

Carstairs Chronicle

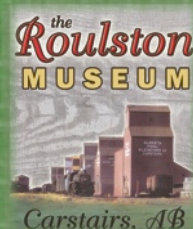
SUMMER 2011

CARSTAIRS & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ISSUE ONE



Summer Bloom and Building Projects at The Roulston Museum



Historical Society Quarterly Newsletter

Welcome To The Quarterly Newsletter Of The CDHS

The Roulston Museum is starting a new endeavor with release of its new quarterly newsletter *Carstairs Chronicle*. Published once a season, the newsletter will work to keep the community and our membership in touch with the Carstairs & District Historical Society (CDHS) and our local heritage.

New Developments: CDHS and The Roulston are working on several new projects at the museum. One very visible change is on the museum grounds. We are currently working towards moving the Historic McCaig House to a new foundation - south-east of its current position. This move will allow for the future Carriage House move and for

continued development of the museum and grounds.

A little less visible is the work ongoing with the museum collection. Staff and volunteers are working on re-inventory and cataloguing of the entire collection. We are also working towards separating out all archival material - in order to create a proper research archives, which will be housed within the Pointen Reading Room. On a similar line, The Roulston is pleased to announce a partnership with the University of Alberta to preserve and digitize our Carstairs newspaper collection.

Exhibits & Exhibitions: The South Gallery is gearing up for a massive change-over. Over the coming months we will be

re-developing the hall to help tell pre-history and early history of the region. Exhibits will include: The Old North Trail, C&E Trail & Stagecoach Line, Sam Scarlett, The Stopping House, The Coming Railway & Carstairs Station. If you are interested in learning more or volunteering your time to help, please stop by the museum to let us know.

Coming Events:

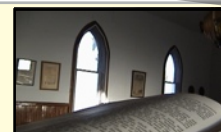
- Reminisce July 13
- Beef & Barley Days July 15-17
- Reminisce July 27
- Mountain View Music Fest Aug. 5-7
- Reminisce August 10
- Reminisce August 24

Roulston Museum ~ Summer Hours

Tuesday - Sunday --- 1 - 4pm
Saturday --- 10am - 4pm



Carstairs & District Historical Society
To Collect, Preserve, Record and Interpret



Reminisce In Print

Carstairs Journal - June 15, 1906

Capt. W.F. W. Carstairs of Strathcona, Alta, was in Carstairs Wednesday. That name Carstairs sounds rather familiar said a journal reporter on being introduced to the gentlemen. Mr. Carstairs was a mounted police in this section in '85 and has been more or less interested in this country in the past. In reply to the query as to what connection his name had with the name of our village, he related the origin of the name Carstairs. It seems that over 300 years ago, in Scotland a lady of a titled family named Car was wedded to a gentleman named Stairs. She wished to retain her family name in some way and so had it arranged that her name would be Carstairs. This name was passed down to the coming generations and a gentlemen member of the family had a town named after him as Carstairs. It is stated that our village was named after this Scottish town. Mr. Carstairs who was here Wednesday is a descendent from the old family. He is now a traveling salesman for the Strathcona Brewing Company.

Carstairs Journal - June 15, 1906

The School board has disposed of the new school building contract. J. Eby has secured the contract for its construction. It is to be built on the site of the old one and the work is to begin before long. The construction will proceed as rapidly as possible in order not to interfere with the school work.

Carstairs Journal - July 13, 1922

Will the party who took the brown sweater coat out of Geo. T Haag's car please leave it at Pearson's Hardware Store.

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Picture the Past



*Nothing like a Summer Parade!
 Can you correctly identify the year of this photo? Who is in the lead?*

Tales From: Our Prairie Trails

The Ezra Shantz Family-

In May, 1901, my parents and their four young sons boarded a colonist train at Kitchner bound for Alberta. Although I was quite young, the long, slow train ride stands out in my memory. The train had three coaches for the settlers and a long line of box cars, one for each family. In the cars were farm stock, implements and household goods. Our also carried some building material for a house. There was no diner, but fresh milk was supplied daily when the men did the chores. This, no doubt, would be a diversion from the monotony of the trip.

The train divided at Calgary, one section went to High River, the other

came to Carstairs, where there was a store, post office and blacksmith shop. There were no roads, not even trails and we broke trail zig-zagging over the high spots to our new home three miles west where father had the previous year selected our a site for our buildings, which would face west, with a view of the Rocky Mountains.

A remedy for loneliness was a visit with a neighbour. Since we lived near the trail that led to Carstairs, ours seemed to be a half-way house or a wayside well where travelers called often and at any time of day. We had plenty of good

water and while the horses were rested and watered the ever welcome visitors were entertained in our home.

by Claude Shantz - **Our Prairie Trails** pg. 155-156

