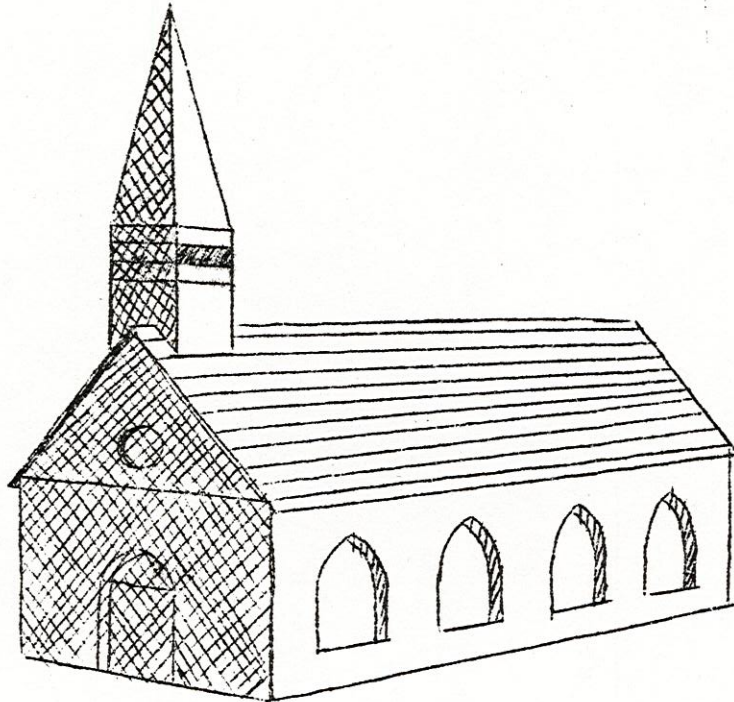


SASKATCHEWAN ARCHIVES QUESTIONNAIRES.

No. 4

Pioneer Churches.

1883



(Drawing by Richard Graburn)

Please print name and address in capital letters.

Your full name HALES, MRS ELIZA JANE.

Present Address 218-12 1/2 Street Brandon, Man.

Pioneer Address Moose Mountain Post Office, Sask.

Year you came to Saskatchewan 1883

(Throughout the questionnaire, "Saskatchewan" means the area which is now Saskatchewan)

PLEASE NOTE

This questionnaire is intended for persons who came to Saskatchewan before 1914, and most of the questions are about that early period, although in a few questions information for later years is asked for.

If you cannot answer a question, leave the space blank. We realize that any one person will not be able to answer all questions, so answer those that apply to your experience and that you can remember, and leave the others.

Use extra sheets of paper if there is not enough space on the questionnaire.

Your co-operation in answering this questionnaire will be very much appreciated, and all questionnaires are preserved in the Saskatchewan Archives as part of the permanent record of our province.

Please send your completed questionnaire to:

Saskatchewan Archives Office,  
University of Saskatchewan,  
Saskatoon, Sask.

SASKATCHEWAN ARCHIVES QUESTIONNAIRES.

No. 4

Pioneer Churches.

1. To what religious services did you go when you first settled in your district? *Services were conducted in the various farm homes week by week.*

Where did your neighbors go to church? *In the various homes, taking their turn to receive.*

How long was it after the first settlers came to your area before services of church worship were organized? *The church was built in Manow in 1903 - we were the first settlers living close to Manow when was started - we were here 1883 - (so that made it 20 years)*

2. By whom were religious services held in your community before a regular church became established (by a clergyman from some other place, etc.)? Give details of the arrangement, telling where services were held, and give dates if possible.

*Very often by a student clergyman during summer months occasionally by an ordained minister - Making arrangements week by week as to what home the next service was to be held.*

How was the clergyman supported?

*I never learned as a child as to how he was supported, but in later years I remember he was kept in the usual way of contributions from the community.*

3. Was the school house used for church services? Give dates. *no. The school house was never used for church. The services were held in the various town stores or small town hall.*

Was it used by congregations of more than one denomination on alternate Sundays? *no.*

Did the same congregation ever support both types of services and give equal financial support? *It was all one church and later a second church was built a few years later.*

Where did the clergyman (or clergymen) live, and how far was it from the school house? *They lived in a small manse in the town of Manow. It was not far from church.*

How did he get to the school house to conduct services? *not in school.*

Was he entertained in homes or supplied with accommodation for the night?

*He lived in his manse supplied -*

Were services continued throughout the winter months, as well as other seasons of the year? *yes.*

Who put on the fire for school house services in winter? *not in school.*

What other charges, or appointments, did the clergyman have besides the one at your school house? *never at school-house -*

Describe the financial arrangements.

*The minister was supported by regular yearly contributions.*

4. Were homes or other buildings such as stores used for church services in your community? *yes (as above) Describe the arrangements:*

*The seating was set up on row by row plan of plank board -*

5. If you had a church building, give the date it was built. *About 1903 -*  
 Who designed the building? *- not known*  
 Who built it? *not known*  
 What material was it made of? *brick* How many people did it seat? *250 persons.*  
 What was the name and denomination of the church? *Gnos - Presbyterian -*
6. Describe the steps taken in arranging for the building of the church, telling who started it, how money was secured, etc. - *not known -*  
 How many families were in the congregation? *about 50 families.*
7. Describe any make-shifts or savings resorted to in the building of the church, and in securing furniture and supplies for it.  
*It was completed and fully furnished but do not know from what resource it came.*
8. Is this first building still in use? *Yes*  
 If not, tell why it is not used now, and what happened to it. *\_\_\_\_\_*
9. When did you have a resident clergyman? *1903* Where did he come from? *not known*  
 What provision was made for living quarters for him - a residence built, etc.?  
*A house was built at the same time of church*
10. Did any other denomination use this church building for services? *No.*  
 Describe the arrangement. *- all attended the one church.*
11. Tell what other churches were built in your community, either before your church was built, or any time since. Give dates if possible, denomination of church, and any changes which have occurred in the use of the building, - that is, if some denomination other than the one who built it is now using the church, or if it is used for some other purpose.  
*The church is still in regular service. A Methodist Church was built about 3 or 4 years after the Presbyterian and the Anglican Church was built about the same time as the Methodist Church. The Methodist Church has been torn down since the churches have become United Church of Canada. Also a Roman Catholic Church was built in 1951-2 -*  
 Are all these churches in town? *Yes* If not, give distances from town, and from one another. *\_\_\_\_\_*

If not built in town, why were they not built there? *\_\_\_\_\_*

12. Was your church established as a home mission? *Regular Church.*

Describe the arrangements as to finance, student ministers, etc.

*Never a student minister in the town. After the Church was built it was always served by an Ordained Minister.*

13. If families did not have a church of their own denomination in the community, did they usually go to some other church, or not attend at all? Explain.

*Everyone attended the Church regardless of denomination until other churches were built.*

Did they have any special religious service of some kind in the home if they could not go to church, or if there was no public religious service?

*After the Church was built services were always conducted in same.*

If families had been attending and supporting a church other than their own denomination, or had not attended because their own church was not present, how well did they support their own church if it became established in their community at a later date?

*As the community and town had grown same was better supported.*

14. How often and at what time were services held in the church, school or other building?

*The service was held in the church at 3 P.M. and at 7 P.M.*

15. Did laymen conduct church services when a clergyman was not available? Describe the circumstances.

*There were no laymen present but if clergyman was not available the service was cancelled or filled in by a member of the congregation.*

16. Did you have an organ for the service? *Yes* Who played it? *Usually a school teacher.*

When was it bought? *some time as church* How was the money raised for it? *as previously stated.*

17. Did you have a choir? *Yes* How many were in it? *about 10 members.*

Who started it? *The organist & volunteers* When? *at the same time the church was started.*

Were any of the persons who led the choir or sang in it trained musicians?

Explain. *Some persons were trained musicians but the largest majority were just voluntary good singers.*

18. Was any other kind of music or musical instrument used in the services? Describe.

*Yes organ and cornet, occasionally violin.*

19. What kind of religious instruction for the young, such as Sunday School or Catechism classes, were held? Give dates when they were started.

*School school was started at the same time church was built.*

How often were they held? *each Sunday -*

How many children attended? *It varied - about 75 -*

Who was in charge of these and helped with the teaching? *- Local church workers and volunteer school teacher.*

20. What organization (or organizations) was formed to help with the support of the church? *"Missionary Society" and "Ladies Aid"*

What year was it started? *some date as church opened* How often did it meet? *once each month*

How many women or men belonged to it? *About 15 to 20 ladies.*

21. In what year was the first church picnic held? *About 1903* Where? *Various Picnic grounds*

Describe the church picnics of early days, telling how many attended, what you had to eat and drink, what amusements there were, changes which occurred in later years, and any other details about them which you remember. (There are questions on the Pioneer Recreation Questionnaire dealing with picnics, so if you wish to give the information there, you need not repeat it here.)

*The full neighborhood were in attendance. Each bringing the basket Picnic lunches which were packed and always good food provided.*

22. In what year was the first fowl supper or bazaar held? *Fall of 1903* Where? *In the Church*

Was it held every year after that? *Yes.*

What differences do you notice between the dishes served at the suppers in the early days, and those served now? *Very little difference.*

What differences are there in serving methods (help yourself, plates served already filled, etc.)? *Food placed on the table and mostly help yourself style. Occasionally plates served already filled.*

What changes are there in the price of suppers?

*present time. Much higher in price at*

Describe any changes which you have noticed in the needlework offered for sale, in type of work or articles brought, those that were most popular at various times, changes in price, or any other details which you may remember.

*Beautiful needlework done at all times. Work done now appears to be more useful and prices somewhat the same.*

Was a concert of some kind held in connection with the suppers or bazaars in the first years? *Yes. Describe. Varied concert, Vocal numbers and readings and short plays.*

23. Describe any other activities that were carried on to assist in raising money for the church.

*Other concerts - Groups going from town to town putting up concerts for which tickets were sold for some*

24. Name any other organizations or meetings associated with the church, telling when they were started, how often they met, and their purpose and activities.

*The Elders and Board of Management of the Church often held meetings, about once each month, with regard to the general upkeep and maintenance of the Church.*

25. When was any plan of systematic giving for the support of the church and clergyman adopted? *at the time the Church was built.*

Of what nature, - weekly envelopes, etc.?

*weekly offerings and yearly donations.*

26. What interest or activity was there in the support of home missions?  
*The Womens Missionary Society, covered from their donations to the church, all missionary interest. My mother was a life member of the "Missionary Society".*
27. How far did some of the people have to travel to church service?  
*Sometimes five mile on oden,*  
 What means of travel was used? *"Wagon" on "house and buggy".*
28. What nationalities were represented in the congregation, and in approximately what proportion?  
*all Canadians and British Persons.*
29. Were there special revival or mission services in the early days? Describe.  
*Bible classes held in middle of week, mostly Wednesday right in the church.*
30. What arrangements were there to provide for the training of the clergy?  
*Student on ordained minister came to town at the beginning of term.*
31. What differences did you notice in church life on the prairies as compared with the community you came from?  
*Came to the community only as small child so have no recollection of same.*
32. To what extent did the social life of the community centre around the church service (held in the church, school or other building) in the early days?  
*varied, about half and half depending on the type of social being held.*
33. Is the church as important a place now of people gathering together for companionship and sociability as it was in the early years?  
 Explain. *Yes — Am not living there at the present time but I understand it is used as much as in the early days.*
34. Is the first membership roll of your church still in the community? *Yes.*  
 If you can, give the name of the person who has it. *Believe same is in the church*
- Do you have any pictures or photographs of your earliest church or of homes where the first services were held, or do you know of anyone who has such pictures?  
*I have a picture of my Parents home where church was held.*
35. Describe any special features or unusual incidents of pioneer churches, or anything connected with it which you found interesting, not already mentioned. (Use other sheets, or back of this sheet if necessary.)  
*Nothing unusual seemed to have happened in the Pioneer churches. Very loyal & their supporters and faithful congregation attendance.*