

# Friends of the Provincial Archives of Saskatchewan 2019 Annual Report

NOTE: all e-mail and web addresses are active hyperlinks

## ARCHIVES WEEK 2019

The Regina event highlighted archival resources from the Provincial Archives, the City of Regina Archives, and the University of Regina Archives. Speakers for the evening included Sarah Mills, News Director at 980 CJME Radio; Frank Korvemaker, Archivist, Archaeologist, and Construction Historian; and Dr. Faycal Haggui, Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety.

“We were especially excited this year to see so many events planned for Archives Week and to support archival institutions in promoting our province’s history,” SCAA (Sask. Council for Archives and Archivists) President Jeremy Mohr said.

Other events were held in communities across the province, including Cut Knife, Humboldt, LaRonge, Lloydminster, Melfort, North Battleford, Prince Albert, St. Isidore-de-Bellevue, Shaunavon, Swift Current, Wilcox and many more.



Sarah Mills



Frank Korvemaker



Dr. Faycal Haggui

# FOPASK

“Saskatchewan Archives” was the term used commonly in the past. Since 2015 the Saskatchewan Archives is officially called the Provincial Archives of Saskatchewan.

Our Friends organization previously based our (FOSA) acronym on Saskatchewan Archives. To keep in step we are now updating to a new acronym based on the phrase Friends of the Provincial Archives of Saskatchewan.

From now on we intend to use FOPASK, however there will be continued use of FOSA in a couple of applications. In particular the FOSA e-mail address fosa.regina@gmail.com will continue until a new one is in service.

We will notify you when the change over is completed.

## Membership

During 2019 the membership increased from 392 to 408 active and associate members.

Regina and area 109  
Saskatchewan 88  
Outside Saskatchewan. 211

Some of the new members initially contacted the Friends in order to find out how they can donate records to the Provincial Archives of Saskatchewan.

## Administration

Structure – The informal organizational structure for the Friends appears to be working well and will continue as such for the foreseeable future. Bill Armstrong, corresponding under the pseudonym of “Interim Gopher”, remained the de-facto Chair of the Friends of the PAS.

Friends Meetings – Our regular meetings continued to be held at 3303 Hillsdale Street - the public office of the Provincial Archives of Saskatchewan; while PAS staff has provided some limited administrative support, which is greatly appreciated. Starting in the fall of 2020 meetings will be held at the new Provincial

Archives location at 2440 Broad Street in Regina.

Friends Website – Information relating to Friends’ activities can be found on the PAS website. On the Home page, click on: “About the Archives”, then select: “Friends of the Provincial Archives”, or click directly on the following link:

[www.saskarchives.com/about-archives/friends-archives](http://www.saskarchives.com/about-archives/friends-archives)

## Achievements

The following activities were undertaken in 2019

### Correspondence

The Interim Gopher, Bill Armstrong, has had a busy year corresponding with members and responding to public inquiries. Over 80 e-mails found their way into e-mail IN BOXES. Among some of the topics that the Friends were asked to consider or to provide some insight on consisted of requests and responses to e-mails in 2019.

Links to on line articles always draws interest and the following provides a few interesting samples.

Murray Galbraith submitted installments of his family history in the Nipawin area. Several members from that area responded with interesting comments.

A book recently published titled “Flight -Stories of Canadian Aviation” by Deanna Driver presented stories collected by many contributors including FOPASK member Will Chabun. Deanna promises a second volume so if you have a story to tell contact her at the Web Address: <http://www.driverworks.ca>

A pile of thanks goes out to the Gopher for his diligent efforts in maintaining an outstanding mound of work.

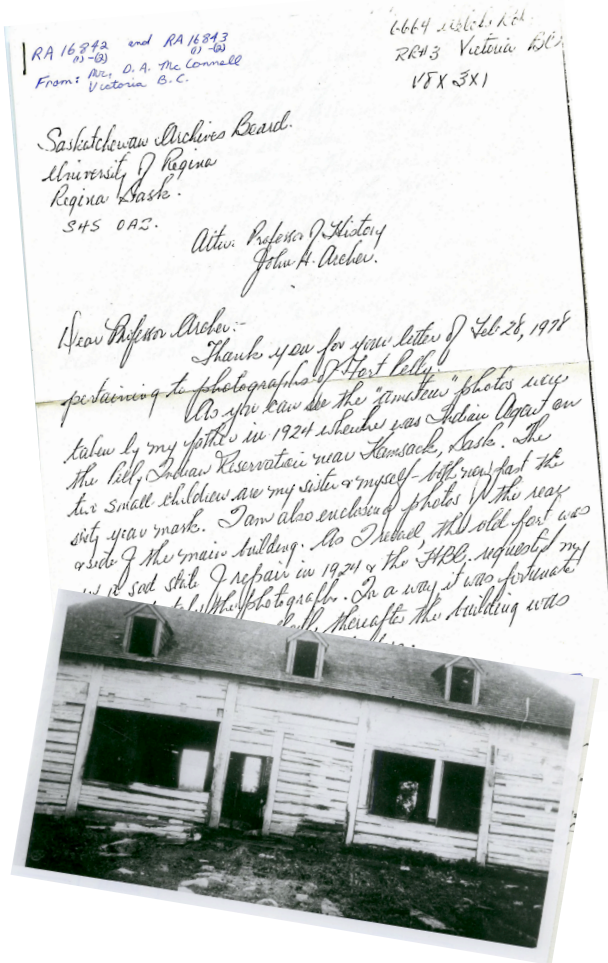
## Volunteer Work

Regina Photo Project – Started in 2012, this project helps the Provincial Archives to upgrade the textual information documented in the photographic

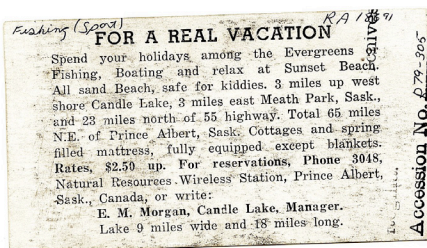
collection. Friends systematically review the photos to identify discrepancies in the data entered into the PAS's database, and subsequently made available to researchers on the Archives' website.

Between January and December 2019, Friends volunteers have worked on this project for 192 hours, reviewing the contents of about 7,600 photo envelopes, which add up to more than 12,000 items. This brings the total number of items reviewed since the start of the project to over 36,000.

#### Samples from two Photos Project envelopes



Letter explaining location of photo & why it was taken.



An advertisement for a Vacation

## A Research project by Frank Korvemaker

R.W. Dahlgren (1854-1935)

That research started back in 2012, when I was still working at the Provincial Archives, but most of the research was undertaken after-hours, until after I retired in 2013. It could be seen as the kind of project that FOPASK members could undertake that would benefit both the Saskatchewan Association of Architects and the PAS, as some of the documents uncovered and the resultant report will be donated to the Archives.

Before Jennifer Bisson of the provincial government's Heritage Conservation Branch referred an inquiry from David Dahlgren to me in 2012, I had never heard of his grandfather: Rudolf Wilhelm Dahlgren, a Swedish trained architect who went on to become a well-known residential architect in Chicago, in partnership with Oscar Lievendahl. Among their impressive listing of Chicago residences, one of the best known is the residence of Dr. Wallace C. Abbott, the founder of today's Abbott Laboratories.



Abbot Residence, Chicago Built: 1891

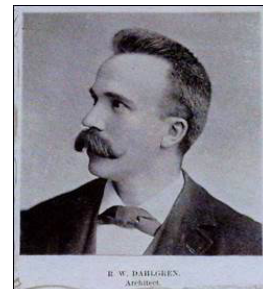


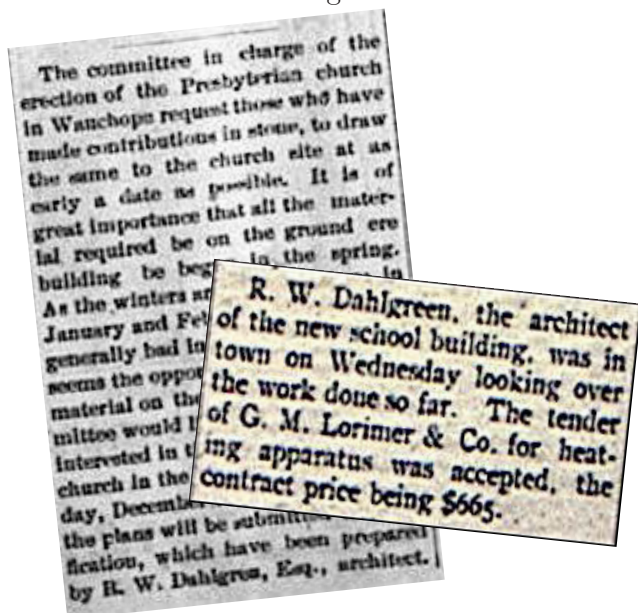
Photo from book on the Columbian Exposition, hosted by Chicago in 1893



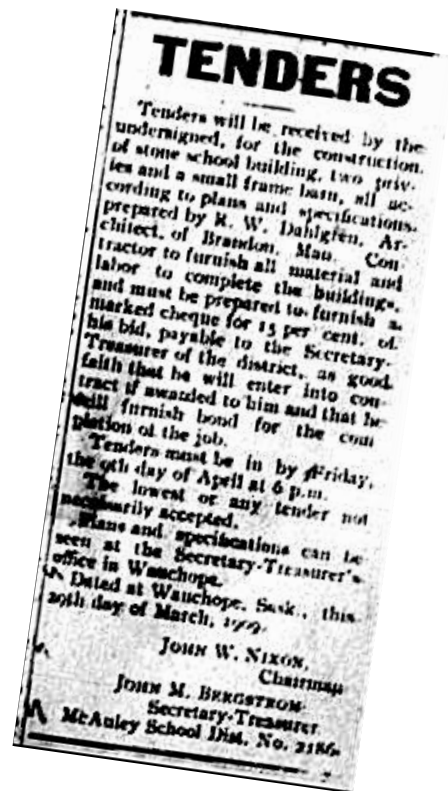
In 1903 Dahlgren, then 49, inexplicably retired to a homestead near Parkman, about 25 miles NE of Carlyle where, according to family tradition, he designed several small schools in the region, as well as the Arcola Court House, and Manor Public School. However, finding documentary proof of his architectural work in Saskatchewan has been very challenging, and after eight years of periodic research, David and I were finally rewarded in 2019 by finding historical references in the Manor Advocate (housed at the PAS) that confirmed that Dahlgren designed the Presbyterian Church at Wauchope (frame, 1906), the Public School at Manor (brick, 1907), and the rural McAuley School (stone, 1909). However, we have not yet been able to link Rudolf Dahlgren with the Arcola Court House.

Dahlgren was not a member of the Saskatchewan Association of Architects, but it is still important for the Association to know which architects practiced in the province both before and after the SAA was established in 1912. We have found no evidence that Dahlgren designed any Saskatchewan buildings after the legislation creating the SAA came in effect on July 31, 1912, requiring active architects to register with the Association. By then he was also working periodically in Brandon, Manitoba.

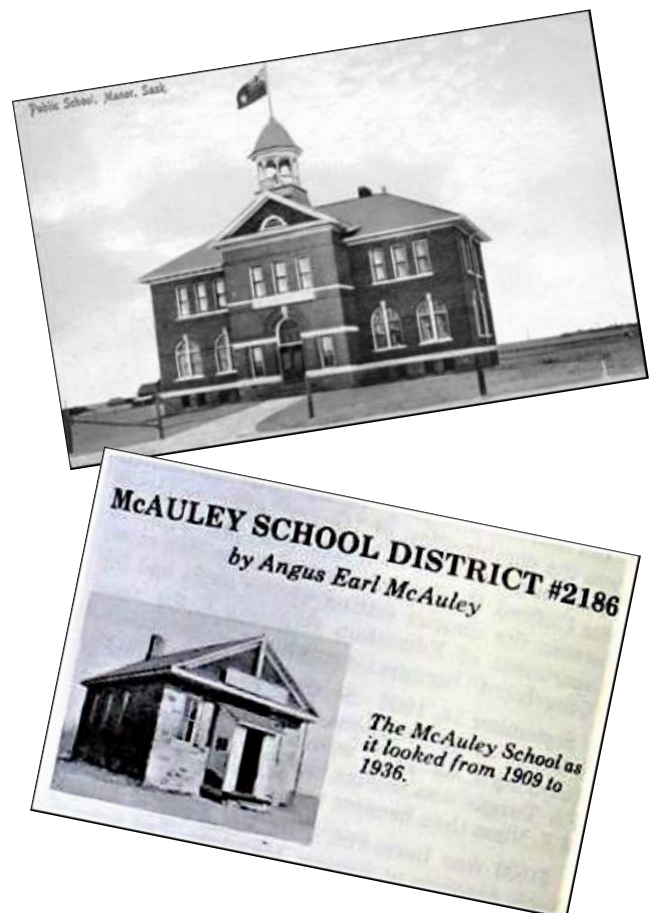
Below are some images relating to Dahlgren's confirmed Saskatchewan design work:



Manor Advocate - Dec 7, 1906



Sept. 27, 1907  
Tender for McAuley School - architect Dahlgren;  
Bergstrom trustee



While other FOPASK members were heavily involved in 2019 with the Regina Photo Project, I was busy pouring through the Manor Advocate (1905-1909) and various government records trying to verify Rudolf Dahlgren's Saskatchewan designs.

This project is not yet over, as we still have not determined what connection Dahlgren had with the Arcola Court House, which was officially the work of Storey and Van Egmond, of Regina. However, I suspect that Dahlgren, who lived only 35 miles from Arcola, might have been hired by that firm to act as their on-site supervising architect. But proof of this continues to elude us.

So far I have devoted at well over 75 hours to this project, including about 45 in 2019.

## SAA

Since 2010, the Saskatchewan Association of Architects has periodically donated its inactive corporate records to the Provincial Archives. Frank Korve-maker is their honorary corporate archivist, and has overseen these transfers. In addition, he is creating Box Lists for those records, enabling a more ready access to the files until they can be duly processed by PAS staff. In 2019, another six boxes of SAA records were donated to the Archives, including over 150 files for architects and architectural firms that no longer practice architecture in Saskatchewan. Frank also responds to public inquiries relating to SAA records, and extensively searches through the SAA records and elsewhere to respond. In 2019, 147 volunteer hours were devoted towards dealing with these SAA records, including scanning 234 images.

## Archives News Late 2019 - early 2020

The Provincial Archives of Saskatchewan is pleased to announce the launch of its new online catalogue. This archival catalogue uses Access to Memory (AtoM) open-source software, allowing the Archives to easily

share information with the public and with many other provincial and national archival catalogues.

Researchers can search over 900,000 descriptions of records from the Permanent Collection of the Provincial Archives. The catalogue also provides online access to more than 300,000 digitized original archival records, primarily photographs and textual records. New content is added as records are processed and digital projects are completed.

“Our new catalogue provides a fresh, streamlined approach to accessing our holdings,” Provincial Archivist, Linda McIntyre said. “It enables us to make content available online quickly and easily, for research use across the province and around the world.”

Try our new online catalogue  
To search the new AtoM catalogue, visit  
<https://search.saskarchives.com/>

Researchers interested in learning more about the historical records in the Permanent Collection at the Provincial Archives should visit:  
[www.saskarchives.com](http://www.saskarchives.com).

## Contact FOPASK

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