

FINDING AID

Administrative Records of the Conference of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario Fonds

Series 509/2 Superintendents of Home Missions Excerpt 4: Property Grants and Loans for First Nations Communities

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500 Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario Conference fonds. -- 1917 - 2004; predominant 1954-1993. -- 43m of textual records and other material.

The Conference of Manitoba came into existence in June of 1925 with the creation of The United Church of Canada through the union of the Methodist, Presbyterian, Congregational and Local Union Churches of Canada. The name was changed in 1980 to the Conference of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario as a result of a successful petition to the General Council of the United Church by Cambrian Presbytery. The Conference encompasses the entire province of Manitoba and the area of Northwestern Ontario drained by the Rainy River and Winnipeg River systems as far east as Marathon, Ontario and south to the United States border.

The Conference has an administrative as well as a geographic meaning. The thirteen conferences within The United Church of Canada function as a governing body or court of the church. Very simply, they are composed of members of the Order of Ministry on the roll of Presbyteries within the geographical bounds of the Conference and lay persons under appointment to administrative or staff positions within the Conference by a court of the church or the United Church General Council. These are matched by an equal number of lay representatives elected from the Pastoral Charges within the Conference. Chairpersons of Conference Committees and the President of the Conference United Church Women are also members of Conference. In addition to the obligation to meet annually and to appoint a Conference Executive, the Conference was charged with appointing Standing and Special Committees to carry out the day to day work of the Conference. In 1925 these were Education and Students, Evangelism and Social Service, Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Pensions, Publications, Religious Education, Missionary and Maintenance Fund, Church Property, Settlement, Statistics, Historical and Obituaries.

With a few exceptions, the structure of Conference remained essentially the same until 1972 when a major realignment of the administrative structure of the United Church at the General Council (National) and Conference levels took place. In 1972, the Boards of Home Missions, Evangelism and Social Service and Christian Education had ceased to exist along with the staff positions associated with that work. New paid staff positions which made their first appearance around this time were Regional Director of Broadcasting in 1971 (lasting only until 1972), the positions of Conference Personnel and Conference Administrative Support in 1972 and the positions of Leadership Development and Program Resource in 1973. In 1975 and 1976, and again from 1989 to 1993, a staff position for Communications was added. In 1983, the Conference staff position of Christian Development and Outreach was created and, in 1986, an Evangelism and Social Action staff person as well as a full time Conference Archivist was hired.

The changes in National and Conference administrative structure, which resulted from a move towards more regional and local control of church programs, were reflected in the evolution of Conference Committees. The powerful Conference Home Missions Committee and its sub-committees, responsible for overseeing the mission initiatives of Conference and the administration of mission grants according to Board of Home Missions directives, had been replaced by the Administrative Support Committee (briefly called the Congregational Support Committee) by 1973. Another major reorganisation of the Conference committee structure took place in 1983 when a system for the division of the work of Conference committees among four Councils (Stewardship, Worship and Education, Ministry and Personnel, Evangelism and Social Action) was devised. Committee chairs reported to their respective Councils that in turn were represented on the Conference Executive.

Another major reorganisation of Conference Structure took place in 1993. At that time, the pressure of meeting current demands with dwindling resources resulted in a move to reduce the number of Presbyteries from eight to six. The work previously allocated among four Conference Councils was then divided between three Program Units (Education and Justice, Ministry and Personnel, and Stewardship and Mission). The number of Committees reporting to the Program Units, and through them to the Conference Executive was reduced. Salaried staff were also decreased and reorganised to include the positions of Executive Secretary, Education and Justice staff person, Stewardship and Mission staff

person, Personnel staff person and Conference Archivist. Further changes to the Conference Structure were made in 2005.

Many of the materials which make up this Conference fonds had been stored in the basement of the Conference administrative offices at 120 Maryland Street in Winnipeg in an ad hoc manner for varying lengths of time over a period of approximately forty years before coming into the Archives. Generally, the records of Conference executive, staff and committee chairs were transferred to the basement at the end of their term of office. Renovations to and rearrangement of the basement area resulted in the movement of the materials around the storage area on more than one occasion. It is probable that space constraints resulted in the unrecorded disposal of an undetermined number of documents and other materials throughout the storage period. Administrative records in storage at 120 Maryland were formally transferred to the Archives in 1989. The movement of the Conference administrative offices to a new address in the fall of 1996 precipitated an inventory and the relocation of those records in 1995 prior to the move. The balance of the fonds consists of record series that had been accessioned by the Archives at various periods prior to 1995. The provenance of records accessioned prior to 1976 is often obscure.

The fonds consists of textual and other materials generated by the Conference, the Conference Executive, Conference Staff Associates and Conference Committee members in the fulfilment of their mandate as outlined in *The Manual of The United Church of Canada* from 1925 to 1994. Throughout the life of the fonds, several Conference staff members have served in more than one church or community administration simultaneously while keeping unified files. This has resulted in materials from other administrative jurisdictions being interspersed among the fonds.

Fonds are composed of the following series: Conference Annual Meetings, 1925-1993; Conference Executive, 1925-2002; Conference Offices, 1958-1989; Committees, Task Forces and Working Groups Answering to the Executive and Sub-Executive, 1968-1993; Manitoba Conference Branch of The United Church Woman's Missionary Society, 1918-1962; Manitoba Conference Branch Woman's Missionary Society Archives Collection, [ca.1885-ca.1960]; Manitoba Conference Lay Association, [ca.1910]-1962; District Council AOTS, 1964-1977; Conference Committee on Christian Education, 1927-1992; Conference Home Missions Committee, 1926-1973; Superintendents of Home Missions, 1926-1973; records of the Administration of Norway House Residential School, 1954-1967; Conference Hospitals, 1923-1982; Home Missions Inter-Conference and Ecumenical Groups, 1956-1969; Conference Evangelism and Social Service Committee, 1933-1976; Conference Congregational Life and Work, 1952-1979; Church in Society Committee, 1976-1983; Evangelsim and Social Action Council, 1983-1993; Inter-Conference and Ecumenical Groups reporting to the Evangelsim and Social Action Council, 1972-1999; Conference Communications, 1964-1992; Worship and Education Council, 1981-1994; Worship and Education Council Women's Groups, 1982-1992; Education and Justice Unit, 1987 - 2004 (predominately 1993 - 1998); Committee on Education, Students and Church Vocations, 1975-1978; Conference Education Committee, 1972-1983; [Interim] Placement Committee, 1970-1972; Conference Settlement Committee, 1971-1980; Conference Staff Committee, 1966-1992; Ministry and Personnel Council, 1982-1993; Conference Personnel Officer, 1972-1993; Conference Personnel Records, 1957-1993; records of the Conference Finance Committee, 1964-1974; records of Conference Administrative Support, 1973-1983; records of Administrative Support Staff, 1972-1993; Conference Stewardship, 1967-1993; Church Camps, 1918-1975; Church Home for Girls, 1945-1976; Women's Union, 1926-1958; Manitoba Conference Woman's Association, 1946-1962; Conference United Church Women, 1963-2002; Fellowship of Professional Women, 1949-1980; Manitoba Canadian Girls in Training, 1918-1990; and the Manitoba Student Christian Movement, 1923-1981.

Title based on contents of fonds.

The fonds also includes ephemera, photographs, slides, audio tape recordings, video tape recordings and 50 sets of blueprints, plans and architects' drawings.

Original order of many of the series of the fonds was substantially obscured during the storage period and many materials were in an extremely disorganised state with no original order or access points apparent; where necessary, order based on administrative function has been reconstructed by the arranging archivist.

Some restrictions on access; see series descriptions.

Finding Aids consist of series descriptions and box lists; some sub-series and file level description available.

Further accruals are expected.

509/2 Records of the Superintendents of Home Missions. – 1914-1981. – 24m textual records and other material.

The office of Conference Superintendent of Home Missions functioned from the creation of the General Council Board of Home Missions in 1925 until the dissolution of the Board in 1972. The Conference Superintendents of Home Missions were responsible for supervising the administration of allocations made by the Board of Home Missions in support of aid-receiving charges, Mission Fields, and institutions that furthered the objectives of the Home Mission work of the United Church within the Conference territory. However, while the Superintendent of Home Missions supervised Home Missions properties within the Conference in conjunction with the Conference and Presbytery Home Missions Committees, the ownership of those properties remained with The United Church of Canada and the national Board of Home Missions made any final decisions regarding insurance and lease or sale. The Superintendent was also responsible for giving direction to the missionary efforts within the Conference in co-operation with the Home Missions Committees of the Conference and Presbyteries. This involved the interpretation and implementation of policies set by the General Council and the Home Missions Board. As well, the Superintendent was expected to serve on any inter-conference or ecumenical committees and commissions which were concerned with issues related to home missions work within his territory and in so doing represent the interests of The United Church of Canada.

The Superintendents of Home Missions, called the Superintendents of Missions prior to 1935, were J. A. Cormie and J. A. Doyle, 1925 to 1927; J. A. Cormie, 1928 to 1946; C. H. Best, 1946 to 1955; George McMillan, 1956 to 1959; and N. K. Campbell from 1960 to 1965. After 1966, the position title was Superintendent of Home Missions and Field Secretary of Missionary Maintenance (Field Secretary of Stewardship Services after 1969) reflecting a new division of the work within Conference. From 1966 to 1972, the position was shared by J. D. McMurtry (responsible for N.E. Manitoba and N. W. Ontario) and R. Smith (responsible for S. W. Manitoba). The position of Superintendent of Home Missions was discontinued along with the Board of Home Missions in 1972. Thereafter, the Conference staff person responsible for the administration of grants to aid receiving charges was the Administrative Support officer. In July of 1963, the Conference also appointed a Building Administrator. This full-time staff person was charged with the responsibility for the maintenance of Home Mission properties in First Nations communities thus freeing the Superintendent from this time consuming obligation. This position remained in existence until 1976 when a Conference/Presbytery officer was appointed by Northland Presbytery.

Most of the records described here came to the Conference Archives as part of three major transfers in 1984, 1988, and 1996. It was not always recorded, however, which Conference officer had custody and control of the records before they were transferred to inactive status and the basis on which the decision was made to remove records from active use appears to have been somewhat eccentric. Also, there were other unrecorded accessions and detailed inventories are not available in all cases. It also appears that items repatriated from selected Presbyteries and Charges have been interspersed within these records.

The records of the Superintendent's of Home Missions described here include items that date from 1926 to 1981 with the majority dating predominantly from after 1940 to 1972. Those records that date from after 1972 largely pertain to loans and other agreements that were entered into prior to the dissolution of the Board of Home Missions. Often correspondence does not appear to be complete. Reference is made to items that are not now in the files and in many cases there are gaps of several years that are not explicitly explained. Documents found here suggest that at least two major culling of records took place; one in 1935, when the Conference offices were moved, and again in 1963 (Correspondence of 24 September 1963, File 509/2/2-8). In other cases, items were removed to the Archives Vertical File after accession. Also, it is known that succeeding Superintendents of Home Missions removed items from the files of previous Superintendents for purposes of follow-up and research and these items likely were not returned to their original location. Some documents pertaining to Home Missions fields in First Nations communities were transferred to the custody of the All Native Circle Conference at the time of its creation

in 1989. These records were not transferred to the Conference Archives until 1999 and will be described as part of the records of All Native Circle Conference.

The items described here were for the most part the correspondence and related documents kept by the Superintendents in the course of their activities supervising the Home Missions allocations within the Conference of Manitoba and North-western Ontario. A division of topics according to the headings of Property, Maintenance, and General Letters within which records are arranged according to Mission Field has been roughly adhered to although it is possible to find records dealing with all three topics in one folder. Also, the taxonomy was modified somewhat as the method of allocating funds evolved.

Property records were initially called 'Property Claims' or 'Housekeeping' and later 'Property Grants and Loans' (after 1956) before evolving into 'Property and Church Extension Loans and Grants' (which evolved into the Capital Assistance Fund of the Division of Mission) and 'Property Block Grants' after 1970. Property records include documents pertaining to the allocation of funds for the purchase of lots, new construction or renovation, mission property maintenance, and insurance. Documents pertaining to the sale or lease of mission property and the transfer of title are also found here. "Property" records dating from ca.1945 to 1949 incorporate records created by Rev. Joseph Jones who supervised a program of construction of mission churches and manses known at the time as the Indian Building Program. These records were transferred to Rev. Best in 1949 and incorporated into the Superintendent's files. 'Property' records created after 1963 also incorporate the correspondence and other documents of the Building Administrator, Colin McIntyre. Some records dealing with 'Property Grants and Loans' have been designated as such in the accession record and are described as a separate group although records dealing with 'Property Grants and Loans' can be found throughout.

Maintenance records, initially called 'Maintenance Claims' and later known as 'Maintenance Grants' (after 1960) and 'Maintenance Block Grants' (after 1970) include documents that pertain to salaries, medical, travel or moving expenses, and educational allowances. These records can also include items dealing with the appointment of mission personnel, pastoral relations, charge supervision, and student supply. Often reports on the state of the mission work and conditions in the communities served by the mission are included as well as documents that pertain to the creation and interpretation of policy.

'General Letters' or 'General Files' files include documents dealing with matters not directly related to specific Mission Fields but which pertain to Home Missions work within the Conference in general. Included are records pertaining to aspects of the Superintendent's work such as the rural church, Ukrainian work and immigration as well as institutions and inner city missions. Records pertaining to personnel matters form a significant segment. Also included are records pertaining to inter-conference activities such as General Council Commissions and Committees as well as ecumenical initiatives of special relevance to Home Missions such as proposed co-operation with the Anglican Church in home mission activities, especially in north-western Ontario. Several files deal with property matters. These generally pertain to the sale of Home Missions properties that were no longer required for the work in the Conference rather than maintenance or new construction. They may also concern reports that deal with several properties together. Records pertaining to the transfer of title or sale of Home Missions property are also found here.

Title based on contents.

Documents found here also include architectural drawings and photographs.

Many items were re-folded during earlier arrangement projects and the original folders have been discarded.

The original order of many of these records was obscured during storage, earlier arrangement and subsequent microfilming projects and folder order has been reconstructed based on the existing accession record where possible. Where this was not possible, the arrangement imposed when the records were initially accessioned has been retained. In many cases the original fasteners were removed and the original chronological and/or thematic order of the documents within folders has become

indistinct. Generally, records are arranged in alphabetical order by charge/mission/institution name/subject. Some records also have been arranged by Presbytery and there is some evidence to suggest that this may have been the original working arrangement for all the 'Property' and 'Maintenance' records of the Superintendents of Home Missions. Records that pertain to a particular topic and/or Mission Field are often found in more than one location.

File level description for those records pertaining to Home Missions initiatives in First Nations communities and to residential schools; for other records the finding aid is a box list.

For further records pertaining to the administration of Norway House Indian Residential School, see the series '509/3 Records of the Administration of Norway House Residential School' described elsewhere in this fonds.

Files containing material dated after the dissolution of Home Missions in 1972 are generally described elsewhere in this fonds as part of the Conference Administrative Support series.

Some records that pertain to the establishment of new congregations and related capital expenditures may be found with the records of the Winnipeg [Presbytery] Council of Church Extension that was charged with responsibility to act for the Conference as a whole in matters of Church Extension after 1957.

Annual Reports of the Manitoba Conference Superintendent/s of Home Missions appear in digest form in the published Annual Reports of The United Church of Canada General Council Board of Home Missions.

Documentation Digitization : Relevant items in this series related to Indian Residential Schools are included in the United Church of Canada Archives Winnipeg 2014 Index of IRS Related Records and were digitized for submission to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. For more information contact the Keeper of the Archives.

Records of the Superintendents of Home Missions

File Description – ‘Property’ and ‘Maintenance’ Files

Berens River Charge. – 1914-1972, predominant 1933-1972. – 18 folders and other material.

Berens River is a First Nations reserve community located on the eastern shore of Lake Winnipeg 150 miles north of Winnipeg as the crow flies (270 air kilometres and 391 kilometres by Provincial Road #304) and at one time was accessible only by air or water. The history of Berens River as a mission charge dates from around 1871 when a Methodist mission was established there. At various times the charge also included the preaching points of Poplar River, Little Grand Rapids, Pekangecum, Deer Lake and Sandy Lake. These communities were some distance from Berens River and the missionary travelled many miles by canoe and, in later years, motor boat to perform his duties. A Roman Catholic mission was established at a later date with Pentecostal and Apostolic groups attempting to establish a presence after WW II. By 1958, the population of the reserve on which the mission was located was approximately 500 Saulteaux with an adjoining non-treaty settlement of 125. By 1999, the registered Indian population had grown to 2,161 with 553 living off reserve.

In addition to the mission church, the United Church also operated a day school at Berens River, with a second added in 1952. There was an enrolment of 50 students by 1958 with an enrolment of 90 expected within two years. The United Church had the responsibility of nominating teachers but appointments were ultimately made by Indian Affairs Branch. Indian Affairs was also responsible for teacher salaries, school supplies and the maintenance of the buildings.

A Seniors Residence, one of the first in the north, was established at Berens River by Miss Annie Niddrie who served at the mission along side her uncle, John Niddrie, for many years and who continued on in Berens River after his death in 1940.

Missionaries serving at Berens River included Rev. Egerton Young, 1871-1875; Rev. A. W. Ross, 1876-1877; Rev. J. Semmens, 1878-1887; Rev. Enos Langford, 1885-1887; J. M. Butler and W. P. McNaffie, 1887-1891; J. A. McLachlan, 1891-1904; Thos. Neville, 1904-1907; A. E. Olse, 1907-1909; Joseph Lawes, 1909-1916; Percy E. Jones, 1916-1920; John Niddrie, 1920-1938; Luther Schuetze, 1938-1942; F.G. Stevens, 1942-1944; Jacob Toews, 1944; H. Neufeld, 1945; Jacob Toews, 1946; John Kehler, 1946-1948; W. S. Cooke, 1948-1951; Jacob Toews, 1951; H. Neufeld, 1952; Jacob Toews, 1953; G.W. Thompson, 1955-1961; Gordon Craig, 1961-1970; John James Everette, 1970; and Rev. Michael Boulanger, 1971-1972.

The items described here date from 1914-1972. However, there are a number of unexplained gaps of several months in the record and reference is frequently made to correspondence that is not in the file. Items consist of correspondence and other materials, such as reports and financial records, pertaining to the administration and supervision of the Berens River United Church Home Mission Field. This mainly includes letters between the Superintendent and the Berens River missionary personnel. Copies of correspondence between the Superintendent and the Secretaries of the Board of Home Missions in Toronto are also found here. Topics pertain to such ‘maintenance’ matters as salaries and allowances, the freighting and distribution of clothing ‘bales’ and Christmas gifts. Correspondence dealing with ‘housekeeping’ matters includes that pertaining to the maintenance and construction of mission buildings, the ordering and shipping of supplies and equipment, and insurance. As well, correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and life in the community. In addition there is correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools. A number of items pertain to arrangements for the appointment of missionaries or supply and providing licenses to perform the sacraments.

Title based on contents.

The Berens River record includes a copy of a map of the Berens River Indian Reserve, dated 1898, in the collection of the Conference Archives; 9 colour photographs of the new church construction undertaken in 1958 are located in the Vertical File.

Chronological arrangement; order reconstructed by the archivist where necessary.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Item level description.

See also Berens River Charge records described as part of Superintendent of Home Missions Property Files Identified as 'Property Grants & Loans'.

Other records accessioned from the Berens River Charge include Sacramental Registers dating from 1884 to 1963; entries pertaining to Berens River have also been identified within the Sacramental Registers of Little Grand Rapids Charge.

Berens River Charge File
'Maintenance Claims' - Item Level Description

1. Berens River Correspondence. – 1933-1953. – 1cm textual material.

This folder includes correspondence pertaining to the title to the Berens River mission property; to the resignations of missionaries Luther Schuetze in 1942 and F. G. Stevens in 1944 and teacher Jean Reid in 1945 and the appointment of teachers Peter Kehler in 1945, C. D. Street in 1946 and Jacob Toews in 1951 and missionary Rev. H. Neufeld in 1953.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-4-1.

2. Berens River Correspondence. – 1935-1950. – 4cm textual material.

Topics discussed include the lack of game and attendant privation, substandard housing, the prevalence of TB and the activities of the Roman Catholic missionaries in the community. Correspondence also includes letters that were meant to be confidential pertaining to Rev. Niddrie's relations with the other faith groups in the area. Included is correspondence from Rev. Niddrie dated 13 January 1939 pertaining to the history of missionary activities in area of Island Lake, which he calls the 'Inland Superintendency', ca.1910-1920. Correspondence of 7 September 1940 pertains to fire damage in the community and lists those who lost their homes. Also found here is correspondence pertaining to the anthropological research activities of Prof. Hollowell in the Berens River area. Correspondence pertaining to Rev. Niddrie's impending retirement in 1937 includes a petition, dated June 1937 and signed by many members of the community, asking that he remain. A copy of In and Amongst the Indians in Their Northern Wigwams by Rev. J. W. Niddrie is also found in this folder.

Also found here are copies of correspondence that was sent to the offices of the Dept. of Indian Affairs largely pertaining to school renovation and construction, ca.1937 and the new United Church Day School at Berens River completed and opened on 12 September 1938. Copies of quarterly statistical returns from the Berens River Day School may also be found here. There is also correspondence pertaining to the nomination of H.B. Chenoweth to the Day School at Berens River in 1940 and the nomination of Douglas Brown, ca.1941. Also mentioned is the establishment of a residential care home for elderly women in Berens River under care of Miss Annie Niddrie, ca.1940/41.

Some correspondence pertains to Sandy Lake and urges construction and staffing of a church and school. Other items urge the provision of a pension for Adam Fiddler. Items pertaining to Pekangecum urge an assistant for the missionary. There is a hand-written report of the mission at Poplar River written by Rev. H. Neufeld in September 1943.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-4-2.

3. Berens River Correspondence. – 1914-1958, predominant 1936-1958. – 1cm textual material.

Items found in this folder include correspondence between the Superintendent of Home Missions, J. A. Cormie, and Rev. F. G. Stevens, missionary at Koostatak from 1907 to 1939 pertaining to the Berens River mission. Also found here is correspondence between the missionary, Rev. H. Neufeld and the Superintendent, C. H. Best, dating from 1953. There is also correspondence between the missionary, Glen Thompson, and the Superintendent, C. H. Best and later Dr. G. A. McMillan, dated ca.1955-1958 and especially pertaining to the construction and staffing of a government nursing station.

Copies of the narratives *The Canadian Indians and The Indian Work* by Rev. J. W. Niddrie, ca.1936; *Do Our Indians Die Happy? Or Leaves from the Log of an Indian Missionary Diary* by Rev. J. W. Niddrie, 1935; *Amongst the Dusky Sons of the Forest in the Land of the Aurora Borealis* by Rev. J. W. Niddrie, 1935; and entries from J. W. Niddrie's journal (likely Oxford House, Jan & Feb, 1914) are also included here. All were found in an envelope labelled from J. W. Niddrie's Diary.

The folder also includes undated notes (likely by Glen Thompson) on the title to church property at Berens River, ca.1958; the paper *Berens River Mission: A Survey with Suggestions as to its Present Needs* by Glen Thompson, February 1958; and a report *General Impressions of the conditions of the property on Indian Reserves held by the Home Mission Board of the United Church of Canada* submitted by Gordon S. Edmunds, ca.1957.

Title based on contents.

J. W. Niddrie's journal entries for January and February, 1914 are a typed transcription of the original journal entries.

Location: 509/2/2-4-3.

4. Berens River Correspondence*. – 1951-1953. – 1cm textual material.

In addition to the types of correspondence already mentioned items found here include correspondence pertaining to the supply of layettes for infants and requests for clothing and Christmas gifts for children. There is also a letter, written on behalf of her parents, requesting the return of a residential school pupil from Madge Lake, Saskatchewan.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-4-4.

5. Berens River Correspondence*. – 1952-1954. – 1cm textual material.

This folder contains a detailed survey and census of the families (both Protestant and Catholic) resident at Berens River in the winter of 1951/52 and conducted by Rev. H. Neufeld. There is also correspondence with potential builders of a new manse; an item requesting certification of a marriage from registers that were stored at the manse; and correspondence pertaining to the appointment of a missionary for the 1954/55 season.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-4-5.

6. Berens River Correspondence. – 1954-1956. – 3cm textual material.

Correspondence found here especially pertains to the construction and furnishing of a new mission house in 1954 and 1955; arrangements pertaining to the appointment of Glen Thompson as missionary in June of 1955; and the medical evacuation of Morden Everett to Fort Alexander Hospital in October 1956.

Title based on contents.

Items pertaining to the construction of a new mission house in 1954 have been removed to a separate folder; items from 1955 and 1956 are in reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-4-6.

7. Berens River Correspondence. – 1956-1957. – 1cm textual material.

Correspondence found here between the Superintendent and Secretaries of the Board and between the Superintendent's office and the Berens River missionary pertains especially to the salary and out of pocket expenses of the missionary at Berens River.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-4-7.

8. Berens River Correspondence*. – 1957-1961. – 2cm textual material.

Correspondence found here between the missionary at Berens River, Glen Thompson, and the Superintendents, G. A. McMillan and later N. K. Campbell, and between the Superintendent and the Secretaries of the Board pertains especially to problems with the construction of the mission house; the need for medical facilities at Berens River; the nomination of teachers to the Berens River Day School; attempts to make arrangements for three children from the community to go out to residential school (dated 25 March 1957, 12 September 1957 & 27 August 1957); Gordon Edmund's inspection trip in 1957; and periodic reports from the missionary pertaining to the work and conditions at the mission.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-4-8.

9. Berens River Correspondence*. – 1959-1970, predominant 1959-1966. – 1cm textual material.

Correspondence found here between the Superintendent and the Secretaries as well as between the Superintendent and the missionary includes the Thompson' Christmas newsletter, 1959; items pertaining to the Woman's Association, 1961; items pertaining to the appointment of Gordon Craig as missionary; and periodic reports from the missionary regarding conditions at the mission. Correspondence with members of the community regarding missionary activities appears for the first time.

The folder also includes items pertaining to a formal complaint to the Attorney General of Manitoba and Inspector Lawson of the RCMP as to the inappropriate conduct of the RCMP constable at Berens River, March 1959. The unsigned affidavit of ... pertaining to this matter is included.

Also found here are the minutes of a Berens River United Church Leaders Meeting of 11 March 1965 and a copy of the subsequent report to Selkirk Presbytery along with the missionary's response to the report. There is also correspondence pertaining to a Presbyterial visitation in 1965 and notes of a 1970 visit and meeting with church leaders.

Also included here is correspondence pertaining to a Dept. of Highways request for an easement at Berens River, ca.1970.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-4-9.

10. Berens River Correspondence. – 1967. – 1cm textual material.

This folder includes the correspondence of Superintendent J. Douglas McMurtry pertaining to a call for tenders for the construction of new church building at Berens River in 1967.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-4-10.

11. Berens River Correspondence*. – 1967-1968. – 1cm textual material.

This folder includes correspondence between the Superintendent, J. Douglas McMurtry and the missionary at Berens River as well as Secretaries of the Board pertaining to the special needs of a young offender dated 30 January 1967; correspondence pertaining to the destruction of church by fire in February, 1967; a report of a Presbytery visit of 7 April 1967; and invitations to dedication of new church building 29 November 1968.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-4-11.

12. Berens River Correspondence. – 1967-1969. – 2cm textual material.

This folder largely contains correspondence pertaining to the construction of a new church at Berens River.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-4-12.

13. Berens River Correspondence*. – 1968-1970. – 1cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence pertaining to the dedication of the new church at Berens River in 1968 and the 1968 Christmas letter of Rev. and Mrs. Craig. Also found here is a program for the opening of the new Berens River School, 28 March 1969, listing teaching staff and the school committee.

This folder also includes a hand-written note pertaining to alleged interference in court proceedings at Berens River by ... in July of 1968. There is also correspondence pertaining to tension in the community between fundamentalist, Methodist influenced elders and the younger community members over a coffee house and other matters, dated Jan/Feb 1969. Also included here is Superintendent J. D. McMurtry's report of a Presbytery visitation dated 1 April 1969 and Ken [Matsugu's] (of Koostatak) report of same visit.

A copy of Contemporary Indigenous Religious Attitudes at Berens River by Rev. G. M. Craig, ca.1969 is also found here.

As well there is correspondence pertaining to a request for a license to administer the sacraments for John James Everette, missionary at Berens River from 1970, and correspondence pertaining to the translation of the gospels into Saulteux by John Everette. There is also a report of McMurtry's visit of August 1970 and correspondence pertaining to the closure of the coffee-house and the cancellation of movie rentals due to unpaid bills.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-4-13.

14. Berens River Correspondence. – 1967-1972. – 1cm textual material.

This folder includes correspondence pertaining to the appointment of the missionary, Rev. M. Boulger, in 1971 as well as salaries and reimbursement for expenses. Also found here are Pastoral Charge statistical reports to Presbytery.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-4-14.

Berens River Charge File
'Property Claims' - Item Level Description

15. Berens River Charge Correspondence. – 1956-1959. – 2 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder largely deal with matters associated with the remodelling of the mission house and the provision of manse supplies and equipment. Several items of correspondence deal with the provision and repair of a lighting plant (generator). Other items deal with proposals and plans for construction of a new mission church.

Some correspondence found here deals with issues affecting the state of the community. This includes that dating from June 1958 and following on the provision of health services in Berens River. Topics covered include conflict with the Catholic Church in this area as well as concerns about delays for community residents in receiving treatment. Several items of correspondence dating from 1959 deal with the selection of a site for a new nursing station in Berens River.

Some correspondence includes references to other mission stations. This includes that of October 1957 which mentioned that Ken Crassweller (supplying at Long Plain) had been recommended to receive a license to administer the Sacraments.

Other items of note include correspondence of October 1957, which includes a paragraph pertaining to the title to the Berens River property.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-1.

16. Berens River Charge Correspondence. – 1960-1961. – 1.5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include those dealing with matters associated with repairs to the mission dock and the provision of manse supplies and equipment. Correspondence dating from December 1961 contains suggestions on the construction of Church Halls. Other items deal with matters arising out of the rental of the Berens River Church hall as a temporary classroom. Several items of correspondence scattered throughout are concerned with the electrical plant and the provision of power to the mission buildings.

Correspondence housed here that pertains to issues affecting the state of the community includes that dating from 1960 and following dealing with the on again off again plans for construction of a nursing station at Berens River.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-2.

17. Berens River Charge Correspondence. – 1962-1963. – 1.5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include those dealing with the provision of manse supplies, furnishings and equipment. Several items of correspondence scattered throughout are concerned with the electrical plant and the provision of power to the mission buildings. Other items deal with plans for the provision of telephone service and the purchase of propane powered refrigerator.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-3.

18. Berens River Charge Correspondence. – 1964-1972. – 2 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include those dealing with the provision of manse supplies, furnishings and equipment. Several items of correspondence scattered throughout are concerned with the electrical plant and the provision of power to the mission buildings. A number of items dating from February and March 1967 pertain to the destruction of the Berens River Church by fire and include the Superintendent's first hand account of the incident. Items dealing with the reconstruction of the church date from 1968 and include plans and a copy of the construction contract.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-4.

Birdtail Reserve Charge. – 1926-1949. – 1 folder.

Birdtail Sioux First Nation is made up of three reserve land entitlements, the main one of which is Birdtail Creek Reserve No. 57, which is located in south-western Manitoba 351 kilometres north-west of Winnipeg just south of Birtle. The residents of the reserve are the descendants of Sioux refugees who crossed into Canada from Minnesota after the Sioux uprising of 1862. Birdtail Reserve was part of a unit of Presbyterian Indian Mission work that also included the reserves of Lizard Point, Okanese and Rolling River as well as the Birtle Residential School. Birdtail Creek was previously served as part of Beulah Charge and it was decided that it would remain as a charge of the Presbyterian Church at Union. The reserve came to be served by the United Church minister from Isabella, Rev. H. I. Bowman. However, when the minister changed the new fellow would not take on this work and responsibility was passed to the United Church minister at Birtle. Eventually the work returned to the responsibility of the Presbyterian Church under the missionary from Waywayseecappo.

This file includes correspondence between the Superintendent J. A. Cormie and Rev. F. E. Pitts pertaining to the transfer of control of the 'Birtle Indian School' to the supervision of the Presbyterian Church following union in 1925. There is also a three-way correspondence between the Superintendent of Home Missions for Manitoba, the Secretary of Birtle Presbytery and the Associate Secretary of the Board, Kenneth J. Beaton, pertaining to the situation that existed on the Birdtail Creek Reserve following union and problems with efforts to unite the community in worship under the Presbyterian Church. The file also includes incidental correspondence between the Superintendent and the Secretary of Birtle Presbytery pertaining to Rosburn Charge and the Ukrainian mission there. There are also items pertaining to Beulah Charge.

Title based on contents.

Chronological arrangement; order reconstructed by the archivist where necessary.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Location: 509/2/2-5-1.

Brandon Residential School. – 1938-1972. – 5 folders.

The Brandon Indian Institute, as it was then known, was established around 1895 by the Missionary Society of the Methodist Church as a residential school for boys and girls from the Lake Winnipeg district. It was conceived as an industrial training facility for First Nations young people and concentrated on vocational rather than academic training for much of its history. All ages attended the school until 1950/51. After that school year, pupils in grades 9 to 12 were sent to the school in Birtle. In 1957 a decision was made to send the junior high students to the school in Portage la Prairie. By 1959, there were 176 children at the school ranging in age from 6 to 13 years and attending grades one to six. The addition of more classrooms and other renovations during the 1960s allowed the enrolment to eventually reach 200. As the years went on, instruction in academic subjects assumed greater importance. For much of the time, the facility included a 1000-acre training farm and dairy operation. Produce from the farm program was expected to supplement federal funding for food supplies and federal grant amounts were fixed accordingly. The farm operation was discontinued in 1956. The dairy cattle were sold in 1957 and the surplus land was leased to the Dominion Experimental Farm, which abutted the school property. By the late 1950s many children were being bussed to Brandon area schools and the Brandon Residential School gradually became more like a hostel or residence than a school. At some point between 1965 and 1970 the name was changed to the Brandon Student Residence. In 1970, administration of the residence was turned over the Roman Catholic Church and the United Church divested itself of all interest in the property.

Records indicate that the federal Department of Indian Affairs was responsible for the financial support of the school and the payment of teaching staff. In some circumstances the Board of Home Missions might allocate a supplementary grant. The school Principal was nominated by the Board of Home Missions subject to the confirmation of the Department of Indian Affairs. The Principal was in turn responsible for engaging other school staff. Principals and acting principals of the school who have been identified included Rev. J. Semmens, 1895-1899; Thompson Ferrier, 1899-[ca.1924]; Rev. J. A. Doyle, 1929-1941; R. T. Chapin, 1941-1944; Rev. O. B. Strapp, 1944-1955; Rev. G. R. Inglis, 1955-1957; Rev. Harry Atkinson, 1957; Lachlan McLean, 1957-1959; M.D. Bannerman, 1959; and Ford Bond, 1959-1970.

The records described here date from 1938 to 1972 with an unexplained gap for the period from 1966 to 1970. Items include correspondence between the Principal and the Superintendent of Home Missions for Manitoba and between the Superintendent and the Secretary and Associate Secretaries of the Board of Home Missions based in Toronto. Items also include correspondence between the Superintendent and the Home Mission Executive Secretary of the Woman's Missionary Society, especially as pertains to the Portage la Prairie School. There are also copies and originals of correspondence between those individuals already mentioned and with the Department of Indian Affairs in Ottawa and its representatives in Manitoba. Topics include the nomination and remuneration of the Principal and other school staff, discipline matters involving school personnel as well as students, general administration policy, financial accountability to the Department of Indian Affairs and administration of the of the school program and the physical plant. Frequently, staff lists are found among these records. Student lists are included less frequently. A number of items found here deal with matters that pertain to the residential schools at Portage la Prairie and Norway House.

Title based on contents.

Chronological arrangement; order reconstructed by the archivist where necessary.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted; please consult with the archivist.

Item level description.

See also the file 'Church and Government Owned Indian Residences, 1962-1965' described with the 'General Files' of N. K. Campbell elsewhere in this series.

The Brandon Residential School record also includes the following items located in the Vertical File: a copy of the Brandon Residential school 1940/41 Yearbook, which contains a list of staff and the graduating class as well as group photographs of all the school's students; a keepsake book of photographs from the school dating from ca.1930 to ca.1936 containing photographs of the staff and various student groups with identifying captions for the staff and some of the students.

Records pertaining to Brandon Residential School may also be found in files numbered 337 to 341 in Box 23 of the Board of Home Missions General Files, Series II, Section I in the holdings of the Central Archives of The United Church of Canada.

Photographs of Manitoba Home Missions taken by Rev. R. T. Chapin have been accessioned by the Provincial Archives of Manitoba.

Location: 509/2/2-5.

Brandon Residential School File
'Maintenance Claims' - Item Level Description

1. Brandon Residential School Correspondence*. – 1938-1953. – 2cm textual material.

This folder contains several items pertaining to the selection and nominations of principals for the school as well as items pertaining to students and conditions at the school.

Also found here is an undated copy of Report of the Special Home Mission Committee, Brandon Presbytery on the Indian Residential School, Brandon as well as copies of annual reports of the Brandon School for the years ending in December 1951 and 1952.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-5-2.

2. Brandon Residential School Correspondence* – 1954-1956. – 1cm textual material.

There are several items of correspondence pertaining to the general administration of residential schools and much correspondence is concerned with the physical plant of the school.

Correspondence pertaining to the physical plant includes that of 2 November 1954 pertaining to turning over a portion of school land to the Department of Agriculture and that of December 1954 pertaining to the payment of municipal taxes.

Also found here is the Annual Report of the Brandon School for 1954.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-5-3.

3. Brandon Residential School Correspondence*. – 1957-1959. – 2cm textual material.

This folder includes significant correspondence pertaining to the general administration of the school.

This folder also includes a complete class list for 1958/59 with the names and birth dates of the students along with their parent's names and place of residence as well as a list of teachers. Also found here are a number of clippings from the Brandon Sun, ca.1958, pertaining to the school rogram.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-5-4.

4. Brandon Residential School Correspondence*. – 1960-1965. – 3cm textual material.

In addition to correspondence pertaining to the administration of the school, there are a number of items of correspondence dating from the spring of 1960 pertaining to financial accounting and the purchase of a school bus. Correspondence of November 1960 pertains to an appeal to church groups and service clubs for financial support and for host families to take children who could not go home on short outings and for holidays. Further items dated February 1961 pertain to the success of this program.

Also found here are the minutes of [the Brandon Presbytery] Indian Residential School Advisory Committee for November 1962 and copies of the School Newsletter dated October 1961 (includes staff list and description of typical school activities) and November 1961.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-5-5.

5. Brandon Student Residence. – 1970-1972. – 1cm textual material.

The majority of correspondence found here pertains to the disposition of Brandon Student Residence assets as administration over the residence was to be transferred to the Roman Catholic Church in the fall of 1970. This includes correspondence of February 1970 pertaining to the audited report of the 'Ford Bond Trust Account'.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-5-6.

Cross Lake Charge. – 1935-1971. – 21 folders.

Cross Lake is a Manitoba First Nations Community consisting of six reserves located at the point where the Nelson River enters Cross Lake 130 air kilometres south of Thompson and 520 air kilometres north of Winnipeg. The community is relatively isolated with road access provided by the unpaved Provincial Road 373, which incorporates a ferry/winter road crossing at Pipestone Lake and continues on to Norway House. Manitoba Hydro built the Jenpeg Power Dam and Lake Winnipeg Control Structure on the Nelson River 15 kilometres upstream from Cross Lake and the community is one of the First Nations included under the Northern Flood Agreement. In 1957, the population was approximately 1000 Indian and Metis (there is a large non-status and Metis community located adjacent to the reserve).

Methodist missionaries first came to the Cross Lake area in 1895 when Edward Paupanikas, a native missionary from Norway House came to preach in the area. At various times over the years, the missionary also served as the Vital Statistics Registrar and supervised the distribution of Indian Affairs Department Treaty supplies of flour and bacon that passed through the United Church warehouse located adjacent to the mission. The missionary was also responsible for the distribution of 'bale goods'. Missionaries wives, beginning with the wife of Rev. Gaudin (who was a trained paediatric nurse) provided medical care and later served as 'field matron' in the community.

Two Day Schools were operated by the United Church at Cross Lake. The first was in the main settlement, opened 1 July 1893, and another opened later at Sagatiwak. The teacher for the day school in the main settlement often boarded at the mission. A provincial public school and a Roman Catholic Residential School were also located in the community. During WW II a scarcity of United Church ministry and teaching personnel created a personnel shortage at the missions. During this period many Mennonites served as teachers at Cross Lake.

Missionaries who served at Cross Lake included Rev. Edward Papanakis, 1896-1903; Rev. A. M. McNeil, 1904-1906; Rev. Samuel D. Gaudin, 1906-19//; Rev. W.W. Shoup, 19//-1939; Rev. Fred W. Stevens, 1939-1942; Harry Meadows, 1942-1944; Rev. Ian Harvey, 1944-[ca.1950]; Thomas A. Pollock, 1950-1952; Barnard King, 1952-1956; Rev. Robert Lindsey, 1956-1961; Budd Bewell, 1961-1965; Alan Armstrong, 1965-1966; and Rev. Frank Cserepy, 1966-1969; and Johnston Garrioch, 1969; and Leslie Jay, 1969-1972.

The items described here date from 1935 to 1971. However, there are a number of unexplained gaps of several months in the record and reference is frequently made to correspondence that is not in the file. Items consist of correspondence and other materials, such as reports and financial records, pertaining to the administration and supervision of the Cross Lake United Church Home Mission Field. This mainly includes letters between the Superintendent and the Cross Lake missionary personnel. Copies of correspondence between the Superintendent and the Secretaries of the Board of Home Missions in Toronto are also found here. Topics pertain to such 'maintenance' matters as salaries and allowances, the freighting and distribution of 'clothing bales' and Christmas gifts. Correspondence dealing with 'housekeeping' matters includes that pertaining to the maintenance and construction of mission buildings, the ordering and shipping of supplies and equipment, and insurance. As well, correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and life in the community. In addition there is correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools. A number of items pertain to arrangements for the appointment of missionaries or supply and providing licenses to perform the sacraments.

Title based on contents.

Chronological arrangement; order reconstructed by the archivist where necessary.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Item level description.

See also other records accessioned from the Cross Lake Charge including Superintendent of Home Missions Property Files Identified as 'Presbyteries' (Northland Presbytery).

Plans and specifications for the Cross Lake Church (1957) may be found with records of '509/1/3 Sub-Committee on Churches in Indian Communities'.

Location: 509/2/2-5.

Cross Lake Charge File
'Maintenance Claims' - Item Level Description

1. Cross Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1935-1939. – 1cm.

Topics of correspondence found here include salary grants to the missionary, education allowance for his dependent children, freight and travel expenses and repairs/supplies for the church and manse. Also found here are incidental reports of conditions in the community including the illness or near starvation of the people on occasion. There are also items dealing with supplies and equipment for the United Church Day Schools and the strained relations with the local Roman Catholic missionaries over construction of a large residential school at Cross Lake.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-5-7.

2. Cross Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1940-1943. – 1cm.

In addition to the types of correspondence already mentioned items found here include a Federal Economic Survey, conducted by a Mr. Halcrow and dated 1940, of conditions on Indian Reservations is also found here. It notes that a situation has developed whereby the Cross Lake Indians were no longer able to support themselves and were expected to be completely dependent on government aid within two years. Correspondence of 12 March 1942 includes a translation of a presentation made by Chief Spence Ross of Cross Lake to the Indian Affairs representative asking that the delivery of medical services not be made through the missions but rather through an independent government nursing station.

Correspondence pertaining to the Day Schools includes several items dating from March 1943 and after pertaining to the complete destruction by fire of the school building and problems encountered obtaining a suitable replacement structure. Correspondence dating from November 1943 pertains to the Board of Home Missions policy of hiring Mennonite missionaries during the war.

Title based on contents.

Mould on some pages has required that they be replaced with photocopies; originals have been discarded.

Location: 509/2/2-5-8.

3. Cross Lake Charge Correspondence*. – 1944-1948. – 2cm.

In addition to the types of correspondence already mentioned items found here include correspondence of February 1944 pertaining to a flu epidemic in northern communities. Other items of note include correspondence of December 1944 from the Secretary of the Board to the missionary, Ian Harvey, pertaining to qualifications for local Native preachers; correspondence of August 1945 and November 1946 pertaining to the lease of property to Albert Mcleod for a home site; correspondence of February and March 1946 pertaining to Mrs. Harvey's resignation as Field Matron; correspondence of May 1946 from Ian Harvey to the Board of Home Missions pertaining to proposed plans for a new manse; and correspondence of January 1948 pertaining to the establishment of a credit union.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-5-9.

4. Cross Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1949-1952. – 2cm.

In addition to the types of correspondence already mentioned items found here include correspondence pertaining to continued negotiations for the lease of property for a home site to Albert McLeod; an item dated 5 April 1950 pertaining to an oral tradition of 'mercy killings' as practised by community elders before the missionary arrived; a copy of the Minutes of Session for 4 February 1951 for Cross Lake Mission that includes an item pertaining to holding services on the trap lines; a copy of the September 1951 agreement for the operation of the Cross Lake Movie Association; correspondence dated October 1951 to the Superintendent of Home Missions from Cross Lake Church elders complaining about the missionary selling bale goods; correspondence of December 1951 from the missionary further to this issue stating that the problems resulted from dissatisfaction pertaining to the failure to consider Native workers for ordination or placement in a charge; correspondence of 29 March 1952 containing a petition from community members expressing satisfaction with the missionary's work.; and correspondence of March 1952 concerning rumours of proposed power development on the Nelson River.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-5-10.

5. Cross Lake Charge Correspondence*. – 1953-1954. – 2cm.

During this period the missionary, Bernard King, was also serving his previous charge, Nelson House, when possible.

In addition to the types of correspondence already mentioned items found here include correspondence of 8 December 1953 and 19 January 1954 pertaining the operation of the Church Hall and movie business; correspondence of 8 February, 28 February and 1 March 1954 from Thomas Ross to Dr. Best, Superintendent of Home Missions, concerning money forwarded from the community to the Board for the construction of a new church; and further correspondence of 8 November 1954 pertaining to the school situation in the community.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-5-11.

6. Cross Lake Charge Correspondence*. – 1955-1956. – 2cm.

In addition to the types of correspondence already mentioned items found here include correspondence of 7 January 1955 and 14 February containing further communication pertaining to the money collected for a Cross Lake Church; correspondence of 10 and 14 February 1955 containing a synopsis of Bernard King's career with the church; correspondence of 13 June 1955 pertaining to the transfer of the McLeod lease to the Hudson's Bay Company store; correspondence of 16 July 1955 further to the use of the Church Hall and operation of the movie company; correspondence of 8 February 1956 pertaining to the controversy over religious education instruction in the Cross Lake schools; and further correspondence of 13 March 1956 pertaining to the controversy over the ownership of the church hall and rights for its use.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-5-12.

7. Cross Lake Charge Correspondence*. – 1957. – 3cm.

Much of the correspondence described here pertains to the new United Church building for the community and also chapels at the adjacent settlements of Sagatiwak and Natamic. There is also correspondence throughout pertaining to negotiations for the use of land for the planned chapels. Correspondence dated 3 February 1957 to Rev. Leng, Board Secretary, from the missionary describing the community includes a rough map of the Cross Lake area. Reference is made to a map made for Dr. McMillan, Superintendent of Home Missions, showing the dispersal of United Church families in the community and indicating them by name (this map is also found here). A map and accompanying explanation of school enrolment in the community by religion are also in this folder.

Correspondence of 29 April 1957 from the missionary to Board Secretary Rev. McMillan includes a long report pertaining to many topics including the continued disputes over ownership of the Church Hall and other church property on the reserve; the missionary's observations of the school situation; the condition of the United Church cemetery; and Sunday School. Reference is also made to items of correspondence and other records of previous missionaries found in the mission and the forwarding of these items to the Superintendent. Other correspondence found here includes that of 10 June 1957 and after pertaining to the terms for disposal of the Church Hall and that of 16 July 1957 pertaining to use of United Church buildings by Mabel McIvor.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-5-13.

8. Cross Lake Charge Correspondence*. – 1958-1963. – 2cm.

In addition to the types of correspondence already mentioned items found here include correspondence of 4 February 1958 pertaining to the dedication of Papanakis Memorial Church in Cross Lake including an Order Of Service; correspondence of 13 December 1960 pertaining to the responsibility of the Woman's Association for dealing with the distribution of bale goods; correspondence dating from the spring of 1962 pertaining to the setting up of H. H. Woodcrafts with the advice of the United Church missionary; correspondence of 13 March 1963 containing an analysis of the missionary's work load; and correspondence of 29 August 1963 containing the observations of summer supply, Harold King, on life in Cross Lake.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-5-14.

9. Cross Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1962-1965. – 1cm.

The majority of correspondence found here pertains to financial matters, especially fuel costs. This includes correspondence dating from February 1964 to September 1965 and from August 1962 to November 1965 pertaining to high fuel costs and the consequent advances on the missionary's salary. These items have been clipped together separately from other correspondence in the file.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-5-15.

10. Cross Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1966. – .2cm.

Items of correspondence found here pertain to advances on the salary of the missionary dating from July to October 1966.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-5-16.

11. Cross Lake Charge Correspondence*. – 1965-1969. – 2cm.

In addition to the types of correspondence already mentioned items found here include correspondence of 27 November 1964 pertaining to high school correspondence courses for several Cross Lake Grade 9 & 10 students to be supervised by the missionary, Bud Bewell; the Annual Report for 1966 of Cross Lake United Church; unsigned and undated hand-written notes of a meeting pertaining to education issues; the report of the Cross Lake Market Garden Project 1963-1965 (1966); the Northland Presbytery Manse Questionnaire for Cross Lake, October 1966; and the December 1966 Christmas letter of the missionary and his wife, Frank and Carole Cserepy.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-5-17.

Cross Lake Charge File
'Property Claims' - Item Level Description

12. Cross Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1945-1955. – 2 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder mainly consist of correspondence dating from 1952 and following and pertaining to the assessment of and the payment of taxes on the Cross Lake church property. This includes a plan and inventory of the manse.

Other items dating from 1945 and following deal with the lease of a parcel of church property to Albert McLeod and include a map showing the location of the land in question. Correspondence dating from 1955 pertains to a proposal to transfer the Albert McLeod lease to the Hudson's Bay Company. A copy of the lease and a plan of the Cross Lake Settlement showing the property are included.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-1.

13. Cross Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1947-1949. – .5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found here include correspondence pertaining to the construction and furnishing of a new manse at Cross Lake during the period covered by this folder. This construction was supervised by Rev. Joseph Jones, likely in his capacity as Chairman of Norway House Presbytery (Rev. Jones continued to hold this office although he taught at the Portage Residential School from 1946/47 to ca.1950) and supervisor of the Mission House Building Program. As a result much of the correspondence dealing with this topic originated with or was addressed to Rev. Jones. This includes a report he made of a tour to several Northern Manitoba missions during the summer of 1947.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-2.

14. Cross Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1956-1958. – .5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found here include correspondence dating from 1956 pertaining to the finalisation of a lease on a parcel of Cross Lake Church property to the Hudson's Bay Company. Several items of correspondence dating from 1956 pertain to taxes on the Church property. The majority of items found here dates from 1958 and following and pertains to the construction and furnishing of a new church building.

Title based on contents.

See Cross Lake Charge Property Files Correspondence, File No.1 for more information on the lease of property to the Hudson's Bay Company.

Location: 509/2/2-1-3.

15. Cross Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1957. – 1 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found here include correspondence dealing with proposals and plans for a new church building at Cross Lake. Also mentioned is a proposal for chapels at the close by communities of Natamic and Sagitawak. Other items pertain to the ordering and shipping of building materials and other supplies. Correspondence dating from August and September 1957 pertains to taxes on the mission property that was leased from the Hudson's Bay Company.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-4.

16. Cross Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1959. – .5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found here include several pieces of correspondence pertaining to the mission lighting plant. Correspondence dating from June 1959 deals with proposals for the sale of United Church property at Cross Lake. Other items in this file pertain to the construction of a chapel at Natamic.

Correspondence dealing with the state of the community includes that of May 1959 from the teacher at Sagitawak urging the construction of a chapel in that settlement. Other topics mentioned include concern over the encroachment of the Catholic Church and the lack of recreational opportunities for young people. Correspondence from the missionary dating from June 1959 also urges a chapel at Sagitawak.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-5.

17. Cross Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1960. – 1.5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found here include several pieces of correspondence pertaining to the finishing of the chapel at Natamic and the maintenance and repair of mission equipment. Correspondence dating from April 1960 pertains to the condition of the manse and details needed repairs.

Correspondence that pertains to the work of the mission includes that of August 1960 dealing with a request for a loan so the Cross Lake Woman's Association (WA) could travel to the WA annual meeting at the Prairie Christian Training Centre. Correspondence dating from November 1960 mentions the death by drowning of church member Arthur Ross.

Correspondence dealing with the state of the community includes that of January 1960 dealing with the need for new school buildings at Cross Lake and Sagitawak.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-6.

18. Cross Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1961. – 1.5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found here include correspondence pertaining to the provision of fire fighting equipment dating from January 1961. Several pieces of correspondence pertain to the provision of manse furnishings. Other items are concerned with the construction of a well and the continuing problems with the electrical generator.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-7.

19. Cross Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1962. – 2.5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found here include further correspondence on the provision of manse furnishings, manse renovations, the construction of a well and continuing maintenance of and renovations to the electrical power plant and other mission equipment. Also included here is a hand-drawn plan of the church property.

Correspondence dealing with the state of the community includes that of March 1962 describing the creation of the local industry, H. H. Woodcrafts.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-8.

20. Cross Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1963. – 1 cm textual material.

In addition to the usual 'housekeeping' concerns correspondence found here pertaining to the mission work includes that dating from October, November and December 1963 dealing with all aspects of the Cross Lake Market Garden Project and an appraisal of its success.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-9.

21. Cross Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1964-1971. – 1.5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found here include correspondence dealing with renovations to the mission dock and the purchase of a boat and motor. Other items deal with the continued problem with providing electricity. Detailed correspondence dating from January 1969 pertains to manse renovations and problems encountered in that process. Correspondence dating from October 1969 includes a report of a visit to Cross Lake by Supervising clergy Rev. Gray Rivers of Norway House.

Items in this folder also include further lengthy correspondence dating from January 1964 and following dealing with the Market Garden Project and some of the problems encountered.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-10.

Deer Lake Charge. – 1951-1968. – 6 folders.

Deer Lake is located in North-western Ontario, approximately 250 miles north-east of Winnipeg. Members of the Deer Lake Band had originally belonged to the Island Lake Band until about five hundred people split from Island Lake around 1900. Most eventually moved to Sandy Lake around 1923 leaving approximately 120 individuals at Deer Lake by 1952. Deer Lake was originally part of Norway House Presbytery. It was transferred along with Pikangikum and Sandy Lake to Kenora-Rainy River Presbytery in 1957. Dr. F. Stevens, who journeyed to the area from Oxford House annually beginning in 1898, carried on the first missionary activities in the area. In the early years of this century, Deer Lake was a preaching point of the Island Lake Charge. During the 1930s, however, visits to Deer Lake by United Church clergy were infrequent. During the 1950s Deer Lake was supervised from Sandy Lake Charge, however, it was also served occasionally by the minister from Red Lake, Ontario.

Teachers appointed to the day school at Deer Lake for the regular or summer terms often also served as missionaries. The records described here are not always clear on these appointments. Some summer supply appointments mentioned included Wesley N. Anderson, 1952-1953; James Shynkar, 1955; Connie Singleterry, teacher at Deer Lake for 1956/57; Mr. McFarlane, 1957-1958; John King, teacher and missionary for the 1959/60 regular season; Rev. Redpath, 1964; and Rev. Langley McLean, teacher/missionary, 1967. Native lay missionaries were also very active in the community. Abraham Meekis served as a lay minister at Deer Lake from 1918 to his death in 1954. He was recognised with an honorarium by the Board of Home Missions in 1952.

Items in these folders date from 1952 to 1968. Topics include personnel issues such as the recruitment and nomination of summer teachers who functioned as summer weekend supply (lay ministers), nominations for regular term school teachers who also sometimes served as missionaries and informal reports from the teachers to the Superintendent of Home Missions describing conditions in the community. Other topics include the requests of the Deer Lake people for a United Church of their own and the policies of Kenora-Rainy River Presbytery and the Board of Home Missions to the Deer Lake field.

Title based on contents.

Chronological arrangement; order reconstructed by the archivist where necessary.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Item level description.

Further information pertaining to the Deer Lake Charge can be found in the Pikangikum Charge Files described as part of this series.

See other records accessioned from the Deer Lake Charge including Superintendent of Home Missions Property Files Identified as 'Property Grants & Loans', and 'Presbyteries' (Kenora-Rainy River) described elsewhere in this series.

Plans and specifications for the Deer Lake Chapel (1964) are found with records of the sub-series '509/1/3 Sub-Committee on Churches in Indian Communities'.

See also the articles 'Sandy Lake' by Rev. F. G. Stevens and 'Additions to the Sandy Lake Story' by Rev. John Freeman located in the Sandy Lake Vertical File.

Location: 509/2/2-5.

Deer Lake Charge File
'Maintenance Claims' - Item Level Description

1. Deer Lake Correspondence. – 1951-1953. – 1cm.

Items in this folder include correspondence pertaining to the nomination of a summer teacher, Wesley Anderson, for Deer Lake in 1952 and 1953. There is also correspondence of 6 August 1952 pertaining to a proposal to build a church in the community and asking for assistance from the Board of Home Missions; monthly statistical reports for Deer Lake dated May to September 1952; and further correspondence of May 1953 pertaining to the suggestion that a church be built.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-5-18.

2. Deer Lake Correspondence. – 1954-1955. – 1cm.

Items in this folder largely consist of correspondence pertaining to the work of James Shynkar, the summer teacher at Deer Lake in 1955.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-5-19.

3. Deer Lake Correspondence* – 1956-1957. – 1cm.

Items in this folder largely consist of correspondence pertaining to the appointment of Miss Miss Connie Singleterry as teacher at Deer Lake for the 1956/57 season. She was accompanied to Deer Lake by Miss Lenore Morehouse. Further correspondence deals with the appointment of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. J. McFarlane for the 1957/58 season. Also found here are teachers' letters incorporating informal reports on community activities.

Other items include correspondence of 20 December 1957 pertaining to the use of unused Hundson's Bay Company buildings for a church and teacherage; and the McFarlane's 1957 Christmas letter.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-5-20.

4. Deer Lake Correspondence. – 1958-1968. – 2cm.

Much of the correspondence described here pertains to the continuing requests of the people of Deer Lake for their own church and the response of Kenora-Rainy River Presbytery and the Board of Home Missions to this request. A church was dedicated at Treaty Point in 1964, however, the difficulties of securing a regular minister continued. Interspersed throughout the file are regular reports of visits to the community by Rev. John Freeman, Home Missions Convenor of Kenora-Rainy River Presbytery and several others.

Items of correspondence also include that of 29 April 1958 from Rev. Ron Parsons of Red Lake to Superintendent McMillan pertaining to the situation at Deer Lake and the problems with the continued viability of the community in light of plans to purchase Hudson's Bay Company buildings for a church. Rev. Parsons also comments on the situation at Pegangekum, especially as pertained to the school. Other correspondence includes that which pertains to the appointment of Anglican Clyde Cameron as teacher for Deer Lake for 1958/59; copies of 1960 letters from Rev. Gordon Daly of Balmertown to Rev. John Freeman and others with observations on conditions at Deer Lake; and that dated 22 June 1959 and March 1960 further to the question of a church building for the community and the appointment of Native clergy. Correspondence pertaining to the supervision of the Deer Lake field and future policy concerning the work there is especially prevalent for the period from 1962 to 1963 and includes the Kenora-Rainy River Presbytery 'Statement of Policy Re: Deer Lake, Ont.' of 20 February 1963.

Correspondence pertaining to pastoral appointments includes that of 1967 pertaining to the appointment of Rev. Bob Stiven to Sandy Lake with supervision of Deer Lake and that of 11 September 1967 from Rev. Stiven to the Superintendent pertaining to the growth of the Mennonite Church in Deer Lake and the future position of the United Church in the community as a result.

Also found here are hand-written notes dated March 1960 listing the names of those who signed a petition for construction of a church building at Deer Lake (almost everyone in the community) and Churches in Indian Communities Supervision Reports dating from 1962. There is also correspondence from Dr. McMillan to John McFarlane pertaining to a record book started by Jim Shynkar.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-5-21.

Deer Lake Charge File
'Property Claims' - Item Level Description

5. Deer Lake Charge Correspondence*. – 1958-1963. – 1 cm textual material.

Much of the correspondence described here pertains to the continuing requests of the people of Deer Lake for their own church and the response of Kenora-Rainy River Presbytery and the Board of Home Missions to this request. This includes correspondence of March and April 1958 and following dealing with proposals for a church building in Deer Lake and explaining United Church policy in that regard. Further correspondence on this topic dates from October and following and explores the proposals for a church at Deer Lake. Correspondence of November 1962 deals with the arrangements for supervision of Deer Lake. A report on the history of the United Church ministry in Deer Lake dating from 1963 is also found here. Correspondence dating from 1963 deals with provisions to once again supply Deer Lake and plans to build a church. These proposals generated several pieces of lengthy correspondence assessing the state of the work in the area. A copy of plans for a church building and a community hall are also found here.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-2-1.

6. Deer Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1964-1973. – 1 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found here include several items dating from 1964 dealing with activities associated with the construction of a new church. Correspondence dating from September 1964 deals with the loss of the Lindokken cabin by fire while it was being occupied by Rev. Redpath and his family. Correspondence dating from 1969 deals with a proposal to move the church building closer to the community. Items dating from 1972 deal with plans for church building renovations.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-2-1.

Fisher Branch Charge. – 1930-1933. – 1 folder of textual material.

Fisher Branch is a small community located in Manitoba's Interlake district, at the source of the Fisher River directly north of Winnipeg on the CNR Line. The Church and Manse Board of the Presbyterian Church made a loan for the construction of a church building for the Ruthenian Presbyterian Church in 1917. It appears that the congregation ceased operations around 1924. The building was still standing in 1933, by which time it had been used for many years as a school.

Title based on contents.

Records accessioned from the Fisher Branch Charge include a private Sacramental Register dating from 1918 to 1924 and containing entries for Broad Valley, Dallas, Fisher Branch, Fisherton, Hodgson, Kilkinny, Komarno, Sarto, Teulon and Whytefold.

Other items pertaining to a Fisher Branch congregation are described with the records of the Fisher River Charge.

Location: 509/2/2-6-1.

Fisher River Charge. – 1930-1965. – 23 folders of textual material.

Fisher River is a Cree First Nations community located in the Interlake district of Manitoba, 219 kilometres directly north of Winnipeg. The community is situated at the south end of Fisher Bay on Lake Winnipeg, directly to the north of Peguis First Nation. Fisher River was established in 1875 when a few families from Norway House decided to settle on a reserve on the west shore of Lake Winnipeg following the signing of Treaty 5. In 1890 there were approximately 300 people living at Fisher River. By 1996, the population had increased to 1,115 with a further 1,498 band members living off reserve. A formal Methodist mission including a school was established around 1880. Rev. F. D. Stevens served as a teacher at the Fisher River School for a number of years prior to his ordination. For many years, the missionary also dispensed medical and dental care, as there was no trained medical personnel available in the district. In the years before WW II, Pentecostal and Apostolic missions were also established at Fisher River.

The first missionary was Thomas Hope, a native lay preacher who initially served under the direction of Rev. J. H. Ruttan of Norway House and later under Rev. Andrew W. Ross of Berens River. Missionaries serving at Fisher River included Thomas Hope, 1875-1880; Rev. Andrew W. Ross, 1880-18//; Rev. W. P. McHallie, 1888-1893; Rev. E. R. Steinhauer, ca.1894-ca.1902; Rev. F. G. Stevens, 1907-1939; Gavin H. Grieve, 1940-1941; C. D. Street, 1942; C. G. Bickell, 1943-1946; Harvey Toews, 1947-19//; J. Stern, 1948-1949; Sidney Wilde, 1950-1953; H. Neufeld, 1954-1955; N. Beattie, 1956; Herbert Lynas, 1957-1958; Rev. Ed Princelaar, 1959-1962; S. N. Stutely, 1962-1964; Richard Graham, 1964-1965; Kenneth Matsugu, 1965-1969; A. Veldhuis, 1969-; and Rev. Stanley McKay, 1974-1983.

The items described here date from 1930 to 1965. Items consist of correspondence and other materials, such as reports and financial records, pertaining to the administration and supervision of the Fisher River United Church Home Mission Field. This mainly includes letters between the Superintendent and the Fisher River missionary personnel. Copies of correspondence between the Superintendent and the Secretaries of the Board of Home Missions in Toronto are also found here. Topics pertain to such 'maintenance' matters as salaries and allowances, the freighting and distribution of 'clothing bales' and Christmas gifts. Correspondence dealing with 'housekeeping' matters includes that pertaining to the maintenance and construction of mission buildings, the ordering and shipping of supplies and equipment, and insurance. As well, correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and life in the community. In addition may be correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools. A number of items pertain to arrangements for the appointment of missionaries or supply and providing licenses to perform the sacraments.

Title based on contents.

Fisher River is also known as Koostatak.

Original staple fasteners have been left intact in order to preserve the arrangement of individual pages as found.

The arrangement of the items in these folders was disorganised, and did not conform to the pattern evident with the Superintendent's records for other charges. It is not possible to determine if this reflects the original arrangement of the records or if items were re-arranged prior to or after accession; chronological arrangement was reconstructed by the arranging archivist; items found here not pertaining to the mission at Fisher River have been repatriated to the General Files of the Superintendents of Home Missions.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Item level description.

See also other records accessioned from the Fisher River Charge including Sacramental Registers dating from 1894 to 1979.

Personal papers of Rev. F G. and Frances Stevens have been accessioned by this Archives.

The narrative 'Fisher River Mission', hand-written by Rev. Andrew W, Ross is located in the Vertical File.

A collection of materials from Nan Shipley, author of a biography of Frances Stevens (the wife of Rev. F. G. Stevens) during her time at Fisher River, have been accessioned by the University of Manitoba Archives.

Location: 509/2/2-6.

Fisher River Charge File
'Maintenance Claims' - Item Level Description

1. Fisher River Correspondence. – 1933-1966, predominant 1933-1947. – 1.5cm textual material.

Items described here are almost exclusively correspondence pertaining to Rev. F. D. Stevens, who served at Fisher River as a missionary and teacher for many years. Letters are either to or from Rev. Stevens or he is the topic of the correspondence. Items include materials from Rev. Stevens's time at Fisher River as well as his tenure at Cross Lake (1939-1942) and Berens River (1942-1944). As well Rev. Stevens continued to travel to the northern missions even after his retirement in 1944. Rev. Stevens was fluent in Cree and for many years until his death in 1946 produced the 'Spiritual Light', a Cree language newsletter that provided information about the work of the church in the Lake Winnipeg area. A number of items of correspondence pertain to this work as well as his work on a Cree language Hymnal. Other items include that of February and April 1939 pertaining to the proposal to nominate Rev. Stevens as Conference President for 1940. This folder also includes material pertaining to Rev. Stevens' death in 1946 and some items found here may have been gathered into this file as part of the process of writing Rev. Stevens obituary, a copy of which is found here. Items dating from 1966 pertain to the death of Rev. Stevens's wife, Frances.

Also found here is a mimeographed copy of The Cree Catechism for the Young composed by Rev. F. G. Stevens as well as an English translation.

Title based on contents.

Fisher River Indian Mission letterhead dating from 1933 incorporates a photograph of the Fisher River Indian Mission church and manse.

Location: 509/2/2-6-2.

2. Fisher River Correspondence. – 1935-1937. – 1 folder textual material.

This folder contains items of correspondence pertaining to the economic conditions and the health care situation prevalent in Manitoba's First Nations communities during the depression. There is also a copy of Simple Rules for Home Nursing compiled by Rev. Stevens appended to correspondence of 7 September 1937.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-6-3.

3. Fisher River Correspondence. – 1935-1943. – 1 folder textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Fisher River missionaries F. G. Stevens, G. H. Grieve and C. G. Bickell. Topics pertain to the establishment of Norway House Presbytery (of which Rev. Stevens was the first chairman in 1935), the appointment of staff (of whom many are named) for the Fisher River School, strained relations with Roman Catholic missions and the progress of the mission work.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-4.

4. Fisher River Correspondence. – 1936-1939. – 1 folder textual material.

This folder contains items of correspondence dating from 1936 and 1939 pertaining to the production of a Cree language hymnal.

Title based on contents.

This folder originally contained items dating from August to December 1947; these items have been removed to a new folder dated '1947'.

Location: 509/2/2-6-5.

5. Fisher River Correspondence. – 1940-1941. – 1 folder textual material.

Items described here mainly consist of correspondence between the Superintendent and the missionary at Fisher River, Mr. G. H. Grieve and between members of the congregation and the Superintendent. Topics pertain to the unsettled situation on the reserve following the departure of Rev. F. G. Stevens in 1939.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-6-6.

6. Fisher River Correspondence. – 1940-1958. – 1cm textual material.

Items described here consist largely of correspondence between the Superintendent of Home Missions in Manitoba and the Board Secretaries in Toronto dating from 1940 to 1947 and 1957 and 1958. Topics pertain to the appointment of missionaries G. H. Grieve, C. D. Street, C. G. Bickell and Harvey Toews to the Fisher River Charge between 1940 and 1947; the appointment of Herbert Lynas in 1957; and the nominations and appointment of teachers to the day school between 1940 and 1947.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-7.

7. Fisher River Correspondence*. – 1940-1942. – 1 folder textual material.

Items described here mainly consist of correspondence between the Superintendent and the missionary at Fisher River, Mr. G. H. Grieve. Topics pertain to such 'housekeeping' matters as the purchase of curtains for the manse, a garage for the car and arrangements for the education of the Grieve's children. Correspondence of March to May 1941 pertains to a contribution from the Fisher River Woman's Association for the purchase of War Savings Certificates.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-8.

8. Fisher River Correspondence. – 1942-1944. – 1 folder textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Fisher River missionaries G. H. Grieve, C. D. Street and C. G. Bickell dating from March to December 1942 and January and November 1944. Topics pertain to such 'housekeeping' matters as moving expenses and the progress of the mission work. Correspondence dated 16 November 1944 from the missionary to the Superintendent replies to a request about information concerning the activities of the Roman Catholic and Pentecostal Churches in the area and also includes other information about the state of the work and the situation in the community.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-9.

9. Fisher River Correspondence. – 1947. – 1 folder textual material.

This folder contains correspondence dating from June to December 1947. Items pertain to the opening of a new school building by the Department of Indian Affairs in 1947 and the appointment of teachers for the Murdoch Indian Day School at Fisher River. Items also pertain to the appointment of a missionary for fall 1947 and include correspondence on the possibility that Rev. Herman Neufeld would take up the position and items pertaining to the eventual appointment of J. Stern.

Title based on contents.

These items have been re-housed from folder nos. 4 and 12.

Location: 509/2/2-6-10.

10. Fisher River Correspondence*. – 1951-1953. – 1cm textual material.

Correspondence of 16 and 24 August 1953 pertains to the construction of a road across the mission property and questions concerning title.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-6-11.

11. Fisher River Correspondence*. – 1953-1955. – 1cm textual material.

Items dating from November 1955 pertain to Rev. Neufeld's resignation due to ill health and the appointment his replacement, Neil Beattie, in December 1955. Also found here is a census of the community, dated March 1954 and based on home visits made by Rev. Neufeld.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-6-12.

12. Fisher River Correspondence*. – 1955-1957. – 1cm textual material.

The missionaries letters found here contain much information about conditions at the mission and at the school. Items dating from July and August 1957 pertain to Mr. Beattie's resignation and the appointment his replacement. An unusual item included here is a copy of the Indian and Northern Health Services 'Dispensers Monthly Report and Account' for February 1957.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

This folder originally contained items dating from August to December 1947; these items have been removed to a new folder dated '1947'.

Location: 509/2/2-6-13.

13. Fisher River Correspondence. – 1957. – 1 folder textual material.

This folder primarily contains correspondence between the Superintendent, Rev. G. A. McMillan and the Fisher River missionary, H. Lynas, dating from September 1957 to November 1957. Correspondence between the Superintendent and the Board Secretaries is also represented here. Topics pertain to such 'housekeeping' matters as maintenance of the mission, transportation expenses, the provision of layettes, license to administer the sacraments, salary and the progress of the work.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-14.

14. Fisher River Correspondence*. – 1959-1963. – 1.5cm textual material.

A number of items of correspondence found here pertain to the future of the United Church mission at Fisher River, especially that of 18 November 1960.

Items found here include correspondence of 9 March 1960 from the Superintendent, N. K. Campbell, to Secretary Joblin giving a lengthy report of the condition of the United Church Mission work in Fisher River; an exchange of correspondence of April and May 1960 pertaining to problems with local medical services; correspondence of 28 October 1960 pertaining to E. Prinslaar's request to be relieved of medical dispensing duties; correspondence of 3 February 1961 pertaining to the need for a church at Fisher Branch; and correspondence of December 1961 and January 1962 pertaining to the economic conditions at Fisher River.

Also found here is an unsigned report, dated April 1960, on the Pentecostal and Apostolic missions operating in Fisher River and an undated document titled A Brief History of the Indian Mission of the United Church at Koostatak giving an assessment of the theological health of the mission.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-6-15.

15. Fisher River Correspondence. – 1960-1963. – 1 folder textual material.

This folder contains correspondence dealing with the payment of supplementary and travel grants for the operation of the Fisher River Mission and the support of the missionary.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-6-16.

16. Fisher River Property Correspondence. – 1938-1965. – 1cm textual material.

Around 1960, it became apparent that the United Church in Fisher River had no formal agreement to occupy the land on which the church stood. Correspondence described here deals with an agreement to set aside land for the church and subsequent plans for renovations to the building and the construction of a new Christian Education Hall. Items pertaining to property matters have been gathered together in this file, however, this is not the only file containing material pertaining to property.

Title based on contents.

File includes two hand draw plans of church property.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-6-17.

17. Fisher River Repairs Correspondence. – 1953-1954. – 1 folder textual material.

Items in this folder pertain to a major project undertaken over the 1953/54 season to repair and renovate the Fisher River manse.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-18.

18. Fisher River Spiritual Light Correspondence. – 1936-1940. – 1 folder textual material.

The contents of this folder pertain to the production of the Cree language newsletter 'Spiritual Light' by Rev. F. D. Stevens, missionary at Fisher River from 1907 to 1940. Items include correspondence as well as drafts of newsletter articles. Correspondence of 11 November 1939 gives a brief history of 'Spiritual Light'

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-6-19.

19. Fisher River Spiritual Light and Hymn Books Correspondence. – 1946. – 1.5cm textual material.

This folder contains some items of correspondence and samples of the newsletter 'Spiritual Light' as well as copies of Cree Hymnals compiled by Rev. Stevens.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-20.

20. Fisher River Supervision Reports. – 1961-1963. – 1folder textual material.

This folder contains 'Churches in Indian Communities Supervision Reports' for Koostatak dated December 1961 and November 1963 as well as correspondence related to the supervision of the missionary, S. Stutely dated December 1962 and April 1963.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-21.

Fisher River Charge File
'Property Claims' - Item Level Description

21. Fisher River Charge Correspondence. – 1953. – 1 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder largely consist of invoices for labour and materials purchased in connection with renovations to the manse at Fisher River.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-5.

22. Fisher River Charge Correspondence. – 1953-1963, predominant 1956-1963. – 2 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence dating from October and November 1963 pertaining to manse renovations. Correspondence dating from November 1953 deals with a proposal to move the Woman's Association building from the cemetery, where it was now located after an extension to the cemetery, onto the church lot. Correspondence dating from 1958 deals with plans to install modern plumbing and heating in the manse. There is also a report on the condition of the manse dating from 1960. Correspondence dating from 1960 and following deals with renovations to the manse and arrangements for the purchase and shipping of supplies and equipment. Items dating from 1963 deal with renovations to the church.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-6.

23. Fisher River Charge Correspondence. – 1963-1971. – 1 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence dating from December 1963 and following pertaining to the construction of a Christian Education Hall. Correspondence dating from July 1965 deals with a proposal for a new manse. Correspondence dating from 1967 deals with matters associated with the new manse construction. Correspondence dating from July 1968 pertains to damage to the manse through vandalism and alludes to injuries suffered by the missionary. Correspondence dating from September 1968 deals with problems with water quality.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-7.

God's Lake Narrows Charge. – 1935-1975. – 20 folders.

God's Lake First Nation is located north-east of Norway House, 1,037 kilometres north-east of Winnipeg at the point of the narrows in God's Lake. In the earliest years of the mission it was a preaching point of Island Lake, 90 miles away. Small settlements are also found at God's River, 22 miles from God's Lake, and Grassy Narrows. The First Nation had a population of 800 in 1965. By 1996, this had increased to 1,217 living on reserve. An early mission was destroyed by fire in 1895. A United Church day school was opened at God's Lake in 1911. In 1952 a log church was replaced by a new church built by members of the local community under the direction of John Groucott, the missionary. It was a frame replica patterned on Mr. Groucott's memories of a stone church found at Eyton, Shropshire, England. A chapel was built in Grassy Narrows in 1963.

Missionaries serving at God's Lake included F. J. Lake, 1926-1928; Robert Chubb, 1929-1931; Fred Stevens, 1933; Keith S. Armstrong, 1934-1936; Rev. H. Egerton Young, 1937-1941; Rev. K. C. Mclead, 1942; W. G. Baerg, 1943; John G. Kehler, 1945-1946; Rev. Howard B. Gibson, 1947-1950; John Groucott, ca.1952-1953; St. George E. Jeffery, 1954; Rev. Chas. Catto, 1954-1957; Rev. George Millard, 1957-1961; Dennis Thronton, 1961-1964; Art Veldhuis, 1964-1969; and C. H. Schuberg, 1970, and Norman Ralph, 1971. Summer supply included Dulas Robertson in 1957; and Howard Gibson in 1961.

Summer school teachers included Gilbert Johnson, 1939; R. K. McLean, 1941; H. B. Gibson, 1942; and W. A. Harvey, 1944. Day School teachers include Kathryn Neufeld, 1943-1944; Elsa Heibert, 1944-1945; Helen Loewen, 1945-1946; Mrs. H. B. Gibson, 1947-1948; W. F. Forrester, 1952; Gertrude Schick, 1952-1953; Vera Kutzky, 1953; St. George E. Jeffery, 1954; Barbara (Loveys) Catto, 1954-1955; Marjorie Field, 1959; Mr. E. Enns, 1964-1965; and Mr. Smith, 1971-1972.

The items described here date from 1935-1975. However, there are unexplained gaps in the record including for the period between September 1947 and March 1951. Items described here consist of correspondence and other materials, such as reports and financial records, pertaining to the administration and supervision of the God's Lake Narrows United Church Home Mission Field. This mainly includes letters between the Superintendent and the Fisher River missionary personnel. Copies of correspondence between the Superintendent and the Secretaries of the Board of Home Missions in Toronto are also found here. Topics pertain to such 'maintenance' matters as salaries and allowances, the freighting and distribution of 'clothing bales' and Christmas gifts. Correspondence dealing with 'housekeeping' matters includes that pertaining to the maintenance and construction of mission buildings, the ordering and shipping of supplies and equipment, and insurance. As well, correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and life in the community. In addition may be correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools. A number of items pertain to arrangements for the appointment of missionaries or supply and providing licenses to perform the sacraments.

Title based on contents.

Original staple fasteners have been left intact in order to preserve the arrangement of individual pages as found.

Chronological arrangement; order has been reconstructed by the archivist where necessary.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Item level description.

Information pertaining to Rev. Millard's proposal to acquire an aeroplane for mission work in 1958 can be found in File No. 12 of the records of the Superintendent of Home Missions for Island Lake Charge.

Plans and specifications for the God's River (1964) are found with records of the sub-series '509/1/3 Sub-Committee on Churches in Indian Communities'.

See also other records accessioned from the God's Lake Charge including Sacramental Registers dating from 1894-1986.

Location: 509/2/2-6.

God's Lake Narrows Charge File
'Maintenance Claims' - Item Level Description

1. God's Lake Narrows Correspondence. – 1935-1940. – 1.5cm textual material.

The missionary's letters found here contain much information about conditions at the mission. A number of items of correspondence pertain to the satellite mission at God's Lake Mine and the purchase of a lot there.

Items of significance include correspondence of 24 August 1938 that gives a detailed report of the condition of the mission buildings at that time.

Title based on contents.

Correspondence dated 11 December 1935 incorporates a hand-drawn map of the district with areas of settlement indicated.

Location: 509/2/2-6-22.

2. God's Lake Narrows Correspondence. – 1941-1942. – 2cm textual material.

Topics pertain to such 'housekeeping' matters as the construction of a new manse and repairs to the church at God's Lake, the construction of a cabin at God's Lake Mine and the shipping of supplies.

Correspondence pertaining to personnel issues includes that dealing with the appointment of summer school teachers and that dealing with the resignation of H. E. Young in 1941 to enter the Air Force as a chaplain.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-23.

3. God's Lake Narrows Correspondence. – 1943-1947. – 1cm textual material.

Topics pertain to such 'housekeeping' matters as the shipping of furnishings for the new manse, salaries, the ordering of supplies and problems with the foundation of the new manse. A number of items of correspondence dating from 1943 pertain to the proposal to change the operation of the school at God's Lake from a seasonal summer school to a ten month school.

Correspondence pertaining to personnel issues includes that dealing with the appointment of summer school and day school teachers and that dealing with the appointment of missionaries.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-24.

4. God's Lake Narrows Correspondence*. – 1951-1952. – 2.5cm textual material.

A number of items of correspondence found here pertain to the activities of Mennonite missionaries at the 'east end' of the God's Lake.

Mr. Groucott's letters and monthly reports contain much information about conditions at the mission, especially the consequences of economic hardship. Correspondence pertaining to the day school includes that of 31 October 1952 pertaining to the difficulties of school attendance caused by a scattered settlement.

Correspondence pertaining to residential schools includes that of 14 February 1952 containing Mr. Groucott's observations on the selection of children for residential school; further correspondence of 14 February pertaining to the disposition of funds raised by the community to transport children to and from residential school; correspondence of 4 September 1952 pertaining to the problem parents have in paying for transportation to and from school; and correspondence of 29 September 1952 pertaining to the method by which children were transported to Brandon Residential School.

In correspondence of 6 October 1951 the missionary complains about the lack of records found at the mission and correspondence of 7 July 1952 from H. B. Gibson, the previous missionary, contains follow up information on this topic. Correspondence of July to September 1952 pertains to the housing problems of ... after she was removed from the treaty list for God's Lake in the summer of 1952 under the provisions of the new Indian Act.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-25.

5. God's Lake Narrows Correspondence*. – 1953. – 2cm textual material.

Topics pertain to such 'housekeeping' matters as the provision of food relief, the purchase and shipment of supplies and insurance for the new church building.

Mr. Groucott's letters and monthly reports continue to include information on conditions in the community and at the day school. Correspondence pertaining to the continued transportation problems of residential school children from God's Lake is also found here.

Correspondence of January to April 1953 pertains to Mr. Groucott's continued efforts to find housing for ... and ..., even to the extent of corresponding with the MP for Selkirk, Scottie Bryce.

Also included here is a copy of the minutes for the annual meeting of the God's Lake Charge, dated 1 January 1953.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-26.

6. God's Lake Narrows Correspondence*. – 1954. – 1.5cm textual material.

This folder primarily contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the God's Lake missionaries, John Groucott and Charles Catto dating from January to December 1954. Correspondence between the Superintendent and the Board Secretaries is also represented here. Topics pertain to such 'housekeeping' matters as salaries and allowances, freight costs and distribution of clothing bales, and maintenance of the mission properties. By this time John Groucott had already left God's Lake, however, there were still matters of insurance and title pertaining to the new church outstanding and some correspondence pertains to this. Several items of correspondence pertain to the sale of the United Church cabin at the God's Lake mine. There is also continuing correspondence pertaining to the construction of homes for ... and

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-27.

7. God's Lake Narrows Correspondence*. – 1955-1957. – 1cm textual material.

Correspondence includes a copy of Rev. Catto's formal report on the state of the charge to Norway House Presbytery, dated 16 to 20 January 1955. As well, there is a hand-drawn map of the God's Lake settlement showing the location of structures and roads.

Items of significance include correspondence of 24 August 1955 from the Superintendent to Rev. Catto pertaining to the donation of an oil painting for the church from Mr. Emmon Haines of Pennsylvania. Correspondence of 6 December 1957 pertains to decision by ... to go to Winnipeg for nursing training.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-28.

8. God's Lake Narrows Correspondence*. – 1958-1962. – 1.5cm textual material.

Correspondence on the state of the work includes that of 10 January 1957 pertaining to a supervisory visit by Rev. Millard to Henry Fiddler at Red Sucker Lake; that of 2 September 1958 pertaining to the number of community members who are converting to Roman Catholicism; and that of August and September 1960 pertaining to an air tour to Red Sucker Lake. Correspondence of 21 September 1961 pertains to the work of Thomas Ogemow for the United Church at God's River. There are also several items of correspondence dating from 1957 to 1960 pertaining to Rev. Millard's wish to purchase of a plane for transportation and to compete with the Northern Canada Evangelical Mission, which had several. Also included here is a newsletter produced by the Gibson's during their summer at God's Lake in 1961 and Rev. Gibson's observations on the state of the mission property dated 27 July 1961.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-29.

9. God's Lake Narrows Correspondence. – 1962-1965. – 2cm textual material.

Topics pertain to such 'housekeeping' matters as salaries, mission maintenance and supplies, clothing shipments, and wood and fuel for the mission. Correspondence of January 1962 pertains to the transfer of some responsibility for financing the charge to the local community. Further January 1962 correspondence and a later item of 5 November 1962 pertain to Dennis Thornton's assessment of the state of the work at God's Lake. Superintendent Campbell's letter of February 1962 to Helen Young in Toronto gives an assessment of the state of the work in Northern Manitoba. Correspondence of 21 September 1964 from Thomas Ogemow thanks the Superintendent for the new chapel at God's River.

Items of significance include correspondence of July 1962 pertaining to the disposition of the God's Lake Trust Fund. Correspondence of 27 December 1963 details Dennis Thornton's assessment of the state of communication between residential schools and missionaries in the student's home communities. Also included is Dennis Thornton's letter of December 1963 dealing with issues raised by the Presbytery visitation.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-30.

10. God's Lake Narrows Correspondence*. – 1964-1966. – 1cm textual material.

There are a number of items here relating to applications for old age pension by community residents. Correspondence of March and April 1964 pertains to Verna Crook's tour of reserve communities. Correspondence of July 1964 pertains to the closure of the nursing station due to problems in the community. Other items of significance include correspondence of 24 February 1965 pertaining to the title to church property at God's Lake. Correspondence of 10 March 1966 pertains to the validity of the God's Lake Baptismal Register. Copies of family newsletters sent out by the Velhuis family, who lived at God's Lake from 1964 to 1968 are also located here. As well, there is a copy of the report on the God's Lake summer bible school for 1966.

Title based on contents.

Copies of family newsletters sent out by the Velhuis family were accessioned as part of the records of Elgin United Church (1999-86).

Items are in reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-6-31.

11. God's Lake Narrows Correspondence. – 1967-1972. – 2cm textual material.

Topics pertain to such 'housekeeping' matters as securing fuel and other supplies, transportation, salaries, and the state of the work. Correspondence of 1971 and 1972 pertains to the growing violence in the community and the necessity to remove the missionary and his family in March of 1972. A copy of correspondence of 7 February 1967 from Art Veldhuis to the Deputy Attorney General of Manitoba includes an assessment of the need for policing in the community. There are also a number of items pertaining to the need for economic development in the region.

Also included here is a copy of Rev. McMurtry's reports of his visits to God's Lake in December 1968, in April and December 1970, in April and August 1971 and in January 1972.

Title based on contents.

Items are in reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-6-32.

12. God's Lake Narrows Correspondence. – 1968-1971. – 1cm textual material.

This folder primarily contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the God's Lake missionaries Rev. Art Veldhuis, Rev. C. H. Schuberg and Norman Ralph dating from January 1968 to December 1971. Topics pertain to the administration of mission grants and includes information on mission expenses.

Title based on contents.

Items are in reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-6-33.

God's Lake Narrows Charge File
'Property Claims' - Item Level Description

13. God's Lake Narrows Charge Correspondence. – 1945-1949. – 1 cm textual material.

Much of the correspondence found here is between Rev. Joseph Jones, in his capacity as Chairman of Norway House Presbytery, and the missionary or builders at God's Lake. 'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence dating from 1947 and 1948 dealing with the condition of the mission property and detailing repairs. Correspondence dating from April and May 1948 pertains to the purchase by the United Church of buildings to be moved from God's Lake Mines. Items dating from October and November 1948 and following deal with work on preparing the foundation for the Mine buildings and moving the buildings. Items include lists of wages paid to community members.

Correspondence housed here pertaining to the state of the community includes a portion of a letter, probably dating from early 1948, from the missionary at God's Lake and dealing with the transfer of responsibility for relief rations away from the Church ostensibly because "...someone had been given out too much rations as these supplies were ordered to be sufficient until next June."

Correspondence housed here that pertains to residential schools includes that of October 1948 detailing transportation problems associated with sending children out to residential school. Correspondence dating from December 1948 includes Rev. Jones' assessment, "Although we will help in every way we can, the responsibility for the education of the Indian children is the Governments [sic] duty."

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-2-3.

14. God's Lake Narrows Charge Correspondence. – 1952-1953. – 1 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence and accounts dating from 1952 and 1953 pertaining to the construction of a new church at God's Lake based on the design of a church in Eyton Shropshire. Other correspondence deals with insurance on the new property and the loss of some building materials and supplies in a fire on 27 June 1952.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-4.

15. God's Lake Narrows Charge Correspondence. – 1955-1960. – 1 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder largely include correspondence dealing with the ordering and shipping of supplies and furnishings. A manse inventory dated April 1955 is also found here. Correspondence dating from February 1959 and following pertains to the sale of a cabin at God's Lake Mines belonging to the Church. Correspondence dating from 1960 deals with a proposal to undertake major renovations to the manse. This includes a new foundation and furnace.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-5.

16. God's Lake Narrows Charge Correspondence. – 1955-1960. – 1 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder largely deal with arrangements for the installation of a water pump and an electrical plant as well as the ordering and shipping of mission supplies. Correspondence dating from 1961 deals with problems in mounting bell for the church and proposals for a telephone service.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-6.

17. God's Lake Narrows Charge Correspondence. – 1962. – 1.5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder includes several items of correspondence dating from January 1962 dealing with requirements for the renovations and supply of the mission manse. Correspondence dating from April and May 1962 deals with arrangements for acquiring a new church bell. Further correspondence dating from September 1962 deals with the receipt of the bell. A copy of the Kenora-Rainy River Presbytery report of the condition of the God's Lake Church dated October 1962 and an addition to this report dated November 1962 is also found here. Correspondence dating from December 1962 pertains to the lease for property at God's Lake Mines and includes the recommendation to let the lease drop.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-7.

18. God's Lake Narrows Charge Correspondence. – 1963. – 1.5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include reports on required maintenance for the church and manse. Correspondence dating from early 1963 deals with a plan by the God's Lake residents to collect logs for construction of a new church.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-8.

19. God's Lake Narrows Charge Correspondence. – 1964-1973. – 2.5 cm textual material.

Several items in these folders appear to have come from the files of the Home Missions Convenors for Kenora-Rainy River Presbytery and other Kenora-Rainy River Presbytery officers. This includes duplicate copies of reports and other items that also appear in the Superintendent of Home Missions 'Maintenance Claims' files. Other items found here include Presbytery correspondence dating from 1970 pertaining to the appointment of missionary personnel at God's Lake. Correspondence pertaining to the state of the work and conditions in the community includes items dating from September 1971 and following that deals with increasing lawlessness in the community due to excessive drinking. Further correspondence on threats made against the missionary dates from February 1972. Correspondence dating from November 1971 deals with the missionary's report of the progress of the work to that point. A Supervision report dating from April 1972 and written by Rev. Ryk Allen of Island Lake is found here. It includes observations on the reaction of the community to the evacuation of the missionary earlier in the year.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence dating from January and February 1964 dealing with arrangements for renovations to the manse including major work to be done on the basement and foundation. Other correspondence dating from April 1964 deals with the acquisition of a boat for use by the mission. Also included here is a copy of a report of the dedication of the God's River Chapel dating from July 1964. Correspondence dating from February 1965 pertains to the title certificates for United Church property at God's Lake. Correspondence dating from October 1966 deals with a proposal to sell off building lots from United Church property at God's Lake and Cross Lake. This topic is taken up again in correspondence dating from December 1970. Correspondence dating from April and May 1972 deals with a Government request for a right of way across mission property to build a road.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-2-9.

20. God's Lake Narrows Charge Reports. – 1968-1975. – .5 cm textual material.

This folder includes reports of visits to God's Lake Narrows by the Superintendent of Home Missions, the Presbytery Home Missions Convenor and Presbytery visitation personnel as well as the Supervising minister [Rev. Ryk Allen of Island Lake].

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-10.

Indian Springs Charge. – 1925-1964, predominant 1938-1964. – 9 folders.

Indian Springs is located on the Swan Lake Reserve, which is about 175 kilometres south-west of Winnipeg between Swan Lake and the Cypress River. The First Nations people came to this area under Chief Yellowquill, who wanted good agricultural land in return for becoming a signatory to Treaty 1 in 1877, and are closely related to the Long Plain people. A Presbyterian mission and day school was established at Indian Springs in 1901. In the earliest years of the mission, children who went away to school were sent to the Industrial School in Regina and only later to Birtle, Portage la Prairie, and Brandon. In 1925, a new day school was built by the Department of Indian Affairs. In many cases, the missionary also taught at the day school. In some years, there was no missionary per se and the day school teacher would include some form of religious instruction as part of his or her duties. Both teachers and missionaries operated a rudimentary dispensary as necessary. From around 1953 Indian Springs was a preaching point of Swan Lake Charge (Indian Springs, Swan Lake, Altamont, and Somerset). In 1963, the decision was made to close the Indian Affairs School. The children were integrated into local schools and the Indian Springs mission was closed at the same time.

Missionaries and day school teachers identified from these records include Mrs. Cameron (teacher), ca.1907; Miss McIlwaine (teacher), ca.1909; Mr. Kemper Garrioch (missionary), before 1910; Miss Christina Bruce (teacher), ca.1912-1920; Miss J. G. Bruce (missionary), ca.1912-1920; Rev. J. A. Donaghy (missionary), 1910-1927; Jos. E. Cooper (missionary and teacher), 1927-1940; T. W. Ebborn (missionary and teacher), 1940-1941; Henry Schellenberg (missionary and teacher), 1941-1946; Mrs. Schellenberg (missionary and teacher), 1946-1947; Herbert Smith (teacher), 1947-1948; Gordon Reynolds (teacher), 1948-1949; Harry Yoshito (teacher), 1949; Mr. & Mrs. G. F. Atkinson (missionary and teacher), 1949-1951; Mrs. E. M. McDougall (teacher), 1951-1955; Rev. R. C. Matthews (Swan Lake Charge), 1957-1958; Mr. Fred Miles (Swan Lake Charge), 1958-1959; Thomas Ferguson (Swan Lake Charge), 1959-1960; and Mr. & Mrs. Richard Graham (missionary and teacher), 1960-1964.

Records described here date predominately from 1938 to 1964. However, there are a number of unexplained gaps in the record including the period from 1947 to 1950. Items in this file consist of correspondence and other materials, such as reports and financial records, pertaining to the administration and supervision of the Indian Springs United Church Home Mission Field. This mainly includes letters between the Superintendent and the Indian Springs missionary personnel. Copies of correspondence between the Superintendent and the Secretaries of the Board of Home Missions in Toronto are also found here. Topics pertain to such "housekeeping" matters as salaries and allowances, the ordering and shipping of supplies and equipment, the freighting and distribution of 'clothing bales' and Christmas gifts, the maintenance and construction of mission buildings, and insurance. As well, correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and life in the community. In addition there is correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools. A number of items pertain to arrangements for the appointment of missionaries or supply and providing licenses to perform the sacraments.

Title based on contents.

Indian Springs is now commonly known as Swan Lake First Nation.

Original staple fasteners have been left intact in order to preserve the arrangement of individual pages as found.

Chronological arrangement; order has been reconstructed by the archivist where necessary.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Item level description.

See also Superintendent of Home Missions Property Files Identified as 'Presbyteries'.

Other records accessioned from the Indian Springs/Swan Lake Charge include Sacramental Registers dating from 1899 to 1962; Sacramental Registers for Oakville-Elm Creek dating from 1913-1967 also contain entries pertaining to Indian Springs/Swan Lake.

The Indian Springs Charge record also includes the following items located in the Vertical File: a letter titled 'Historical Sketch of the Swan Lake and Long Plains Indians' written by J. A. Donaghy in 1949; a 1978 report of the Outreach Ministry at Swan Lake; and copies of correspondence pertaining to the disposal of Indian Springs United Church property.

Personal papers of Indian Springs missionary Rev. J. A. Donaghy have been accessioned by this Archives.

Location: 509/2/2-6.

Indian Springs Charge File
'Maintenance Claims' - Item Level Description

1. Indian Springs Correspondence. – 1925-1946, predominant 1938-1944. – 2cm textual material.

Topics of correspondence found here pertain to such 'housekeeping' matters as securing permission to erect mission buildings, maintenance and repair of the mission, and the school program.

Correspondence also deals with the progress of the mission and educational work and conditions in the community. Correspondence of 14 January 1938 from Joseph E. Cooper to the Superintendent pertains to the excessive drinking on the reserve and attendant social ills. There are a number of items dating from 1939 pertaining to a Commission of Presbytery investigating the work at Indian Springs. Specific areas of concern included the payment of grants and conflict with the Portage Residential School regarding the enrolment of pupils from Indian Springs. The Commission Report, which includes an examination of reasons for low enrolment at the Indian Springs Day School along with an appraisal of the state of the work, is also included here.

Items of significance include correspondence of September 1939 pertaining to the birth records, citizenship and treaty status of a number of reserve residents and their qualification as pupils of the Portage Residential School. Correspondence of 1940 includes a report of attendance figures and program at the Swan River Reserve Day School for the years from 1934 to 1937.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-34.

2. Indian Springs Correspondence. – 1940-1947. – .5cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent of Home Missions in Manitoba and the Board Secretaries in Toronto pertaining to the staff salaries and general financial support of the mission at Indian Springs. Correspondence between the Board and the Department of Indian Affairs is also represented here.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-35.

3. Indian Springs Correspondence. – 1950-1953. – .5cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent of Home Missions and various correspondents pertaining to the staffing and support of the mission and school at Indian Springs dating from January 1950 to November 1953. Topics pertain to such 'housekeeping' matters as granting missionaries licenses to perform the sacraments, repairs to the mission buildings, and arrangements for clothing bales and Christmas gifts. There are a number of items of correspondence pertaining to the difficulties encountered in securing missionaries for service at Indian Springs. Correspondence from day school teacher Mrs. E. M. McDougall pertaining to the progress of her work at the school and in community welfare is also found here.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-36.

4. Indian Springs Correspondence. – 1953-1955. – 1cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent of Home Missions and various correspondents pertaining to the staffing and support of the mission and school at Indian Springs dating from January 1953 to November 1955. Topics pertain to such 'housekeeping' matters as arranging for weekly services to be taken by United Church clergy from near by communities, honoraria and travel expenses, mission house maintenance, and reports from various visiting clergy on the state of the work.

Also found here is a report, ca.1953, on the conditions on Swan Lake Reserve with recommendations for future United Church involvement in the community by Rev. R. C. Matthews. A number of items of correspondence, including that of 28 January 1955 from Chief Sam Cameron and that of 19 March 1955 from Ken Hartwell, pertain to the need for a resident missionary at Indian Springs and proposals to include Indian Springs as a preaching point of Swan Lake Charge.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-37.

5. Indian Springs Correspondence*. – 1956-1958. – 1.5cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent of Home Missions and various correspondents pertaining to the staffing and support of the mission and school at Indian Springs dating from January 1956 to May 1958. There are also a number of letters from the minister of Swan Lake Charge, Rev. R. C. Matthews. Topics pertain to such 'housekeeping' matters as arrangements for the construction for a new church building, administration of grants, maintenance of the mission house, and arrangements for a Sunday School. There are a number of items of correspondence, dating from 1956, between the Superintendent and the Convenor of the Carman Presbytery Home Missions Committee pertaining to arrangements for the continued staffing and support of Indian Springs. The original Presbytery approval for the building of a Church at Indian Springs, signed by the Presbytery Executive and dated 1 March 1956, is also found here. There is also correspondence dating from November 1956 pertaining to plans to move the residence of the minister of the Swan Lake Charge to the Indian Springs mission house.

Also found here is a copy of the Order of Service for the dedication of the new church at Indian Springs on 26 June 1957.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-38.

6. Indian Springs Correspondence*. – 1958-1959. – 1cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent of Home Missions and various correspondents pertaining to the staffing and support of the mission and school at Indian Springs dating from January 1958 to December 1959. Topics pertain to such 'housekeeping' matters as maintenance of the mission house. There are also a number of letters from the lay minister of Swan Lake Charge, Mr. Fred Miles.

Correspondence of 21 February 1958 pertaining to a proposal to combine the work of Long Plain and Indian Springs includes a hand-drawn map showing the location of the two communities in relation to each other and Portage la Prairie.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-39.

7. Indian Springs Correspondence*. – 1960-1964. – 1.5cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent of Home Missions and various correspondents pertaining to the staffing and support of the mission and school at Indian Springs dating from February 1960 to December 1964. Topics pertain to such 'housekeeping' matters as salaries and allowances and the administration of grants. Correspondence of 14 November 1962 pertains to the new policy of the Pastoral Charge administering the Home Missions Salary and Travel Grant.

There is also correspondence from the lay ministers of Swan Lake Charge, Thomas Ferguson and Richard Graham. A number of items of correspondence dating from May 1961 and following pertain to renewed proposals to combine the work of Indian Springs with Long Plain.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-6-40.

Indian Springs Charge File
'Property Claims' - Item Level Description

8. Indian Springs Charge Correspondence. – 1958-1964. – .5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence dating from January 1958 and following dealing with plans to install modern indoor plumbing and perform other modernisation at the mission house. Correspondence dating from April 1962 and following pertains to plans for the future use of the manse property in light of the planned closure of the Indian Springs school. Correspondence dating from June and July 1962 deals with securing a continued Right of Occupancy to the church property.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-11.

9. Indian Springs Charge Correspondence. – 1962-1964. – .5 cm textual material.

Items found in this folder pertain to plans for the disposal of the Indian Springs property in anticipation of it no longer being used for church purposes. Correspondence of October 1964 deals with arrangements for the sale of the manse.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-12.

Island Lake Charge. – 1935-1976. – 18 folders of textual material.

Island Lake is located almost 250 miles directly east of Norway House close to the Manitoba-Ontario border. The Island Lake area is home to the four First Nations communities of Garden Hill, St. Theresa Point, Wasagamack and Red Sucker Lake. These reserve communities comprised one First Nation until 1969. The area covered by Island Lake Mission, at 400 square miles, was the largest in Manitoba and covered the area around Island Lake, Bigstone Lake, Stevenson Lake and Red Sucker Lake. Many settlements were scattered around the lake and, as well, people came north from the Deer Lake area to settle at Mariah Portage around 1900.

Island Lake was a Methodist Mission Field and the first resident missionary came to the area in 1902. A day school was opened at the same time. The main Methodist mission was located at a place called Nikatawa and later, the United Church mission was re-located to Garden Hill. According to Rev. Niddrie, in the early years the Island Lake missionary also had the Superintendency of God's Lake, Oxford House, Deer Lake, and Sandy Lake. This was a huge area that required long journeys by canoe or dog sled to visit until the mid-twentieth century. Also according to Rev. Niddrie, a disagreement between Elder John Flett and Rev. Chapin resulted in an invitation to the Roman Catholic Church to found a mission at Mariah Portage in 1925 and a Catholic Day School was opened in 1928 at St. Theresa Point, 8 miles across Island Lake from Garden Hill. Wasagamach, 13 miles away, was also the site of a small church and was served by the missionary from the Island Lake Mission. The community at Red Sucker Lake was founded in the 1940s and was served by a lay missionary with support from the Island Lake Mission. A school was built at Red Sucker Lake in 1959 and a new church building was erected in 1960. By the mid 1960s, there were three United Church day schools with seven teachers operating in the Island Lake area.

Missionaries, both lay and ordained, who served at Island Lake included Rev. Joseph Lowes, 1906-1908; Rev. Cunningham, 1908-1910; Mr. Bobby Chubb, 1912-1915; Rev. J. W. Niddrie, 1915-1920; Rev. Roscoe T. and Mrs. Chapin, ca.1920-1930; Mr. & Mrs. Chappell, ca.1933; Mr. Gavin H. Grieve, 1934-ca.1940; Rev. J. McKim, 1940-1943; Rev. William Neufeld, 1943-1945; Mr. H. G. Brown, 1945-1946; Mr. Harvey Toews, 1946-1947; Mr. William Thomas Towers, 1947-1951; Rev. R. C. Matthews, 1951-1954; Mr. Tom Hamilton, 1954-1961; Rev. George Millard, 1961-1965; and Rev. Wesley Harland, 1965-1971; and Rev. Richard Allen, 1971-19--.

Day School teachers included Walter Mutch, 1937; Bernard Grafton, 1937-1940; Alfred Stevens, 1940-1941; Mr. R. W. Huestis, 1941-1942; Viola Daly, 1942-1943; Mr. E. C. Brandt, 1943-1945; Peter Rempel, 1945-1946; Henry Falk, 1946-1947; Miss Menzies, 1952; Mrs. Hamilton, 1954-1957; Ross Wallace (Wasagamach), 1955; Lenore Morehouse and Connie Singleterry (new school), 1957-ca.1961; and Harry Yoshida (Wasagamach), ca.1957.

Records described here date predominately from 1935 to 1970. However, there are a number of unexplained gaps in the record. This includes 'housekeeping' records for the period from 1952 to 1957. It is known that a fire during the winter of 1947 destroyed the mission house at Island Lake and that the mission registers and other records stored there were lost. Items described here consist of correspondence and other materials, such as reports and financial records, pertaining to the administration and supervision of the Indian Springs United Church Home Mission Field. This mainly includes letters between the Superintendent and the South Indian missionary personnel. Copies of correspondence between the Superintendent and the Secretaries of the Board of Home Missions in Toronto are also found here. Topics pertain to such "housekeeping" matters as salaries and allowances, the ordering and shipping of supplies and equipment, the freighting and distribution of 'clothing bales' and Christmas gifts, the maintenance and construction of mission buildings, and insurance. As well, correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and life in the community. In addition there is correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools. A number of items pertain to arrangements for the appointment of missionaries or supply and providing licenses to perform the sacraments.

Title based on contents.

Island Lake Mission Charge is also known as Garden Hill; Wasagamack is also known as Wasagamow.

Original staple fasteners have been left intact in order to preserve the arrangement of individual pages as found.

Chronological arrangement; order has been reconstructed by the archivist where necessary.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Item level description.

See also the Superintendent of Home Missions records for the Red Sucker Lake Charge that comprise a separate file and are described elsewhere in this series.

See also the Sacramental Registers for Oxford House for possible entries pertaining to Island Lake.

Location: 509/2/2-7.

Island Lake Charge File
'Maintenance Claims' - Item Level Description

1. Island Lake Correspondence*. – 1935-1939. – 2cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Island Lake missionary, Gavin Grieve, dating from September 1935 to December 1939. As well, there is correspondence from the day school teacher, Bernard Grafton, to the Superintendent. Topics pertain to such matters as the economic consequences for the area of the closure of a near-by mine, the construction of school facilities and a post office in the area, arrangements for travel and supplies, repairs to the church buildings, and licenses to administer the sacraments. Correspondence from the missionary to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Correspondence of 1 and 23 July 1937 pertains to the appointment of the registrar for Provincial Vital Statistics in the area.

Correspondence pertaining to the day school includes that of 20 November 1937 that incorporates a list of all United Church children, giving their treaty numbers and ages, who should be in school, not including those already at Norway House or attending the Roman Catholic day school at St. Theresa Point. A number of items of correspondence dating from 1938 pertain to the missionary's views on a school for the community with that of 12 July incorporating a community school proposal. Also found here is an original copy of the Indian Affairs Branch Day School Return for Island Lake dated 30 December 1938 and including the pupil roll, attendance and standing in class.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-7-1.

2. Island Lake Correspondence. – 1940-1942. – 1.5cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Island Lake missionaries Gavin Grieve and Rev. J. McKim, dating from January 1940 to December 1942. As well, there is correspondence from the day school teachers, Bernard Grafton and R. W. Huestis, to the Superintendent. Topics pertain to such matters as arrangements for the construction and insuring of a new church building at Garden Hill, salaries and expenses, and the ordering and shipping of supplies. Correspondence from the missionaries to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community.

Items of significance include correspondence of 26 November 1942 from the missionary to the Superintendent pertaining to trouble with the HBC store over the pricing of food goods and the debt system.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-7-2.

3. Island Lake Correspondence*. – 1943-1950. – 1.5cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Island Lake missionaries Rev. J. McKim, William Neufeld, H. G. Brown, Harvey Toews, and William Thomas Towers dating from January 1943 to October 1949. There is also correspondence of May 1943 from the day school teacher, Viola Daly, to the Superintendent incorporating an informal report on the progress of the school. There are a number of items of correspondence, especially that of 17 September 1943, pertaining to problems with the delivery of medical care. Correspondence dating from spring 1947 pertains to a fire that destroyed the manse at Island Lake and the aftermath.

Also found here is a copy of a report to Elgin Presbytery on the conditions prevailing at the Island Lake mission, especially as pertained to medical services and problems with the trading practises of the HBC store, written by Rev. McKim and attached to the Superintendent's correspondence of 18 February 1944. Also included in this file are lists of baptisms performed in the community by William Thomas Towers between 1947 and 1950.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-7-3.

4. Island Lake Correspondence. – 1951-1952. – 1.5cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Island Lake missionaries W. T. Towers and R. C. Matthews dating from January 1951 to December 1952. Correspondence of December 1951 and January 1952 pertains to a second fire at the manse.

As well, correspondence from the missionaries to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. There are a number of items of correspondence pertaining to the building of a mission house at Red Sucker Lake and a church at Wasagomach. There is a report on the Wasagomach Settlement, dated 1951. Also found here is a copy of correspondence of January 1952 from Rev. Matthews to Rev. K. McLeod summarising the state of mission work in the north.

Correspondence pertaining to day and residential schools includes that of 30 August 1951 giving the number of children sent out to residential schools that month. Correspondence of January 1952 pertains to a 'private' school being operated at Red Sucker Lake by a Mrs. Unger. Correspondence of 21 May 1952 states that Rev. and Mrs. Matthews visited the Island Lake students at Brandon and Portage. The Superintendent's correspondence of 29 July 1952 refers to a letter from Rev. Matthews in which clothing and food for students at Brandon are discussed. A copy of Rev. Matthews's letter is not in this folder.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-7-4.

5. Island Lake Correspondence. – 1952-1954. – 2cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Island Lake missionaries Rev. R. C. Matthews and Mr. Tom Hamilton dating from January 1953 to December 1954.

Correspondence from the missionaries to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Mr. Hamilton's letters are particularly detailed. Included here are Rev. Matthews' annual reports on the work of the Island Lake Mission dated 1952 and 1953. A map on the back of the 1953 report shows the approximate location of the Island Lake fishing camps. There is also correspondence dating from 1953 pertaining to the appointment of Lay Supply at Red Sucker Lake. Correspondence of October 1954 includes a hand drawn map of the Island Lake community showing the location of the main buildings. Also found in this folder is a larger map showing the location of the main areas of settlement in relation to the major buildings.

Items of significance include correspondence pertaining to applications for old age pensions for several Island Lake residents. This correspondence contains detailed information on the applicants' family histories. Also found here is a copy of a letter to the editor of the Winnipeg Free Press from Rev. Matthews pertaining to the crash and rescue of pilot Paul Rickey and his passenger.

Correspondence pertaining to day and residential schools includes that of March 1953 dealing with the opening of a new day school at Garden Hill. Correspondence of July 1954 and following pertains to the staffing of day schools at Island Lake, specifically the issue of appointing a Roman Catholic teacher to a school recognised to be 'Protestant'.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-7-5.

6. Island Lake Correspondence*. – 1955-1956. – 1.5cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Island Lake missionary Mr. Tom Hamilton dating from January 1955 to November 1956. Correspondence from the missionaries to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Mr. Hamilton's letters are particularly lengthy and detailed.

Correspondence pertaining to day and residential schools includes that of January 1955 from the Board Secretary to the Superintendent of Indian Education requesting consideration be given to opening a school for protestant children at Wasagomach. Items dating from the summer and fall of 1955 deal with over-crowding in the day schools and the problem of getting children that wished to go approved to attend the United Church Residential School Norway House even though there was space for them. Correspondence dating from 1955 and 1956 pertains to the difficulty of securing sufficient supplies for the day school.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-7-6.

7. Island Lake Correspondence*. – 1955-1956. – 1.5cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Island Lake missionary Mr. Tom Hamilton dating from January 1957 to November 1958. Correspondence from the missionaries to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Mr. Hamilton's letters are particularly lengthy and detailed. Several items of correspondence pertain to the employment of First Nations people in positions of responsibility in the Church. There are also several items of correspondence pertaining to the staffing of the mission at Red Sucker Lake. Several items of correspondence pertain to over-crowding at Island Lake day schools and the continuing difficulty of obtaining adequate supplies.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-7-7.

8. Island Lake Correspondence*. – 1959-1962. – 1cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Island Lake missionaries Mr. Tom Hamilton and Rev. M. G. Millard dating from January 1959 to December 1962. Several items of correspondence pertain to preliminary planning for a new church building at Island Lake. As well, correspondence from the missionaries to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Mr. Hamilton's letters are particularly lengthy and detailed. A large amount of correspondence deals with the school and mission at Red Sucker Lake. As well, there are a number of items of correspondence between Rev. John Freeman, Kenora-Rainy River Presbytery Home Missions Convenor, and Rev. Millard discussing the mission situation in Island Lake and the 'North' in general. This correspondence increases as the Presbyteries began to be more directly involved with oversight of churches in First Nations communities. Also found here is a report on the Wasagomach Congregation, ca.1962.

Items of significance include correspondence dated March 1959 incorporating a list of community members employed on a highway project near Mafeking. Also found here is an unsigned history of the Island Lake Mission, ca.1960. Also found here is a 1962 Christmas letter written by Rev. Millard that contains many observations on community life at Island Lake.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-7-8.

9. Island Lake Correspondence. – 1963-1964. – .5cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Island Lake missionary Rev. M. G. Millard dating from January 1963 to November 1964. Topics pertain to such “housekeeping” matters as plans for a northern radio network. As well, correspondence from the missionaries to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Correspondence between Rev. John Freeman and Rev. Millard discussing the mission situation in Island Lake continues. A number of items pertain to the Island Lake Vacation Bible School administered by Verna Crooks. A lengthy assessment of the missionary program is contained in correspondence dating from October and November 1964. Items of significance include correspondence dated January 1964 that lists the patients from Island Lake at Ninette Sanatorium on 4 January.

Correspondence pertaining to day and residential school students includes that dealing with the need for an expanded day school at Island Lake and a new day school at Wasagomach. Correspondence dating from January 1963 lists the ‘United Church’ children at Wasagomach by name and date of birth and discusses the reasons behind the choice of day school versus residential school to deliver education.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-7-9.

10. Island Lake Correspondence. – 1964-1966. – 1.5cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Island Lake missionaries Rev. M. G. Millard and Rev. Wesley Harland dating from March 1964 to December 1966. Discussion pertaining to the proposed construction of a new church building continues. As well, correspondence from the missionaries to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Increasingly, correspondence pertains to efforts to encourage greater local control of church administration in the community. Circular letters and reports to the Kenora-Rainy River Home Missions Committee appear more frequently. Items of significance include a map of the Red Sucker Lake settlement indicating the location of all the family homes.

Correspondence pertaining to day and residential school students includes that of 20 March 1964 dealing with perceptions of racism that arose when white parents in the community chose to send their children to a provincial school rather than the Indian Day School.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-7-10.

11. Island Lake Correspondence. – 1966-1970. – 1cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Island Lake missionary Rev. Wesley Harland dating from December 1966 to December 1970. Discussion pertaining to the proposed construction of a new church building continues and correspondence of February 1967 includes a plan of the proposed new church. Several items of correspondence pertain to raising funds for the new building. As well, correspondence from the missionaries to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. A number of circular letters authored by Rev. Harland appear here. Also found here is a copy of the Superintendent's report of his visit in April of 1970 for the dedication of the new church. Items of significance include correspondence dated 25 October 1968 and following from Tom Hamilton and others pertaining to the controversy surrounding an application for a local liquor outlet.

Correspondence pertaining to day and residential school students includes that of April 1968 describing the burgeoning school population at Wasagomach. Also found here is correspondence of December 1970 pertaining to local responsibility for arrangements to transport children to and from residential school for the holidays.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-7-11.

12. Island Lake Construction and Building Plans for New Church. – 1966-1970. – 3.5cm textual material.

Items found here include correspondence and other items pertaining to the construction of the new church building at Island Lake. Also included here are plans and drawings as well as construction agreements, estimates, budgets and specifications.

Title taken from folder label.

Reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-7-12.

Island Lake Charge File
'Property Claims' - Item Level Description

13. Island Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1946-1952, predominant 1946-1949. – 1 cm textual material.

Much of the correspondence found here is between Rev. Joseph Jones, in his capacity as Chairman of Norway House Presbytery, and the missionary at Island Lake and others. 'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence and invoices pertaining to the shipment of materials required for the construction of a new mission house/manse at Island Lake. Correspondence dating from July 1951 concerns the location of the new mission house at Island Lake on allegedly unsurveyed crown land to which the Church did not have title. Further correspondence dating from September 1951 deals with the information that the Church did in fact have title to this property, known as Chapin's Island, from 1932.

Other items of significance include correspondence dating from October 1949 and dealing with the transfer of responsibility for the Norway House Indian Buildings Program from Mr. Jones to Rev. Best before Mr. Jones departed Manitoba Conference for Victoria. Also found here is what appears to be a personal letter to Mr. Jones from his wife.

Items pertaining to day and residential schools found here include undated correspondence, ca.1949, listing the names and ages of children, presumably from Island Lake, who were signed up for residential school but 'prevented' from going by the Regional Supervisor of the Department of Indian Affairs. Also included is a list of children whose parents wished to apply for their children to attend residential school. This item includes the opinion that this situation arose from attempts by the Regional Supervisor to have wives and children remain near day schools while the family head went to the winter trapping grounds; a plan described by the author as 'attempting the impossible' and leading to the children in question missing a year of school.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-2-11.

14. Island Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1957-1959. – 1 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence pertaining to the maintenance of mission property at Island Lake and arrangements for the purchase and shipping of materials and supplies. This includes the purchase of material to construct a boathouse and furnace-room for the Church. Correspondence dating from December 1958 deals with the poor quality of the mission and school water supply and resulting illness in the community.

Correspondence found here pertaining to schools includes that of June 1959 dealing with the requirement for a new day school given the rapid increase in population.

Title based on contents.

Correspondence found here that pertains to the purchase of a private aircraft by Rev. George Millard dating from 1958 and 1959 has been removed to the God's Lake Narrows Charge Property Claims File No. 509/2/2-2-5.

Location: 509/2/2-2-12.

15. Island Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1960-1961. – 2 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence dealing with continuing renovations to the Island Lake manse and the provision of furnishings. Several items deal with plans to install a telephone service. Correspondence dating from October 1960 and January and March 1961 deal with a proposal for repairs to Wasgomach Church. Other correspondence dating from October 1961 deals with the matter of aircraft use by missionary personnel Rev. George Millard, who had moved to Island Lake from God's Lake Narrows in 1961. Other correspondence dating from October 1961 deals with a proposal for a new church hall at Island Lake.

Other items of note found here include correspondence dating from 8 December 1961 from Rev. Millard to Superintendent Campbell and containing observations on mission work in general.

Title based on contents.

Correspondence found here that pertains to the purchase of a private aircraft by Rev. George Millard and the acquisition of a new lighting plant for God's Lake dating from 1960 have been removed to the God's Lake Narrows Charge Property Claims File No. 509/2/2-2-5.

Location: 509/2/2-2-13.

16. Island Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1962-1965. – 2 cm textual material.

Correspondence dating from January 1962 deals with discussions around proposals for a new Church or Christian Education building and other plans for community services. Correspondence dating from March 1962 and following deals with further plans for buildings and locally based programming. Topics of special concern include the water supply, fire prevention, power plant for church and community, repair of the Chapin's Island Bridge and the telephone/radio network. Confidential correspondence dating from August 1962 contains a proposal for the purchase by the United Church of property at St. Theresa Point. Also included are a number of the Kenora-Rainy River Presbytery Home Mission Convenor property reports.

Items that pertain to the state of the work include correspondence dating from December 1963 that serves as a reply to the Presbytery Circular. Correspondence dating from January 1965 includes an invitation to Wes Harland to consider appointment to Island Lake and a discussion on the cross cultural problems encountered by the current minister.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-2-14.

17. Island Lake Charge Correspondence*. – 1966-1969. – 1.5 cm textual material.

Items found in this folder include correspondence dealing with issues around a proposal for a new church building approved in principle by Kenora-Rainy River Presbytery in February 1966. Items dating from 1968 and 1969 include correspondence dealing with plans and specifications for construction during 1969. Correspondence dating from March and April 1969 deals with securing 'Right of Occupancy' for the church property before a new building is started. Confirmation of an agreement to lease is included in correspondence dating from 12 May 1969. Correspondence dating from November 1969 includes a report of the community's concerns and disappointment about the new church building.

Other items of interest found here include newsletters produced by the Harlands for Christmas 1966, November 1967.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-2-15.

18. Island Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1970-1976. – 2 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include a drawing of the new church building at Island Lake. Also found here is correspondence and financial records that pertain to modifications and the correction of deficiencies to the structure. Correspondence dating from April 1970 deals with the question of 'Right of Occupancy' for the Wasagomach property in light of the construction of a new airstrip in the area. Correspondence dating from October 1970 deals with arrangements for repayment of the loan for church construction. Correspondence dating from July 1974 and following deals with plans to rent out the Island Lake manse after the departure of Rev. Allen in 1974. Correspondence dating from January 1976 deals with plans to rebuild the Island Lake Church after its recent destruction by fire.

Reports found here include that of the Building Administrator's visit to Island Lake in February of 1970, the Superintendent's visits of April 1970, January 1972 (Confidential), April 1972 (Confidential), April 1973 and May 1974. Pastoral Charge reports to Presbytery in the matter of the maintenance grants are also found here. Also found here are reports of supervisory visits by the missionary to Wasagomach and periodic reports on ministry in the Island Lake Pastoral Region. Correspondence dating from March 1972 deals with the withdrawal from God's Lake of Norman Ralph and arrangements for oversight. Oversight reports found here are dated December 1972 and following.

Items that pertain to residential schools include correspondence of December 1970 on arrangements for return home at Christmas of residential school students.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-2-16.

Kettle Rapids Inter-Church Chaplaincy. – 1967-1972. – 6 folders textual material.

The Kettle Rapids Project came about as a response to the need for a mission presence at the Manitoba Hydro construction site at Kettle Rapids on the Nelson River near Gillam, Manitoba. The Kettle Rapids Inter-Church Chaplaincy was a joint mission project of the Lutheran, Mennonite, Presbyterian and United Churches with some support from the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches. The main participating denominations contributed to the salary and expenses of a full-time chaplain to be resident on the site. A committee, with representation from all the participating denominations, administered the project. The first Chaplain, Rev. Murray Wenstob, was appointed in July of 1967 and he co-operated closely with the Anglican and Roman Catholic clergy who were also resident in the community. Large numbers of workers, some with families, were resident at Kettle Rapids from 1967 to 1972. As the construction project wound down, the number of workers declined drastically and it was decided to discontinue the Chaplaincy as of 30 June 1972. Chaplaincy work continued at the new construction site of Long Spruce, eighteen miles downstream from Gillam.

Title based on contents.

The Kettle Rapids Inter-Church Chaplaincy was also known as the Nelson River Inter-Church Chaplaincy.

Original staple fasteners have been left intact in order to preserve the arrangement of individual pages as found.

Chronological arrangement; order has been reconstructed by the archivist where necessary; notices of meetings and duplicate minutes were culled during the 2000 arrangement and description project.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Item level description.

See also Superintendent of Home Missions Property Files identified as 'Presbyteries'.

Location: 509/2/2-7.

Kettle Rapids Inter-Church Chaplaincy File
'Maintenance Claims' - Item Level Description

1. Kettle Rapids Inter-Church Chaplaincy Committee Minutes. – 1967-1969. – 2cm textual material.

This folder contains minutes of the meetings of the Kettle Rapids Inter-Church Chaplaincy Committee, which was responsible for the administration of the Inter-Church Chaplaincy Project and supervision of the Chaplain, dating from January 1967 to April 1969. The folder also contains other materials pertaining to the project such as project proposals, Chaplain's reports to the Chaplaincy Committee, statements of expenses and correspondence dating from 1967 to 1969.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-7-13.

2. Kettle Rapids Inter-Church Chaplaincy Committee Minutes. – 1968-1971. – 2.5cm textual material.

This folder contains minutes of the meetings of the Kettle Rapids Inter-Church Chaplaincy Committee dating from June 1969 to November 1971. The folder also contains other materials pertaining to the project such as Chaplain's reports to the Chaplaincy Committee, statements of expenses and correspondence dating from 1968 to 1971.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-7-14.

3. Kettle Rapids Inter-Church Chaplaincy Reports. – 1969-1971. – .5cm textual material.

This folder contain reports of meetings between J. D. McMurtry, the Superintendent of Home Missions and United Church representative on the Kettle Rapids Inter-Church Chaplaincy Committee, and the Chaplain, Rev. Murray Wenstob.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological order; duplicates have been culled.

Location: 509/2/2-7-15.

4. Kettle Rapids Inter-Church Chaplaincy Correspondence. – 1966-1971. – .5cm textual material.

This folder contains the Superintendent's correspondence and notes of telephone conversations pertaining to the Kettle Rapids Inter-Church Chaplaincy dating from May 1966 to August 1971. Also included here are clippings and other reference materials pertaining to the Manitoba Hydro project at Kettle Rapids as well as hydro-electric development elsewhere in Manitoba and North-western Ontario.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-7-16.

5. Kettle Rapids Inter-Church Chaplaincy Chaplain's Reports. – 1967-1972. – .5cm textual material.

This folder contains the reports of the Kettle Rapids Chaplain, Rev. Murray Wenstob, dating from 1967 to 1971. Also found here are sundry reports of visits to the community by J. D. McMurtry and others, and copies of Chaplain's correspondence. As well, there is a copy of the 'Kettle Rapids News' dating from May 1971.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-7-17.

6. Kettle Rapids Inter-Church Chaplaincy Financial Records. – 1967-1972. – .5cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence, financial reports and other records pertaining to the financial administration of the Kettle Rapids Inter-Church Chaplaincy dating from March 1967 to June 1972.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-7-18.

7. Nelson River Hydro-Electric Development. [ca.1970]. – 1 folder.

This folder contains reference materials produced by Manitoba Hydro and pertaining to their proposed hydro-electric development in northern Manitoba.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-7-19.

Little Grand Rapids Charge. – 1927-1970, predominant 1936-1970. – 12 folders textual material.

Little Grand Rapids is a First Nations community located on the shores of Family Lake near the Manitoba-Ontario border, south-east of Berens River and 180 air miles north-east of Winnipeg. Initially, Little Grand Rapids was a station of the Berens River and Fisher River Methodist missions. There is some evidence that mission activities in the area began around 1902 with a permanent mission established around 1927. In 1965 and 1966 and again in 1968 the Conference of Mennonites was asked to provide ministry to the community. At other times during the 1960s the community was served by Lay Supply supervised from Bissett.

Until about 1960, the missionary also served as the day school teacher. For many years the missionary also operated a dispensary. Until around 1960, the school year ran from June to February in order to accommodate the trapping season.

Missionaries, Missionary Teachers and Lay Supply serving at Little Grand Rapids included Luther Scheutze, 1927-1936; R. Schuetze, 1938; C. D. Street, 1939-1942; John N. Clarke, 1942-1943; N. A. Dueck, 1943-1945; Abram Neufield, 1945-1946; John Schmidt, 1946-1947; Nathaniel G. MacIntosh, 1949-1950; Stewart R. Hale, 1951-1953; W. A. Schellenberg, 1953-1954; Clinton Robertson, 1955-1956; M. A. Watson, 1957-1958; Elwood Day, 1959-1961; Elijah Monias, 1961-1962; John James Everette, 1962-1965; and Sandy Flett, 1967-1968. Summer students included Jack Morrison, 1959; and Brock Saunders, 1960.

The correspondence described here dates from 1936 to 1970, however, there are a number of unexplained gaps of several years. The arrangement of the items in these folders was disorganised, and did not conform to the pattern evident with the Superintendent's records for other charges. It is not possible to determine if this reflects the original arrangement of the records or if items were re-arranged prior to or after accession. Items in this file consist of correspondence and other materials, such as reports and financial records, pertaining to the administration and supervision of the Little Grand Rapids United Church Home Mission Field. This mainly includes letters between the Superintendent and the Little Grand Rapids missionary personnel. Copies of correspondence between the Superintendent and the Secretaries of the Board of Home Missions in Toronto are also found here. Topics pertain to such "housekeeping" matters as salaries and allowances, the ordering and shipping of supplies and equipment, the freighting and distribution of 'clothing bales' and Christmas gifts, the maintenance and construction of mission buildings, and insurance. As well, correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and life in the community. In addition there is correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools. A number of items pertain to arrangements for the appointment of missionaries or supply and providing licenses to perform the sacraments.

Title based on contents.

Original staple fasteners have been left intact in order to preserve the arrangement of individual pages as found.

Chronological arrangement; order has been reconstructed by the archivist where necessary.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Item level description.

Other records accessioned from the Little Grand Rapids Charge include Sacramental Registers dating from 1922 to 1980.

See also the manuscript *Life at Little Grand Rapids* accessioned from Rev. Luther Schuetze and described as part of the Personal Papers Collection in the Conference Archives.

Location: 509/2/2-7; 509/2/2-8.

Little Grand Rapids Charge File
'Maintenance Claims' - Item Level Description

1. Little Grand Rapids Charge Correspondence*. – 1936-1947. – 2.5cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Little Grand Rapids missionaries Luther Schuetze, Richard Schuetze, C. D. Street, John N. Clarke, N. A. Dueck, Abram Neufield and J. M. Schmidt dating from January 1936 to December 1947. Correspondence from the missionaries to the Superintendent often takes the form of a report and includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. It is apparent from this correspondence that the missionary was also sometimes responsible for visiting the near by community of Pauingassi. Correspondence dating from the fall of 1936 pertains to strained relations between Luther Schuetze and the American anthropologist, Prof. A. Irving Hallowell. Correspondence dating from the spring of 1941 pertains to difficulties in the community caused by the making of home brew and the missionary's actions in having the perpetrators arrested. There are continuing strained relations with the Roman Catholic missionaries in the area.

Correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools includes the Day School Return dated June 1939 and listing the names and ages of Little Grand Rapids Day School pupils. Correspondence dating from 1943 and 1944 pertains to the necessity to teach school out of the mission due to the poor repair of the government school building.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-7-20.

2. Little Grand Rapids Charge Correspondence. – 1942-1947. – 1cm textual material.

Items found in this folder largely consist of correspondence between the Superintendent of Home Missions and the Secretaries of the Board in Toronto. Topics pertain to such matters as the appointment of Missionary Teachers to the Little Grand Rapids Field, arrangements for payment of salaries and expenses, and the purchase of supplies. Correspondence of October 1944 makes reference to a map of the community showing the position of the church, the school and community residences that was sent to Rev. Dorey in Toronto. A number of items of correspondence dating from 1944 pertain to the school facilities at Little Grand Rapids and the fact that the poor state of the government building necessitated holding school in the church. There is also correspondence pertaining to discussions about the duration of the school year.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-7-21.

3. Little Grand Rapids Charge Correspondence. – 1950-1953. – 1cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Little Grand Rapids missionaries Nathaniel G. MacIntosh, Stewart R. Hale and Mr. Bill Schellenberg dating from March 1950 to December 1953. Correspondence from the missionaries to the Superintendent often takes the form of a report and includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Correspondence of February 1952 pertains to plans for the construction of a new church building on the reserve.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-7-22.

4. Little Grand Rapids Charge Correspondence. – 1954-1956. – .5cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Little Grand Rapids missionaries Henry Neufeld and Clinton Robertson dating from January 1954 to December 1956. Correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Correspondence of March 1952 from Chief John Keeper includes a petition of community residents asking for a church building on the reserve. A three-page list titled 'List of Little Grand Rapids Indians by Families taken at L. G. R.' and including the names, ages and band numbers of all family members for all those supporting the church is attached. A copy of correspondence dated September 1954 from the Superintendent to the Board Secretary in Toronto incorporates a report of Superintendent Best's visit to the community and his assessment of the situation there. Correspondence of December 1954 and following pertains to the issue of infant baptism and the feelings of the missionary, Mennonite, on this matter. There are several items of correspondence from church member George Bouchie on the state of the work in the community.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-7-23.

5. Little Grand Rapids Charge Correspondence*. – 1956-1958. – 2cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Little Grand Rapids missionary and teacher M. A. Watson, dating from December 1956 to June 1958. Correspondence of October 1957 pertains to the sale of the old mission property. As well, correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Teacher M. A. Watson endeavoured to write weekly. Many items pertain to problems the people have securing credit from the H. B. C. and consequent hunger in the community that the missionary endeavoured to alleviate. A number of items of correspondence, especially dating from the fall of 1957 pertain to Mr. Watson's efforts to assist the people with the sale of crafts.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-7-24.

6. Little Grand Rapids Charge Correspondence*. – 1958-1963. – 2cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Little Grand Rapids missionaries, summer students, Lay Supply and teachers including M. A. Watson, Norman J. Williamson, Jack Morrison, Elwood Day, Brock Sauders, Elijah Monias and John James Everette dating from May 1958 to October 1963. Correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Correspondence dating from January 1959 pertains to the desperate economic conditions suffered by many of the community's residents and the provisions made for relief. Correspondence of June and July 1960 pertains to the plan to place an ordained minister or Lay Supply at Little Grand Rapids and to end reliance on the local teacher for missionary work. Correspondence of August 1963 pertains to the appointment by Selkirk Presbytery of a supervising pastor for Little Grand Rapids.

Items of significance include correspondence of November 1959 pertaining to the practice of Dr. McMillan to perform marriages and baptisms while on missionary visits to Grand Rapids. A personal register kept by Dr. McMillan was not located after his death and the record of these events could not be located. Correspondence of August and September 1960 pertains to the last resting place of James Kirkness who had served at Little Grand Rapids in 1927 and Pekangekum from 1928 to 1934. Correspondence of October 1960 pertains to a diary kept by Luther Schuetze at Little Grand Rapids in 1927 and 1928, a copy of which was sent to the Board of Home Missions in Toronto by Rev. Campbell.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-8-1.

7. Little Grand Rapids Charge Correspondence. – 1964-1966. – 1cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Little Grand Rapids personnel including John James Everette dating from January 1964 to September 1966. Correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Correspondence of February 1966 pertains to the decision to formally add Pauingassi (also known as Opawakashing) to the Little Grand Rapids charge. Also found here is a report on the future of the Little Grand Rapids Charge, dated May 1965, and a report of the Superintendent's visit dated October 1965. Also found here is a report on the community written by Henry Neufeld of the Mennonite Mission, dated November 1965, and a copy of Rev. J. C. Reid's report of his visit to the community, dated January 1966. A copy of J. D. McMurtry's report of his visit to the community in August and September 1966 is also found here.

Items of significance include a typescript of an interview between John James Everette and Rev. Campbell conducted in Winnipeg some time in 1964.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-8-2.

8. Little Grand Rapids Charge Correspondence. – 1967-1968. – 1cm textual material.

This folder contains the correspondence of the Superintendent of Home Missions pertaining to the United Church community at Little Grand Rapids dating from January 1967 to December 1968. This includes various visitation reports, with information pertaining to the state of the work and conditions in the community and correspondence with Lay Supply, Sandy Flett. Items dating from September 1967 pertain to Mr. Flett's receiving a License to Administer the Sacraments. Correspondence dating from the fall of 1968 pertains to Mr. Flett's desire to leave the community and the decision of Presbytery not to replace him.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-8-3.

9. Little Grand Rapids Charge Correspondence. – 1969-1970. – 1cm textual material.

This folder contains the correspondence of the Superintendent of Home Missions pertaining to the United Church community at Little Grand Rapids dating from January 1969 to November 1970. Much of the correspondence pertains to arrangements for and reports of pastoral visitations to the community. Other items include correspondence with community elder, Paul Keeper and correspondence pertaining to his appointment as Leading Elder in 1969. 'Housekeeping' matters dealt with include the remittance of donations and the handling of 'bale goods'.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-8-4.

Little Grand Rapids Charge File
'Property Claims' - Item Level Description

- 10.** Little Grand Rapids Charge Correspondence. – 1945-1969, predominant 1962-1966. – .5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder largely consist of correspondence dealing with arrangements for the ordering and shipping of furnishings and materials required for the continued upkeep of the mission buildings. Correspondence dating from March 1966 and following deals with arrangements to rent the unused log manse to Enos Legge, one of the teachers at the day school.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-8.

- 11.** Little Grand Rapids Charge Correspondence. – 1956-1963, predominant 1960-1962. – 2 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence dating from 1958 and 1959 dealing with a proposal to sell the old log manse, which had not been occupied for some time and was in poor repair. Correspondence dating from August 1960 deals with a proposal to move the Little Grand Rapids Church from Crown Land across the river to the reserve and secure a 'Right of Occupancy'. Further correspondence dating from February 1961 also deals with securing permission for the United Church to occupy reserve land. Correspondence dating from August 1960 also deals with the contention that the Crown Land occupied by the Church was believed by Luther Schuetze to be United Church Property, however, no title could be located. The advisability of repairs to the church and manse buildings was also discussed in this and further correspondence. Items dating from December 1960 and following pertain to plans for construction and furnishing of a new log manse and repairs to the Church in the summer of 1961.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-9.

- 12.** Little Grand Rapids Charge Correspondence. – 1927-1959. – .5 cm textual material.

This folder contains a typescript copy of the Little Grand Rapids Church Log. Entries date from 1927, 1928, 1941 to 1943, 1952, 1953 and 1959. Topics include comments on the weather, travel, the progress of the work and occurrences in the community.

Title based on contents.

The log was transcribed ca.1960.

The location of the original log has not yet been determined.

Location: 509/2/2-3-10.

Long Plain Charge. – 1926-1962, predominant 1942-1962. – 5 folders textual material.

Long Plain First Nation is located along the north bank of the Assiniboine River, south of Trans Canada Highway #1 and approximately 14 kilometres south-west of Portage la Prairie. The residents included Sioux, whose ancestors journeyed north and settled in Manitoba around 1870. Mr. W. H. Ross established the mission at Long Plain and built the mission buildings in 1922.

For many years Long Plain formed part of the Edwin field, however, this arrangement broke down from time to time. In 1945 and 1946, Long Plain was served by Lay Supply supervised from Oakland by Rev. G. F. Denyes. At other times Long Plain was supervised from MacGregor and Portage la Prairie. The mission was isolated, living accommodation remained quite primitive and it became increasingly difficult to place a missionary there.

Initially, all the reserve children attended the residential schools in Regina, Brandon and Portage la Prairie. In 1947, a decision was made to open a day school in the mission building and in 1952 it was decided to build a new day school across the road from the mission. This school was finally built in 1956.

The correspondence and other items described here date predominately from 1942 to 1958, however, there are a number of unexplained gaps of several months or years. The arrangement of the items in these folders was disorganised, and did not conform to the pattern evident with the Superintendent of Home Mission's records for other charges. It is not possible to determine if this reflects the original arrangement of the records or if items were re-arranged prior to or after accession. Items in this file consist of correspondence and other materials, such as reports and financial records, pertaining to the administration and supervision of the Long Plain United Church Home Mission Field. This mainly includes letters between the Superintendent and the Long Plain missionary personnel. Copies of correspondence between the Superintendent and the Secretaries of the Board of Home Missions in Toronto are also found here. Topics pertain to such 'housekeeping' matters as salaries and allowances, the ordering and shipping of supplies and equipment, the freighting and distribution of 'clothing bales' and Christmas gifts, the maintenance and construction of mission buildings, and insurance. As well, correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and life in the community. In addition there is correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools. A number of items pertain to arrangements for the appointment of missionaries or supply and providing licenses to perform the sacraments.

Missionaries serving the Long Plain field include Mr. W. H. Ross, 1922-1927; Rev. R. C. Matthews (from Edwin Field), 1942-1944; Mr. Jacob Froese (Lay Supply), 1945-1946; Mr. Bernard C. King (Lay Supply), 1946-1949; Mr. Thomas Naismith Ferguson (Lay Supply), 1949-1956; Mr. Bernard C. King (Lay Supply), 1956 (briefly); Ken Crassweller (Lay Supply), 1957 (briefly); Gerald Buhr (Lay Supply), 1957-; Mr. McLeod Munro, 1959-1960; and Whitney McConnell, 1960-[ca.1963].

Title based on contents.

This charge was also known as Edwin-Long Plain[s].

Original staple fasteners have been left intact in order to preserve the arrangement of individual pages as found.

Chronological arrangement; order has been reconstructed by the archivist where necessary.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Item level description.

See also the Superintendent of Home Missions Property Files identified as 'Presbyteries (Portage la Prairie)' for further records pertaining to Long Plain Charge.

See also entries pertaining to the Long Plain Charge found in the Sacramental Registers that have been accessioned from Trinity United Church (Portage la Prairie) and are described as part of that Charge fonds.

The surviving records of Edwin Charge, many of which include entries from Long Plain, have been described as part of the records of the MacDonald and Rosendale Charges (Portage la Prairie); surviving records of Oakland Charge have been described as part of the records of High Bluff Charge.

A copy of an account of the early years of Long Plain Mission written by Mr. W. H. Ross is located in the Biographical Files.

Location: 509/2/2-8.

Long Plain Charge File
'Maintenance Claims' - Item Level Description

1. Long Plain Charge Correspondence. – 1926-1947, predominant 1942-1947. – 1cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Long Plain missionary personnel as well as other items pertaining to the Long Plain Charge dating predominately from July 1942 to December 1947. Correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. This includes correspondence dating from 1945 that incorporates a map showing the relative position of the Long Plain mission in relation to Edwin, Manitoba. This also includes a five-page description of conditions at Long Plain and suggestions for their improvement by Lay Supply Bernard King, dating from around 1946.

Correspondence pertaining to day and residential schools includes that of May 1947 describing a proposal to open a day school at Long Plain in the mission building.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-8-5.

2. Long Plain Charge Correspondence. – 1949-1954. – 1cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Long Plain missionary personnel as well as other items pertaining to the Long Plain Charge dating from January 1949 to December 1954. Correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Correspondence dating from 1949 pertains to the decision to request that Mr. Ferguson receive a license to perform the sacraments.

Items of significance include correspondence of May 1952 in which Mr. Ferguson refers to his intention to copy all entries pertaining to Long Plain from the Edwin registers into a new Long Plain register before the Edwin materials are forwarded to the Conference Archives.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-8-6.

3. Long Plain Charge Correspondence*. – 1954-1958. – 1.5cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Long Plain missionary personnel as well as other items pertaining to the Long Plain Charge dating from November 1954 to March 1958. Correspondence dating from July and December 1956 relates a brief summary of Bernard King's work with the United Church. Items of significance include correspondence of August 1957 pertaining to the existence of separate Registers for Long Plain. Also found here is a list of reserve children, dated November 1957, organised by age and made for the purpose of providing Christmas gifts for the children.

Correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools includes that of 15 February, in which Dr. Best explains his relationship with the residential schools as essentially advisory with no real authority to intervene.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-8-7.

Long Plain Charge File
'Property Claims' - Item Level Description

4. Long Plain Charge Correspondence. – 1958-1961. – 1 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence dating from 1959 that pertains to approval for and ordering of furnishings for the manse at Long Plain so that it may be made habitable. Correspondence dating from March 1960 and following pertains to a proposal to construct a new manse at Long Plain. Correspondence dating from November 1960 pertains to formulating plans for the future of the Long Plain Mission in light of vandalism to the buildings over the summer of 1960.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-11.

5. Long Plain Charge Correspondence. – 1962-1963, predominant 1962. – .5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence dating from November 1962 dealing with the question of 'Right of Occupancy' to the Long Plain property.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-12.

Nelson House Charge. – 1932-1970. – 16 folders of textual material.

A permanent settlement was established at Nelson House in 1833 when a trading post, then known as Fort Seaborn, was established. The settlement was also known as Nelson River Post until receiving its present name in 1866. The mission at Nelson House dates from around 1875 when Rev. Semmens built the first church there with the help of his assistant and interpreter, Sandy Hart. Rev. Semmens left the following year and during this early period Nelson House was served by Native missionaries supervised from Norway House. In 1891, Rev. Samuel Gaudin arrived in Nelson House. This first church had not survived and Rev. Gaudin rebuilt as well as opening the first mission school in 1897. The day school was destroyed in 1946 and was not reopened for a number of years afterwards. Nelson House was the most northern and, at one time, the most inaccessible of the northern Methodist missions. The mission was cut off from the outside world for long periods of time during freeze up and thaw. In the early years, the ministry required long trips by canoe and dog sled by the missionary with journeys of four hundred miles not uncommon. The missionary was also responsible for distributing medicines and rations and his wife often served as a field matron. Until the 1950s, the missionary at Nelson House also served the people at South Indian Lake. For many years, the Woman's Missionary Society also supported a nurse at the mission who worked mainly among the women and girls.

Missionaries who served at Nelson House include Rev. Semmens, 1874-1876; Rev. Samuel D. Gaudin, 1891-1906; Mr. W. E. W. Hutton, 1912-1929; Arthur Bonner (briefly), 1930; Rev. Hanna, 1930-1933; Nelson Gaudin, 1933-1934; Rev. Austin C. Huston, 1935-1938; Mr. James T. Blackford, 1938-1943; Mr. W. E. W. Hutton, 1943-1946 (intermittently); Mr. Alfred Kroeker, 1943-1946; Rev. Murray S. Thompson, 1946-1949; Mr. Bernard King, 1949-1952; Mr. William E. Senior, 1953-1956; Rev. Laura Muir (teacher/occasional supply), 1956-1957; Solomon Hart (Lay Reader/Lay Supply), 1956-1957; Rev. D. Glen Stewart, 1957-1962; Cameron Reid (Summer Supply), 1959; Mr. Ronald Mattock (Lay Supply), 1962-1963; Mr. Carson Walker (Lay Supply), 1963-1964; Rev. Nelson B. Rajotte, ca.1964-1969; and Mr. Ronald Hobden, 1969-.

Items found here date from 1932 to 1969 with some gaps in the record of several months. Fire destroyed the parsonage and contents in February 1932 and many mission records dating from prior to that date were destroyed. Items in this file consist of correspondence and other materials, such as reports and financial records, pertaining to the administration and supervision of the Nelson House United Church Home Mission Field. This mainly includes letters between the Superintendent and the Nelson House missionary personnel. Copies of correspondence between the Superintendent and the Secretaries of the Board of Home Missions in Toronto are also found here. Topics pertain to such "housekeeping" matters as salaries and allowances, the ordering and shipping of supplies and equipment, the freighting and distribution of 'clothing bales' and Christmas gifts, the maintenance and construction of mission buildings, and insurance. As well, correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and life in the community. In addition there is correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools. A number of items pertain to arrangements for the appointment of missionaries or supply and providing licenses to perform the sacraments.

Title based on contents.

Original staple fasteners have been left intact in order to preserve the arrangement of individual pages as found.

Chronological arrangement; order has been reconstructed by the archivist where necessary.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Item level description.

See also Superintendent of Home Missions Property Files identified as 'Presbyteries (Northland)' for further records pertaining to Nelson House Charge.

Other records accessioned from the Nelson House Charge include Sacramental Registers dating from 1874-1881; see also Norway House Marriage Registers dating from 1876-1891 for possible entries pertaining to Nelson House.

Location: 509/2/2-8.

Nelson House Charge File
'Maintenance Claims' - Item Level Description

1. Nelson House Charge Correspondence*. – 1932-1938. – 1.5cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Nelson House missionary personnel as well as other items pertaining to the Nelson House Charge dating from June 1932 to December 1938. Topics pertain to such "housekeeping" matters as construction of a new manse and the construction of a church building at South Indian Lake. As well, correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Rev. Huston's correspondence is particularly detailed. Correspondence dating from August 1937 contains a description of relations between the major religious denominations in the area and plans for a United Church presence at South Indian Lake (where many Nelson House residents had trap lines). Correspondence of December 1937 relates a typical winter journey by the missionary.

Correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools includes that of 21 May 1938 in which Rev. Cormie articulates his perception of the purpose of residential schools as part of the policy for the education of First Nations peoples.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-8-8.

2. Nelson House Charge Correspondence. – 1939-1944. – 1.5cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Nelson House missionary personnel as well as other items pertaining to the Nelson House Charge dating from January 1939 to June 1944. Correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Mr. Blackford's letters contain many detailed accounts. Several items of correspondence contain descriptions of the missionary's trips to South Indian Lake including that of April 1939 with a discussion of costs, a detailed description of a wedding and an explanation of the problems associated with using interpreters. Correspondence of June 1940 includes an account of a medicine ceremony at Nelson House. Correspondence dating from December 1940 and October 1942 details the straightened economic circumstances of the Nelson House residents. Correspondence dating from March 1942 and following deals with Ewart Monias' illness and death. Correspondence pertaining to Mr. Blackford's illness and subsequent death the following year dates from February 1943 and after. Correspondence of December 1943 and following pertains to the continuing controversy over infant baptism by Mennonite missionaries.

Items of significance include correspondence dating from June 1943 and pertaining to the United Church Registers created since 1935. Also to be noted is correspondence of October 1943 pertaining to a Register begun by Rev. Semmens, dating from 1874 to 1881, that was requested to be handed over by Rev. Gaudin to the Provincial Department of Health and Public Welfare Division of Statistics.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-8-9.

3. Nelson House Charge Correspondence. – 1945-1952. – 1.5cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Nelson House missionary personnel as well as other items pertaining to the Nelson House Charge dating from January 1945 to December 1952. Topics pertain to such “housekeeping” matters as completion of the new church at South Indian Lake. Correspondence of December 1951 and July 1952 pertains to problems with the Hudson’s Bay Company over the boundaries of the church property. A list of the contents of the manse, ca.1952, is also found here. As well, correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Correspondence of August and September 1945 pertains to the Mennonite missionary’s problems with conforming to United Church practices. The missionary’s letters often also contain reports of events at South Indian Lake.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-8-10.

4. Nelson House Charge Correspondence*. – 1953-1954. – 2cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Nelson House missionary personnel as well as other items pertaining to the Nelson House Charge dating from January 1953 to December 1954. Topics pertain to such “housekeeping” matters as proposals to electrify and modernise the mission. Correspondence of December 1953 pertains to the question of title to the United Church property at Nelson House. As well, correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Mr. Senior’s letters are exceptionally detailed and lengthy and include many suggestions for the direction of United Church work in Nelson House. Items such as correspondence dating from March 1953 and following pertain to continuing strained relations with the Roman Catholic missionaries in the district. Other correspondence dating from 1953 pertains to the proposal to appoint Angus Bonner as Lay Supply in South Indian Lake.

Correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools includes a list titled ‘United Church Children of School Age at Nelson House, Manitoba’, ca.1953 and a list titled ‘United Church Children Attending Roman Catholic Day School at Nelson House...’, dated 25 April 1953. Several items of correspondence dating from 1953 pertain to the need for a larger Protestant school at Nelson House and problems in getting Nelson House children places in United Church residential schools. That of December 1953 explains Rev. Dorey’s (Secretary of the Board) views on the education of First Nations people. Correspondence dating from February 1954 pertains to a proposal for a hostel for school aged children to be built by the United Church at Nelson House. Correspondence dating from April 1954 and following deals with the missionary’s concerns about the inadequate diet of Nelson House children. Several items of correspondence scattered throughout deal with suggestions for appointments of day school teachers.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-8-11.

5. Nelson House Charge Correspondence*. – 1955. – 2cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Nelson House missionary personnel as well as other items pertaining to the Nelson House Charge dating from January 1955 to December 1955. A list of the contents of the manse ca.1955, is also found here. Also included here is a Lands Branch map of the Nelson House area showing the position of the mission in relation to other community buildings. As well there are hand-drawn plans of the mission buildings. Correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Correspondence of April 1955 contains a report of the missionary's fact-finding tour to Mystery Lake in light of the planned mining development. Correspondence of August 1955 pertains to the community's concerns over the appointment of nursing station staff.

Correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools includes that pertaining to the planned new day school building in Nelson House. Several items of correspondence deal with suggestions for appointments of day school teachers.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-8-12.

6. Nelson House Charge Correspondence*. – 1956-1957. – 1.5cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Nelson House missionary personnel as well as other items pertaining to the Nelson House Charge dating from January 1956 to December 1957. Correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Occasional reports on the work at South Indian Lake continue.

Correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools includes occasional reports from the day school teachers to the Superintendent.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-8-13.

7. Nelson House Charge Correspondence. – 1958-1961. – 1cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Nelson House missionary personnel as well as other items pertaining to the Nelson House Charge dating from January 1958 to December 1961. Topics pertain to such "housekeeping" matters as problems with the water system. Correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Correspondence dating from March 1958 contains an account of Angus Bonner's trip to Brandon and Winnipeg. Occasional reports on the work at South Indian Lake continue.

Correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools includes several items dealing with suggestions for appointments of day school teachers.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-8-14.

8. Nelson House Charge Correspondence*. – 1962-1964. – .5cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Nelson House missionary personnel as well as other items pertaining to the Nelson House Charge dating from January 1962 to May 1964. Correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Correspondence dating from May 1962 contains a report of the Christian Education work carried on in the newly modernised church hall. Also found here are newspaper clippings dating from December 1962 detailing reports of starvation among Indians near Thompson [Nelson House]. Correspondence of January 1963 contains further information on this matter. A report titled 'Development of Nelson House Since August 1962' also contains observations on the economic situation in the community.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-8-15.

9. Nelson House Charge Correspondence*. – 1964-1965. – .5cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Nelson House missionary personnel as well as other items pertaining to the Nelson House Charge dating from June 1964 to October 1965. Topics pertain to such "housekeeping" matters as the sale of the materials from the old church building. Correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-8-16.

10. Nelson House Charge Correspondence. – 1966-1969. – 1cm textual material.

This folder contains correspondence between the Superintendent and the Nelson House missionary personnel as well as other items pertaining to the Nelson House Charge dating from March 1966 to December 1969. Correspondence dating from November and December 1969 pertains to the poor quality of postal service. A 'Manse Questionnaire' dated October 1966 is also found here. Reports and correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and the situation in the community. Correspondence dating from August 1967 pertains to preparations for the relocation of the South Indian Lake community in advance of flooding. Correspondence of November 1969 contains observations and impressions of outgoing clergy, N. Rajotte. Also included are the Superintendent's own notes and reports on his visits to the community dating from July 1966 and following.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-8-17.

Nelson House Charge File
'Property Claims' - Item Level Description

11. Nelson House Charge Correspondence. – 1947-1959, predominant 1957-1959. – 2 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence dating from September 1954 detailing repairs made to the mission property and arrangements for the installation of a lighting plant. Correspondence dating from November 1957 deals with a proposal for remodelling the old mission house for use as a Christian Education facility. Much of the correspondence found here deals with the ordering and shipping of supplies and furnishings for the mission house.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-13.

12. Nelson House Charge Correspondence. – 1960. – 2 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence dating from February 1960 and following pertaining to proposals and plans for a new church building. Other items found here pertain to the ordering and shipping of furnishings and other materials and arrangements for the maintenance and improvement of mission property. Correspondence dating from April 1960 deals with a proposal to undertake building work at South Indian Lake. Correspondence dating from October 1960 deals with a proposal to build a church hall at the same time as a new church at Nelson House. Correspondence dating from December 1960 to the Provincial Lands Branch requests confirmation of an up to date survey of church property at Nelson House. Follow-up correspondence of 14 December 1960 advises that plans were forwarded to the Neepawa Land Titles Office for registration. Other correspondence dating from December 1960 includes detailed plans for construction of a new church and hall.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-14.

13. Nelson House Charge Correspondence. – 1961. – 2 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include estimated revenues and expenditures for Nelson House and Little Grand Rapids for 1961. Correspondence dating from January 1961 and following deals with arrangements for the ordering and shipping of materials and making plans in advance of anticipated construction. Correspondence dating from 10 January 1961 deals with the issue of Title to the property on which the new church would sit. Several items found here pertain to the purchase of a large generator and diesel fuel. Correspondence dating from March, April and May 1961 deals with the procedure for accepting tender for the sale of the old manse/church hall and problems encountered in moving it. Correspondence dating from the summer and fall deals with issues arising out of construction of the new church and repairs to the manse.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-15.

14. Nelson House Charge Correspondence. – 1962. – 1.5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder largely consist of correspondence and other items that pertain to the ordering and shipping of furnishings for the new church hall and manse and diesel fuel for the generator as well as the maintenance of mission equipment. Correspondence dating from October 1962 and following deals with a request from Nelson House Church members to demolish the old church as the new church hall was now used as the Church.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-16.

15. Nelson House Charge Correspondence. – 1963. – 1 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder largely consist of correspondence and other items that pertain to the ordering and shipping of supplies and equipment necessary to the maintenance of mission buildings. Correspondence dating from December 1963 deals with a proposal to sell the old church building for use at Catholic [St. Theresa] Point.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-17.

16. Nelson House Charge Correspondence. – 1964-1970. – 1 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include copies of the basic plans for the new Nelson House Christian Education Hall (Church). Correspondence dating from February 1964 deals with a proposal to move the old church and attach it to the new Christian Education hall for use as the sanctuary of a new church. Other items found in this folder largely consist of correspondence that pertains to the continued maintenance of church property. Correspondence dating from February, March and April 1970 deals with strong concerns about the failure of the Home Missions Building Advisor to respond to concerns about the condition of the manse and equipment. A report, March 1970, of a Presbytery visit by Rev. Rivers of Norway House is also found here.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-18.

Norway House Charge. – [ca.1930]-1972. – 23 folders textual material.

Norway House is a large First Nations community located 300 miles directly north from the city of Winnipeg, at the head of navigation on Lake Winnipeg, where the Nelson River begins its journey to Hudson's Bay. A Norwegian work gang that had been brought in by the Hudson's Bay Company to put through a winter road to York Factory built the first European settlement in the vicinity in 1814. The Mission was founded in 1840 by the British Wesleyan Methodist missionary James Evans and has been continually in operation since that time. It is the oldest of the Protestant Christian missions in Northern Manitoba and was established at the invitation of the Hudson's Bay Company who wished to encourage First Nations employees to stay in the north rather than move to Red River. As all of the Hudson's Bay Company boat brigades passed through Norway House on their way to the Bay or the Athabasca and McKenzie regions it was also a good point from which to spread the gospel. It was at this mission that James Evans refined the system of Cree syllabics that has been adapted for use throughout Northern Aboriginal societies and around the world. The newsletter 'Spiritual Light', written in Cree and English and distributed all over the north, was published out of Norway House for many years. Norway House was also the site of a residential school, opened around 1900. It is still a major centre of the district that encompasses Cross Lake, Oxford House, God's Lake and Island Lake and has been the location of several schools and government services such as a hospital. It was also the location of many church events such as summer bible schools and leader's conferences drawing attendees from throughout the north.

Other points served by the Norway House missionary at various times included Warren's Landing and Towers Island [Jack River]. At various times after 1969, the missionary at Norway House was responsible for the supervision of the Lay Supply at Cross Lake and Nelson House.

Missionaries who have served the Norway House Charge include James Evans, 1840-1842; James Evans with Peter Jacobs, 1842-1843; James Evans with William Mason, 1843-1845; William Mason, 1846-1854; Thomas Hurlburt, 1854-1857; Robert Brooking, 1857-1860; George W. McDougall, 1860-1864; Charles Stringfellow, 1864-1868; Egerton Ryerson Young, 1868-1872; John Semmens, 1872-1873; John H. Ruttan, 1873-1879; Orrin German, 1879-1884; John Semmens, 1884-1886; John Semmens with Edward Paupanekis, 1886-1887; Edward Paupanekis, 1887-1888; Edward Eves, 1888-1894; John Semmens with A. R. Aldridge, 1894-1895; John Nelson, 1895-1900; John Nelson with Frederick Apetagon, 1900-1904; J. A. (Albert) Lousley, 1904-1905; J. A. Lousley with Edward Paupanekis, 1905-1910; J. A. Lousley, 1910-1914; J. A. Lousley with Joseph Jones, 1914-1915; J. A. Lousley with H. T. Wright, 1915-1916; George F. Denyes with H. T. Wright, 1916-1917; George F. Denyes, 1917-1919; George F. Denyes with A. E. Weaver, 1919-1920; George F. Denyes with Roscoe T. Chapin; 1921-1922; S. D. Gaudin, 1922-1930; Roscoe T. Chapin, 1930-1934; H. L. Chappell, 1934-1937; E. M. Baird, 1937-1939; David D. Martin, 1939-1943; Kenneth C. McLeod, 1943-1947; Gilbert C. Johnson, 1947-1949; Kenneth C. McLeod, 1950-1954; Vernon Morris (supply), summer 1954; A. I. Avery, 1954-1956; R. H. Brown, 1956-1957; Donald A Richardson, 1958-1962; S. C. Fowke, 1963-1967; W. Gray Rivers, 1968-1970; Stanley J. McKay, 1971-1973; Anne Liota, 1972-1973; John Crate with Stanley McKay and Edward Saunders, 1974-1975; and John Crate, 1976-. This roster of missionaries (up to 1940) is taken from a framed list that used to hang in the manse at Norway House Mission before it was destroyed by fire. It appears from this record that several principals of the residential school may also have served as community missionaries at the same time.

The correspondence and other items described here date from ca.1930 to 1972. However, there are a number of unexplained gaps of several months in the record and reference is frequently made to correspondence that is not in the file. Items in this file consist of correspondence and other materials, such as reports and financial records, pertaining to the administration and supervision of the Norway House United Church Home Mission Field. This mainly includes letters between the Superintendent and the Norway House missionary personnel. Copies of correspondence between the Superintendent and the Secretaries of the Board of Home Missions in Toronto are also found here.

Topics pertain to such "housekeeping" matters as salaries and allowances, the ordering and shipping of supplies and equipment, the freighting and distribution of 'clothing bales' and Christmas gifts, the maintenance and construction of mission buildings, insurance, and taxes. As well, correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and life in the community. In addition there may be correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools. Items may also pertain to arrangements for the appointment of missionaries or supply and providing licenses to perform the sacraments. Occasionally, there are requests to consult the Sacramental Registers as proof of age for pensions or as evidence of marriage. As the Norway House missionaries held Presbytery office at various times there are also a number of items pertaining to the state of the work in the other charges of Norway House Presbytery scattered throughout. Topics touched on in this correspondence include reports of mission visitations, matters of supply for Mission Fields and teaching personnel for United Church day and residential schools, and observations on the state of First Nations work in general.

Title based on contents.

Original staple fasteners have been left intact in order to preserve the arrangement of individual pages as found.

Chronological arrangement; a number of items found here pertaining to Norway House Residential School have been repatriated to that file.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Item level description.

Information pertaining to James Evans is also found in the Biographical File.

Other records accessioned for the Norway House Charge include Sacramental Registers dating from 1849 to 1893.

Photographs of Manitoba Home Missions taken by missionary Rev. Chapin have been accessioned by the Provincial Archives of Manitoba.

Location: 509/2/2-8; 509/2/2-9.

Norway House Charge File
'Maintenance Claims' - Item Level Description

1. Norway House Historical Information. – [ca.1930]-1963. – 1 cm textual material.

Items in this folder have been collected together from other Norway House folders and gathered together as a reference resource possibly by Rev. N. K. Campbell, Superintendent of Home Missions from 1960 to 1965. Items include correspondence, speaking notes, visitation diaries, reports, population statistics, clippings, programs, brochures, and other materials on the United Church Home Missions Fields in Northern Manitoba, especially in Norway House Presbytery. There are a number of detailed reports written by various Superintendents of Home Missions after visits to Manitoba's northern missions. These reports contain assessments of the state of the work at various periods throughout the 1950s and 1960s. Several include confidential assessments of missionary personnel as well.

Of special note is Dr. McMillan's report of an extended visit to Norway House including his understanding and assessment of the system for the education of First Nations children in relation to the United Church.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-8-18.

2. Norway House Charge Correspondence. – 1932-1940. – 2 cm textual material.

Items found here that pertain to 'housekeeping' matters include correspondence dating from 1938 and 1939 dealing with the electrification of the mission. Correspondence dating from 1940 pertains to a proposal by the Hudson's Bay Company to acquire a strip of land currently used by the mission and includes a map, likely dating from before 1925. Correspondence dating from December 1940 describes the destruction of the manse by fire.

Correspondence found here that pertains to the state of the work also includes items dating from 1936, 1937 and 1940 dealing with the matter of supply for Sandy Lake.

Also found in this folder is copy of the Department of the Interior map of the Little Playgreen Lake area.

Title based on contents.

Correspondence found in this folder between the Superintendent of Home Missions and the Principal of the Norway House Residential School and pertaining to school matters have been repatriated to the Norway House Residential School file.

Correspondence and other items pertaining to recognition of James Evans in connection with the celebration of the Centenary of Methodist Missions in Canada in 1925 and the celebration of the James Evans Centenary at Norway House in 1840 may be found in the James Evans Biographical File.

Location: 509/2/2-8-19.

3. Norway House Charge Correspondence. – 1941. – 2 cm textual material.

Items found here largely pertain to 'housekeeping' matters including further correspondence dealing with the aftermath of the manse fire and plans for reconstruction and furnishing dating from January 1941 and following.

Title based on contents.

Correspondence found in this folder between the Superintendent of Home Missions and the Principal of the Norway House Residential School and pertaining to school matters have been repatriated to the Norway House Residential School file.

Location: 509/2/2-8-20.

4. Norway House Charge Correspondence. – 1942-1950. – 1.5 cm textual material.

Correspondence dealing with 'housekeeping' matters includes that of August 1949 pertaining to problems with the Department of Indian Affairs over the use of electrical and water services.

Correspondence found here that pertains to the state of the work includes that of October 1943 dealing with the general reaction to the influx of Mennonite missionaries into United Church fields in Northern Manitoba. A copy of the Annual Report of Norway House United Church for 1945 is also included in this folder. Correspondence dating from October 1946 deals with some of the problems encountered by missionaries on isolated fields. Correspondence dating from June 1950 deals with a proposal to send a Womans' Missionary Society worker to Norway House [a worker was finally appointed some ten years after this initial request was made].

Correspondence pertaining to education includes that of September 1948 dealing with concerns over the number of 'United Church' children attending the Catholic school at Norway House.

Title based on contents.

Correspondence found in this folder between the Superintendent of Home Missions and the Principal of the Norway House Residential School and pertaining to school matters have been repatriated to the Norway House Residential School file.

Location: 509/2/2-8-21.

5. Norway House Charge Correspondence. – 1951-1952. – 2.5 cm textual material.

Items found here that pertain to the state of the work include several pieces of correspondence advocating the appointment of a Presbytery Superintendent of Home Missions resident in the North. Correspondence dating from September 1952 deals with a proposal to set up a training school for First Nations church workers.

Items that pertain to day and residential schools includes correspondence of October 1952 dealing with the issue of religious instruction in the schools, the transition of day schools from church schools to state schools, and the construction of new day schools in the Norway House area.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-8-22.

6. Norway House Charge Correspondence*. – 1953-1955. – 3 cm textual material.

Items that pertain to 'housekeeping' include a plan of the mission house drawn by Rev. Avery and dating from 1955.

Items found here that pertain to the state of the work include a copy of the Cree catechism composed by Mrs. C. Keeper and Rev. A. I. Avery and a copy of the Order of Service for Easter 1955 in English and Cree. Also found here is a copy of the program for 'Walter Keeper Day' dating from August 1955.

Items of significance that pertain to personnel issues include correspondence dating from February to November 1954 dealing with the appointment of Mr. Vernon Morris as Lay Supply at Norway House for the summer of 1954. Other items dealing with Presbytery personnel issues include several pieces of correspondence that pertain to the appointment of William Towers to Poplar River in the fall of 1953.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-8-23.

7. Norway House Charge Correspondence. – 1956-1957. – 2 cm textual material.

Items in this folder largely pertain to 'housekeeping' matters associated with changes in pastoral relations for Norway House Charge in 1956 and 1957. Other items dealing with Presbytery personnel issues include several pieces of correspondence that pertain to the resignation of William Towers from Poplar River in 1956.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-8-24.

8. Norway House Charge Correspondence. – 1958-1961. – 1.5 cm textual material.

Items found here that pertain to the state of the work include correspondence of August 1961 dealing with a proposal for a ministerial assistant at Norway House. A number of items of correspondence pertain to the programs put in place by the Woman's Missionary Society (WMS) worker at Norway House, Mrs. Winnifred Gall.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-8-25.

9. Norway House Charge Correspondence*. – 1962. – 1.5 cm textual material.

Items that pertain to 'housekeeping' matters include correspondence dealing with the construction of a Christian Education Hall at Norway House in 1962. Several items scattered throughout deal with the high cost of power. A copy of the request for an annual grant for 1962 is also found here. Further correspondence, especially that of April and May 1962 pertains to the proposal for a lay helper for the missionary at Norway House. Correspondence of May and September 1962 includes a detailed budget for the mission.

Items that pertain to the state of the work include annual reports for 1961 from the WMS worker, Mrs. Gall, and the Christian Education worker, Mrs. Apetagon. Correspondence of May 1962 on the topic of

“integration in reverse” includes the Superintendent’s assessment of the relationship between Native and non-native members of the Norway House Church community. Correspondence of November 1962 includes a copy of Rev. R. C. Matthews’ recommendations on the future of mission work. Other items of note include correspondence of September 1962 that accompanies an account of the activities of [Anglican?] missionary Alan Deacon found in the mission house files.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-1.

10. Norway House Charge Correspondence*. – 1963. – 1.5 cm textual material.

Several items in this folder pertain to ‘housekeeping’ matters associated with the change in pastoral relations for Norway House Charge in 1963. A large number of items also deal with budget matters, especially the cost of fuel. Items that pertain to the work include correspondence of June 1963 offering advice on ministering to First Nations congregations to the new missionary as he takes up his post. Correspondence of December 1963 pertains to a paper titled ‘Impressions of Norway House’ by R. Cairns of Flin Flon and reactions to this paper by the Superintendent and Bruce Norton of Hudson Bay Presbytery (Flin Flon). Also found here is a list of Norway House church members dated April 1963.

Items that pertain to the residential school include correspondence of July 1963 dealing with a proposal for Presbytery oversight of the residential school.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-2.

11. Norway House Charge Correspondence. – 1964-1966. – 1 cm textual material.

Items that pertain to ‘housekeeping’ matters include correspondence of February 1965 dealing with the rental of the Towers Island Church for use as a classroom by the Department of Indian Affairs. Also found here is a copy of a Northland Presbytery Manse Questionnaire for 1966. Items that pertain to the state of the work include further correspondence on the topic of “reverse integration” and ways to counter a trend towards de-facto segregation in Northern Manitoba communities. Correspondence of August 1965 includes a report of the work of Wyn Gall, the WMS worker and her ministry with girls and youth groups.

Items that pertain to the state of the community include a report by Rev. K. C. McLeod of his visit to Norway House after an absence of nine years and containing his observations on the need for high schools facilities in Norway House. Also found here is the inaugural issue of the Norway House News, which contains several items on local people. Other items of significance include correspondence dating from July and August 1965 dealing with the death of Walter Keeper and requests for information about his life and ministry.

Title based on contents.

Items are in reverse chronological order; the archivist has reconstructed order where necessary.

Location: 509/2/2-9-3.

12. Norway House Charge Correspondence. – 1967. – .5 cm textual material.

Items in this folder mainly consist of correspondence pertaining to the move of WMS worker Wyn Gall from Norway House in August of 1967. Also found here are statements of receipts and disbursements for the Norway House Mission dating from January to September 1967.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-4.

13. Norway House Charge Correspondence*. – 1967-1970. – 1.5 cm textual material.

Items that pertain to 'housekeeping' matters include correspondence dating from August 1967 dealing with an offer by the Hudson's Bay Company to purchase a parcel of land from the Church. Several items in this folder pertain to matters associated with the change in pastoral relations for Norway House Charge in 1967. This includes correspondence with the leading candidates, interview reports and references as well as a write up on Norway House.

Items that pertain to the state of the work include correspondence dating from April 1967 and following dealing with the necessity to recruit a replacement for Wyn Gall. Items include a job description for the position of woman worker. Also found here is an annual report for 1967 that mentions the changes for the mission brought about by the closure of the residential school that spring. Correspondence dating from January 1969 reassesses the need for a second worker at Norway House and includes the recommendation of Presbytery Home Missions that one be secured.

Other items of note found here include correspondence of February 1967 suggesting the construction of a retreat centre for ministers in the vicinity of Norway House. Also found here is a copy of the Rivers family newsletter for Christmas 1969.

Title based on contents.

This folder includes four photocopied reproductions of photographs depicting the United Church buildings at Norway House.

Items are in reverse chronological order; the archivist has reconstructed order where necessary.

Location: 509/2/2-9-5.

14. Norway House Christian Education Hall Correspondence. – 1964-1969. – .5 cm textual material.

Items found in this folder include correspondence and statements pertaining to the loan received from the Board of Home Missions for the construction of a Christian Education Hall and Residence at Norway House.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-6.

Norway House Charge File
'Property Claims' - Item Level Description

15. Norway House Charge Correspondence. – 1932-1933. – 1 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder largely consist of items that pertain to the construction of a new church building at Norway House under the supervision of Rev. Chapin during August and September of 1932.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-19.

16. Norway House Charge Correspondence. – 1940-1957, predominant 1957. – .5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence dating from May 1940 that pertains to a request from the Hudson's Bay Company to buy a strip of land adjacent to the mission. The letter includes a description of the title for the United Church property in Norway House and includes the observation that the Norway House Band contested ownership of this strip. Other items found here date from 1957 and pertain to the maintenance of canoes and the annual order for mission furnishings and supplies.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-20.

17. Norway House Charge Correspondence*. – 1958-1959, predominant 1959. – 2 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence dating from December 1958, January 1959 and following dealing with proposals to build a Church Hall at Norway House and a chapel at Jack River. Correspondence dating from 2 March 1959 pertains to a formal request from the United Church to the Norway House Band for permission to use land on Towers Island (Jack River) for a chapel. Later correspondence deals with matters pertaining to the actual construction of the Jack River/Towers Island Chapel. Correspondence dating from September 1959 pertains to the recommendations of the Church workers at Norway House for the anticipated Church Hall. Other correspondence concerns the ordering of supplies for the manse and mission and manse repairs.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-21.

18. Norway House Charge Correspondence. – 1960. – 1 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include further correspondence pertaining to the construction of the chapel at Jack River/Towers Island. This includes correspondence dating from June 1960 pertaining to a complaint by the Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Kenora and Keewatin that the new chapel at Jack River "was moving into an area already served by Anglicans". Correspondence dating from 9 May and 30 June 1960 deals with continuing efforts to secure a Permit or Right of Occupancy for the Jack River property. Other correspondence deals with ordering supplies for the manse.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-22.

19. Norway House Charge Correspondence. – 1961. – 2.5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include further correspondence pertaining to the construction and furnishing of the Norway House Christian Education/Community Hall, which also included a residence for a Woman's Missionary Society worker. Also found here is a summary of the Official Board Meeting held at Rossville [Norway House] September 18, 1961 including the information that the Charge had accepted responsibility of a portion of the cost for the new Church Hall. As well, a copy of the 'Application for Loan' is found here. Other correspondence pertains to the ordering and shipping of manse furnishing, manse renovations and mission equipment maintenance. A number of items pertain to efforts to secure a more regular source of electrical power from the federal government or Manitoba Hydro.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-23.

20. Norway House Charge Correspondence. – 1962. – 2 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder are dated for the period from January to June 1962. This includes continuing correspondence pertaining to the furnishing of the Church Hall and the ordering and shipping of manse and mission supplies. Correspondence dating from 28 February 1962 and following deals with the high cost of electrical power, the problems that resulted and the response of the Board. Also found here is a signed copy of the 'Agreement to Repay' the loan received for the construction of the Church Hall.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-24.

21. Norway House Charge Correspondence. – 1962. – 2 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder are dated for the period from July to December 1962. This includes correspondence pertaining to the ordering and shipping of supplies and furnishings for the manse and Church Hall, power and fuel costs, mission maintenance and the repayment of loans. Also found here is a letter of revision received from the Local Government District of Consol reducing the assessment on the Church Hall. Correspondence dating from 29 November and December 1962 deals with a request from the Department of Public Works for a right of way over church property to be sued for construction of a new wharf.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-25.

22. Norway House Charge Correspondence. – 1963. – 1.5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence pertaining to the ordering and shipping of supplies and furnishings for the manse and Church Hall, power and fuel costs, mission maintenance and the repayment of loans. Correspondence of March 1963 includes a detailed fuel oil budget. Correspondence dating from 5 June 1963 and following deals with arrangements by Manitoba Hydro to install equipment to supply electricity to Norway House. Other correspondence deals with a major manse renovation planned for the summer of 1963.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-26.

23. Norway House Charge Correspondence. – 1964-1972. – 1 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence pertaining to the ordering and shipping of supplies and furnishings for the manse and Church Hall, power and fuel costs, manse and mission maintenance and the repayment of loans. Correspondence dating from February 1969 and following deals with a proposal to replace the oil-burning furnace in the Church Hall with a wood burner formerly installed in the manse. Correspondence dating from November 1970 concerns a proposal by the Hudson's Bay Company to enlarge and repair the Church dock at Norway House in order that the Bay may also use it.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-27.

Norway House Residential School. – 1937-1967. – 10 folders textual material.

The residential school at Norway House had its beginnings as a Methodist boarding school that was opened 13 December 1899 as a means of delivering education to boys and girls from the northern reserves whose parents still followed a nomadic way of life. It was opened in response to requests from people of the district who thought that the Brandon school was too far away. It is also believed to have functioned for a time as an orphanage. The original school was destroyed by fire in 1913 and a new building was constructed that accommodated 96 children. This structure was in turn destroyed by fire in 1946. From 1946 to 1954 there was no residential school in operation at Norway House. The third school in the community opened in 1954 with a capacity of 150 children aged 6 to 16 years. Like other residential schools of the period, the school program emphasised the teaching of practical skills and instruction in agricultural practises, such as grain production, gardening and animal husbandry occupied much of the school day until the late 1950s.

Children came to Norway House from 'United Church' settlements at northern reserves such as God's Lake, Oxford House, Red Sucker Lake, Island Lake, Nelson House, and Cross Lake as well as Norway House. Beginning in the early 1960s, as more day schools were opened in these communities, children from other faiths, especially Anglican, were admitted to the Norway House Residential School. These children came from communities such as Split Lake and Shamattawa and along the Hudson's Bay Line.

By the 1940s, the junior school pupils attended the reserve day school. When the residential school reopened in 1955, there were three one-room day schools operating in the near by community of Rossville. In 1956, these were replaced by the Department of Indian Affairs with a three-classroom building located close to the residential school. In 1958, these classrooms were consolidated with those at the residential school in order to implement a graded system. Administration of the Day School building was handed over to the Norway House Residential School at that time. By 1965, it was apparent that the need for residential schools like that at Norway House was ending as First Nations people settled in permanent communities and more day schools were built. By 1967, enrolment had fallen from 150 to 61 and it was decided that the Norway House Residential School would be closed.

Principals who have been identified include Rev. A. J. Lousley, ca.1900-; Rev. Joseph Jones, 1914-1916; Rev. George Denny, ca.1916-19; Mr. Blackford, ca.1925-ca.1930; Rev. W. W. Shoup, ca.1930-ca.1934; Rev. R. T. Chapin, ca.1934-1941; Rev. J. A. Doyle, ca.1941; Mr. A. E. Caldwell, 1941-1944; Rev. Joseph Jones, 1944-1947; Rev. Ken McLeod, 1954-1956; Mr. John B. Denny, 1956-1957; and Mr. Bernard Lee, 1957-1967. Some sources give the first principal as a Mr. Hardyman.

At some point, the Superintendent's records for Norway House Residential School dating from 1951 to 1967 were separated from the main body of records (which were accessioned by the Conference Archives in 1984 and 1988). Most of the Superintendent's Norway House Residential School files were not accessioned until 1996 when they came into the Archives with the records of Conference administration. Those records had been stored in the basement of 120 Maryland until that date. Records created by the last principal of Norway House Residential School, Bernard Lee, were accessioned by the Conference Archives in 1979 and are described as part of the series '509/3 Records of the Administration of Norway House Residential School'.

The records described here date from 1937 to 1967 with the majority dating from the period subsequent to 1951 when the decision was taken to rebuild after the previous school was destroyed by fire. Items described here include correspondence between the Principal of the Norway House Residential School and the Conference Superintendent of Home Missions as well as copies and originals of correspondence between them and the Board of Home Missions in Toronto. There are also copies and originals of correspondence between them and various officials of the Department of Indian Affairs. Topics include the recruitment and appointment of staff (named in most cases), maintenance of school buildings and equipment, and informal reports on the conditions found at the school and on staff performance. Often items are included that relate to other northern missions and residential schools in Manitoba.

Title based on contents.

This file has been retained in the original folders as samples of the labelling conventions employed for the entire sub-series of Superintendent's 'Indian Work' records.

Chronological arrangement with order reconstructed by the archivist where necessary; original order of bundled correspondence as arranged by the file's creators has been retained.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Item level description.

For other records pertaining to Norway House Residential School see the file 'Church and Government Owned Indian Residences, 1962-1965' described with the records of N. K. Campbell, 1960-1965 as part of the General Files of the Superintendent's of Home Missions; see also the series '509/3 Records of the Administration of Norway House Residential School'.

Photographs of Manitoba Home Missions taken by missionary and Norway House School principal Rev. Chapin have been accessioned by the Provincial Archives of Manitoba.

Location: Box 509/2/2-9; Box S-4-2. (CA0211)

Norway House Residential School Charge File
Item Level Description

1. Norway House Residential School. – 1937-1950. – 1cm of textual material.

This folder contains records pertaining to the administration of the Norway House Residential School before its destruction by fire in May of 1946. This includes correspondence pertaining to applications from children for places at the school and appropriations for operations and maintenance of the building. This also includes items of correspondence such as that of 20 August 1941 from the school principal to the Board Secretary pertaining to the enrolment of Protestant children in the Roman Catholic Residential School at Cross Lake and naming several children in this position.

Also included are items pertaining to the appointment of teachers and other staff. This includes those nominated for the day schools that replaced the residential school until a new structure could be built. A number of items of correspondence dating from 1946 pertain to the selection of a site and preparation for construction of a new school.

Some items pertain to matters not directly connected with the school or the community. Correspondence dating from September 1940 includes an account of the forest fire at Berens River. These include correspondence of 13 October 1941 containing a paragraph pertaining to the ministry of Harry Meadows at Poplar River and that of December 1950 pertaining to the construction of a Roman Catholic Church at Rosville.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-7.

2. Norway House Residential School*. – 1951-1953. – 1.5cm of textual material.

This folder contains several items of correspondence pertaining to the choice of Norway House as opposed to Waboden as a location for the rebuilt Residential School to replace the one that had been destroyed by fire in 1946. This includes correspondence pertaining to accounts and expenses as well as to delays in construction. Also included is correspondence of March to May 1953 pertaining to the appointment of Ken McLeod, who had been missionary at Norway House, as principal and correspondence pertaining to staffing problems created by the delayed opening of the school from July 1953 to September 1954.

Items of correspondence not pertaining directly to the school include that of 22 April 1953 from K. C. McLeod to the Superintendent with McLeod's views on First Nations funeral customs; and that of 24 April 1953 pertaining to the idea for an Indian Hostel in Winnipeg. There are also a number of items of correspondence pertaining to suggestions from K. C. McLeod for the establishment of a training school in the north similar to the Cook Training School in Arizona.

Several items of correspondence in this folder deal with the staffing of United Church missions other than Norway House.

Title based on contents.

Location: Box 509/2-5 (Formerly S-4-2. [CA0211])

3. Norway House School*. – 1954. – 2 cm textual material.

The folder contains material pertaining to the planned reopening of Norway House School in 1954 such as building construction, renovation of accommodation and the purchase of supplies; the recruitment of pupils; and the hiring of teaching and support staff including a few letters of application (most are named). This includes correspondence, dated 9 to 11 June 1954, relating to the question of the principal's authority over school staff and to whom the principal is responsible in turn. An extract of a letter from Major R. F. Davey of Indian Affairs to Secretary McDonald concerning the per capita grants for school operation, dated 13 December 1954, includes a list of pupils on the September quarterly return disqualified for payment by the Department. There is also correspondence, dated 2 July, 4, 23 and 13 August 1954, pertaining to the proposed transfer of 'northern' children from the Portage la Prairie and Brandon Residential Schools to Norway House. Correspondence to Secretary McDonald, dated 5 July 1954 and bundled together with items pertaining to the purchase of a tractor, states Ken McLeod's intention to resign as principal effective June 1955.

Some correspondence does not pertain directly to the residential school and includes passages concerned with plans for the operation of day schools at Norway House and plans for the staffing of other northern missions.

Title based on contents.

Location: Box 509/2-5 (Formerly S-4-2. [CA0211])

4. Norway House School*. – 1955. – 1.5cm textual material.

This folder contains material similar to that in folders previously described pertaining to the operation of Norway House School in 1955. Much correspondence, especially with Indian Affairs, pertains to the ordering of supplies, fuel and power. Correspondence dated March and April 1955 pertains to the difficulty of conforming to the requirement that fresh fruit be included in school meals. There is also correspondence interspersed throughout dealing with staffing including that of January 1955 dealing with the possible resignation (later withdrawn) of K. C. McLeod as principal. Several items of correspondence from April and May 1955 deal with the planning for the official opening in June 1955. Also included here is a draft orientation pamphlet for Norway House teachers coming to the north for the first time; an information sheet for prospective applicants; and a copy of the program, incorporating a staff list, for the official school opening.

Correspondence that does not pertain directly to the residential school includes that of September to November 1955 dealing with the planned construction of a Day School for the Jack River Settlement on Playgreen Lake.

Title based on contents; folder label actually reads 'Norway House Residential School, 1959-1964'.

Location: Box 509/2-5 (Formerly S-4-2. [CA0211])

5. Norway House School. – 1956. – 2 cm textual material.

This folder contains material similar to that in folders previously described pertaining to the on-going management of Norway House Residential School. Correspondence found here deals with matters such as the purchase of a wood supply for heating and the purchase of an organ in June 1956. As well, there is correspondence with Indian Affairs beginning in February 1956 concerning financial arrangements and the anticipated deficit for the year. Correspondence of 11 December 1956 pertains to the inadequacies of the per capita grant. Also included is correspondence of February 1956 pertaining to the appointment of a principal for the new day school, the sharing of administrative duties with the residential school and correspondence of September 1956 pertaining to the possibility of integrating the day and residential schools. Correspondence relating to staffing deals with the search for a new principal in April of 1956; the employment of Mabel McLeod as Senior Teacher in May of 1956; the employment of school staff for the fall of 1956 (including letters of application); the transfer of Ken McLeod to Alberta Conference; and the arrangements for the transfer of authority from K. McLeod to J. Dennys, the new principal. Also found here is a copy of a staff application form for September 1956 and a copy of the principal's report for 1956.

Correspondence that does not pertain directly to the residential school includes that of 28 May 1956 pertaining to several Protestant children attending the Roman Catholic School at Norway House.

Title based on contents.

Location: Box 509/2-5 (Formerly S-4-2. [CA0211])

6. Norway House School*. – 1957-1959. – 2cm textual material.

This folder contains material similar to that in folders previously described pertaining to the on-going management of Norway House Residential School. Correspondence deals with administrative matters such as financial accounts particularly transportation, hydro costs, grants and salaries. (Transportation invoices are useful in determining which staff were in residence at the school and when.) Also found here is correspondence pertaining to the garage and workshop fire in October 1958.

Correspondence pertaining to staff incorporates that pertaining to staffing requirements for the 1957/58, 1958/59 and 1959/60 terms and includes inquiries from prospective employees and letters of reference as well as letters of resignation. Other correspondence dealing with staff includes that of February through June of 1958 pertaining to the resignation of John Dennys as principal and the search for a replacement. Correspondence of 6 June 1958 contains a passage listing staff planning to depart at the end of term. There are also items pertaining to the appointment of Winnifred Gall as Woman's Missionary Society worker in the fall of 1958 and her correspondence with the Superintendent outlining efforts in organising community activities and requesting assistance. Correspondence of November 1959 to Elizabeth McLeod at the Board of Home Missions from Bernard Lee includes a list of teaching and domestic staff as of that date. Other items pertaining to staff include correspondence of 5 May 1959 that has a copy of an information sheet circulated to ministers of Manitoba Conference by Bernard Lee in attempt to recruit staff for Norway House School and a copy of the undated information sheet for prospective staff titled 'Points of Information on United Church Indian Residential School, Norway House, Manitoba'.

This folder also contains a copy of a list titled "Day Pupils of Indian Status Norway House Indian Residential School and Rossville United Church Indian Day School (amalgamated) Norway House, Manitoba May 21, 1959" which includes the names and religious affiliation of the student's parents. Also appended to Miss Gall's correspondence of July 1959 are two letters of reference identifying treaty Indians for travel purposes.

Correspondence that does not pertain directly to the residential school includes that related to the staffing of the Norway House Mission and the replacement of Rev. Brown by Donald Richardson in the spring of

1958. Also found here is the "Easter Report of Children Attending Brandon City Schools [1959]" from the Brandon Indian Residence. As well there is a copy of the 'Service for Recognition of Doctors, Nurses, Principals, Teachers and Workers'.

Title based on contents.

Location: Box 509/2-5 (Formerly S-4-2. [CA0211])

7. Norway House School*. – 1960-1962. – 2cm textual material.

This folder contains material similar to that in folders previously described pertaining to the on-going management of Norway House Residential School. Correspondence dealing with administrative matters includes that of February 1960 pertaining to the hiring of a stationary engineer and the cutting of timber for the school. There is continuing correspondence pertaining to financial accounts, the ongoing deficit and travel expenses. Correspondence of 8 April 1961 pertains to the proposed agreement between the Church and Indian Affairs for the operation of the residential school. Correspondence of 6 October 1961 pertains to the proposed construction of a duplex near the school and includes a photocopy of the school property survey.

Correspondence pertaining to staff incorporates that pertaining to staffing requirements for the 1960/61, 1961/62 and 1962/63 terms and includes inquiries from prospective employees and letters of reference as well as letters of resignation. Correspondence pertaining to staff also includes that of 23 January 1960 and March 1962 listing non-teaching staff. Correspondence of March 1962 pertains to complaints from maintenance staff about low wages and includes a copy of the formal grievance incorporating the detailed employment history of the grievors.

Among items pertaining to students found here is a copy of a letter sent to parents in July 1960 outlining anticipated vacancies and asking them to indicate their choice of school for their children for the coming year. A summary of the religious education program including the names of the teachers and the courses taught is included in correspondence from D. A. Richards, the missionary, dated February 1962.

Also included in this folder is a copy of the inaugural issue (January, 1962) of the "Norway House Messenger", the school newsletter.

Correspondence that does not pertain directly to the residential school includes that of dated June 1962 pertaining to the title to the Hope Island land.

Title based on contents.

Location: Box 509/2-5 (Formerly S-4-2. [CA0211])

8. Agreement for the Operation of Norway House Indian Residential School. – 1962. – 1 cm textual material.

Folder contains two copies of the agreement, dated 22 June 1962, between the Department of Citizenship and Immigration, Indian Affairs Branch and The United Church of Canada for the operation of the residential school at Norway House.

Title based on contents.

Location: Box 509/2-5 (Formerly S-4-2. [CA0211])

9. Norway House School*. – 1963-1964. – 1cm textual material.

This folder contains material similar to that in folders previously described pertaining to the on-going management of Norway House Residential School. Also found here is correspondence, dated 8 July and 5 August 1963, relating to the Presbyterial Advisory Committee for the school.

Correspondence pertaining to staff incorporates that pertaining to staffing requirements for the 1963/64 term. Correspondence of March 1963 from R. W. Carter, Indian Affairs Supervising Principal, pertains to improvements in school morale. Correspondence pertaining to staff also includes that of 4 April 1963 incorporating a list of teaching staff boarding at the school and grades taught. Among items pertaining to students found here is a copy of the July 1963 report "Projection of School Population 1964-1971" with a special discussion of pupils reaching 16 years before Grade 9.

Also included here is a copy of the Christmas [1963] Norway House School Newsletter.

Title based on contents.

Location: Box 509/2-5 (Formerly S-4-2. [CA0211])

10. Norway House School*. – 1965-1967. – 1.5cm textual material.

The folder primarily contains material pertaining to the transfer of responsibility for the Norway House Residential School to the Indian Affairs Branch including correspondence pertaining to the disposition of school property and correspondence of May 1967 regarding the handling of confidential files. Correspondence of 30 November 1966 from B. Lee to John McDonald, Director of Northern Development, pertains to the location of a planned road allowance and the impact this would have on the school property and includes a map showing the location of school buildings in relation to the United Church and other buildings in Rossville. Also included here is correspondence of 26 May 1967 with an outline of the school history and a list of principals from 1920 attached.

Correspondence pertaining to staff incorporates that pertaining to severance and includes an Employee List and Severance Summary dated 30 June 1967.

Copies of reports found here include a report to the Hudson's Bay Presbytery by B. Lee, dated September 1965, on the future of Norway House and other residential schools. Correspondence related to this subject includes several items of August 1965 and that of October 1965 from Nelson Rajotte to B. Lee. The Hudson's Bay Presbytery Special Committee report "Future Policy of the United Church in Relation to Day Schools, Residential Schools and their Administration in Indian Communities" dated October 1965 is also found here along with a preliminary draft and correspondence generated by the report.

Title based on contents.

File is in reverse chronological order.

Location: Box 509/2-5 (Formerly S-4-2. [CA0211])

Oxford House Charge. – 1935-1972. – 16 folders textual material.

Oxford House is a First Nations community located 180 miles north-east of Norway House on the north shore of Oxford Lake. James Evans visited the area as early as 1840 and performed marriages at that time. The first Methodist mission in the area was established around 1851 at the head of Jackson's Bay by Henry B. Steinhauer with the help of his interpreter and assistant, John Sinclair. Around 1875, the mission was moved to the other end of the lake, closer to the Hudson's Bay Company Post and the site of the main settlement. Later, a school was opened under the direction of Mr. E. F. Hardiman. When Rev. Niddrie was appointed missionary in 1910, the Oxford House field also included God's Lake and Island Lake and Rev. Niddrie would live half-time at Oxford House and the other half at Island Lake stopping at God's Lake in between. Oxford House would continue to be supervised from Island Lake off and on over the years. Until the 1950s, the missionary regularly would make long journeys by dog sled or canoe to outlying camps and other preaching points. The missionary would also operate a dispensary and be responsible for distributing relief rations. In many cases, the missionary's wife served as matron or teacher. Rev. Levi Atkinson was responsible for the construction of a new church and school around 1925.

Missionaries who served at the Oxford House Charge included Mr. Henry Steinhauer, 1851-ca.1854; Rev. Robert Brooking, 1854-1857; Rev. Charles Stringfellow, 1857-1863; Mr. John Sinclair (Lay Supply), 1863-1873; Rev. Orrin German, 1873-1878; Rev. Enos Lagford, 1878-1881; Mr. William and Mr. Philip Moore (Lay Supply), 1881-1888; Rev. Edward Papanakis, 1888-; Rev. Frederick Apetagus, ca.1892-1897; Rev. Fred G. Stevens, 1897-1901; Rev. A. McNeil, 1901-1904; Arthur Santmier, ca.1905; Rev. Frederick Apetagus, 1906-1907; J. H. Lowes, 1907-1909; Alex Martin, 1909-1910; Rev. J. W. Niddrie, 1910-1918; Rev. Levi E. Atkinson, 1918-1926; Rev. J. A. C. Kell, 1927-1929; Frances E. Stevens, 1930-1931; Rev. Leonard Bacon, 1931-1934; George H. Harris (Lay Supply), 1934-1935; Donald T. Scoates, 1935-1941; Ian J. Harvey (Student Supply), 1941-1943; William Dueck (Supply), 1943-1944; E. C. Brandt (Supply), 1945-1947; Herbert Murray Reynolds (Lay Supply), 1947-1949; G. C. Johnson (Supply), 1949; Dan Priest (Lay Supply), 1949-1953; Walter Keeper (Supply), 1954; Mr. and Mrs. Richard (Dick) Graham (Lay Supply), ca.1954-1960; Gerald Kelly (Lay Supply), 1960-1962; Noci Vander Stoel, 1962-1963; Rev. Ian Harland, 1963-1968; Rev. W. Dale Allison, 1968-1970; and Ed Simms (Supply), 1970-1971; and Ed Saunders, 1971-1972. Those who have served as Summer Supply have included F. G. Stevens, 1945 and D. A. Richardson, 1962.

This file consists of correspondence and other materials, such as reports and financial records, pertaining to the administration and supervision of the Oxford House United Church Home Mission Field dating from 1935 to 1972. However, there appear to be gaps of several months in the record and reference is frequently made to correspondence that is not in the file. Items found here mainly consist of letters between the Superintendent and the Oxford House missionary personnel. Copies of correspondence between the Superintendent and the Secretaries of the Board of Home Missions in Toronto are also found here. Topics pertain to such 'housekeeping' matters as salaries and allowances, the ordering and shipping of supplies and equipment, the freighting and distribution of 'clothing bales' and Christmas gifts, maintenance and construction of mission buildings, and arrangements for building insurance. As well, correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and life in the community. In addition there is correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools. A number of items pertain to arrangements for the appointment of missionaries or Supply and the nomination of day-school teachers and field matrons. Occasionally, there are requests to consult the Sacramental Registers as proof of age for pensions or as evidence of marriage.

Title based on contents.

Original staple fasteners have been left intact in order to preserve the arrangement of individual pages as found.

Chronological arrangement; order has been reconstructed by the archivist where necessary.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Item level description.

See also the Superintendent of Home Missions Property Files identified as 'Presbyteries (Northland)' for further records pertaining to Oxford House Charge.

See also other records accessioned for the Oxford House Charge including Sacramental Registers dating from 1840 to 1975.

Location: 509/2/2-9.

Oxford House Charge File
'Maintenance Claims' - Item Level Description

1. Oxford House Charge Correspondence. – 1935-1942. – 1cm textual material.

Correspondence of note regarding the state of the community includes that of 23 May 1938 pertaining to the death by drowning of Ernest Bower, Hyers' Post Clerk. Reference is made to detailed reports written by the missionary's wife and day-school teacher, Ada Scoates, that are not found in this file.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-15.

2. Oxford House Charge Correspondence. – 1943-1946. – 1cm textual material.

Correspondence of note in this folder pertaining to housekeeping matters includes that of 25 July 1943 giving a vivid description of the deficiencies of the mission manse and pleading for supplies for a new house. Correspondence of January 1945 gives a list of suggested fixtures and equipment for the mission house. A number of items of correspondence dating from January 1945 and following pertain to a controversy over the missionary's salary.

Items of note in this folder pertaining to the state of the work include correspondence of 29 September 1943 dealing with the issue of infant baptism. Further correspondence dating from September 1943 and throughout the folder describes strained relations with the Catholic Church as pertains to Oxford House. This includes correspondence of July and August 1944 describing a reserve vote to surrender land to a Catholic mission and incorporating a list of voters.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-16.

3. Oxford House Charge Correspondence*. – 1947-1953. – 1.5cm textual material.

Items of note in this folder pertaining to housekeeping matters includes correspondence of 1951 and following and following dealing with arrangements for the construction of the new mission house that was eventually built in the summer of 1952.

Items of note in this folder pertaining to the state of the work include two reports of supervisory visits to Oxford House dating from ca.1948 and ca.1950. Correspondence from Mrs. Mabel Gosbee dated October 1953 details preparations made for Christmas by the Woman's Association in the absence of a missionary. Correspondence of November 1953 from W. Smith further describes the work of the Woman's Association and the progress of the Sunday School. A number of items of correspondence dating from November 1953 pertain to the appointment of Walter Keeper as Native Lay Supply to Oxford House.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-17.

4. Oxford House Charge Correspondence. – 1953-1954. – 1cm textual material.

Items of note in this folder pertaining to housekeeping matters includes correspondence of September 1954 from the Division of Vital Statistics pertaining to the whereabouts of the Oxford House Registers.

Items of note in this folder pertaining to the state of the work include correspondence of January 1954 from Chief George Colon outlining the band's objections to the appointment of a church leader from outside the community when a number of suitable candidates were available locally. A number of letters to and from Ken McLeod of Norway House pertain to the state of the work at Oxford House and other fields in the district. Correspondence of February and March 1954 from Lay Supply Walter Keeper contains his views on the state of the work.

Correspondence of note regarding the state of the community includes that of September 1954 from the nursing station containing observations on community health.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-18.

5. Oxford House Charge Correspondence*. – 1955-1956. – 1cm textual material.

Items of note in this folder pertaining to housekeeping matters includes correspondence of April 1955 and following from the missionary pertaining to the whereabouts of the Oxford House registers and requesting their return from the United College librarian. The records were eventually returned in December. A number of letters deal with the need for an electrical lighting plant for the mission. Correspondence of December 1955 contains a proposal for a new church building and a plan to use the existing church as a hall.

Items of note in this folder pertaining to the state of the work include correspondence of September 1955 pertaining to the inroads being made by the Northern Canada Evangelical Missions. Several items of correspondence continue to be devoted to the problem of strained relations with Catholic missionaries in the area.

Correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools includes general references to the number of children sent out to residential school in the fall.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-19.

6. Oxford House Charge Correspondence*. – 1957-1960. – 1.5cm textual material.

Items of note in this folder pertaining to housekeeping matters includes correspondence of March 1957 relating how the church caught fire during mid-week service and the need for fire extinguishers for the church and mission house.

Items of note in this folder pertaining to the state of the work include correspondence of October 1960, which continues to describe strained relations with the local Catholic missionary, in this case as pertains to denominational schools at Oxford House.

Correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools includes that of April 1957 and following dealing with the selection of a site for a new school building and re-organisation of school administration in Oxford House. Correspondence of March 1958 includes a list of 'United Church' children expected to start school over the next three years.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-20.

7. Oxford House Charge Correspondence*. – 1961-1962. – 1.5cm textual material.

Items of note in this folder pertaining to housekeeping matters includes a number of letters pertaining to construction of the new church and hall over the summer of 1962. Correspondence of November 1962 describes the operation of church finances. A number of items dating from November and December 1962 pertain to issues around the naming of a sub-registrar for the district.

Items in this folder pertaining to the state of the work include correspondence of January and May 1961 describing continued rivalries with the Catholic clergy in Oxford House. Also found here are Minutes of the Oxford House Congregational Meeting of 21 January 1962 dealing with a request for a grant from the Board of Home Missions to build a new church and hall.

Items of note regarding the state of the community include a series of newspaper articles by Winnipeg reporter, Jim Shilliday, who had visited Oxford House, ca.1962, and lived for a week with the Vernon Grieves family.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-21.

8. Oxford House Charge Correspondence. – 1963. – .5cm textual material.

Items in this folder consist of 'housekeeping' correspondence pertaining to the moving expenses of missionary personnel and arrangements for fuel and other supplies.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-22.

9. Oxford House Charge Correspondence. – 1963-1969. – .5cm textual material.

Items in this folder pertaining to the state of the work include correspondence of February 1966 pertaining to the concerns of the community about the amount of time spent away from the community by the missionary. The Annual Report of Oxford House United Church for 1966 is also found here. Also in this folder is a report produced by a Presbytery visitation team dating from January 1969. There are also a number of items pertaining to the appointment of mission personnel.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-9-23.

10. Oxford House Charge Correspondence. – 1966. – .5cm textual material.

Items in this folder consist of correspondence pertaining to a request for an advance on the missionary's salary necessitated by the high cost of supplies, such as fuel, for the mission.

Title based on contents.

Reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-9-24.

Oxford House Charge File
'Property Claims' - Item Level Description

11. Oxford House Charge Correspondence. – 1948-1952. – .5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder largely consist of invoices and waybills for the shipment of supplies and materials to Oxford House. Correspondence and other items dating from 1952 pertain to the construction of a new mission house.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-28.

12. Oxford House Charge Correspondence. – 1952-1954. – .5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder largely consist of correspondence and other items dealing with matters pertaining to the construction of a new mission house at Oxford House during 1952.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-29.

13. Oxford House Charge Correspondence. – 1955-1961. – 1 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence and other items that pertain to matters associated with the ordering and shipping of supplies, furnishings and other materials and the maintenance of mission property. Correspondence dating from May 1959 and November/December 1961 deal with plans to begin preparations for the construction of a new church building. Correspondence dating from November 1961 deals with the construction of a chapel at the other end of the reserve from Oxford House Church.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-30.

14. Oxford House Charge Correspondence. – 1962. – 2 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence dating from January 1962 and following that pertains to matters associated with the planned construction of a new Church and Church Hall. Correspondence dating from April, May, June and July 1962 deals with plans for the disposal of the old church building. Other correspondence dating from April and May 1962 deals with securing a 'Right of Occupancy' for the United Church buildings and cemetery at Oxford House. Other items deal with the ordering and shipping of supplies and manse furnishings, repairs to the well, and manse renovations.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-31.

15. Oxford House Charge Correspondence. – 1963. – 1.5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include items dealing with the ordering and shipping of supplies, fuel and manse furnishings, and repairs to the well. Correspondence dating from February and March 1963 deals with plans to demolish the old mission house. Correspondence dating from December 1963 pertains to the continued debate around the disposal of the old church building.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-32.

16. Oxford House Charge Correspondence. – 1963-1972. – 1 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include items dealing with the ordering and shipping of supplies, fuel and manse furnishings and the maintenance and repair of mission equipment. Correspondence dating from January 1964 pertains to the continued debate around the disposal of the old church building. Also included here is a report on the condition of the manse produced as a result of a Presbytery visitation in January 1969 and a second, undated, manse condition report.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-1-33.

Pikangikum Charge. – 1936-1974. – 11 folders textual material.

Pikangikum is a First Nations community located in Ontario near the headwaters of the Berens River, upstream from Little Grand Rapids and the Manitoba border. A Hudson's Bay Post was established at Pikangikum in 1900. Originally, Pikangikum was a preaching point of the Methodist Mission at Berens River. More recently, it was supervised from Red Lake. Until around 1960, the missionary was also responsible for distributing government relief rations and dispensing medicines. Most of the residents did not speak English and the missionary usually required an interpreter. The people of the nearby community of Poplar Hill were also members of the Pikangikum Band. Although a United Church mission was eventually established at Poplar Hill, the Pikangikum missionary often served that point as well. The missionaries carried on such education as was available until a new government day school was opened at Pikangikum in 1954. Many children went out to the Sioux Lookout (Anglican) and Cecilia Jeffrey Residential Schools (Presbyterian) or the Poplar Hill (Mennonite) School to continue their schooling. A new United Church building was constructed in 1959.

Pikangikum was an extremely isolated community and often could not be supplied for extended periods of time. Missionaries who served at the Pikangikum Charge included John James Everett (Lay Supply), 1927; James Kirkness (missionary /teacher), 1928-1934; Richard Schuetze (missionary /teacher), 1934-1935; Mr. Walter Mutch (missionary /teacher), 1937-1939; W. Rushford (Lay Supply), 1939-1941; Herbert Smith (missionary /teacher), 1942-1946; John Berens (leader), 1956; Roderick Keeper (senior leader), 1957; Harold Ogimow (Lay Supply), 1960-1961; John McFarland, 1962-1965; John James Everette, 1965-1970; and Robert Elkin, 1970-1972. Summer supply included Rev. Frank Rutledge, 1964. Teachers included Mr. & Mrs. R. W. Dunning who were retained for summer school from 1950 to 1954 and who were then engaged full-time; Mrs. George (Nellie) Wheeler, 1953-1954; Mr. John Garbella, 1956-1957; and Mr. & Mrs. Desmond McLaughlin, 1957.

The correspondence and other items described here date from 1936-1974. However, there are a number of unexplained gaps of several months or years. The arrangement of items in these folders was extremely disorganised, and did not conform to the pattern evident with the Superintendent of Home Mission's Maintenance Claims records for other Mission Fields. It is not possible to determine if this reflects the original arrangement of the records or if items were re-arranged prior to or after accession. This file consists of correspondence and other materials, such as reports and financial records, pertaining to the administration and supervision of the Pikangikum United Church Home Mission Field. This mainly includes letters between the Superintendent and the Pikangikum missionary personnel. Copies of correspondence between the Superintendent and the Secretaries of the Board of Home Missions in Toronto are also found here. Topics pertain to such "housekeeping" matters as salaries and allowances, the ordering and shipping of supplies and equipment, the freighting and distribution of 'clothing bales' and Christmas gifts, and maintenance of mission buildings. As well, correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and life in the community. In addition there is correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools. A number of items pertain to arrangements for the appointment of missionaries or supply and providing licenses to perform the sacraments. Occasionally, requests were received regarding proof of age or marriage.

Title based on contents.

Pikangikum has various spellings including Pekangekum, Pekangecum and Pikangicum.

Original staple fasteners have been left intact in order to preserve the arrangement of individual pages as found; where fasteners have been replaced the original arrangement of the pages has been preserved.

Chronological arrangement; order has been reconstructed by the archivist where necessary.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Item level description.

Further information pertaining to the Pikangikum Charge may be found in the Superintendents of Home Missions records for Berens River Charge, Deer Lake Charge (Correspondence File #4) and Little Grand Rapids Charge (Correspondence File #13).

See also the Superintendent of Home Missions Property Files identified as 'Presbyteries (Kenora-Rainy River)' for further records pertaining to Pikangikum Charge.

Photocopies taken of Pikangikum Sacramental Registers dated from 1931 to 1943 are located in the Pikangikum Charge Vertical File; see also Red Lake Charge Sacramental Registers dating from 1945-1981 for entries pertaining to Pikangikum.

The book titled *Social and Economic Change Among the Northern Ojibwa* by R. W. Dunning, who taught at Pikangikum from 1950 to 1955, is in the collection of the University of Winnipeg Library.

Location: 509/2/2-9.

Pikangikum Charge File
'Maintenance Claims' - Item Level Description

1. Pikangikum Charge Correspondence. – 1936-1941. – 1 cm textual material.

Items in this folder pertaining to the state of the work include correspondence of January and December 1940 incorporating brief year-end reports. Several pieces of correspondence date from 1941 and deal with the difficulty of obtaining a full-time interpreter.

Items of note regarding the state of the community include correspondence dating from February 1938 and following detailing the destitution suffered by the people due to declining fur prices. More than one item describes dissatisfaction with the way that the missionary handled the distribution of destitute rations.

Items pertaining to day-schools includes correspondence of October 1968 giving statistics on school attendance. Similar statistics are also included in correspondence of January and December 1940.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-25.

2. Pikangikum Charge Correspondence. – 1942-1946. – 1 cm textual material.

Herbert Smith, the missionary at Pikangikum from 1942 to 1946, had previously taught at the Portage Residential School. Items in this folder pertaining to the state of the work include correspondence of June 1942 pertaining to the form used for marriages by the missionary, who did not have a License to Perform the Sacraments in Ontario. Correspondence of November 1943 mentions a visit to Poplar Hill and proposes that a mission be established there.

Items of note regarding the state of the community include correspondence dating from July 1942 that mentions the unusually high rate of tuberculosis. Correspondence of November 1943 includes a passage on the ills resulting from the introduction of Home Brew.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-26.

3. Pikangikum Charge Correspondence. – 1952-1957. – 1 cm textual material.

Items in this folder pertaining to the state of the work include an undated brief by the Red Lake Chamber of Commerce on the problems occurring when people were forced to move to Red Lake from surrounding reserves in search of employment. A number of items deal with the issues around engaging day-school teachers as Lay Supply.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-27.

4. Pikangikum Charge Correspondence*. – 1958-1961. – 1 cm textual material.

Items in this folder pertaining to the state of the work include a report on conditions endured by First Nations people in the Red Lake area prepared by summer student, John Jay. A number of letters discuss the difficulties associated with securing personnel for the mission work.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-28.

5. Pikangikum Charge Correspondence. – 1962-1964. – 1.5 cm textual material.

Items of note in this folder pertaining to housekeeping matters include correspondence of January 1964 dealing with the whereabouts of the Baptismal Register.

Items in this folder pertaining to the state of the work include a number of letters dealing with the need for appropriate language training for mission personnel. Correspondence dating from November 1964 deals with a request for a full-time interpreter. Correspondence of May 1963 deals with the question of divorce in First Nations communities. Several items of correspondence contain reports of visits by the missionary to the preaching points of Polar Hill and Deer Lake.

Items pertaining to day schools includes correspondence of April 1964 pertaining to a survey conducted by Pikangikum Lay Supply John McFarlane on the practise of appointing teachers by the United Church.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-29.

6. Pikangikum Charge Correspondence. – 1965-1970. – 1.5 cm textual material.

Items of note in this folder pertaining to housekeeping matters include correspondence of January 1965 and 1966 pertaining to payment of rental on the lease for the church property. Correspondence dating from June and July 1970 pertains to language training for mission personnel.

Items in this folder pertaining to the state of the work include correspondence of December 1966 pertaining to John James Everette's translation into Saultaux of the Gospel of Matthew.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-30.

Pikangikum Charge File
'Property Claims' - Item Level Description

7. Pikangikum Charge Correspondence. – 1959-1961. – .5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence dealing with a proposal for a United Church in Pikangikum. Later correspondence pertains to arrangements for the ordering and shipment of building materials and other matters related to the Church construction and orders for furnishings. Correspondence dating from November 1960 and following deals with a proposal for construction of a log cabin manse and the concerns expressed by the Board of Home Missions with this plan.

Items found here that pertain to the state of the work include correspondence dating from March 1959 and following that deal with a request by community members for a United Church building in Pikangikum. This correspondence includes a brief report of a supervisory visit to Pikangikum by Rev. Ron Parsons of Red Lake and a detailed church proposal. Correspondence dating from April 1959 contains Rev. Parson's observations on the state of mission work in Northwestern Ontario.

Items found here also pertain to other communities in the area including correspondence of 26 May 1959 dealing with a visit to Sandy Lake and suggestions for a Church there as well as comments on other charges.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-2-17.

8. Pikangikum Charge Correspondence. – 1962-1963. – 1 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include invoices, waybills and correspondence that pertained to the construction of a manse at Pikangikum in 1962.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-2-18.

9. Pikangikum Charge Correspondence. – 1962. – 1.5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence and financial records dating from January 1962 and following dealing with plans and arrangements for construction of a manse at Pikangikum and the ordering of furnishings.

Also found here are items that pertain to the state of the work and the community including correspondence dating from March 1962 that consists of a brief report of a supervisory visit to Pikangikum by Rev. Gordon Daly of Balmerton. Other correspondence dating from May 1962 gives reports of visits by Rev. Mac Watts.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-2-19.

10. Pikangikum Charge Correspondence. – 1963. – 1.5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include further correspondence and financial records dating from January 1963 and following dealing with the construction of a manse at Pikangikum and the ordering of manse furnishings and equipment.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-2-20.

11. Pikangikum Charge Correspondence*. – 1964-1974. – 2 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence pertaining to the maintenance and repair of mission buildings and equipment.

Other items found here pertain to the state of the work and include correspondence dating from July 1968 that pertained to the ongoing translation of the Bible into Saulteaux, a project that was being assisted by Pikangikum missionary John James Everette [eventual publication ca.1971]. Correspondence dating from May 1969 contains instruction from the Superintendent to Rev. Ian Harland of Red Lake in anticipation of a supervisory visit to Pikangikum. Reports of supervisory visits found here include those of January, June and August 1970; August 1971; March 1972. Also, found here are quarterly reports of the Lay Supply dating from 1970 and 1971. A more detailed report on the state of the work and the communities of Poplar Hill and Pikangikum written by Robert Elkin and dating from ca.1970 includes observations on education and economic prospects for the community. Another lengthy study of community conditions found here was written for Ian Harland by Florence Woolner and dates from January 1971. Correspondence dating from November 1971 deals with a request to the Department of National Health and Welfare to use one of their buildings for youth recreation.

Some items in this folder pertain to personnel issues. This includes correspondence, references and interview notes dating from May 1970 and March 1972 dealing with applications from Rev. Norma Secord for an appointment in Pikangikum and correspondence dating from June 1970 pertaining to the appointment of Robert Elkin.

This folder also contains two Department of Lands and Forests maps dating from 1971 and showing the location of United Church land use permits at Deer Lake and Poplar Hill. Also found here is a copy of a lease agreement with the Government of Ontario for the rental of the manse at Pikangikum.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-2-21.

Poplar River Charge. – 1935-1971. – 12 folders textual material.

Poplar River is a small, isolated First Nations community located on the eastern shore of Lake Winnipeg about seventy miles north of Berens River at the mouth of the Poplar River. The first mission church was built of logs under the direction of Methodist missionary Joseph Dorgue around 1900. A new church building was built with the assistance of the Board of Home Missions in 1942 and dedicated in 1943. Usually, the missionary at Poplar River also served the community at Big Black River, a permanent fishing station located 25 miles to the north. Until the late 1950s, Poplar River was most often served by a missionary teacher who was also responsible for distributing government relief rations, dispensing medicines and providing rudimentary dental care. During the 1950s and 1960s, the missionary at Poplar River was under the supervision of the ordained missionary at Berens River, who made periodic visits to the community. In 1969, Poplar River came under the supervision of the missionary at Koostatak (Fisher River) who visited Poplar River approximately three times a month. In 1970, the deteriorating mission house was demolished.

Missionaries who served at the Poplar River Charge included Joseph Dorgue (possibly Dague), prior to 1900; J. T. Black, 1904-1907; P. E. Jones, 1909-1914; Joseph H. Lowes, 1915; W. Lee, 1916-1919; W. J. Hope, 1922; W. Lee, 1922-1926; A. E. Caldwell (Missionary/Teacher), 1926-1934; Rev. Edgar M. Baird, 1935-1937; James M. Taylor (Missionary/Teacher), 1937-1939; Harry Meadows (Student Supply), 1940-1941; Rev. E. Shanko (name later changed to Shanks), 1943; Jacob Toews, 1943; Abram Friesen (Missionary/Teacher), 1944-1946; John Caux (informal supply and later Missionary/Teacher), 1946-1951/52; P. G. Kehler, 1951-1952; Claude Hartley Brown (Missionary/Teacher), 1952-1953; W. T. Towers (Lay Supply), 1953-1956; Ken Crassweller (Missionary/Teacher), 1957-1958; Len Dueck (supply), 1958-1959; Ed Saunders (Lay Supply), 1960-1961; and Nathaniel Queskekapow (Lay Supply), 1961-1966; Louis Klarke (leading elder/Lay Supply); 1967-1969; and possibly Solomon Bruce, 1971-.

The correspondence and other items described here date from 1935 to 1971. However, there are a number of unexplained gaps of several months or years. The arrangement of items in these folders was extremely disorganised, and did not conform to the pattern evident with the Superintendent of Home Mission's Maintenance Claims records for other Mission Fields. It is not possible to determine if this reflects the original arrangement of the records or if items were re-arranged prior to or after accession. This file consists of correspondence and other materials, such as reports and financial records, pertaining to the administration and supervision of the Poplar River United Church Home Mission Field. This mainly includes letters between the Superintendent and the Poplar River missionary personnel. Copies of correspondence between the Superintendent and the Secretaries of the Board of Home Missions in Toronto are also found here. Topics pertain to such "housekeeping" matters as salaries and allowances, the ordering and shipping of supplies and equipment, the freighting and distribution of 'clothing bales' and Christmas gifts, the maintenance and construction of mission buildings, and insurance. As well, correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and life in the community. In addition there is correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools. A number of items pertain to arrangements for the appointment of missionaries or supply and providing licenses to perform the sacraments. Occasionally, requests were received regarding proof of age or marriage. There appear to be gaps of several months in the record and reference is frequently made to correspondence that is not in the file.

Title based on contents.

Original staple fasteners have been left intact in order to preserve the arrangement of individual pages as found; where fasteners have been replaced the original arrangement of the pages has been preserved.

Chronological arrangement; order has been reconstructed by the archivist where necessary.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Item level description.

See also other records accessioned for the Poplar River Charge including Sacramental Registers dating from 1873 to 1962.

A newspaper clipping pertaining to the dedication of the new church building in 1943 is located in the Poplar River Charge vertical file.

Location: 509/2/2-9; 509/2/2-10.

Poplar River Charge File
'Maintenance Claims' - Item Level Description

1. Poplar River Charge Correspondence. – 1935-1942. – 2 cm textual material.

Correspondence of note pertaining to the state of the work includes that of September 1939 incorporating a list of families, including children, belonging to the Poplar River United Church. Correspondence dating from August 1941 and following pertains to strained relations with the new Catholic Church in the community and the circumstances surrounding its construction. A number of items of correspondence dating from 1942 deal with the construction of a new United Church building in the settlement.

Items pertaining to the state of the community include a number of items of correspondence mentioning the economic hardship caused by the low price of fur. Correspondence dating from 1937 and 1939 deals with proposals to provide postal service to the community. Items dating from January 1941 deal with an epidemic of influenza and subsequent deaths from pneumonia.

Items pertaining to day schools includes correspondence of October 1939 dealing with the arrangement of teaching days in the school year.

Other items of note found here include correspondence of March 1936 that includes passages pertaining to the whereabouts of graduates from Pine Hill's theology program.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-31.

2. Poplar River Charge Correspondence. – 1943-1947. – 1 cm textual material.

Correspondence of note pertaining to the state of the work continues to include items dealing with conflict with the Catholic Church. A number of items of correspondence pertain to the difficulties associated with securing supply for this mission and the resulting disappointment of the community.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-32.

3. Poplar River Charge Correspondence*. – 1951-1954. – 2 cm textual material.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-33.

4. Poplar River Charge Correspondence*. – 1955-1957. – 1.5 cm textual material.

Correspondence of note pertaining to the state of the work includes that of February and March 1955 dealing with the over generous aid dispensed by missionary William Towers. There are also a number of letters dating from 1956 from Mrs. Charles Franklin, church elder and Sunday School teacher. These include the names and ages of United Church Sunday School children.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-9-34.

5. Poplar River Charge Correspondence. – 1958-1960. – 2 cm textual material.

Items pertaining to housekeeping matters include several letters dealing with problems associated with the distribution of Woman's Missionary Society clothing bales at Poplar River. Several items deal with the difficulties experienced by Lay Supply Ed Saunders in securing supplies and fuel.

Correspondence of note pertaining to the state of the work includes that of January 1958 and following dealing with the deterioration of the Poplar River property and the advisability of continuing to spend money in the community when the population of United Church families continued to drop. Also included here is a detailed report of the conditions at Poplar River dated April 1958 and written by the Berens River missionary.

Other items of note include correspondence dating from April 1959 and May 1960 pertaining to the location of the missing Registers. Further correspondence of October 1960 mentions that some Poplar River records were located at Norway House.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-10-1.

6. Poplar River Charge Correspondence. – 1961-1963. – 2 cm textual material + 2 black and white photographs.

Items pertaining to housekeeping matters include several letters dating from September 1962 dealing with the poor condition of the United Church mission house.

Correspondence of note pertaining to the state of the work includes that of November 1962 giving a detailed report of activities at the mission under Lay Supply Nathaniel Queskekapow.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-10-2.

7. Poplar River Charge Correspondence*. – 1964-1966. – 2 cm textual material.

Items found here dealing with housekeeping matters includes that of June 1966 pertaining to the condition of the manse. Correspondence of note pertaining to the state of the work includes hand-written notes of community visitations and typewritten reports dating from 1965 and 1966. Several items of correspondence found here deal with inquiries about the age or marital status of Poplar River residents for the purpose of obtaining Canada Pension.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-10-3.

8. Poplar River Charge Correspondence*. – 1966-1968. – 1 cm textual material.

Items found here largely pertain to the state of the work and include correspondence, meeting notes and reports dating from 1967 and 1968.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-10-4.

9. Poplar River Charge Correspondence. – 1969-1970. – .5 cm textual material.

Items found in this folder continue to be largely concerned with the state of the work in the community and include correspondence and reports pertaining to pastoral relations.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-10-5.

Poplar River Charge File
'Property Claims' - Item Level Description

10. Poplar River Charge Correspondence. – 1959-1971. – 1 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence dating from February 1959 pertaining to the proposed sale of the Poplar River manse. Correspondence dating from March 1959 includes a suggestion for an addition to the Church to be used as a Recreation Hall. Correspondence dating from July 1959 and following deals with the need for repairs to the Church and manse and the shipment of materials and furnishings.

Title based on contents.

Items in this folder have suffered water damage.

Location: 509/2/2-3-13.

11. Poplar River Charge Correspondence. – 1961-1963. – 2 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence dating from January 1961 and following that pertains to the ongoing repairs to the Poplar River Church and manse and the ordering and shipping of supplies and furnishings. Correspondence from the Provincial Health Nurse dating from May 1962 deals with the continuing issue of water quality at Poplar River and the problems caused by the manse privy in this regard. Correspondence dating from June 1962 and following pertains to a proposal to construct a new manse at Poplar River and use the old manse for Christian Education and recreation purposes. Correspondence dating from October 1962 and following deals with continued problems with the Church floor and the deteriorating condition of the manse. Correspondence dating from 1963 pertains to repairs to the manse and the shipment of supplies.

Title based on contents.

Items in this folder have suffered water damage.

Location: 509/2/2-3-14.

12. Poplar River Charge Correspondence. – 1964-1971. – 1 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include further correspondence pertaining to maintenance and furnishings for the manse. Correspondence dating from the Superintendent dated June 1966 criticises the poor condition of the manse and furnishings. Correspondence dating from January 1967 pertains to requests from community members about the disposition of manse equipment after the departure of Nathaniel Queskekapow. Also included here is a copy of a visitation report dating from September 1968.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-15.

Portage la Prairie Residential School. – 1934-1972. – 6 folders.

The genesis of the Portage la Prairie Residential School was a small day school begun by ten women of Portage la Prairie's Knox Presbyterian Church in 1886. The school was open to all comers, lunch was provided daily and clothes were distributed as needed. At first the school was operated without financial assistance from the larger Church. However, an early request for assistance from the Presbyterian Woman's Foreign Missionary Society (WFMS) was met with an offer to supply the necessary support to turn the school into a boarding establishment if the local women wished to join the WFMS as an auxiliary. This was done in 1887. Initially, pupils were drawn from the reserve on the outskirts of Portage la Prairie. From 1901, pupils came as well from Swan Lake, Long Plain and Indianford. The school went through several incarnations during its early years and moved to a site of 59 acres on the outskirts of town near Crescent Lake in 1914. After the expansion of the physical plant that occurred in 1914, pupils came from farther afield. Capacity was increased from around 20 pupils in 1901 to 100 around 1920. In 1925, the buildings were expanded to accommodate even more pupils. Prior to WW II, training in agricultural skills was emphasised according to federal government policy. However, over time academic courses received more emphasis and by the 1960s the school was functioning more and more as a hostel for pupils attending integrated classrooms at high schools in the town of Portage la Prairie.

Generally, supervision of 'Indian Work' in Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario was the responsibility of the Conference Superintendent of Home Missions. However, the Portage la Prairie School was administered by the Woman's Missionary Society (WMS) and staff was nominated by the WMS rather than the Board of Home Missions until the Society was disbanded in 1962. At that time, institutions that had been operated by the WMS were transferred to the supervision of the Board of Home Missions and the Conference Superintendent of Home Missions became more directly involved in the school's operation. Also beginning around 1962, Supervising Principals for local Indian agencies were appointed by the Department of Indian Affairs. As well, around this time a Presbytery Advisory Committee for the Portage Residential School was formed as the Church moved to devolve control for Home Missions from the national Board to local control. In 1965, the name of the school was changed at the request of students and staff to the Portage Indian Students Residence. Operation of the residence was turned over to the Government of Canada effective April 1, 1969.

Matron/Teachers who administered the school in its early years included Miss Sebastian, 1886; Miss Wight, 1887-1888; Bessie Walker, 1888-1891; and Annie Fraser, 1891-1901. Principals were appointed from 1901 and have included Rev. W. A. Hendry, 1902-1934 (with the exception of two years spent at the Alberni School ca.1909/10/11); Rev. J. L. Miller, 1909-1911; [Rev. W. R. Wood, 1935?]; Rev. Joseph Jones, [after 1935]-1942; John McNeill, 1942-1944; Rev. A. C. Huston, 1945-1946; Rev. Joseph Jones, 1946-1949; Rev. Lachlan McLean, 1949-1956/57; W. C. Warren, 1957-1958; Rev. Harry Atkinson, 1958; Jack O. Harris (Administrative Principal, later Administrator), 1958-[ca.1970]; and Charles Greaves, [after ca.1970].

Records described here date from 1939 to 1972. There are few records for the period prior to 1962 and a complete absence of records for the period from 1950 to 1955. The dearth of correspondence before 1962 is likely due to the fact that the Woman's Missionary Society, based in Toronto, was responsible for the administration of the school prior to that date. Items described here generally include correspondence between the Superintendent of Home Missions and the Executive Secretary of the Woman's Missionary Society pertaining to the operation of the Portage la Prairie School as well as copies of correspondence between the Executive Secretary of the Woman's Missionary Society and the Principal of the school. There is also correspondence between the Superintendent and the Board Secretary pertaining to the Portage la Prairie School and occasional correspondence between the Principal and the Superintendent. As well, there may be copies of correspondence between these individuals and representatives of the Department of Indian Affairs.

Generally topics of correspondence include the recruitment and nomination of school staff (especially principals), financial matters, school operations and student activities. Other items occasionally found here include circular letters to parents, a manual for students and a school prospectus. There is also incidental mention of matters pertaining to other Home Missions fields throughout.

Title based on contents.

Chronological arrangement with order reconstructed by the archivist where necessary.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Item level description.

See also the file 'Church and Government Owned Indian Residences, 1962-1965' described with the records of N. K. Campbell, 1960-1965 as part of the General files of the Superintendents of Home Missions.

The Portage la Prairie Residential School record also includes the following items located in the Vertical File: a hand-written historical narrative titled 'Indian School Portage la Prairie, 1886-1936'; a typed narrative titled 'Notes on the Early History of the Indian Residential School Portage la Prairie' and attributed to Mrs. A. D. Mackay; and a hand-written letter from A. D. Mackay to Rev. Principal Grant dated January, 1894 on the early history of the mission to the Dakotah Sioux people at Portage la Prairie.

Location: 509/2/2-10.

Portage la Prairie Residential School Charge File
Item Level Description

1. Portage la Prairie Residential School Correspondence*. – 1934-1951. – .5cm of textual material.

Correspondence described here includes that pertaining to the resignation of Rev. Hendry in 1934 and his possible interim replacements; that of May 1939 pertaining to the financial accounts of the school; that of 29 September 1934 with a paragraph pertaining to the title for Teulon property where the United Church Woman's Missionary Society operated a school home; and that of 8 May 1939 pertaining to the financial situation at the Portage la Prairie School that contains incidental mention of the appointment of Lenore Scones to a position at McLean and Point Douglas Missions. Also found here are financial statements for 1950 and 1951.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-10-6.

2. Portage la Prairie Residential School Correspondence*. – 1956-1965. – 3.5cm of textual material.

Correspondence described here includes that pertaining to the recruitment and nomination of school staff, especially principals. This includes that of 11 January 1965 pertaining to the appointment of J. A. Earle as Assistant Administrator. Some correspondence between the Principal and the Superintendent dating after 1962 and takes the form of informal reports of school operations. This largely consists of enrolment figures and descriptions of school field trips and sports activities and occasionally includes notice of staff appointments made by the Principal. A number of items of correspondence pertain to the insufficient allocations from the Department of Indian Affairs for food and clothing and discussions pertaining to the expansion of the school dormitories and other facilities. Circular letters to parents appear intermittently throughout the file and deal with topics such as school sports activities and holiday travel arrangements. One such letter dated 2 June 1962 summarises the school year and includes a permission slip for medical treatment to be signed by the parents and returned.

Also found here is correspondence of 4 January 1965 from J. O. Harris to the Board Secretary pertaining to the request of staff and students that the school's name be changed to 'The Portage Indian Residence'. There are also a number of newspaper clippings of articles pertaining to the school largely sent to the Superintendent by the Principal.

Title based on contents.

Items are in reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-10-7.

3. Portage Indian Student Residence Correspondence. – 1966-1968. -- .5cm of textual material.

Correspondence described here largely pertains to proposals to expand the residential facilities of the school and includes that of 10 January 1966 from J. O. Harris to E. E. M. Joblin pertaining to the need for expansion of the Portage Indian Student Residence and follow up correspondence of the Superintendents N. K. Campbell and R. R. Smith on this topic with the Presbytery and the Board Secretary. Also found here is correspondence of 15 May 1968 from J. O. Harris to the Indian Affairs District School Superintendent advising that the Portage Indian Student Residence will not accept students in Grades 7 and 8 due to a shortage of space at the residence.

Items described here include the Brief on the Extension of Indian Student Residential Facilities at Portage la Prairie by the Portage Indian Student Residence Advisory Committee and also includes two copies of the Students Manual for the Portage la Prairie Indian Residential School including Things You Should Know, Helpful Hints for Dormitory Living and Rules to Learn and Keep and a copy of Dormitory Life: Is It Living? produced by the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Title based on contents.

Items are in reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-10-8.

4. Portage Indian Student Residence Correspondence. – 1967-1971. -- 1cm of textual material.

Items described here largely consist of correspondence and telephone notes pertaining to the licensing and maintenance of the residence school bus and its eventual sale to Indian Affairs along with the school tractor in 1969.

Title based on contents.

Items are in reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-10-9.

5. Portage Indian Student Residence Correspondence*. – 1967-1971. -- 1cm of textual material.

This folder contains the Superintendent's correspondence that pertains to personnel issues at the Portage Indian Student Residence, especially as this relates to the transfer of responsibility for operation of the residence to the Federal Government. A number of items of correspondence deal with the agreement between the Church and the Federal Government for the operation of the residence and protocols around the hiring of staff.

Also found here is a diagram of staff structure showing employees as of April 1969 and staff rotations for May of 1970.

Title based on contents.

Items are in reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-10-10.

6. Portage Indian Student Residence Correspondence* – 1966-1972. -- 1cm of textual material.

This folder contains correspondence and other items pertaining to the use of the annual 'Christian Education' grant from the Board of Home Missions to the Portage Indian Student Residence. This includes the Principal's correspondence of June 1966 to which is attached a copy of the Administrator's Report to the Advisory Committee of 21 June 1966 and a copy of the June 1966 parent letter. Also found here is a Prospectus for Students, ca.1969.

Title based on contents.

Items are in reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-10-11.

Red Sucker Lake Charge. – 1951-1975. – 7 folders textual material.

The community of Red Sucker Lake is located on the north-eastern shore of the lake of the same name near the Ontario border approximately 100 kilometres north-east of Island Lake and 709 kilometres north-east of Winnipeg. Red Sucker Lake was founded when a number of families moved north from Island Lake during the late 1940s in order to be closer to their trap lines and the first church was built soon after. A new church building was begun by missionary William Towers in 1952, was completed a number of years later and was dedicated in 1960. Red Sucker Lake is accessible only by water, air or winter road.

For much of the time, Red Sucker Lake was a preaching point of Island Lake or was served by Lay Supply who were supervised from Island Lake or God's Lake. Those who served at the Red Sucker Lake Charge included William Thomas Towers, 1951-1952; John MacDougal, Sr. (leading elder), 1953-1957; Henry Fiddler (Lay Supply), 1957-1963; Sandy Flett, 1963-1966; Angus Harper and Donald Harper (Leading Elders), 1967-1968; Donald Harper (Lay Supply), 1969; Solomon Harper (Leading Elder), 1970; and Jonah Keno (Leading Elder), 1971. Summer students who served at Red Sucker Lake included Jack Witty, 1957; Ron Fletcher, 1969, Ed Simms, 1970; and Laurie Morgan, 1971.

The correspondence and other items described here date from 1951 to 1971. However, there are a number of unexplained gaps of several months in the record and reference is frequently made to correspondence that is not in the file. The arrangement of items in these folders was extremely disorganised, and did not conform to the pattern evident with the Superintendent of Home Mission's Maintenance Claims records for other Mission Fields. It is not possible to determine if this reflects the original arrangement of the records or if items were re-arranged prior to or after accession. This file consists of correspondence and other materials, such as reports and financial records, pertaining to the administration and supervision of the Red Sucker Lake United Church Home Mission Field. This mainly includes letters between the Superintendent and the Red Sucker lake missionary personnel. Copies of correspondence between the Superintendent and the Secretaries of the Board of Home Missions in Toronto are also found here. Topics pertain to such "housekeeping" matters as salaries and allowances, the ordering and shipping of supplies and equipment, the freighting and distribution of 'clothing bales' and Christmas gifts, the maintenance and construction of mission buildings, and insurance. As well, correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and life in the community. In addition there is correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools. A number of items pertain to arrangements for the appointment of missionaries or supply and providing licenses to perform the sacraments.

Title based on contents.

Original staple fasteners have been left intact in order to preserve the arrangement of individual pages as found; where fasteners have been replaced the original arrangement of the pages has been preserved.

Chronological arrangement; order has been reconstructed by the archivist where necessary.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Item level description.

Further information pertaining to the Red Sucker Lake Charge may be found with the Superintendents of Home Missions records for Island Lake Charge.

See also other records accessioned for the Red Sucker Lake Charge including Sacramental Registers dating from 1957 to 1975.

Location: 509/2/2-10.

Red Sucker Lake Charge File
'Maintenance Claims' - Item Level Description

1. Red Sucker Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1951-1954. – 2cm textual material.

Several items in this folder pertain to 'housekeeping' matters such as the construction of a church building and additions to the mission house. Items found here pertaining to the state of the work include a report of an initial visit to the community by the Island Lake missionary, R. C. Matthews, in 1951. A number of items of correspondence dating from 1951 and following pertain to the activities of the Northern Canada Evangelical Mission in Red Sucker Lake.

Items pertaining to schools include correspondence dating from January 1952 dealing with proposals for the construction of a school building at Red Sucker Lake. Other correspondence deals with the Northern Canada Evangelical Mission school that some community children attended.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-10-12.

2. Red Sucker Lake Charge Correspondence*. – 1955-1958. – 2cm textual material.

Items found here pertaining to the state of the work include correspondence dating from November 1956 from community elders to the Superintendent expressing concern about the apparent lack of interest in the community by United Church leadership. Correspondence dating from August 1957 contains an assessment of the loyalty of the community to the United Church. A report of the summer student's work in the community for 1957 is also found here. Correspondence of March 1958 includes a list of children baptised by John McDougall over the course of his career as Lay Supply. Items pertaining to the state of the community include correspondence of June 1957 dealing with the exploitation of native fishers by outside commercial fishing companies.

Items pertaining to schools include correspondence dating from March and April 1955 dealing with the refusal of the Department of Indian Affairs to build a day school at Red Sucker Lake and plans to have all the school age children attend Norway House Residential School.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-10-13.

3. Red Sucker Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1959-1963. – 2cm textual material.

Items found here largely pertain to the state of the work and include correspondence of March 1963 dealing with a planned Bible School at Red Sucker Lake during the summer of 1963. Correspondence of April, May and June 1963 deals with the impending retirement of Henry Fiddler and plans for appropriate recognition of his service to the United Church.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-10-14.

4. Red Sucker Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1964-1971. – 1.5cm textual material.

Several items found here pertain to the state of the work and concern pastoral relations between the community and the Lay Supply for the period from 1964 through to 1966. Also found here is an unsigned report dating from 1971 giving an assessment of the state of the work.

Items pertaining to schools include several items of correspondence dating from March through July 1969 dealing with the refusal of Red Sucker Lake parents to send their grade seven and eight students to the Garden Hill school and their attempts to secure a junior high school for the community.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-10-15.

Red Sucker Lake Charge File
'Property Claims' - Item Level Description

5. Red Sucker Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1957-1961. – 1.5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include a report on a visitation to Red Sucker Lake by George Millard, the missionary at God's Lake Narrows, dated October 1958. Correspondence dating from 1958 deals with the condition of the missionary cabin. Several items dating from January 1959 and following deal with a proposal for construction of a new church at Red Sucker Lake. The process involved in planning for construction of church facilities in isolated communities is discussed in this correspondence. Correspondence dating from February 1960 and following deals with arrangements for the ordering and shipping of construction materials in anticipation of summer construction. Correspondence dating from September 1960 pertains to matters associated with the dedication of the new Church at Red Sucker Lake and the demolition of the old church building. This includes a report on the condition of the new church by Gordon Edmonds. Correspondence dating from December 1960 pertains to the donation of an organ to the Red Sucker Lake congregation. Items dating from February 1961 and following pertain to the matter of repairs to the mission cabin.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-16.

6. Red Sucker Lake Charge Correspondence*. – 1962-1970. – 1 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include those dating from January 1962 and following pertaining to the furnishing of the manse. Correspondence dating from November 1964 pertains to plans to sell the old manse. Items found here pertaining to the state of the work include a report and correspondence arising out of a Presbytery visitation dating from March and April 1965. Correspondence dating from January 1967 pertains to the funeral arrangements for Mrs. Sandy Flett. Also included here are a number of visitation reports written by supervising clergy dating from 1966 and following.

Items that pertain to school matters include correspondence dating from March and April 1969 dealing with the refusal of Red Sucker Lake parents to have their Grade VII and VIII children boarded at Garden Hill in order to attend school.

Items found here that pertain to personnel matters include correspondence dating from September 1969 giving an evaluation of the work of summer student Ron Fletcher. Mr. Fletcher's report of his summer placement is also found here. As well there is correspondence dating from May 1970 pertaining to the Appointment of Ed Simms. Ed Simms' report of his summer placement is also found here.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-17.

7. Red Sucker Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1971-1975. – 1 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence dating from October 1975 dealing with an unsuccessful request by the Conservation Officer from Island Lake to purchase the old log church at Red Sucker Lake.

Items found here that pertain to personnel matters include a report on the summer placement of student Laurie Morgan by Rev. J. D. McMurtry dating from August 1971.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-18.

Sandy Lake Charge. – 1936-1972. – 19 folders of textual material.

Sandy Lake is a First Nations community located in north-western Ontario, about 200 miles south-east of Island Lake. The people are closely related to those at the communities of Island Lake and Deer Lake, from where many of the families moved permanently during the 1920s. Rev. F. G. Stevens, the pioneer Methodist missionary, first visited the Deer Lake people at Sandy Lake in 1901. Initially, the work in the Sandy Lake area was to be supervised from Berens River. After 1915, this was changed to Island Lake and then after 1920 supervision was returned to Berens River. Rev. Stevens and Rev. Niddrie (Island Lake and Berens River) visited on a several occasions and Native missionary Adam Fidler ministered to the people at Sandy Lake for many years. However, the community was very isolated, the people were largely nomadic and a formal mission was not established until the middle of the century. The first church building was constructed there around 1945. The Sandy Lake community had a close relationship with the town of Red Lake with many people from Sandy Lake moving there to look for work. During the 1950s, Sandy Lake was served from Red Lake although the minister from Red Lake was rarely able to make the journey north. This relationship was renewed during the 1960s with more success. A school building was built in 1955 and a new church was built and dedicated in 1960. During the 1960s, Deer Lake was added as a preaching point to the Sandy Lake Charge.

Missionary personnel serving Sandy Lake included Adam Fidler (Leading Elder and Lay Supply), 1907-1952, Bobby Chubb (Lay Supply) from ca.1952-1955; Francis Meekis (Leading Elder and later Lay Supply), 1956-1960; Rev. Jim Shynkar, 1960-1961; Mr. Terry Whyte, 1961-1962; Rev. Joseph Redpath, 1962-1965; Monias Fidler (Leading Elder/Lay Supply), 1965-1967; Rev. Robert Stiven, 1967-1971; St. John Kakagemic and Monias Fiddler (Leading Elders), 1971; and Stuart Harvey, 1971-1973. Summer missionary/teachers included Jim Shynkar, 1956-1959. Winter teachers included Gwen Shynkar, 1960-1961; Summer students assigned to Sandy Lake included Paul Fisher, 1969.

The correspondence and other items described here date from 1936 to 1972. However, there are a number of unexplained gaps of several months in the record and reference is frequently made to correspondence that is not in the file. The arrangement of items in these folders was extremely disorganised, and did not conform to the pattern evident with the Superintendent of Home Mission's Maintenance Claims records for other Mission Fields. It is not possible to determine if this reflects the original arrangement of the records or if items were re-arranged prior to or after accession. Items in this file consist of correspondence and other materials, such as reports and financial records, pertaining to the administration and supervision of the Sandy Lake United Church Home Mission Field. This mainly includes letters between the Superintendent and the Sandy Lake missionary personnel. Copies of correspondence between the Superintendent and the Secretaries of the Board of Home Missions in Toronto are also found here. As well, there is a large amount of correspondence from the Convenor of Home Missions for Kenora-Rainy River Presbytery. Topics pertain to such "housekeeping" matters as salaries and allowances, the ordering and shipping of supplies and equipment, the freighting and distribution of 'clothing bales' and Christmas gifts, the maintenance and construction of mission buildings, and insurance. As well, correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and life in the community. In addition there is correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools. A number of items pertain to arrangements for the appointment of missionaries or supply and providing licenses to perform the sacraments.

Title based on contents.

Sandy Lake is also known as Wapistikwayow.

Original staple fasteners have been left intact in order to preserve the arrangement of individual pages as found.

Chronological arrangement; order has been reconstructed by the archivist where necessary; duplicates have been discarded.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Item level description.

See the Superintendents of Home Missions records for Pikangikum and Deer Lake for further information pertaining to the Sandy Lake Charge; see also Superintendent of Home Missions Property Files identified as 'Presbyteries (Kenora-Rainy River)'.

Copies of the memoirs Sandy Lake by Rev. F. G. Stevens and Additions to the Sandy Lake Story by Rev. John Freeman are located in the Sandy Lake Charge Vertical File.

Location: 509/2/2-10.

Sandy Lake Charge File
'Maintenance Claims' - Item Level Description

1. Sandy Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1936-1947. – 1 cm textual material.

Much of the correspondence pertaining to Sandy Lake found in this file was carried on between Rev. F. G. Stevens, missionary at Fisher River, and the Superintendent and Secretaries of Home Missions. Many items also include information pertaining to other missions and missionary personnel in Northern Manitoba and North-western Ontario.

Items found here pertaining to the state of the work include correspondence of December 1936 dealing with the appointment of Adam Fidler as Lay Supply. Correspondence dating from January 1937 includes a brief history of the Sandy Lake community and an assessment of the mission work in the area at that time. Several items of correspondence dating from 1939 and 1940 deal with the requests of the Sandy Lake people for a church of their own. Several items dating from 1944 and 1945 pertain to the issue of granting a license to perform the sacraments at Sandy Lake and Deer Lake. Correspondence of December 1944 attributed to Chief Thomas Fidler deals with incursions in the Sandy Lake area by the Roman Catholic Church. Correspondence dating from 1947 gives Dr. Best's report of his visit to Sandy Lake in October.

Items pertaining the state of the community include a note about depressed conditions at Sandy Lake ca.1937 and translated for Adam Fidler by Rev. Stevens.

Title based on contents.

Items include correspondence in Cree Syllabics attributed to Adam Fidler.

Location: 509/2/2-10-16.

2. Sandy Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1951-1955. – .5cm textual material.

A number of items found in this folder pertain to the housekeeping matter of constructing a house at Sandy Lake for missionary personnel. Correspondence pertaining to the state of the work includes several items dating from 1954 and 1955 and dealing with strained relations between the new Lay Supply and Adam Fidler, who had served as Lay Supply for many years previously. Correspondence of October 1954 refers to Mr. Fidler's retaining custody of Church property including the Registers.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-10-17.

3. Sandy Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1956. – .5 cm textual material.

Items found here pertaining to the state of the work include a number of visitation reports. These include Rev. J. M. Perry's (Red Lake) assessment of the standing of the United Church in the Sandy Lake area, dated January 1956, and a report of the Superintendent's tour of Sandy Lake, Deer Lake and Pekangecum in September 1956.

Title based on contents.

Items are in reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-10-18.

4. Sandy Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1957-1959. – .5 cm textual material.

Items found here largely pertain to the state of the work. This includes a report by summer teacher, Jim Shynkar, for the 1958 term. Also included are number of visitation reports and correspondence pertaining to a proposal for a new church building at Sandy Lake. Also found here is a copy of the Kenora-Rainy River Presbytery 'Home Mission News' dating from December 1959.

Title based on contents.

Items are in reverse chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-10-19.

5. Sandy Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1960-1961. – 1 cm textual material.

A large number of items in this folder pertain to 'housekeeping' matters in relation to construction of a new church in 1960 and issues around the change in missionary personnel that took place in 1961. A number of items of correspondence dating from 1960 pertain to an honorarium for Adam Fidler's widow. Other items found here pertain to the state of the work and include several supervisory and visitation reports. Also included here are "Excerpts from a [Sandy Lake] Missionary's Letters", dating from 1960.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-10-20.

6. Sandy Lake Charge Correspondence*. – 1962-1963. – 2 cm textual material.

Items in this folder pertaining to 'housekeeping' matters include correspondence dating from January 1962 giving an accounting of costs associated with the construction of the new church building and issues around the change in missionary personnel that took place in 1962.

Items pertaining to the state of the community include mission newsletters dating from April 1962 and August 1963. Correspondence dating from March 1962 deals with efforts to end the practise of relief handouts in the community. Correspondence dating from May 1962 describes a project to open a store in Red Lake selling handicrafts from the Sandy Lake area. Other items of note found in this folder include a map of Sandy Lake showing the location of most buildings.

Title based on contents.

Items are in reverse chronological order.

Folder includes documents written in Cree Syllabics.

Location: 509/2/2-10-21.

7. Sandy Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1964-1966. – 2 cm textual material.

Items found here pertaining to the state of the work include several supervisory and visitation reports including those giving details of the Sandy Lake missionary's visits to Deer Lake as supervising pastor. Items pertaining to the state of the community include a mission newsletter dating from January 1966.

Items pertaining to education include correspondence of November 1964 dealing with a visit by the Superintendent to Sandy Lake students at school in Port Arthur [Thunder Bay].

Title based on contents.

Items in this folder include a Province of Ontario Department of Mines map of the Favourable Lake to Sandy Lake area in detail.

Items are in reverse chronological order.

Folder includes documents written in Cree Syllabics.

Location: 509/2/2-10-22.

8. Sandy Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1967-1968. – 2 cm textual material.

Items in this folder pertaining to 'housekeeping' matters include correspondence dating from August 1967 dealing with the dilapidated condition of the manse. A copy of an application for a recreation project grant for 1968 is also found here. Items found here pertaining to the state of the work include a translation of the Order of Service into the Sandy Lake dialect. A number of items dating from April 1968 pertain to an adult education program and include summaries of the group discussions. Items pertaining to the state of the community include mission newsletters dating from July, October and December 1968.

Title based on contents.

Folder includes documents written in Cree Syllabics.

Location: 509/2/2-10-23.

9. Sandy Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1969-1972. – 2 cm textual material.

Items pertaining to 'housekeeping' matters include a copy of an application for a grant for 1970. Items found here pertaining to the state of the work include correspondence and a report dating from August 1970 dealing with a pilot project using video tape recordings as a vehicle for community development. Also included is a report of a visit by the Presbytery Home Missions Convenor and correspondence dealing with a request for a Presbytery visitation in November of 1972.

Items pertaining to the state of the community include mission newsletters dating from May, December and Christmas 1970 as well as March and September 1971. The December newsletter includes proposals for future community development. Other items of significance include correspondence of March 1970 inquiring as to the location of Sacramental Registers for Sandy Lake.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-10-24.

Sandy Lake Charge File
'Property Claims' - Item Level Description

10. Sandy Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1959. – .5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder largely consist of materials that pertain to plans for construction of a new church building at Sandy Lake. Correspondence dating from September and October 1959 deals with securing permission to occupy church sites at Sandy Lake and other communities in the Sioux Lookout area. Correspondence dating from September 1959 and following deals with plans for the construction of a church building at Sandy Lake and supplying the field (1 October correspondence includes confidential observations on the summer ministry of Jim Shynkar). This correspondence also deals with arrangements to plan for the ordering and shipping of construction materials. Also found here is a copy of the 1959 document 'A Brief for Submission to the Board of Home Missions...to support the application of the Kenora-Rainy River Presbytery for a grant...to finance construction of a new United Church Building at Sandy Lake, Ontario in 1960; and to present urgent reasons for consideration being given to the erection of a manse at the same time.'

Items found here that pertain to the state of the work include correspondence of 15 October 1959 that discusses the direction of 'Indian' work in the Conference and the pending appointment of a new Conference Superintendent of Home Missions.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-2-22.

11. Sandy Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1960. – 2 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder largely consist of correspondence and other items pertaining to arrangements for the construction of a church and manse at Sandy Lake. This includes a copy of a 'Permit to Occupy' for the Sandy Lake site dating from ca. April 1960. Several items also deal with insurance and the selection of the site. Items dating from October 1960 deal with the ordering and shipping of manse furnishings.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-2-23.

12. Sandy Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1961. – 3 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder largely consist of correspondence and other items pertaining to the completion of construction projects and provision of mission furnishings and equipment for the new buildings at Sandy Lake. Correspondence dating from 9 January 1961 advises of permission granted by Board of Home Missions to move the old church at Sandy Lake to a site near the new church for use as a Church Hall. Several items of correspondence found here pertain to difficulties associated with moving this building. Several items dating from January 1961 pertain to the disposition of the Colin Russel Bequest for the work at Sandy Lake. Correspondence dating from April 1961 contains a report of a post construction inspection of the new property. Correspondence dating from October 1961 pertains to the use of the 'Bobby Chubb' house by the Fiddlers.

Title based on contents.

Items in this folder are not in chronological order.

Location: 509/2/2-2-24.

13. Sandy Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1962. – 2 cm textual material.

Items in this folder date from January to May 1962. This includes correspondence and other items pertaining to the completion of construction projects and provision of mission furnishings, equipment and supplies (especially fuel) for the new buildings at Sandy Lake. Several items of correspondence dating from January 1962 deals with problems of condensation in the new Church, water in the manse basement and problems with manse decoration. Other correspondence dating from January deals with continuing plans and unsuccessful efforts to move the old church building and with a proposed reception room addition to the manse. Correspondence dating from January, March and April deals with a proposal to build a laundry business in Sandy Lake.

Also found here is a copy of a resolution adopted by the Official Board of the Adam Fiddler United Church at Sandy Lake in which they resolve to send a quarterly donation to the Board of Home Missions in appreciation for the help the Board has extended to Sandy Lake.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-2-25.

14. Sandy Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1962. – 1.5 cm textual material.

Items in this folder date from June to December 1962. This includes correspondence and other items pertaining to the maintenance of mission equipment and the ordering and shipping of supplies (especially fuel) for the mission buildings at Sandy Lake. Correspondence dating from June 1962 and following continues to deal with problems with the new mission buildings and attempts at solutions. There is also continuing correspondence pertaining to the laundry business proposal and problems with construction and financing.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-2-26.

15. Sandy Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1963. – 1.5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder largely consist of correspondence and other items pertaining to the maintenance of mission equipment and the ordering and shipping of supplies (especially fuel) and furnishings for the mission buildings at Sandy Lake. Correspondence dating from January 1963 and following continues to deal with problems with the new mission buildings and attempts at solutions. Other correspondence dating from January 1963 continues the discussion on the proposal for a manse addition. There is also continuing correspondence pertaining to the laundry project and other community development initiatives. The issue of moving the old Church building is again revisited in correspondence of April and May 1963. Several items of correspondence pertain to the rental of a portion of the Church building for educational purposes by the Federal Government.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-2-27.

16. Sandy Lake Charge Correspondence*. – 1962-1967, predominant 1964-1967. – 2 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder largely consist of correspondence and other items pertaining to the maintenance of mission equipment and the ordering and shipping of supplies (especially fuel) for the mission at Sandy Lake. This includes correspondence dating from January 1962 and following pertaining to the proposal for a manse addition. Several items dating from January 1964 and following deal with problems associated with providing transportation for the missionary. Other correspondence dating from January 1964 and following continues to deal with problems with the new mission buildings and plans for repairs. Correspondence dating from November 1966 deals with the rental of Church property for a schoolroom. Correspondence dating from November 1967 outlines policies to be followed when ordering supplies or instituting new programs. Correspondence dating from December 1967 deals with the protocol of procuring UCW supplies.

Items found here that pertain to pastoral relations include correspondence incorporating observations of the effectiveness of ministry through interpreters. Items that pertain to the state of the work and community activities include several pieces of correspondence dealing with supervisory visits conducted by Rev. R. P. Hamlin of Red Lake and other visitation reports. Also found here is a list of baptisms conducted by Rev. Hamlin during his visit of October 1966.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-2-28.

17. Sandy Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1968-1974-. – 2 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder largely consist of correspondence and other items pertaining to the maintenance of mission equipment and the ordering and shipping of supplies (especially fuel) for the mission at Sandy Lake. Also included here is a copy of the minutes of the September 1968 meeting of Kenora-Rainy River Presbytery that pertains to an application for a special grant for 1968 to enlarge the Sandy Lake manse. Further correspondence on this topic is found throughout this folder as well as other items pertaining to applications for grant assistance.

Also found here are a number of items that pertain to the change in pastoral relations in 1971. Other correspondence, some confidential, that deals with pastoral relations includes that of 1972 and 1973 pertaining to complaints from the Sandy Lake congregation.

Items that pertain to the state of the work and community activities include several 'Dear Friend of Sandy Lake' letters including one dating from July 1968 that includes a report on the Adam Fiddler United Church. Also found here are undated reports on children's summer activities organised by Rev. Stiven. Other items include a copy of a report on the discussions that took place between the leaders who attended the 1969 Indian Leaders Conference at Sandy Lake and Dr. McClure; a circular letter dating from 12 January 1970 dealing with a proposal for an inter-church house in Sioux Lookout; Thoughts Concerning the Church in Indian Communities dating from January 1970; and Rev. Joblin's response). Correspondence dating from 9 November 1970 deals with concerns about the gap between the Churches in Indian Communities Committee and people in the field.

Items that pertain to education and schools include correspondence dating from ca.1971 dealing with problems encountered by Sandy Lake students at school in Thunder Bay and suggesting a response. Related correspondence on problems encountered by foster children placed in an isolated community dates from 5 February 1971.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-2-29.

18. Sandy Lake Charge Reference. – [ca.1897-1961]. – .5 cm textual material.

This folder contains copies of the memoirs Sandy Lake by Rev. F. G. Stevens and Additions to the Sandy Lake Story by Rev. John Freeman as well as a copy of excerpts from the Missionary Bulletin by Rev. F. G. Stevens dating from 1913.

Title based on contents.

Items are typed transcriptions of the originals.

Location: 509/2/2-2-30.

19. Sandy Lake Charge Reports. – 1962-1972. – 1 cm textual material.

This folder consists of copies of various reports that pertain to the state of the work and conditions in the Sandy Lake community. These include reports from the missionary, reports of supervisory and other visits, Sandy Lake Newsletters, Annual Reports of the Adam Fiddler United Church, meeting notes, summer activity reports, program proposals, Sandy Lake Band Council correspondence, and confidential reports of Presbytery visitations pertaining to pastoral relations.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-2-31.

South Indian Lake Charge. – 1954-1973. – 5 folders of textual material.

The community of South Indian Lake is located in Northern Manitoba about 150 miles north of Nelson House on the shore of Southern Indian Lake where the Churchill River system widens. Rev. Austin C. Huston established the first mission in the area around 1937 when he was stationed at Nelson House. The community of South Indian Lake is part of the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation (Nelson House). Rev. Huston constructed the first church building. A second building replaced this around 1950 and a third new church and manse were constructed in 1966. Rev. Huston and succeeding Nelson House missionaries, who were responsible for supervising the mission, visited South Indian Lake several times a year. Later, services were the responsibility of a local lay minister supervised from Lynn Lake and at other times from Cross Lake. In 1968, South Indian Lake received its own ordained missionary, Rev. John McFarlane, who served until 1972. Lay Supply who served at South Indian Lake included Angus Bonner, 1953-1967 and Rev. John Thompson, 1976-.

The correspondence and other items described here date from 1954-1973. However, there are a number of unexplained gaps of several months in the record and reference is frequently made to correspondence that is not in the file. Items in this file consist of correspondence and other materials, such as reports and financial records, pertaining to the administration and supervision of the South Indian Lake United Church Home Mission Field. This mainly includes letters between the Superintendent and the South Indian Lake missionary personnel. Copies of correspondence between the Superintendent and the Secretaries of the Board of Home Missions in Toronto are also found here. Topics pertain to such "housekeeping" matters as salaries and allowances, the ordering and shipping of supplies and equipment, the freighting and distribution of 'clothing bales' and Christmas gifts, the maintenance and construction of mission buildings, and insurance. As well, correspondence from the missionaries and others to the Superintendent includes information about the state of the work and life in the community. In addition there is correspondence and other items pertaining to day and residential schools. A number of items pertain to arrangements for the appointment of missionaries or supply and providing licenses to perform the sacraments.

Title based on contents.

Original staple fasteners have been left intact in order to preserve the arrangement of individual pages as found.

Chronological arrangement; order has been reconstructed by the archivist where necessary; duplicates have been discarded.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Item level description.

See also the Superintendent of Home Missions Files identified as 'Presbyteries (Northland)' for further information pertaining to the South Indian Lake Charge.

Other records accessioned for the South Indian Lake Charge also include Sacramental Registers dating from 1955 to 1994.

Location: 509/2/2-10.

South Indian Lake Charge File

'Maintenance Claims' - Item Level Description

1. South Indian Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1954-1963. – 1.5 cm textual material.

Items found in this folder largely pertain to the state of the work and mainly consist of correspondence between the Lay Supply at South Indian Lake and the Superintendent dealing with salaries and mission materials. Also found here is a copy of the report of the first Presbytery visitation to South Indian Lake dated August 1962 and other supervisory reports. Correspondence dating from October 1962 and following includes an assessment of the mission and suggestions for future staffing.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-10-25.

2. South Indian Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1963-1966. – 1.5 cm textual material.

Items found here pertaining to 'housekeeping' matters include correspondence dating from August 1964 pertaining to the lease of land for the church building at South Indian Lake.

Items found here pertaining to the state of the work include Rev. Strachan's report on the state of the ministry at South Indian Lake, Rev. Bewell's reaction to this report and Rev. Campbell's observations all dating from the fall of 1963. Discussions on this theme continue with correspondence dating from February 1964. A copy of the minutes of a congregational meeting dating from 3 December 1964 is also found here. Correspondence dating from 1966 includes supervision reports. Also found here is a hand-drawn map of the South Indian Lake community showing the location of the main structures.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-10-26.

3. South Indian Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1967-1972. – 3.5 cm textual material.

Items found in this folder largely pertain to the state of the community and deal with the proposed hydro-electric development on the Churchill River and consequent flooding of South Indian Lake and other northern communities. Items include correspondence, briefs and public statements, meeting notes, and reports produced by various sources. A newspaper clipping dating from May 1972 includes a map of the proposed development.

Title based on contents.

Duplicates have been discarded.

Location: 509/2/2-10-27.

South Indian Lake Charge File
'Property Claims' - Item Level Description

4. South Indian Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1958-1963. – 1.5 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder largely consist of correspondence dating from October 1958 and following dealing with a proposal for renovations to the South Indian Lake Church. Other correspondence dating from 1962 and 1963 deals with proposals to construct a new church and manse at South Indian Lake.

Items found here that pertain to the state of the work include supervision reports written by Rev. Strachan of Lynn Lake and Rev. D. A. Richardson of Norway House dating from June and July 1962 that include an assessment of the South Indian Lake ministry.

Items of note found in this folder include correspondence dating from April and May 1960 dealing with issues of Presbytery representation for First Nations people and the decision making process with regard to the approval of renovations and building projects.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-19.

5. South Indian Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1964-1973. – 2 cm textual material.

'Housekeeping'/Property items found in this folder include correspondence and other items dating from January 1964 and following dealing with plans for a new church and manse at South Indian Lake. This includes a copy of the Provincial Department of Mines and Natural Resources Land Branch Plan of General Permit with the area allotted to the United Church shown in red. Also found here is correspondence pertaining to the construction of a new dock. Other correspondence deals with the maintenance of mission property and repairs to equipment.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2-3-20.

6. South Indian Lake Charge Flooding. -- 1972 - 1974. -- 2 folders textual material.

Items found in this folder pertain to flooding in South Indian Lake and includes correspondence, newspaper articles, minutes, reports, and papers dating from 1972 - 1974.

Title based on contents.

Location: 509/2/2 - 10

Accession: 2006 - 11

Teulon Residences
'Property Claims' - Item Level Description

Teulon Residences. – 1963-[1990's]. – 1 folder, 1 volume of textual material.

The Teulon School Home, first opened in 1912, was owned and initially operated by the Presbyterian Woman's Missionary Society. A school home was a boarding establishment where boys and girls of school age could live while attending public schools in the area. At first, it accommodated boys only then a girl's residence was added in 1918. The children usually attended secondary school, however, in the earliest years elementary school pupils were also accommodated. At first, the children came from farm families in remote areas where there was no access to schools. The school home occasionally also provided accommodation for the children of missionaries. In later years, the surviving school home at Teulon provided boarding accommodation for secondary students from remote reserve communities attending Teulon Collegiate. This was different from a residential school where students boarded and attended classes at the same institution. The Teulon School Home was placed under the direction of the Board of Home Missions when the United Church mission work was rationalised in 1962 and the Woman's Missionary Society ceased to exist.

Items found here consist of one folder of textual materials dating from 1963-1969 which includes reports on the condition of the Teulon property and items pertaining to property repairs, and a manual dated circa 1990's.

Title based on contents.

Original staple fasteners have been left intact in order to preserve the arrangement of individual pages as found.

Chronological arrangement; order has been reconstructed by the archivist where necessary; duplicates have been discarded.

Access to material containing identifying information about individuals is restricted.

Records of the boys and girls school home in Teulon, dating from ca.1960 were accessioned by the Conference Archives in 1996 and remain unprocessed.

See also 'Historical Narratives' in '505/2 Manitoba Conference Branch Woman's Missionary Society Archives Collection' for other records pertaining to the early years of the Teulon Residences.

Location: 509/2/2-3-21; 509/2/2 - 17

Accession: 2006 - 28

Records of the Superintendents of Home Missions
Superintendents of Home Missions Property Grants & Loans Files for First Nations Communities

Item Level Description

1. Berens River Charge Correspondence. – 1968-1979. – 1 folder.

Items in this folder include correspondence and other documents that pertain to a loan received by Berens River Charge from the Board of Home Missions in 1969 and applied towards the construction of a

new church building. No payments were made on the loan by 1972 when the principal owing was renegotiated. This amount was retired in 1979.

Title taken from folder label.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

See also the Superintendent of Home Missions Property Files identified as 'Maintenance and Property Claims' for further records that pertain to Berens River Charge.

Location: 509/2/2-11-.

2. Deer Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1964. – 1 folder.

Items in this folder include correspondence that pertains to a loan received by Deer Lake Charge from the Board of Home Missions and applied towards the construction of a new church building. The grant was paid to the Churches in Indian Communities Account.

Title taken from folder label.

Chronological arrangement.

See also the Superintendent of Home Missions Property Files identified as 'Maintenance and Property Claims' for further records that pertain to Deer Lake Charge.

Location: 509/2/2-11-.

3. Island Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1970-1975. – 1 folder.

Items in this folder include correspondence and other documents that pertain to a loan received by the Island Lake Charge from the Board of Home Missions in 1970 and applied towards the construction of a new church building. This amount was retired in 1975.

Title taken from folder label.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

See also the Superintendent of Home Missions Property Files identified as 'Maintenance and Property Claims' for further records that pertain to Deer Lake Charge.

Location: 509/2/2-11-.

4. Kenora Rainy-River Presbytery Sandy Lake Manse Loan. – 1965-1966. – 1 folder.

Items in this folder include correspondence that pertains to a loan received by Kenora Rainy-River Presbytery from the Board of Home Missions and applied towards the construction of a new manse in Sandy Lake.

Title taken from folder label.

Chronological arrangement.

See also the Superintendent of Home Missions Property Files identified as 'Maintenance and Property Claims' for further records that pertain to Sandy Lake Charge.

Location: 509/2/2-11-.

5. Red Lake Correspondence. – 1946-1970. – 2 folders.

Nine Preaching Points formed part of the Red Lake Charge including Cochenour, Balmertown, Madsen, and McKenzie Island. Items in this folder consist of correspondence and other documents that pertain to maintenance and property grants received by the Red Lake Charge. This includes correspondence dating from 1947 and following dealing with a proposal for a new church building and applications for a loan towards this project. This church loan was discharged in December 1958. Correspondence dating from 1949 and following deals with applications for a grant towards a new manse purchased from Orlac Red Lake Mines and moved across the lake. This loan was discharged in 1954. Correspondence dating from 1951 deals with a loan provided to assist the Cochenour Congregation with the purchase of a church building. Correspondence dating from 1955 and 1956 deals with loan applications from Balmertown and Madsen. Correspondence dating from 1967 and following deals with loans and grants received for manse modernisation.

The correspondence found here also includes incidental comments on other Home Missions concerns pertaining to the Red Lake Charge. This includes correspondence dating from June 1953 pertaining to the appointment of Lesley Stutely as a full time woman worker for Red Lake Charge and grants applied towards her salary. Also found here is a copy of the Red Lake District News dating 30 October 1952.

Title taken from folder label.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

See also the Superintendent of Home Missions Property Files identified as 'Maintenance and Property Claims' for further records that pertain to Red Lake Charge.

Location: 509/2/2-12-.

6. Sandy Lake Correspondence. – 1932-1933. – 1 folder.

Items found here include correspondence dating from 1932 and following that pertains to the sale of the Sandy Lake Church building to the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church of St. Michael, Sandy Lake. At that time the United Church congregation was moribund.

Title taken from folder label.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

See also the Superintendent of Home Missions Property Files identified as 'Maintenance and Property Claims' for further records that pertain to Sandy Lake Charge.

Location: 509/2/2-12-.

7. Sifton Correspondence. – 1927-1971. – 2 folders.

Items found here include correspondence dating from 1927 to 1939 and 1959 to 1971. Correspondence dating from 1927 and following pertains to the operation of the Sifton School Home (administered by the Woman's Missionary Society of the United Church) as it relates to the administration of the Sifton Charge, a Home Missions Field. Other correspondence deals with the sale of church property at Sifton, including the school home, which it was decided would be closed in 1939.

Correspondence dating from 1959 and following deals with repairs to the Sifton church building. Sifton was by then part of the Dauphin Plains Charge. Correspondence dating from 1969 deals with the sale of church property in Sifton, then part of the Winnipegosis-Ethelbert-Pine River Charge.

Title taken from folder label.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-12-.

8. Teulon Charge Correspondence. – 1958-1962. – 1 folder.

Items found here consist of correspondence and other documents that pertain to loans and grants received for manse modernisation.

Title taken from folder label.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-12-.

9. Wabigoon Church Sale Correspondence. – 1943-1945. – 1 folder.

Items found in this folder include correspondence that pertains to the sale of the United Church property at Wabigoon to the Women's Institute after the congregation was disbanded.

Title taken from folder label.

Reverse chronological arrangement.

Location: 509/2/2-13-.

Box Lists

Box 509/2-5 (Formerly Box 2-4-2 (CA011))

Records of Committees Task Forces and Working Groups Answering to the Executive and Sub-Executive and Special Committees of Conference

- Special Committee to Study the Indian Work in Manitoba Conference. – ca.1930-1957. – 8 folders.
Includes General Council Commission Appointed to Survey Indian Education by the Board of Home Missions and the Women's Missionary Society of The United Church of Canada Report and the *Report of the Commission on Indian Education* dating from 1935.

General Files of the Superintendent of Home Missions

McMurtry & Smith, 1966-1972

- Church and Government Owned Indian Residences. -- 1962-1967. – 1 folder.

Property Files of the Superintendents of Home Missions

- Norway House Residential School. – 1951-1967. – 9 folders.

Box 509/2/2-1

(previously Home Missions Box A)

Property Files of the Superintendents of Home Missions

Indian Work-Property Claims ('Housekeeping') Correspondence

Cross Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1945-1971. – 10 folders.

- Indian Springs [Swan Lake] Charge Correspondence. – 1958-1964. – 2 folders.
- Nelson House Charge Correspondence. – 1947-1970. – 6 folders.
- Norway House Charge Correspondence. – 1932-1972. – 9 folders.
- Oxford House Charge Correspondence. – 1948-1972. – 6 folders.

Box 509/2/2-2

(previously Home Missions Box B)

Property Files of the Superintendents of Home Missions

Indian Work-Property Claims ('Housekeeping') Correspondence

- Deer Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1958-1972. – 2 folders.
- God's Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1945-1975. – 8 folders.
- Island Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1946-1976. – 6 folders.
- Pikangicum Charge Correspondence. – 1959-1974. – 5 folders.
- Sandy Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1959-1974. – 10 folders.

Box 509/2/2-3 (previously Home Missions Box C)

Property Files of the Superintendents of Home Missions

Indian Work-Property Claims ('Housekeeping') Correspondence

- Berens River Charge Correspondence. – 1956-1972. – 4 folders.
- Fisher River Charge Correspondence. – 1953-1971. – 3 folders.
- Little Grand Rapids. – 1945-1963. – 3 folders.
- Long Plain Charge Correspondence. – 1958-1963. – 2 folders.
- Poplar River Charge Correspondence. – 1959-1971. – 3 folders.
- Red Sucker Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1957-1975. – 3 folders.
- South Indian Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1958-1973. – 2 folders.

- Teulon Residences. – 1963-1969. – 1 folder.
- Norway House Presbytery Mission House Building Program. – 1948-1951. – 2 folders.
- Kenora Rainy-River Presbytery Property Report. – 1962. – 1 folder.
- Cree Hymns. – 1971. – 1 folder.
Consists of handwritten transcriptions of hymns from the United Church Hymn Book into Cree syllabics. An unattributed note within the file and on the file label states that these hymns were submitted to the Rev. Art Veldhuis, editor of the Cree Hymn Book. The transcriptions are written in many different hands and the sources are not noted except in the case of a small notebook inscribed 'Tom Fiddlers Sandy Lake.' In many cases, the title of the hymn and the corresponding hymn book number have been noted on the transcriptions in English, possibly by Rev. Veldhuis.
- Summary of Equipment and Repairs to Date. – 1971. – 1 folder.
File contains a typewritten carbon copy titled 'Summary of Items Supplied to Date September 1971.' Consists of a two page list of equipment and repairs organized by Home Missions Charge.

Box 509/2/2-4

(previously Home Missions Box I)

Property Files of the Superintendents of Home Missions

Indian Work-Maintenance Claims/Grants (including personnel issues and missionaries' informal reports)

- Berens River Charge. – 1914-1972, predominant 1933-1972. – 14 folders.

Box 509/2/2-5

(previously Home Missions Box J)

Property Files of the Superintendents of Home Missions

Indian Work-Maintenance Claims/Grants (including personnel issues and missionaries' informal reports)

- Bird Tail Reserve Charge. – 1926-1949. – 1 folder.
- Brandon Residential School. – 1938-1972. – 5 folders.
- Cross Lake Charge. – 1935-1969. – 11 folders.
- Deer Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1951-1968. – 4 folders.

Box 509/2/2-6

(previously Home Missions Box K)

Property Files of the Superintendents of Home Missions

Indian Work-Maintenance Claims/Grants (including personnel issues and missionaries' informal reports)

- Fisher Branch Charge Correspondence. – 1930-1933. – 1 folder.
- Fisher River Charge Correspondence. – 1930-1965. – 20 folders.
- God's Lake Narrows Charge Correspondence. – 1935-1971. – 12 folders.
- Indian Springs Charge Correspondence. – 1925-1964, predominant 1938-1964. – 7 folders.

Box 509/2/2-7

(previously Home Missions Box L)

Property Files of the Superintendents of Home Missions

Indian Work-Maintenance Claims/Grants (including personnel issues and missionaries' informal reports)

- Island Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1935-1970. – 12 folders.

- Kettle Rapids Inter-Church Chaplaincy Records. – 1967-1972. – 7 folders.
- Little Grand Rapids Charge Correspondence. – 1936-1958. – 5 folders.

Box 509/2/2-8

(previously Home Missions Box M)

Property Files of the Superintendents of Home Missions

Indian Work-Maintenance Claims/Grants (including personnel issues and missionaries' informal reports)

- Little Grand Rapids Charge Correspondence. – 1958-1970. – 4 folders.
- Long Plains Charge Correspondence. – 1926-1958, predominant 1942-1958. – 3 folders.
- Nelson House Charge Correspondence. – 1932-1969. – 10 folders.
- Norway House Charge Correspondence. – [ca.1930]-1961. – 8 folders.

Box 509/2/2-9

(previously Home Missions Box N)

Property Files of the Superintendents of Home Missions

Indian Work-Maintenance Claims/Grants (including personnel issues and missionaries' informal reports)

- Norway House Charge Correspondence. – 1962-1970. – 6 folders.
- Norway House Presbytery Correspondence. – 1934-1962. – 6 folders.
- Norway House Residential School Correspondence. – 1941-1950. – 1 folder.
- Oxford House Charge Correspondence. – 1935-1969. – 10 folders.
- Pikangikum Charge Correspondence. – 1936-1970. – 6 folders.
- Poplar River Charge Correspondence. – 1935-1957. – 4 folders.

Box 509/2/2-10

(previously Home Missions Box O)

Property Files of the Superintendents of Home Missions

Indian Work-Maintenance Claims/Grants (including personnel issues and missionaries' informal reports)

- Poplar River Charge Correspondence. – 1958-1970. – 5 folders.
- Portage IRS Correspondence. – 1939-1971. – 5 folders.
- Portage Indian Student Residence Grant Correspondence. – 1966-1972. – 1 folder.
- Red Sucker Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1951-1971. – 4 folders.
- Sandy Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1936-1972. – 9 folders.
- South Indian Lake Charge Correspondence. – 1954-1970. – 3 folders.
- South Indian Lake Charge Correspondence/ Newspaper Articles/ Minutes re: Flooding.- 1972 - 1974. - 1 folder.
- South Indian Lake Charge Reports/ Papers re: Flooding 1972 - 1974. - 1 folder.