember much about the social life of the Fort?

They had a good social life, actually. They built a Hall and they had the Barrack Room, which they called the "Barrack Room" it was for the single men. Then there were several other buildings that were built, the Officer's Quarters here was up on top of the hill and then there was several other houses. There was the house that was the doctor lived in, in later years Mr. Jackson lived in it. They also had a hospital; it was a long building and part of it at the back was for married men. They had their own Hospital and their own doctor.

The Hospital was partially used to accommodate married men?

Yes, there were living quarters in the back of it. And then they had several buildings like the Sergeant and his wife lived in a separate house. But there weren't really too many, there was only about five married men, that lived on the grounds but some of them lived right outside.

What sort of sports or entertainment did they have?

They had a big Barrack Room for single men, they had a pool table and they used to play pool. They were quite active in sports, like tennis, they used to play a lot of football in the summer and broom ball in winter. They had a Concert Hall, what they called their Entertainment Hall. People from
Joe Guthrie

town used to come down and every New Years they had a New Year's Eve ball which everyone looked forward to. Hell, they came all the way from Payton, forty, fifty miles away, and they'd stay over, to take in the New Years' Eve Ball. And they had a great time. The Mounties had their own orchestra, there was about 200 men here one time and they used to put on plays and entertainment among themselves — they had their own orchestra, they had the odd dance, and things like that...

Do you remember any of the buildings being constructed?

No, no that was all before my time.

Do you remember some being destroyed?

Oh, I remember them all.

What happened to them, and why were they destroyed?

Well, that was the sad part of it. The thing was that after the Mounties left here in December, 1924, the buildings were neglected. Sergeant Shepherd and his wife were in charge then but they were transferred over to North Battleford. And Jack Wilson who was one of the constables, was transferred to Prince Albert. And he stayed in Prince Albert and he finished his term till he took his pension and then he joined the city police in Prince Albert for a while. But then for years, from 1924-25 there, until about 1928, the place was vacant. It just went to wreck and ruin. Everybody went in there and they ransacked it and they broke windows and all the rest of it. And then the town took it over, and they rented some of the buildings to Harry Stewart, he had some cattle up there and he also stored grain there. And then the
Joe Guthrie

Concert Hall was sold to Hall Clink and Quail, I guess Quail bought it, not Hall so much, and then he tore it down and made a bunch of cabooses out of it. Well then some the older buildings like the Barn were torn down, it was one of the last ones to be torn down. It was in good shape, the Barn.

Why was it torn down?

Well, to tell the truth, I don't know why they tore it down. The town sold it but like the big Barn, the latest Barn that was torn down, it was torn down for the lumber. But then they had what they call the Ice House, and the Fire Hall and the Blacksmith's Shop, they were all made of logs. Well, back in the '80s they were all made of logs and, but they gradually deteriorated, the plaster fell off of them and they were getting to be a danger you know, of falling over and people kids going in there and one thing and another, so they tore them down. The town sold some of them, then they tore them down and just scrapped them. The last building to be torn down was what they called the Fire Engine House: they had their own fire department. And that was just north of where these two buildings [the Commanding Officers Residence and Officers' Quarters] are in the front. In fact, when we lived up there we used that for a garage.

Were there any other residences still standing that aren't standing now?

Oh, you bet, sure.

Could you name them?

Well there was what they called the Doctor's House, and then there was the Sergeant's House, Sergeant Shepherd was fellow in charge of it.
Joe Guthrie

Where was that?

That was to the west, just about where the road, and the fence go through. It's just on the outside of the fence, where the power line comes in. His house was right there, Sergeant Shepherd's House.

Was it similar to any of the other houses that had been built, or different?

Uh, it was a little different style, and it wasn't as big a house. It was a smaller house and it may have been a two-storey house, but I doubt it, it was smaller though.

He wasn't living in the Commanding Officer's House at that time?

No, no, no.

No one was living in there?

Well, we moved up there in 1928.

And you lived in that house?

My dad moved up there and the town got him to be more or less a caretaker. But a lot of things were wrecked, and by then Stewart had grain and cattle and things there. But dad moved up there and was kind of caretaker. Harry Stewart used to be a contractor here and he rented the thing from the town, which actually they never should have done, the town never should have done that. There was no money in the '30s, the Canadian government didn't have it, the Provincial government
Joe Guthrie
didn't have it and then when Innes, Campbell Innes, came here to teach school in 1920, he came to teach high school in 1920, he took a lot of interest in it and it was through Innes that they finally got this museum going. They got it from the Provincial government and then it was transferred, back to the Federal government.

So, why was the Sergeant's House destroyed then?

There was nobody living in it, and people were just running in and out and they sold it to somebody.

But it was one of the newer buildings was it? It was in good shape?

It was log. It was a log house. No, it was one of the older buildings. Because, the Doctor's House and the Hospital, they were all lumber. In fact there was a guy, two fellas bought the old Doctor's House. One was a fella by name of Fletcher and that wasn't destroyed until about 1945, I guess. Between '40 and '45.

And it would have been destroyed for lumber as well?

Uh, no. Actually they sold it and two guys tore it down and they built a house out of it.

Where was that house built?

It was built right in Battleford.

Do you know which house it is?

Definitely I know. Right alongside where my daughter lives.
And what street is that on?

It's on 22nd street. House no. 41. It's right next to where the old Champagne House used to be. My daughter and her husband bought that lot and they built a house there, well Dave Downing is the guy that lives in that house and he built that house out of the lumber, the majority of the lumber that was taken from the old Doctor's House. Jackson was the last fella that lived in it. As far as the police people went, Sergeant Jackson was the last to live there. He was a kind of a plain-clothes detective. Then he was transferred over to North Town too, and then he retired from the force.

But that Sergeant's House was quite a distance away from the original buildings here?

No.

From the Commanding Officers' House?

It was about, do you know where the fence come in now? On the north side?

The north side?

His house was just on the outside of that, and so was the old Hospital. North from the Commanding Officers' house. North and west. You see there was the Hospital built there. (Incidentally they're trying to buy that land back). Where the Hospital was and the Jackson, the Doctor's House.

And then where was the Sergeant's House from there?
Joe Guthrie

Oh, it was a way over this other way.

Oh, it was over here by the road?

By the road, yes. It was also on the outside the fence.

That was quite a distance from the original buildings, was it?

Oh, yes, but not too much because like the Jail, it was outside of where the fence is now. In fact I think part of the cement airing court is still out there.

Is it?

Oh, yes, yes. Part of the cement is there.

On the other side?

The jail was built and then they had a big wooden wall around it, where they used to let the prisoners out for exercise. Outside they had a cemented area they also had a little shed there, a toilet, and then they used to have that all in the same place; in the airing court where the Jail was.

So the four basic residences were....?

The Doctor's House, the Commanding Officer's House, the Officers' Quarters and the Sergeant's House.

What do you remember about the Officers' Quarters?

That was used as an office. In later years, they built a wooden sidewalk to the Officers' Quarters. And they used to have other wooden sidewalks round the buildings. And in
Joe Guthrie

1925, no after, between 1925 and 1927, they rented the grounds for a stampede. They had a first stampede, and they built corrals and they had a stampede right out in the square and a lot of those fellows used a lot of those sidewalks to make the shoots and things. The last fella that was there he made a lot of money out of that. He sold a lot of the stuff to the stampede committee. And then they got a lot of the old steel telegraph poles that they used to have. I don't know whether you've ever seen any of them. They had a steel telegraph pole, and it was a tapered pole, and they put them in the ground and then on the tapered end they had this wooden plug-in with the insulator on the top which they used to use, but they got a lot of them from the old government telegraph office up here and they used to make a corral. And then they put heavy wire around up six, eight feet high so that the horses wouldn't go over it.

That would be in the square, would it?

That was in the square so that everybody could see all around the fellows riding. They weren't corrals, it was all caged in wire, but that's what they used, those old government steel telegraph posts.

What do you remember about the palisade? There's been one reconstructed here.

The what?

The palisade or the stockade? How accurate is the one that's standing now?

It's fairly accurate. The stockade, you mean that's put around. It's fairly accurate. There were more of the buildings that were outside of it than were actually inside of
Joe Guthrie

it.

What was the original stockade?

Well, it was just something the same as it is now, although it wasn't spruce by any means, it was poplar.

It was poplar?

Poplar poles, yes, cut along the river bank here.

What about the size of it? Was it about the same height as this stockade is?

Pretty well. Pretty well the same height.

The same....

Same design, yes. Pretty well the same.

What about some of the Mounties who left the service of the R.C.M.P.? How many of them settled around here?

Oh, a lot. A lot of them settled around here.

Do you remember their names?

Oh, sure. There was old Charlie Parker; there was Joe Long; there was old Mack Merrideth, and there was oh, Al (or all the?) Johnsons; all kinds of guys. Light-Lorcombe.

Did many of them become prominent in public life?

Gradually, yes.
Joe Guthrie

Would you say that....

Well the present day now most of the, that was pretty well a hundred years ago, you know. Most of those guys all died off and their descendants have moved away or died off. You take like ourselves, there's not too many of the real old-timers left. Light, Sergeant Light, he was postmaster in Battleford for years and when he was retired he moved to the coast, you see. Well, he's dead now, and all these old-timers are. But there was a Jim McGaffin, he was an old retired Mountie. He went farming out at Baljennie and he lived out there all the time afterwards. But a lot of them stayed around here. Paddy Burk, he stayed around here. And you know actually, you see, the pay wasn't so much and when they retired from Mounties well then they started in businesses and farming.

Which ones went into businesses? Do you remember any of the businesses?
Your father was in the saddlery business.

Yes, he was in business. He had a store in town here. And then there was Lons Lockwood, I don't know whether he was a Mountie for sure or not. But Charlie Parker, he went into the City Police, some of them went instructing the Indians, you know, for the Indian Department. Some of them went in, like the Indian Agent came out here and they all got different jobs....but a lot of them went into farming, you know, things like that. Old Pete Painter, he was an old Mountie, he went up to Payton. And then you see, when the Barr Colonists came out a lot of them settled around here. You've probably heard talk about the Barr Colonists. They came out in 1903 to 1905. A lot of those guys were what they call remittance men. Well actually, the remittance men were fellas that were from England and their people were fairly
Joe Guthrie

high up, and some of these guys, them were boozers, you know. And they sent them out to Canada here and they paid them so much money to stay away from home. Stay away from England. What we call remittance money, so much money a year to stay out so that they wouldn't disgrace the family over there. We got quite a few of them around here.

And they came with the Barr Colonists?

Uh, some of them did, yes. The odd one came with the Barr Colonists, and then some of them came out later themselves, you know. But all of the Barr Colonists weren't remittance men by any means. It was the odd one, but not all of them. They were a good bunch of guys, most of the Barr Colonists.

Was there much drinking among the Mounties? Social drinking?

Oh, yes. They had their drinks and they had their parties and that.

Would they have been in the Canteen?

They had their own Canteen.

And they would have had beer there?

Well, in them days there wasn't much beer.

It would be mostly whiskey, would it?

Yes, mostly whiskey. Of course, then for a while there, you know, there was prohibition here and they couldn't have their liquor. But, oh ya, they had their whiskey, and then they used to ship it in, you know, from Winnipeg. I remember
Joe Guthrie

them. You've seen some of those gallon jugs, crockery gallon jugs. Well one of those used to come up from Winnipeg later, packed in straw, and that was delivered here for $6.50, $6.50 a gallon.

And how long would it last?

Depends on the guys. But actually, every house or, every farm house always had a gallon of whiskey around. And actually in the early days they used it more for medicine than they did for drinking. They used a hot drink of whiskey for pneumonia or anything like that. It was really more for medicine. They drank it sometimes, I guess some drank more than others, the same as they do now.

Were there any remittance men among the Mounties?

No, I don't think there was any remittance men among the Mounties. They had to have a good record, even now, you know, they trace you right back. Even my nephew, there, was in the Mounties. His wife was a war bride and they wrote over to Scotland and to find about her and that, you know, before they accepted him. They're pretty careful.

But then they had the prisoners. They had a jail in there and then the prisoners used to come and they used to fix the fences here and they used to work. We used to see the prisoners going by. And in fact, lots of times when it rained there was a, and they just run into what used to be an old Chicken House. They'd stay in the Chicken House there with a Mountie. And they all had a black and white, a black plaid uniform. They had a prison guard uniform. That's too bad, you know. I was talking to Mrs. Simpson, they haven't got one of those prisoners uniforms here.
Joe Guthrie

What sort of things were most of the prisoners being held for?

Oh, stealing, and the odd murder, fighting.

Were there more Indians usually, in the prison?

Not so many. No, not so many.

Were there many crimes that were more typical of the Indians than of whites?

Well, the odd Indian, they used to sometime butcher a cow, butcher a steer or something or sometimes stealing. There used to be more half-breeds than Indians. More half-breeds that, uh, see because a lot of these Mounties, you know, they all married half-breed girls.

They didn't marry girls from the east?

There were no white girls.

There were no white girls that came here?

No. no. There was not many white girls in the first place. A lot of them married half-breed girls.

Most of the members of the force that left to homestead took half-breed wives then?

Uh, a lot of them, yes. Ya, a lot of them. I know when my dad came out here, he came out to visit his uncle. And they said that it was a niece that was coming out to visit him. And a lot of the guys were waiting, see, well a young niece, you know a white girl. When he come out he was a man instead of a niece.
Joe Guthrie

What religion were most of the R.C.M.P. officers? What church did they belong to?

Oh, well, they had their own church. There was a lot like my dad and his relatives, they were Roman Catholic and they had the Anglicans. Most of them were either Anglican or Roman Catholic. See, in these days there was no United Church. There were very few Presbyterians. But there was some Presbyterians because, uh, they built the old Gardiner Church. That was, see there was the Anglican Church here, St. Vitals Church, and the Presbyterian Church. And then the Presbyterian went to United, what they have United Church now. And most, the majority of them were either Anglican or R.C.

Was there any religion that was more prominent among the officers? Or was it fairly well mixed?

No, I don't think there was any, it didn't well as far as the force, and as far as what religion you were, it didn't make any difference. I mean just the guy was a fella himself and if he wanted to practice one religion, that was his own. There was no distinction. They all, just the same as they do now.

You know, one thing I always tell Mrs. Simpson too, is that the Cannon House where they used to keep all their ammunition, that was built like in a hole in the ground, culvert, with a kind of a copper cover, copper tin, and there was all copper nails in it. That was so that it wouldn't get struck by lightning.

Oh, I see.

Ya, it was.
Joe Guthrie

Where was that?

That was just straight north of this Commanding Officer's House.

Oh, I see. So close to the river then.

Oh, no. No. Straight north. That's east. This other place is east. It was straight north. And is one place that isn't marked today. And I think that should be.

And it's outside the stockade?

Just on the borderline of it. It may be outside, it may be in. It's hard to tell from here. But it's just on the borderline of where the stockade is.

What about most of the men that joined the R.C.M.P.? Were they, where did they come from?

Oh, they just come west. Some come from Ontario. Like my dad, when he come out, he come from Ireland. He come from Ireland; there was a lot of them came from England. England and Ireland, Great Britain and down from eastern Canada.

And would they have settled in Ontario before they came here? Or would they have come directly?

Well, that depends some of them settled in, it just depends.

But there wasn't very many that joined the force, that say had lived in the west?
Well, there was no west. I mean, you see, the west, there wasn't any.

Could some have come from Winnipeg?

Well, yes. They come from, some come from Winnipeg, but it was just starting then. The west here was just starting when the Mounties came out. And as people came out further west, well then they sent the Mounties to form the law and order. The further north they went and further west they went, well then the police came along to keep law and order. It was like the Klondike days, they went up to the gold rush in the Yukon to keep law and order. You see there were guys, in fact they panned gold here along the Saskatchewan River here you know. There were a lot of them. There was an old fellow by the name of MacDermit, he made a lot of money panning gold.

Where would he have panned it?

Along the Saskatchewan River, they panned along the Saskatchewan River.

What about some of the hardships that were endured by the Mounties out here?

Oh, it was pretty tough. When they had to go out and get a man, there was no railroad. Swift Current was the closest railroad. That was 200 miles away the rail. And they had to do all their transportation by wagon and horses. And they'd move out here in the middle of winter, go to Swift Current, and they used to have some places, half-way houses or stopping centres, but lots of times they just got a bank of snow and dug it out and crawled in a snowbank at night. And they could always try to find shelter for their horses. And then
Joe Guthrie  
they had a saddle bag. I have my dad's saddle blanket with his original number on it: 1008.

What about disease and sickness among the men?

Well they, there was one time there that, uh, quite a few of them got smallpox and quite a few of them died from smallpox, but then.

When was that, do you remember?

No. I don't remember. That was in the early days. Way back in the '80s. Before 1900. But they were a hardy bunch of guys, you know. They were out and exercising all the time you know. Riding slims you down, you know. You don't get a pot belly by riding. And riding in the saddle all the time, well they'd spend days and days on the saddle. Ride to Swift Current, ride to here and there. When you're in the saddle all the time, boy, you get lean and in good shape.

Did any of their crops suffer.

Oh, winter time, just the same as it is know, you see. Depending on the winter, you know.

There wasn't any particular kind of infestation that was worse than others?

No. no. But the land was new and then you know you had to break it up with the old oxen and then different farmers, as they started, they got contracts with the police force for oats and hay and things like that and then this flat down here, used to belong to them. The police put up their own hay.
Joe Guthrie

Did they plant gardens?

Oh, yes, they had their own gardens.

What did they grow?

Well, mostly turnips and carrots and potatoes, things like that, you know. Cabbage and that. Then there used to be the odd guy that farmed out, they'd come in and they'd sell to the Barracks, eggs, and things like that. There were always guys that were outside and came in, and some had their own cow if they had a place. See they weren't transferred, the married men weren't transferred quite as much in the early days as they were during the later years, then they got transferred. Now the married men are not transferred quite as much as they were for a while. One guy'd maybe get transferred twice a year sometimes, but now three to five years before they get transferred, the married men. For the simple reason that they couldn't keep the guys in because once a guy got married and a family, well his kids started going to school, well they couldn't just move all over, but that same thing as now, you know. They're not transferring them as much as they used to. And you see the married men, when they got into the force and they got married, they got what they called rations; they were able to get flour, bacon and a few things like that. What they called rations.

Was there any problem with prairie fires?

Oh, a lot of prairie fires. Ya, there was a lot of prairie fires. Fellas go out and uh lots of times the fellas winter hay got burnt up with prairie fires, you know. Fellas making a campfire, or Indians making campfires and not properly
Joe Guthrie

putting it out. There was quite a lot, they used to go out and fight them. A lot of prairie fires, there were a lot of prairie fires in the early days.

What about water supply? What did most people do?

Well, uh, they all had their own wells and some of them, they had to haul water from the river or something like that, but there was a lot of springs around this country.

What did they do with the water from the river? Could they use it directly?

Well, sometimes they did, but they always boiled their water for tea and coffee and things like that. They had to boil their water, but most of them dug wells. Dug down, dug a well by hand, was all dug by hand.

So there wasn't....

You see, the police had a well up here was about 80 feet, that was dug all by hand, and they had a pump on it. And in later years when something went wrong with their well, they hauled water with a team and a wagon from our spring down here. See, we have a spring and a well and they hauled water for years from our place down here.

So there was never any particular problem with disease?

No, but you take, they had to have a quite a bit of water for the horses; they had 200 men there, and practically every man had a horse.

Where did the horses come from?
Joe Guthrie

Uh, they uh, they raised them. They raised a lot of horses themselves, and then some guys out on the ranches, also supplied horses. In fact, there were quite a few wild horses that the guys got. But those horses, they were raised and they were brought in by different ranchers. And then in different places, each division had their own, their own color horse. Now one division had a sorrel horse, and one division had a black horse, and one division had a gray horse. And they were all branded on the right front shoulder "MP," Mounted Police, and each horse had a number and that number was branded on the hoof. On the hoof of the horse, in case they were lost or stolen. They were all a good breed of horse, because they had to have as good a horse as the other guy had. So they were always a good breed of horse. There were none of these little ponies or anything like that. They were a good horse.

When do you remember horses being phased out?

Well, they still had horses when they closed the Barracks in 1924. In December, 1924-25. And they still had horses in the North Town for over there for ten years after that anyway.

What were the relations between the R.C.M.P. and the Indian population, there being so many Indian Reserves around here?

They got along good. The Indians respected the Red Coats. The Indians, the majority of the Indians respected the Mounties more than they do now. That is after the rebellion but the Indians respected the Mounties. They didn't have that much trouble with them. After the uprising, or the rebellion of 1885, 1884 and then when they settled down. Actually there wasn't that much trouble between the straight Indians. They had more trouble with the half-breeds and the
Joe Guthrie
Indian.

Was it very common for any of the officers to marry an Indian? Or was it more the half-breeds that they married?

Oh, no. Some of them married a princess, Indian princess, the chief's daughter. Indian Chief's daughter, oh ya, some of them.

Can you think of anybody who did?

Well, uh a fella doesn't like to mention any names, you see.

Oh, I don't think people are embarrassed about that, do you?

Me? Well, because, you know, I mean to say some are and some aren't you see. I know a lot of them that have married the Indians.

But they didn't like to talk about it?

Uh, well, see some of them don't. Like their ancestors have changed now, and the younger people don't like to know that there's still Indian blood in them. Mind you, some of them don't mind, but then others do.

I see. But their parents wouldn't have minded that they were married to an Indian?

Well, I guess some resented it and some didn't. It just depended on the individual, you know. But there was an awful lot of the Mounties, and not only the Mounties. The white settlers, the fur traders, and all the guys, they, a lot of them married the Indian girls. Mind you, some of them Indian
Joe Guthrie

girls were pretty good looking girls, too. You know and they were alright, you know. They were not too bad.

What do you think about the way that the fort has been developed so far? Up to this stage? Do you have any comments?

Well, it's come a long way from what it was, but as I said before, it was just too bad it was left to deteriorate the way it was. But that was probably on account of being juggled from one department to the Provincial government, to the Federal government and uh, nobody had any money and it's not only here but, it's just the same as a lot of history, you guys are going around trying to find out history, well it's pretty hard sometimes because there's not too many of the original ones left.

Do you know any people that I should be interviewing?

That you should be interviewing? Well, as I say, there's not too many now, Mrs. Winnie Johnson and her sister, but they're been here, they were born here, they know a lot of the old history but then somehow when they get older they forget it, same way with my sister. I know I can remember dates pretty good, as far as the thing goes. I was born and raised here, all our family was. I used to hear Dad and mother talk about this and that. My father even after he got out of the police force he talked about different things that happened out there. And, a lot of guys quit, some guys got transferred. Some of them got into a hassle too, you know, by paying and selling stuff out of the Q.M. stores and the odd thing like that. They caught up with them and they beat it. They like to cover up some of those things, just the same as in the army. A lot of guys did that. But, just the
Joe Guthrie

same as some of the police force, right now in the early
days they weren't paid very much. You find that on some of
the city police more than you did the Mounties. Uh, they
weren't paid very much and guys wanted to do something, they'd
more acceptable to a bribe than they were of anything else for
the simple reason that they just weren't getting enough money,
for the job you know. It stands to reason they could do
that. But I remember all the prisoners here doing work, fixing
fences, and building buildings and looking after the horses
and one thing and another. They all had work to do, someone
got ten days maybe for fighting, or for being drunk or for
stealing something. I think six months was the longest they
kept them here. Then after that they went to P.A. or some
other place. Stoney Mountain Jail was a lot that went there
for longer terms. But they had a lot of guys in for murder,
life and things like that. They even had a Woman's Jail
up here in Battleford, where some of the women were kept.

In the fort?

Oh ya.

Where was that?

That was in part of the building they called the Old Store-
house. They had a woman's jail there. Sometimes the women
got into trouble too.

What kinds of women?

They were mostly half-breed women.

What kind of offences were they arrested for?
Joe Guthrie

Well, for stealing or for drunkenness and raising a disturbance.

Nothing like prostitution?

Eh.

There was no prostitution? Or wouldn't they be arrested for that?

I don't think they bothered with them. I don't think they arrested them for that.

Not in those days?

No, I don't think so.

Would you like to see the fort developed in a certain way for the future? Do you have any ideas about what should happen?

Well, actually, I'd like to see some of it go back a little more to the original than it was for this one. But you see, it's getting to the point now, that a lot of people, some, they've done very very well in collecting a lot of stuff that they have up there, you know like old relics and things like that. But since these antiques come out, uh a lot of people are inclined to want to sell this stuff. They want to sell this stuff and they're not in a position to pay the money. Now I had an old shell box. A cannon shell box, and on it was a rawhide tag from Fort Walsh, 1876. And I had it out there in the garage there and a guy came along there one time, fella that works at the Hospital and collecting stuff and I didn't realize that he, it was, it was what was it was, and I gave it to him. And he said he'd keep that, well he turned around and he sold it. In fact it was sold. The guy down at Calgary, Don Light bought it for the museum
Joe Guthrie

at Calgary and he paid six hundred and fifty bucks for it and I got nothing. After that I got cheesed off. I never sold anything. And all these guys now if they have something they want to sell it, they want to get money out of it. And unfortunately, the museum wanted to buy it from me, but they offered him fifty bucks for it, but he sold it to Calgary for six hundred and fifty bucks at an auction sale. But to get into any of that stuff, a lot of it takes money and unfortunately they haven't got enough money to do what they want. Now Mrs. Simpson was just telling me the other day that they still haven't fixed up the Sick Horse Stable the way they want it. They had four by four planks on ropes so that if a horse was sick or cut or anything they could push that in and work on him without getting kicked. And they were on swinging ropes and things, and they'd like to get that fixed up, but this year they've spent the amount of money that was allotted. There's one thing. I'd like to see the place opened longer in the summertime than it actually is right now. And they had a lot of staff up there but nowadays, if you haven't got staff, if you don't pay them union wages, and if you don't pay them overtime, you don't pay them this and that, well, that takes a hell of a lot of money, you know. And the guys that want to work now, they want more money for things like that, and unfortunately it runs away with a lot of money. It give employment and some people are interested in history and some aren't and if you get somebody that really is interested in their job and looks into something, well if you get somebody else that just wants to work for the summertime and just get the money out of it and that's all. They don't care whether a guy comes and visits the place or whether they tell them the accurate history of the place or not. Well it makes a lot of difference you know.
Joe Guthrie

Well, thanks very much. Maybe we can do this again some other time, maybe talk about some specific buildings.

Well, actually a fella should look at specific buildings. Some of those buildings, I don't know they haven't done it. They really should have had a marker. They don't really got a marker where the Hospital was, they haven't got a marker where the doctor's office was, where the Sergeant's house was, where the Ice house was, and see they used to put up their own ice in the winter time, because and then they'd cover that with sawdust and stuff so that it would keep pretty well through the summer to keep their meat and things like that. They all had, everybody in the west all had an Ice House. You know, now they have fridges, but uh, before they never had any fridges you see.

Part II Discussion of the Photographs

Number two now.

Yes.

And you say it was taken after 1925?

Yes, because you can see the old telegraph, steel telegraph that they had around for the stampede, there's the stockade they had round for the stampede. Now this is the old Fire House, just right north.

That's number 2.

Number 2, yes. That'd be the old Fire Engine House. And
this was definitely taken after that, because this was the stampede. And that was after 1925, because these were the old steel telephone poles.

What would this building number 6 back here be?

That's a little toilet.

Little Toilet?

Yes. That is number 6. They also had them double ones you know.

Is this a building back here, number 7, or is it just a blur on the photograph?

That's an old Chicken House. That's an old Chicken House that they had. These people that lived in these houses, some of them kept a cow and others kept chickens. It's a Chicken House. Now that is just situated east of this house, running north and south.

Now we move on to photo number 3. I was wondering about this window I marked number 1 here.

It's still the same.

It's there now, but it doesn't appear on the original. Do you know when it was built or put in? It doesn't appear on the original photograph of the building?

Well, I think it was their shed where they kept wood and coal right in the front here. But I think the window has been there as long as I can remember. You see there, it's there. That's
Joe Guthrie
the one you mean.

What was this back part, number 5 there? In picture 3.

That was a lean-to put onto where they used to store things. And that was just a lean-to. That was all....isn't that still there?

No.

No, that's not still there. I don't know who took that down.

And this number 6 would be another Toilet?

Yes. See they had them all double. Two and three. You know, two hole, and three hole.

What about this fence back here, number 7?

Well that was. In this picture here, this was a red fence, that was taken down, and it was painted red and it enclosed these, this whole place here. That came out to not quite as far as where the stockade is. That was just a fence around these, these two houses. That was a board fence. From here, it went all around to these two houses.

Now here we're looking at picture number 4. What about this fence here, number 2?

This was just a.....

It looks to be recent.
Joe Guthrie

Well, that was there, that was a board fence, they closed in this little open space in here. Now what they used that for in the winter, in the summertime, I don't know. But see there was a fence across here all the way, and there's the wooden sidewalks. And they had wooden sidewalks up to there.

Those wooden sidewalks were in ....

Oh yes, a long time. A long time. They took them up, some of them got rotten, they took them up and they made the shoots out of them for the stockade on them.

So they were used for part of the stockade?

Not the stockade, the corrals for the stampede.

I see.

Ya.

Now we're looking at picture number 5. This building number 2 here... What was that? Another Toilet, I presume.

No, no, no. There was no verandah on here then. There was a verandah built out here and I think this was some kind of a little sunporch that they had on that side. Because later on they built a verandah right along this north side. On the north side. You'll see some of the pictures have the verandah on there.

And so this building here....

Was kind of a little sunporch there, like maybe a fella used it for a greenhouse and one thing and another. See in fact
Joe Guthrie

they may have even, no they have had a little garden in there, I don't know.

So in the foreground, number 6 on picture 4 would be a maple.

Maple on the front and then there was a spruce, you see, in the corner. See these are all porches that they had on for the winter, you see, like they left them on there in the summertime there, the porches.

We're looking at number 6 now. This lean-to here, number 2, that was some storage space again, was it?

Uh, I think so. It was like, they may have had it for a little greenhouse or something like that, you know or a storage place. But that's been gone for years and years and years.

What about number 3 on the other side of that Summer Kitchen?

This was a place where they shoved the coal in. See this is in the Summer Kitchen and then they shoved the coal in through here. See that was a door you open there, and they'd throw the, they'd put coal and wood in there.

What would this piece be here? That would again be part of the electricity you think?

Yes.

So now we're looking at an old picture, number 7. There really isn't too much to see here.

Well this is the original here, see there's the stockade going around the back. And Fort Battleford.
Joe Guthrie

This alcove window, does it go all the way to the ground?

No.

It's like that?

Yes.

That's one of the older pictures that exists.

Yes. But you see there's no porch on top of that, uh verandah. See there was a porch on that later and then a verandah on the north side.

This is picture number 8. I was wondering about especially this building number 5 here. Do you know what that would have been?

Well, it's some kind of shed, that's all. It's made of logs, you can tell it's made of logs. It could have been any kind of a storage shed.

And this looks like a dog house here, number 6.

They all had dogs.

So now we're looking at photograph number 9. It may be difficult to identify some of these.

No, well there's the Commanding Officer's House, number 2. And 3 is a Back Kitchen, Summer Kitchen that's on out there. These are most of the other buildings, like the Barrack buildings and all the rest of it.
Joe Guthrie

Can you identify any of them?

Well this number 8 looks like the old Ice House, or Blacksmith's shop, one of the two.

How about number 12 over here? It must be the Hospital.

Oh, number 12, that's the, it's got two chimneys on hasn't it. That would probably be the Barrack Room. It's quite a ways away.

It's not a very clear picture.

No. Not very clear.

Now we're looking at number 10, and this is again an old picture.

Ya, this is an old picture.

Now here number 11. The ruins here....can you identify any of these?

Well these here are back again, is where they had the chickens, and one of the guys took a cow in there. And these are little sheds for their own chickens, in there. And a lot of these guys had chickens in there. They were there when we were up there.

When were you up there again?

1929...28, 1928 I think it is to 1934.

Now we're looking at picture number 12 here. And that was where the
Joe Guthrie

cool was stored while you were there.

Yes. And years before you see. That door is open now, that's where they put the coal in. I used to sleep in this room here. If you're going on the window up there.....

That's a stairway.

....on the window up there right where the stairway is there uh, you'll see C.W., Chris West. He carved his initial in everything.

Now, this number 13. If you can identify any of these buildings, and just say the number that's pointing to them.

Oh, I know them all. This number 1 is later years what they used to call....it was a long building where they stored all the coal, you see they'd get carloads in for all the buildings after, but before that in the early days it was made of logs. The foundation is up there and it was the old Immigration Hall.

Oh, I see.

Have you heard about the Immigration Hall?

Yes.

Well that's where that was; that's number 1.

That's where the immigrants who came to homestead stayed?

Yes, while they were waiting. And then taken from an angle,
Joe Guthrie
the way this is, number 2 I think that's a little shed behind
the little part, and then this was the Doctor's House, number
3. And number 1 is the Commanding Officers' House. Number 5
is the Kitchen, the Back Kitchen that was on there and number
6 is a Toilet. Number 7 is the other Officer's House and an
office, you see where quarters for one of the officers lived.
And number 8 is the Ice House. Just back on the corner of the
...not the Ice House, the Blacksmith Shop. And number 9 is
difficult to see. I think number 9 is just part of the old
stable. What they called the Sick Horse Stable. Number 10
is definitely the Hospital. And number 11 is the Storehouse,
where they kept all their supplies. Number 11 and 12, this
number 11 is enclosed a board fence. It's the same as
they used to have outside the Jail where the exercise place
for when they had women prisoners.

Oh, I see. So the women prisoners were in which building?

In this one here, number 12.

That looks like the Stable. Is that the Stable?

Wait a minute. That is the Stable. I'm wrong here. This is
the building I was thinking of. This is the Big Stable.

Oh, and that would be just some kind of fence, then outside?

Or it could be bailed hay or something out there. I'm
wrong, on that number 12.

That's right, that's bailed hay, I think.

Yes. I'm wrong on that number 12. But number 13, is the
Ice House. And number 14....
Joe Guthrie

I think that's just hay as well.

Yes. And Number 15 is the Storehouse and the Barrack Room and it was in this building that they had the women prisoners. In that one too. And they kept all their supplies and stuff, like clothing and rations. And this one here, number 16, is the Barrack Room, what they called the Barrack Room, living quarters and the Kitchen is on the back of....that's the one that's up there now.

Yes. The extension at the back was the kitchen then?

Yes. The extension was the kitchen. Number 17 is the Concert Hall. Number 18 is the Jail.

And now, picture 14. I just was wondering about the trees on 14. What would you date this picture from the trees.

This picture was taken after they wrecked it, see the chimneys are knocked off of that. And this what I would say would be in the late '30s.

Now number 15, if you could identify the buildings again.

Number 1, the Ice House, number 2 is the Blacksmith's Shop. You can see the double doors where they used to put the machinery in to fix. Number 3 is the Sick Horse Stable. Then number 4 is the Commanding Officer's House. Number 5 is the other Commanding Officer's House, and number 6 is the Barn. That's a lean-to that you can see on the other part there. That was a lean-to there. On one side they used to store feed in and on this side. And of course number 8 is still the Barn, isn't it.
Joe Guthrie

Number 7 would be the barn and number 8 I was just wondering about the posts.

Well, there was a fence around there.

Number 16, I wondered about these buildings here.

Well, number 2 is the Fire House. That's what we used for a garage afterwards. And they had a hole in the ground and a tank in there where they had uh, a reservoir for water and there where they had the chimney they used to keep that heated so that it wouldn't freeze in case of fire for the winter. But this was taken again, after 1925, because there's the stampede corrals.

Now picture 17.

The Hospital.

.....is the Hospital. What's this fence number 2 behind it?

Well, that was just a fence around the back of the Hospital there. They had a lot of these fences, and they were all painted red.

Do you remember what kind of wood they used?

This is shiplap on the outside of that.

And that's, what kind of wood would that be?

Well, siding. See the other boards are ordinary boards, and these were shiplap siding, on the top of them.
Joe Guthrie

This building was still standing, can you remember?

Sure I remember that. Well, I was in that lots of times. Actually later on, in the later years a couple married fellows lived in that when it wasn't used any longer for a Hospital. It was used for living quarters.

What did the inside look like? Of the Hospital.

It was lath and plaster, all lath and plaster.

And there were two stories?

Actually no. This was just an attic.

So it was just one storey?

Yes, there was just an attic on the top.

How many beds would there have been in there?

Oh, at times there would have been quite a few beds, at depending on what sickness there was and that. They could have at least had 50 beds or 40 beds when there was nobody else living in there. They were quite large rooms.

This is the.....

Doctor's House.

Doctor's House. Do you remember, did it have a basement in it?

No. Just a hole in the floor. I mean just a small cellar,
Joe Guthrie
not really a basement. None of them had basements.

Now we're looking at 18. What building is number 1 here?

Well, that's part of the Hospital. Yes. See the chimney on the end there, well there's the end of the chimney there. Now see the three windows, well there's the three windows on that side, that's the Hospital.

That building way back here, number 3....

Well that's the Doctor's House, Jackson's House. In the distance, it's a long ways away. You can see that from here.

That's Jackson's House?

Well, the Doctor's House. I call it the Doctor's House.

But it was also referred to as Jackson's House?

Well, Jackson he was a plainclothes policeman, and he lived in it the last, he was the last policeman that lived in it. That's why we call it the Jackson House.

And could you identify these three buildings here.

Yes, this is the Storehouse here where they used to keep all the supplies. This was a, number 6 is the Barrack Room; number 7 is the Concert Hall; and number 8 that's a balcony where they had, see up in the end here they had a like a balcony where people could look over the top, just like some of the churches have. They had a balcony and sometimes the orchestra would play up there. Well this was a door going into that and there was a kind of a little, room over here
Joe Guthrie

on the top of this and they had stairs going up there and there was a balcony up there. I think they called it a balcony.

Was this all one big room, the Concert Hall?

No, it was divided in two. There was a little partition at the back so that they could use it for a dressing room, or as a changing room for different plays they had and a place for to serve lunch.

How would you get up to this?

You went up from the inside on a ladder.

I see.

There were stairs up there.

Now we're looking at number 19.

Well, this is taken from a different angle.

If you can just go by the numbers and identify.

Well, again we'll go....we haven't got the Concert Hall. Now this is the Barracks, the Storehouse where they had their office and the store supplies and stuff. Number 2 is the Barrack Room.

That's the back portion of the Barrack, number 3?

Yes, the Barrack Room.
Joe Guthrie

You say that was the Kitchen.

That was the kitchen.

What about this tower here, number 4?

Was a flagpole. No, this was the well.

This is the well?

This is the well, and they had a windmill up there, and this is the Well House.

Number 6 is the Well House?

That was the Well House. That was burnt down when Stewart had horses up there and they had an engine in there to pump water, and they were trying to start it, I guess, and it was burnt down.

What about number 7 here, what building is that? It's kind of hard to identify.

Well, that's in the distance, you see, that's a ways off from the.....

It's kind of hard to see what that is.

Yes it is kind of hard to see.

What about number 9 here, what's that?

Number 9 is the Ice House. That must be the Barn, part of the
Joe Guthrie

Barn, because there was a chimney in it. Taken from a different angle. The Sick Horse Stable there they had. Number 9 is the Ice House. Number 11 is the Barn. Number 10 over here is the other Commanding Officer's House is away in the distance, and number 12 is the Barn.

11 and 12. What would 13 be here?

Well, that's a lean-to on the Barn.

Just where they stored machinery?

No, pardon me. Number 13 is where they backed in with the wagons you can see it from another picture, put the rigs and the wagons and they all backed in there. That's what that is, the lean-to on the Barn, facing the other way, you see.

This looks like Government House, number 14.

Yes.

And 15?

That's 15, let's see, east of the Barn, that, when we go across this way.

It looks like some kind of a stable with this door here.

That could be part of the Sick Horse Stable.

Now we're looking at picture 20.

Now there's an old-timer. I think we have a picture like that here.
Can you identify one or are these... is this in too old a photograph?

Looks like some kind of an inspection. Parade, inspection. This looks like the Barrack Room that they have there now, though. Where the men stayed. And this is one of the other sheds, you see.

Looking at picture 21 now. What's this number 1 here?

Number 1? That's the policeman's can.

Oh, I see.

Back of the Barrack Room. They had a big place there for a lot of men in there. Number 2 is the Barrack Room. Number 3 is the Jail. Number 4 is the Storehouse again, where they kept the supplies. And back here on number 5 is the lean-to on the back of the Store, where they kept extra place for feed oats. And number 6 is the Barn, the Big Barn. Number 7 is the lean-to where they used to back in the rigs. You can tell there the different partitions there where they had to back them in all the time so that they were ready to go when they came out, with the horses.

Now we're looking at 22.

That's the Jail House.

That might not be a picture of Battleford. Because the Jail House had the two chimneys.

Yes, that's true, isn't it. Wait a minute, wait a minute.
That's a stable of some sort.

Oh, I'm wrong. This is the Sick Horse Stable, you see, and that is a ventilator on the top.

I don't think that's a Battleford building.

Eh.

It's not a Battleford building.

Sure it is.

Is it?

Um, hm.

But the cupola is different than the one....

Yes, but it was changed after that.

This is the half-door that they had.

Yes, half door so that they let air in that end, for in the summertime when it was hot or something like that.

This is 23.

23. That looks like the corner of part of the old Barrack building, where they had the double chimneys. They joined it at the double chimneys over there.

Do you remember when it still had this log outside? Or would that be quite an old picture, then?
Joe Guthrie
That's quite an old picture. That's an old picture. See, because going by the winter hats, you see, this is a band. That's an old, that's an old picture

Now number 24.

Is outside the Jail.

Right. This in the back, number 1. What would that be?

That was a little shed along side it. This is an aerial picture.

25. Do you remember what was in these places? These are the outlines of the building. Menno [Fieguth] took this picture from the air.

Well this was from the air. Well, you see here are these two houses up here. There's the barn. And there's the other Barn and these are the, the foundations where these other buildings were gone.

OK. Photograph number 26.

Well again number 1, the Barrack Room, it's at an angle. And this is, see that's pretty old, because there are a lot of numbers on there to me. See there, there's if we go backwards, number 16 is the Blacksmith Shop. And number 15 is the Doctor's House taken from the angle. Number 14 is the Barn, Sick Horse Barn. That's the one they have out there now, where the lookout is. And number 13, off in the distance is the Commanding Officer's House. And number 12 is that Fire House. And number 11 is the Concert Hall, and number 10 is the Barn. And number 9 is part of the Barn too. That's the Ice house, number 6. And then this is the other three buildings up there.
Joe Guthrie
What would number 3 be? Is that a barn? Or would that have been....
it's hard to identify it I guess.

Well, this is just a shadow on there, it's a lean-to there.

One of the barns?

Yes.

Number 27 we're looking at now.

I remember that old fence. Netted (?) fence and the grass. That was taken in the '30s.

Which one? That looks like the Hospital there, doesn't it?

Taken from an angle, ya it does. That looks like the Hospital.

What about number 4? What would that be?

Number 4. Well, that's the house that's right. This is the Ice House, the other one in front is the, that's the Ice House. No, not the Ice House, the Blacksmith's Shop. That's the Blacksmith's Shop. Number 5 is the Commanding Officer's House. Number 6 is the Sick Horse Stable, what we used to call it. Number 7 is the other one. And number 8 is the lean-to of the Barn. Numbers 8 and 9 are actually the Barn. Number 10 is the Storehouse, and office place.

That's part of the Barracks?

Yes.
....the airing court where they had the, in back of the Jail, for exercise. Number 2 is the jail. Number 3 is the little Storehouse that they had there by it, by the Jail. And number 4 is the Storehouse and where they kept all the supplies.

Is that full of rooms, the Storehouse?

Quite a few. There was quite a few different rooms in there, like where they kept different supplies and a Q.M. Store in other words. And number 4 is the Barn. And number 5 is a Barrack Room.

Now we're looking at 29.

Number 29. Well, this is the time when Harry Stewart had stuff in there. He had cattle in there. And this here is the Hammer Mill. A Hammer Mill where they chopped — did the chopping and they shoved the chop in there. This is taken around about 19, oh I'd say 19, between 1929 and 1932.

What would this addition at the back be? A storage house again?

Yes, that was where they had, they had extra hay in there. That was just a, like a shed at the back there.

So this would have been the major Stable there?

Yes. This is the main building and that's where Stewart crushed his grain. In fact, I think I know who that guy is. That's my brother-in-law, Jim Kite. He worked for Stewart.
Joe Guthrie

Number 30, this....

Oh, boy this is a wreck, taken after the door was off the Barn.

What would this hole be? Number 3. Any idea what that is?

I think that was where, a place where they had an office in there and one time that was where they had a, see there's no chimney in there. This is where they had a chimney and it went right up the roof, it was an ordinary stove-pipe chimney. They had a little warming place in there for some of the horses when they got sick. But they had a stove in there at one time.

This is the Sick Horse Stable.

Sick Horse Stable. Yes, that's what they called it. Number 1 is the old Doctor's House.

This is photograph 31. This addition, that's still on there?

Oh, yes. That's still on there, that's still on. All of that's still on. Fact, I have a, we have a picture of all the Mounties in front of this with their dogs and those trees you see, they weren't even to the roof of the house. Well, look at how high they are now.

This fence number 3. What was it for?

Well, that was the same fence that was around the back of the building.
Joe Guthrie

Just a chicken fence?

No, no, it was a board fence. It was a red-painted board fence, six feet high, it was all around the back of that. These two buildings there, they had board fence around the back. Whether it was for a wind break or whether it was a sheltered in or what, but they had that board fence there for years.

What about this fence, number 4 here?

Well that was a white picket fence that they had around the front of the building. They had that one around this one and they had one around the other building.

How long was that up?

Oh, that was up for years and years and years. It finally fell down in the '30s.

There would have been lawn on the inside there, would there?

Yes.

32 here, this is a.....

That's the old Barn again.

The main Barn that we saw before?

Yes, the main Barn.

This is.....
Joe Guthrie
The main barn, but taken from a different view....this is the angle on it, south angle. This is the north end, they way it's taken. It's twisted around.

We'll call this picture 32A then. What's this building way in the background?

That's the Ice House.

And this is number 33 here. What's number 1 here?

Oh, number 1, that's the old, that's an old picture. Number 1 is the old Immigration hall.

So it was to the north?

North of this building here, straight north, they got the foundation, just a log foundation up about two feet high on that now.

It's over here.

Yes, that's still....

That's the Immigration building?

Yes, the Immigration Hall. Later they used it as a coal shed.

Well it was filled with a number of, the inside had a number of small rooms.

Oh yes. It, they had it filled....and then living quarters you know, for people that came, waiting for homesteads.
Joe Guthrie

What's number 4 here?

Number 4 is the Fire House. The Fire House

What about number 3 here? It's very hard to see.

Number 1 is the....they found one picture of it the other
day and it, it's just straight north of there, it's the
Ammunition House or the Arsenal, or whatever they call it.
We used to call it later years the Cannon House.

What about number 7 here? Is that a Blacksmith's Shop, or.....

Yes, that is the Blacksmith's Shop. But it's taken, see the
picture's taken from this way. In the far distance you've
got that building, and that's the Commanding Officer's
House and then you got the Sick Horse Stable, you see.

So number 7 is the.....

Blacksmith's Shop.

What's number 11?

Ice House.

This is 34, I don't think we need to.....

No, that was taken in later years.

That's a more recent photo.....

No, not so much, look at the trees. That's the old flag
Joe Guthrie

pole, I remember the old flag pole, and them cannon shells.

Number 35.

Now, this is the house that you were up talking about the other day. That's on the outside of the fence now. And this is where one of the sergeants lived. Danny Light, when he was in the police force, he lived there. And the last Mountie that lived in it before they moved over in 1929, was, 1924, rather, December, 1924, was Sergeant Shepherd and his wife.

What was the house built of?

Log.

It was a log house?

Um hm.

And what was this area here?

It was a verandah.

The verandah. Number 3. And there was a porch in front here?

Yes.

And there were two stories?

Yes.

Do you remember what the rooms were? How many rooms were on......
Joe Guthrie

Not too many rooms. There was about three rooms upstairs, that's all.

And on the main floor?

About three rooms.

About three. It wasn't a very big house.

No, not too big.

And these other buildings?

Well, they're back on again. This is the Barrack, not the Barrack Room, the Storehouse. This is the Barrack Room. Number 7 is the Concert Hall.

Now we're looking at 36 again?

Yes, well it's just a duplicate of the others the way it stood. This is taken from the east, east side, facing west, because there's the Barrack Room again. Not the Barrack Rooms, the Storehouse. There's the Barrack Room. And again behind it, there's the Jail. And there's the Concert Hall. And there's the Barn there.

So we're looking at 37 now.

Well, number 1 is the Doctor's House. Number 2 is the other Officer's House up there where they had an office. Number 3 is the Ice House. Number 5 is the Sick Horse Stable. Number 6 is the Hospital, number 7 is the Barn. Number 8 is the Ice House, number 9, hard to see. Number 10 is the Storehouse, number 11 is the Barrack Room and number 12 is the
Joe Guthrie
Concert Hall.

This number 3, you said this is the Blacksmith's Shop. How many rooms were inside there?

Just one big room.

One big room?

Yes, one big room, and they had a forge, and blacksmith equipment where they shoed all the horses or fixed any of the wagons.

What about number 8 here, the Ice House? What was inside of it?

Well, in the summertime they used to go down to the river and they cut blocks of ice about, three feet square and they hauled them up and they packed them in there with sawdust and then. They didn't have any fridges, they didn't have any deep freezers, but they had ice all summer. Then they kept their supplies, for the ice, in there.

Now we're looking at 38.

Well, there are the old styles, number 1. When we used to go over the fence instead of going through the gate, walking over the styles. Well, number 2 is the Doctor's House. Number 3 is the Hospital, it's pretty far away, and number 5 is that other house over there. Number 7 is.....

How about 8?

8 is the Barn, Sick Horse Barn.
Joe Guthrie

Number 9, that's different. Different view, whatever that is.

Yes. Different view. That looks more like the Ice House there.

This would be the Ice House?

Yes. Number 11 is the Ice House. Number 10 is the Barn. Number 12 is the Storehouse. Number 13 is the Barrack Room. Number 14 is the Concert Hall. Can't see what number 16 is. Number 17, 15 is the Jail.

And what's 17? I guess that's too...that would be some building way off the property.

Yes.

Well, 39, what's this building here? Log building?

Yes, that was a building that they used in the early days, because these two buildings were there and then this building was sitting more or less where the Jail is now.

And it was just a storehouse of some sort.

Yes. A storehouse.

Now we're looking at picture number 40.

This was taken when Stewart had the place there, because there's his hay rack outside and there's a......

What building is number 8 here? Next to the Sick Horse Stable?
Joe Guthrie
Well, actually, it's the way it was taken. This Barn here, this place here, is really the Sick Horse Stable, but it actually isn't. This is a building that should be behind the Barrack Room. The way it looks. Because that was never there. It's the way that it was taken.

And what building is that?

Eh?

What building was this? What was is used for?

Well, it was a can, a men's can. See they went in the door over there.

Oh, I see. Quite a big one.

Oh, yes, it was, well they had 300 men here once. But it's the way it's taken. It looks close to the Barn, but actually it's over here. It's the old Jail House.

Picture 41 is the Jail House? 42?

42 is the.....don't know whether that's the Concert Hall or whether that's the old Storehouse. I think that's the Storehouse. It is because the, the side, the Concert Hall had the doors on the end. And this is the Storehouse where they kept the supplies. This is when Stewart had it and he had grain in there.

Oh, I see.

Harry Stewart, yes.
Joe Guthrie

The Concert Hall had its doors in the end and this one had it in the middle.

Yes, the side.

43?

The Jail.

Jail. 44?

The Sick Horse Barn.

45 is the Sick Horse Barn.

Number 2 is the Ice House. Not the Ice House, the Blacksmith Shop.

46 is? The old Barracks?

Yes, the Barrack Room.

Photograph 47 is.....

Dark, eh?

Very dark.

It's just a duplicate of all the rest of the buildings, you know, one, two, three. The barn and.....

What's number 7 here? I guess that would be the Ice House.
Joe Guthrie

Yes, that's of the Ice House.

We're looking at 4S now.

You've got a lot of pictures, eh.

This fence here, that's behind the, number 1 is behind the jail, is it?

Yes. That's the front there, and this is the little building along side the Jail on the south side.

Number 3?

Number 4 is the Jail.

What was this building number 3 used as, storehouse?

More or less of a little storehouse. They used to keep supplies in there. And then, actually, not only that, but I think in later years in this little one by the Jail, they kept a bit of fire equipment in there you know, like it was closer to the main place. And then number 5 is the Hospital. And number 6 is the Ice House, isn't it? Number 6 is the Ice House I think. And then number 7 is a Storehouse and office place where they kept their supplies. Number 8 is the Barrack Room. Number 9 is the Concert Hall.

Would this have been the main entrance for the Concert Hall here?

Well, one at each end.

Oh, one at each end?
Joe Guthrie
You went in here and then you went up the stairs. There was a stairs at each end. There was a kind of a balcony, actually there was a big kind of a balcony on each end.

You mean if you went in here you didn't go into the first floor?

Oh, yes. You went right into the main floor. And then there was a winding stairs. You went up the stairs onto the balcony. Or you could go straight on, you know.

This is 49.

The Hospital.

The Hospital and Doctor's House.

Doctor's House.

Number 50?

Again, that's kind of hard to see what the.....

Hard to see what that is.

It's in the wintertime anyway.

This might be the Barn.

Number 2 is the Barn. And this is back of the number 1, of the Barrack Room, you know. And then number 4 is uh, out the back of the camp.

That's the bathroom.
Joe Guthrie

Yes, Outside, outside indoor plumbing.

This is number 51.

Number 51. Well, number 1 is, the fence outside the airing court of the Jail. Number 2 is that little building they kept for supplies and in later years used as a fire equipment stuff. And number 3 is the Jail.

Now we're looking at 52.

You're looking at the Sick Horse Stable. Number 2. Number 1 is a Blacksmith Shop. Number 3 is a Fire Engine House a way over in the corner there.

Now we're looking at 53.

53. Number 1 is a Storehouse.

Well, number 1 is a fence of some sort.

Yes. And Number 2, rather is a Storehouse. And number 3 is the Barrack Room. Number 4 is the Concert Hall. Number 5 is the Jail.

Here's 54.

Number 4. That's a good picture of the old Hospital. Number 4 is the old Hospital, and the Doctor's House.

These two windows on the second storey of the ....

They were just an attic. There was no upstairs in the Hospital.
Joe Guthrie

What was the back part used for? There was a part that goes to the back?

Oh, that was kind of used as uh, not exactly a storehouse, but a kind of a bit of a kitchen, where they fed the patients in the Hospital.

Oh, I see. Now we're looking at 55. It's a bit blurry.

Well, 1 is that little house back out by the Jail. Number 2 is the Jail. And gad, it's hard to see number three, it, it's....

It's probably the Hospital.

It's quite a ways away.

Concert Hall?

Yes, that's the Concert Hall. This number 1 in a way distance, is uh, the Doctor's House. And number 5, rather is the Doctor's House. Number 1 and 7 are Barns, I think. And number 8 is the Barrack Room. Number 8 and 9. No, number 8 is the Sick Horse Stable, number 9 is the Barrack Room. You can tell, it angles, you know, just off from there.

This is a little clearer now. 56?

Well, we even put the outdoor plumbing on there, eh? Number 1 is the outdoor plumbing behind the Doctor's House, and number 2 is the Hospital taken on an angle from this other way. Number 3 is the Doctor's House.
Joe Guthrie

This is the Hospital?

No, no, no, no, no. Number 4 is the Fire Engine House. Number 5 is the officer's Commanding Officer's House. And this is a different angle of the Barrack Room, you see now. This is the kitchen part of the Barrack Room, taken from a different angle. This is the Barrack Room, where the men lived. This is the Sick Horse Stable. This is, number 7 is the Sick Horse Stable. Number 8 is the Blacksmith Shop. Number 9 is the Barn. And number 10 is the uh...

Quartermaster's Store?

Wait a minute. Number 6 is the Hospital, that's right.

It looks like the back of the Hospital.

Back of the Hospital, that's right. And number 10 is the Barn. And number 11 is the Storehouse. Number 12 is the Barrack Room and number....

It's hard to see what 13 is.

There's one, two, three, there, you see, there.

What would you say this one was, number 2 here?

That's the Immigration Hall, number 2 yes. Number 2, Immigration.

Now this is picture 57.

That was the storehouse taken from the east side. See this
Joe Guthrie

lean-to is on the back there. Lean-to was on the east side. Fact there was a fella worked for Stewart, him and his wife lived in this little back here, there for two or three years. Met him in Saskatoon about a week ago, fellow by the name of Dan Faheely.

Number, picture 58.

Well, number 1 is the barn. And uh.....

That's the Wagon Shed, isn't it?

Yes. That's the lean-to where the Wagon Shed. Number 3 is the Sick Horse Stable.

Here's picture 59.

That's the, the Barrack Room. Not the Barrack Room, the Storehouse. A long building here. See they all had these windows and they had them boarded up because they had grain in all them pictures. There's one of the wagons, from when Stewart was in there.

And this number 2 is the Stable, I presume.

Yes. That's the Stable.

Picture number 60.

60. Well, number 1 is the outdoor plumbing. Number 2 is the Doctor's House. Why you got number 2. You got two number 2s.
Joe Guthrie

I meant one for the porch, but that's alright.

One for the porch on there. They all had porches on there. And number 4 is just the corner of the Ice House back of the barn. And then there's number 5, is the Barn. Number 6 is the lean-to back of the Barn. Number 7 is the Sick Horse Stable.

Number 60 is the same. Number 61. Now we have a fairly recent picture I think.

Well, well this was taken from over on the east side, of the Barracks, because you took in the Doctor's House, Hospital, the Blacksmith Shop.

Blacksmith's Shop is number 8?

Number 7 is uh, would be the Hospital, wouldn't it.

Yes.

And then number 6 is the Sick Horse Stable. Too hard to see what number 10 is. Number 5 is the Barn, the Big Barn. Number is the Storehouse, where the office Storehouse. Number 3 is the Jail back in there, and number 2 is the outdoor plumbing for the Barrack Room, and number 1 is the Barrack Room. You haven't got the Concert Hall on there.

Was it the first to fall down?

One of the first ones they took down. It didn't fall down by any means, they tore it down.
Joe Guthrie

Number 62?

Well, number 1 is the Barrack Room. Number 2 over here, wait a second, over here was Officer's Quarters. Number 3 is the Sick Horse Stable. Number 4 is the Blacksmith Shop. Number 5 is the Big Barn. Number 6 is the Ice House. Number 7 is the Storehouse. Number 8 is the Barrack Room. Number 9 is the Concert Hall, and Number 10 is the Jail.

This was the main stable. Where was the smaller Stable? Would that just have been the Sick Horse Stable?

Yes.

Or was there another one besides the Sick Horse Stable?

No, no. Well, there was a rig shed years ago. You haven't got any picture of that.

This is picture 63. I guess that's the Blacksmith Shop, eh?

Yes, that's the Blacksmith Shop.

Number 1 is the Blacksmith Shop?

No, that's the Ice House, number 1. You can't see the double doors in that. It's in the shade of the, well over behind. Number 2 would be the Blacksmith Shop. Number 3 is the Barn, Sick Horse Barn. Number 4 is the Barrack Room. No, we're all haywire here. Number 4 is the Hospital. And number 5 is the Barn. And number 6 is the Blacksmith Shop.

So what would 1 be then?
Joe Guthrie
Well, it's taken in a different angle, you see from this way, so I would be the Blacksmith Shop.

Then this would be the Ice House, then?

Ice House.

The Ice House is number 6?

Yes. 8 is the Barrack Room, not the Barrack Room, the Storehouse.

Picture 64. Concert Hall?

Concert Hall is number 1. 2 is the Barrack Room. Number 3 is the Ice House. And number 4 is the outdoor plumbing for the Barrack Room. Number 5 is the Doctor's House. Number 6 is uh, number 6 is the Barn. I wonder what that number 8 is. It's not, see it's not the same as this one. I'm afraid I don't know what that is.

Some kind of a storehouse, I guess.

See, number 6 is the Big Barn. And number 9 is the Sick Horse Stable. And number 8 is the Pump House. By the windmill. This is the Pump House, number 8. Yes, that's the Pump House.

Picture 65.

Oh, number 65. Ammunition House. Cannon House or Arsenal or whatever they called it. See this was dug in the ground and it was kind of a cone shape. You went in from this north end. And there was a door going into the ground.
Joe Guthrie

How deep would it be in the ground?

It would be about, oh, not too deep. 6, 7 feet.

Number 66?

That's the same picture, the can...Arsenal, or Cannon House, whatever it is.

Was built out of wood on the top here?

Built out of wood, but it was all covered with a kind of a copper sheeting. There were all copper nails in it.

Copper nails?

Copper nails, so it wouldn't be struck by lightning.

Picture 67.

Picture 67 is the Hospital.

Picture 69.

Was a bunch of the police on parade.

What would these buildings be?

Oh.

This is, number 2, would be the Barrack Room.

Barrack Room.
Joe Guthrie

3 is the Storehouse.

Storehouse, yes. 4 is the Sick Horse Stable. 5 is the Fire House. 6 is the Doctor's House.

Wasn't this the Fire House, number 8?

Yes, no Fire House, this is the Blacksmith Shop. Number 5 is the Blacksmith Shop. I'm sorry about that.

Oh, that's alright.

Number 7 is the Fire Engine House. And number 8 is the Commanding Officer's House, isn't it?

I think probably 8 is the Fire House.

Oh, 7 I can't see....

7, you can't see what 7 is, I shouldn't have put it there. Picture 68 is the Hospital?

The Doctor's House.

This is 68A, I guess we'll have to say, is the Doctor's House.

69 is, uh, what is 69?

It is the inside of.....do you recognize which building it is inside of? It says the Recreation Hall, so that would be the Concert Hall, wouldn't it?
Joe Guthrie
Yes.

Would it be just a small room in there?

No, that was quite a.....

So the stage would be at the opposite end of it, of this.

Oh, wait a minute now. Wait a minute. You see in the Barrack Room they had a Recreation Hall there, where they had a pool table and they had a library in that end where the men.....

So this would be in the Barrack Room?

That would be in the Barrack Room. That chimney is still there. That chimney place.

So this isn't the Concert Hall?

Not the inside of this, no. See these are the tables where they played cards or wrote letters or, in their Barrack Room, you see. That's inside of that.

Picture 70. I guess you can't tell where that is.

What's that.

71. It's an aerial view.

Oh, oh yes.

72. Can you tell where that is? It looks like a Rememberance Day.
Joe Guthrie

l is welcome, isn't it? And the other.....here, but can't really identify where that is. No?

It says it's in the Concert Hall.

Well, yes, I was going to say, it probably is a decoration see because there's a sword, and there's a bugle....probably a memorial service, you see.

Now 73, can you?

This was definitely a, in the Concert Hall.

They had this wood panelling? Is that wood panelling? Those are chairs, eh?

Chairs.

And the Concert Hall was all one big building?

All one big building, except the little room at the back. But this is where they had banquets, they were having a banquet. They had candles and the table all set out. Probably for their New Years Eve ball, it's decorated up with flags and things like that. This was inside the Concert Hall too.

Oh, this is....

This is the....see there's the stairs I was telling you about....see I don't B.S. you all the time. There's the stairs where you went up.....and this is the balcony here you see with railing over the top. And there's that chimney that was going in at the end.
Joe Guthrie

So that window, that peaked window would have been up on top....?

On the south end of that, right.

This is all hardwood floor too, was it?

Yes, that was all hardwood floor, and this was probably the people that came down for the New Years Ball or their Ball, in their, you know, all the ladies in the long dresses and all.

Would the Concert Hall and the Barracks Room and the Storehouse all have a hardwood floor?

The Concert Hall had a hardwood floor, the Barrack Room had a hard, a fir hardwood floor, but the Storehouse, I wasn't really sure what the Storehouse had.

What kind of wood would have been in the Concert Hall?

I think it was a hardwood fir, but it was sanded down and polished good, you know.

This 75, this.....

This is the wreck of one of the buildings.

Yes, I think that's the Commanding....er Officer's Quarters just to show the construction of it. I think this is the Windsor Hotel.

Yes. In Battleford.

So this is 77 then that we're looking at?
Joe Guthrie
This is the Sergeant's House where....the one that was pulled down....the verandah on the front, the little lean-to at the back....you went in from the front door.

What was underneath the lean-to?

Well, that was a kind of a little back kitchen, most of those fellas had a kind of a lean-to on account of the weather in the wintertime.

Just the one chimney back there? What was the second story?

Bedrooms.

How many, do you know?

Three.

Small bedrooms?

Yes, I think so.

How many windows would there have been back here?

Two.

Two windows. What would this back house here have been?

They had a Chicken House at the back of that house. She used to keep chickens.

OK. Now we're looking at 78.

Now you're looking at a picture, you get a good view this time
Joe Guthrie
of the Pump House and the windmill.

And this small building here?

Oh, well that is, let's see now....that's the Blacksmith's Shop.

Again.

Yes, and that's the Sick Horse Stable.

Now we're looking at 79.

Oh, this is the old road going up there through....the road that goes through there in the back. See now there's a picture again I think.

That's the Sergeant's House? Way to the right.

Sergeant's House, yes. Dr. F. W. Light lived in that, and different sergeants, and the last one that lived there was Sergeant Shepherd.

Now we're looking at picture 80.

That's a, the Sergeant's House too.

What would this addition on the left side be?

I said there was two windows on that top, but there was only one.

Yes, but on the back? This is the front. Was there two on the back?
Joe Guthrie
No, I don't think so, I think there was just one on each....
Well, this is one of the Mounties out there doing some target practice. See, there's his gun and he's laying down there.

Do you know what this was used for? This addition to the left.

No, unless it was a bed room or something....some kind of a kitchen or something. I don't know that.

Now we're looking at 81.

Still the same house.

The porch is not as big on this one, so it's probably earlier. You can see some of the woodwork underneath here....horizontal planks on the roof.

That's just the ordinary shiplay, and then the shingles come out there, it wasn't closed in like some of them.

What kind of a tree would this have been here?

That was a maple tree. That could have been one of the kid's bicycles, there, you see. The old bucksaw....that could have been one of the Light girls'.

Now we're looking at picture 82.

That's the Barn.

And 83.

That was the main place again.
Joe Guthrie

What's this building in the foreground here, this smaller one? By the barn?

Was probably the Ice House there.

There's one other thing I should ask to get on tape which I haven't done yet. When were you born?

Me? Oh, I was born on the coldest day of the year. 14th day of January, 1911...was 60 below zero when I was born.

Is that right?

Yes.

Thanks again.

Born right here in this room. And Mrs. Burke was the midwife.