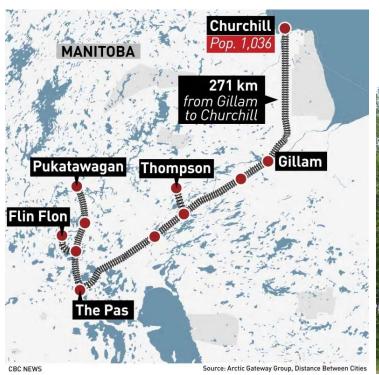


A Quick Drive thru Manitoba



Northern Manitoba











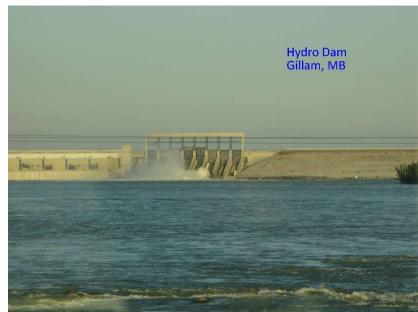












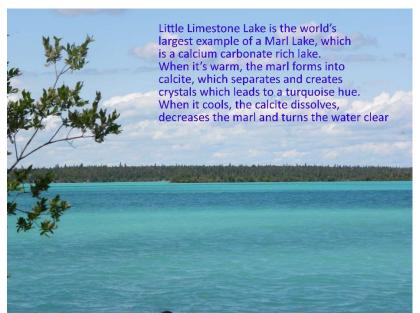


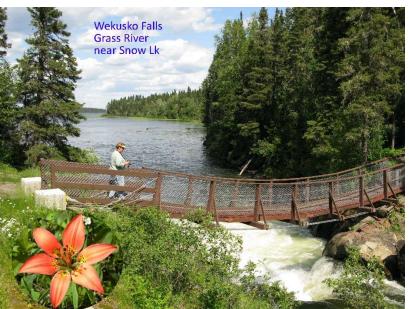
















Churchill

Taking the train from Thompson to Churchill June 2011



















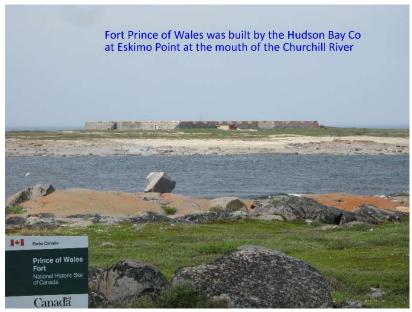


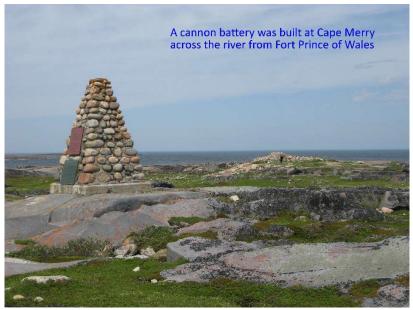






















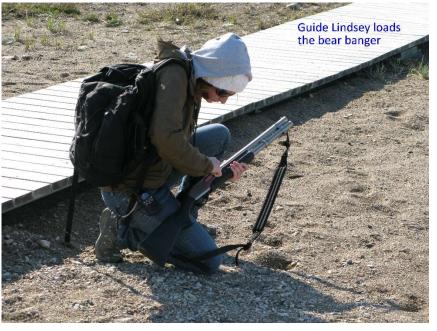






























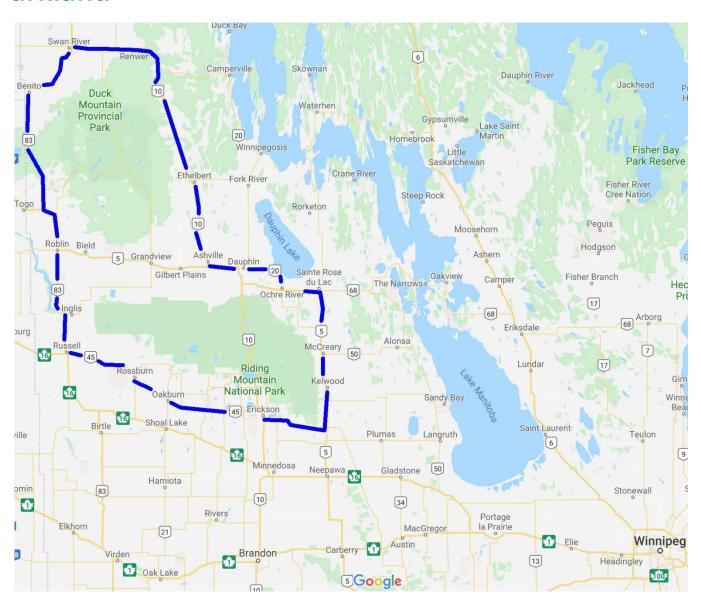








Parkland





MANITOBA PEAKS

There is a lot more to this 'flat' landscape than first meets the eye! by Ron Schirlie, Winnipeg

hen she first moved to Manitoba from Quebec, my wife Sue was a rather reluctant Prairie girl. She would have been a lot was used to secing hills less interesting! mainly from the front porch of the family cottage. In order to introduce her to both me a point of showing her look at a provincial

every hill I could find in my home province. Luckily, she enjoyed exploring and hiking. or the next 25 years Most people think of Manitoba as being flat, the way farmers like it. That's not the whole story, of course. If you

map, you'll find park-lands pasted over patches of higher ground with names ending in "mountain," such as Riding Moun tain, Turtle Mountain

Duck Mountain and Porcupine Mountain. The parks follow the Manitoba Escaroment, which is the western shore of the ancient

glacial Lake Agassiz, and the source of sev eral scenic surprises. Riding Mountain Na-tional Park, for exam-

ple, is known for the resort area around Clear Lake, which is enormously popular during summertime, but we think the best times to visit are in fall and winter. Those fab-

become cross-country skl trails in winter Sue and I first experi-enced Riding Mountain in the fall of 1992.

when we picnicked at Lake Audy, sharing a late lunch with the whiskey jacks that atc crackers out of our hands. After sunset at the lake, we encountered the resident bison

ulous fall hiking trails

Clockwise from top: Canola field at Asessippi: Sue at Riding Mountain; sunset on Lake Audy; a bison at Riding Mountain

herd, which had decidba into Saskatchewan, ed to occupy the road that night. All we could see were their cychalls, The scenic Pembina gem in south central seemingly dancing in the headlights. We returned later Manitoba Pembina otters a splendid ten-

that winter for some

cross-country skiling and were fascinated to

watch a moose kneel

The escarpment ac-tually starts in an area

known as the Pembina

Hills in North Dakota.

the Pembina Escarp-

ment, and runs north-west through Manito-

ing and licking salt from the roadway.

kilometer hiking trail, which we enjoyed in 2005. Turtle Mountain Pro vincial Park shares an International Peace Garden with neigh-bouring North Dakota. The nearby hill known as Turtle's Back was another hiking adven ture for us in 2001, dur

a good idea.

Duck Mountain Proing which I was forced Duck Mountain Pro-to promise never again vincial Park houses the

to start an unbill bike in 30°C weather, Admit tedly, this is a promise that has been broken Turtle Mountain is

home to painted turtles. We were privileged to watch one of them burying her eggs in the sand at the side of the road. In the parking lot I tried to rescue one by gently removing it from the pavement, although I got peed on for my ef-forts. Apparently, leaving wildlife alone is always





tain along the road.

through the park and be forgiven for not no-

ticing that you were at the top of a hill, but a short walk from the

highest point of land take you to an overlook that reveals the hidden Farther north, the in the province—a big bump known as Baldy highlight. The elevation Mountain. You can drive over the moun-

side of the summit will Clockwise from top: International Peace Garden on the border of Manitoba and North Turtle Mountain; Ron at Clear Lake in Riding Mountain National Park.

here is 2,730 feet, which Sue was surprised to learn is higher than the 2,480-foot Quebec peak Owl's Head, where I proposed to her in 1993, after coercing her to like to the summit. As I said, it's a good

thing she likes hiking! Near the Saskatch ewan horder, the escarpment runs through the Asessippi ski area. Here the Shellmouth Dam at the headwaters of the Assiniboine River forms

Farther north, the escarpment reaches Porcupine Mountain, featuring a wilderness area with fewer guest facilities, offering excollent opportunities to explore and approci ate an unspoiled natural environment

Whether you head north for the lakes and forests, or enjoy the rolling farmland farther south, if you only stay on the Trans-Canada Highway as you pass through Manitoba, you'll be missing the high spots.

MORE INFO ■ Located on the

Manitoba/North Dakota border 24 kilo metres south of Boissevain, Man., visitors to the International Peace Garden can roam (within the garden) from one country to the other.

■The garden, established in 1932, has been a unique tribute to the peace and friendship between Canada and the U.S. for more than

■ Open year-round, the garden features activities such as canoeing and camp-ing in summer, and cross-country skiing

> More info is available at www.peacegarden.com

22 More of Our Canada HOVENSER 2017

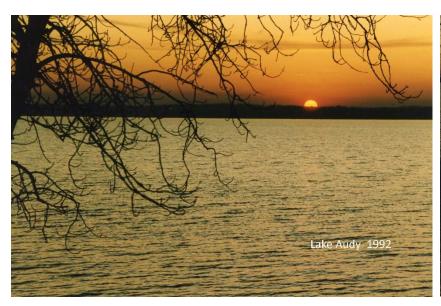














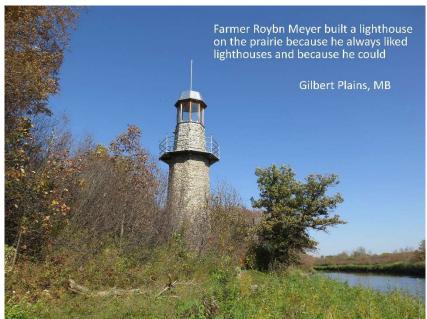
















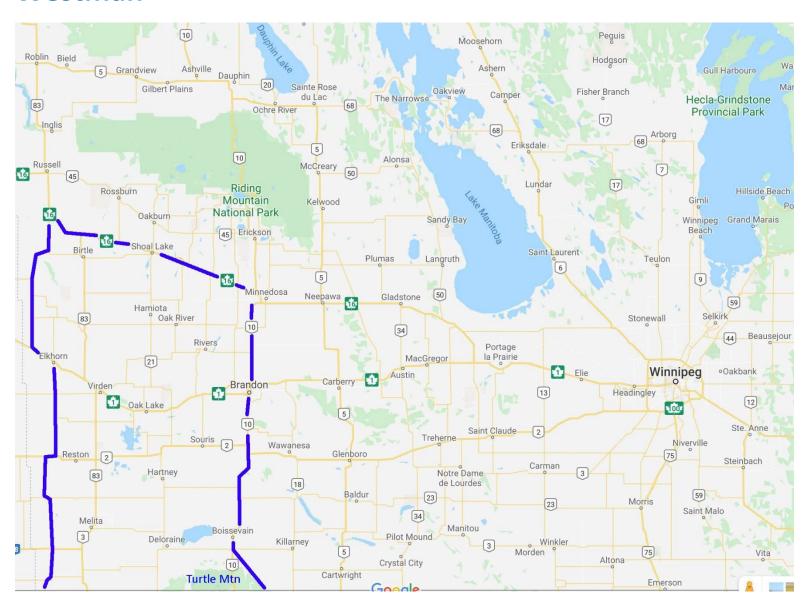








Westman















































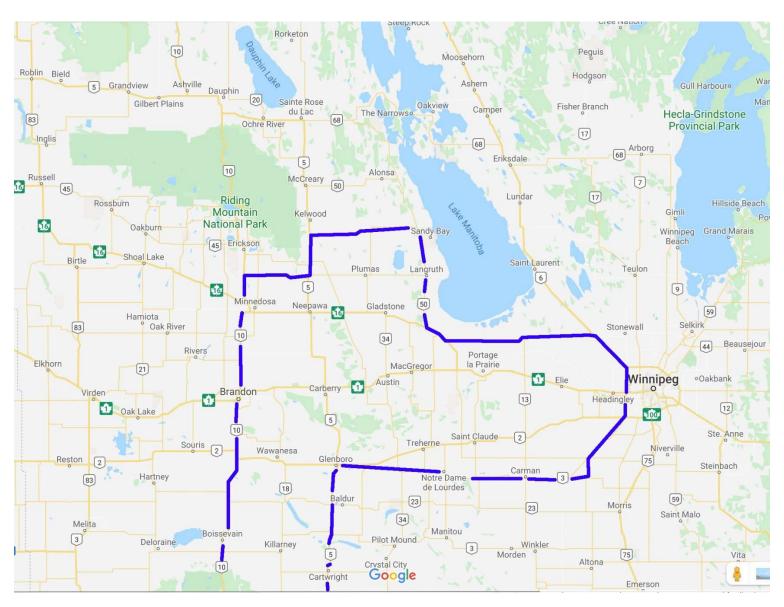






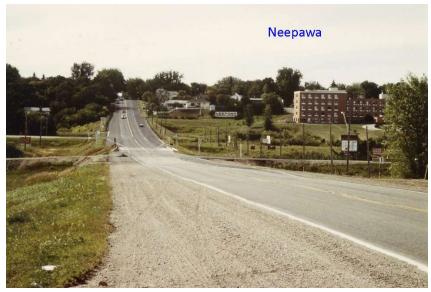


Central Plains









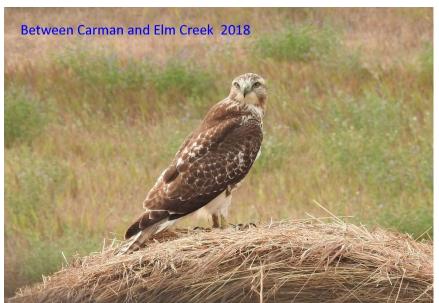






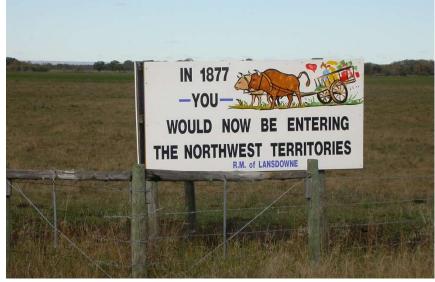








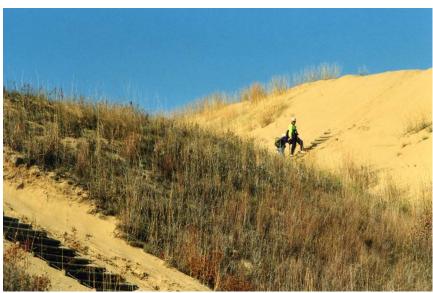














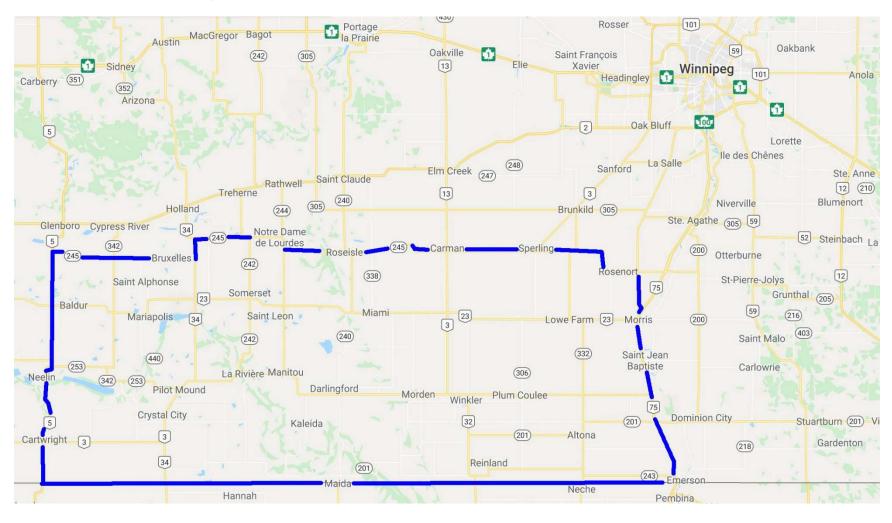


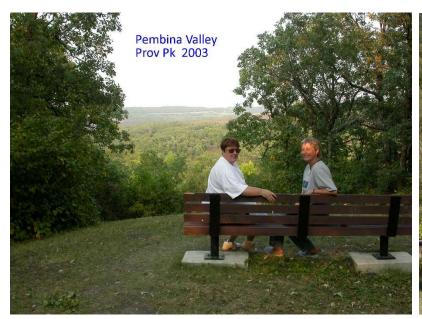


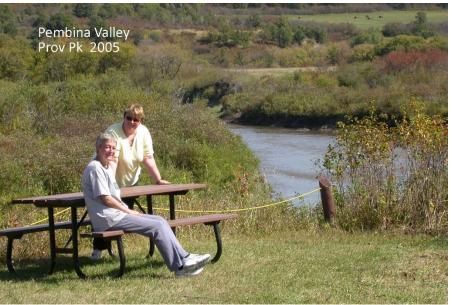


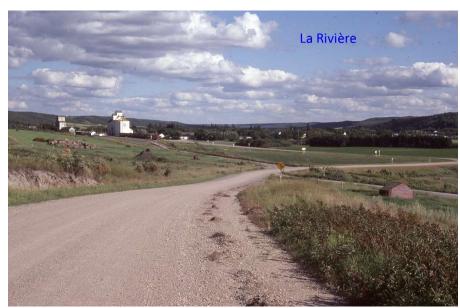


Pembina Valley























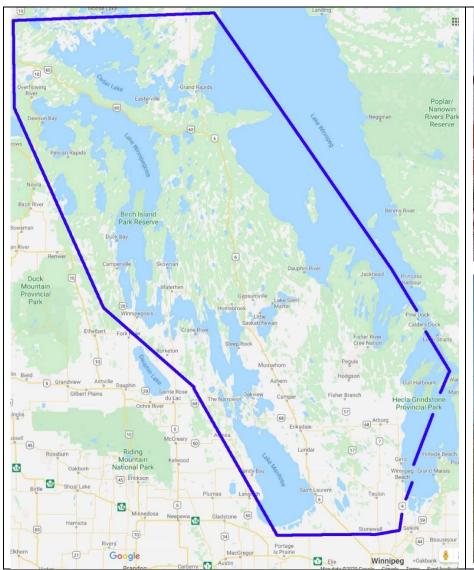








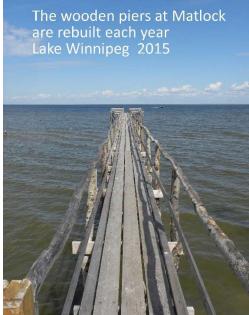
Interlake

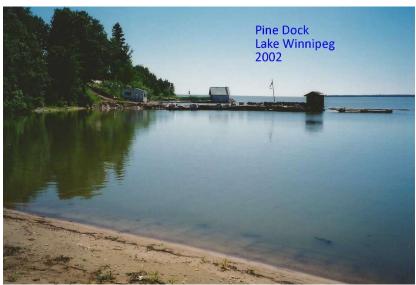




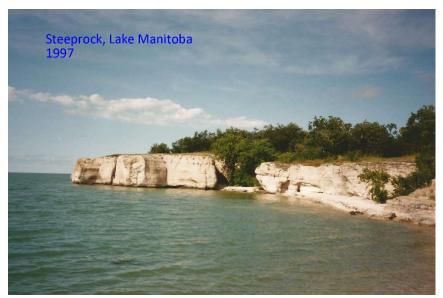


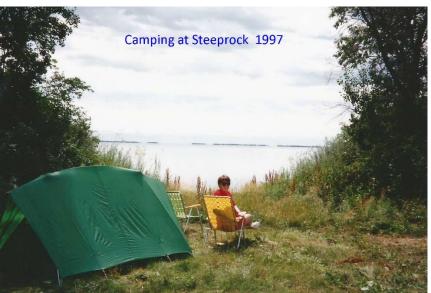


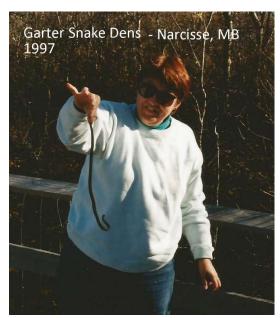




























Sister-in-law Tami was the 2017 Fjallkona (lady of the mountain or the female embodiment of the Icelandic nation) at the annual Icelandic Festival ("Islendingadagurinn" held on the August long weekend).

She had previously been president of the festival in 2006.











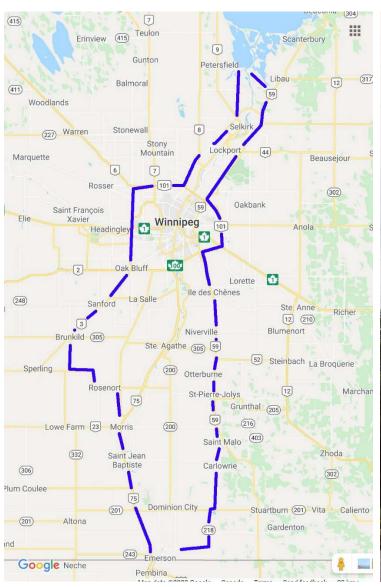




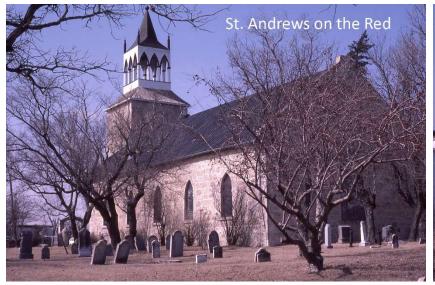


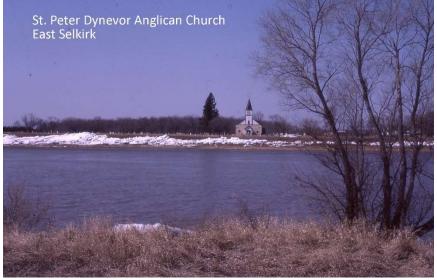


Red River Valley

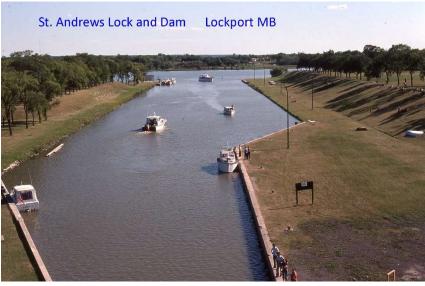




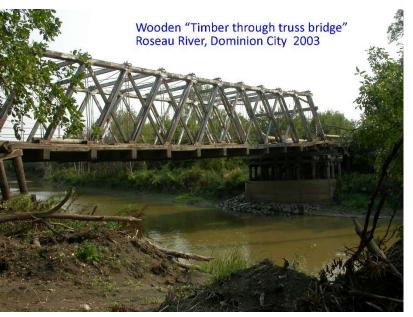
















Winnipeg





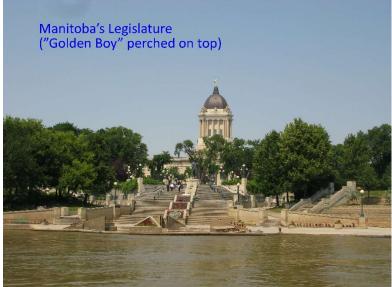






The Forks - Confluence of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers



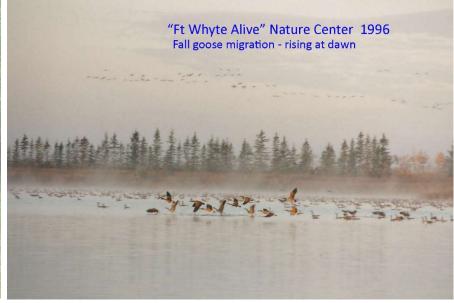












Eastman

