



Desrosier Farmhouse, St. Malo area. Concrete blocks were used throughout Manitoba around the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and in the De Salaberry/St. Pierre region several houses were built using this technology.

## Schools

The primary connection to the theme of education can be found at Providence College in Otterburne. Originally Maison Saint-Joseph (Saint Joseph's College), this impressive campus was established in 1912 by the Clercs de St. Viateur. The school became a centre of Otterburne life, providing pastoral care, employment and farm produce to the surrounding area.

## Halls and Recreational Buildings

Facilities for recreation with historic claims are rare in the region, with the Dufrost Community Hall, associated with the area's Ukrainian community, a notable exception.



Above: Tower and lantern of Saint Joseph's College, now Providence College.

Left: The Dufrost Community Hall, with its corner towers and onion dome is obviously connected to the local Ukrainian community.

## Farm Buildings

Another major historical and architectural claim that the region can make focuses on its farming heritage. The typical range of working buildings—barns, sheds, granaries—is in this region enriched with exceptional examples of those types, but also with important (even unique) examples of other farm buildings, including three wooden silos, a honeybee operation and a bull barn.



While not in perfect condition, the Turenne Silo is the most visually striking of the three wooden silos in the area, and is also the oldest, built around 1935.

Right: This unprepossessing barn (from 1950) has claims as the first facility in western Canada to be associated with artificial insemination, an important development in agricultural technology. It was here (from 1950-62), on Emile Hebert's farm, where Holstein bulls owned by federal and provincial Departments of Agriculture were housed to collect semen, which was tested and stored in little vials, then packed in dry ice for shipping.

Below: Honeyland Farms (also known as the Pankiw Honeybee Farm), established in 1920, features this distinctive round bee storage building (from 1936) as well as several other structures (including the honey extracting building). This facility was one of the first commercial honey operations in western Canada.





Details and an interior view of the Cure Farm Silo, in the St. Pierre area, show the visual interest created by simple materials and textures.



A wooden sign on a barn in the Dufrost area reading Roblin Farm 1929 recalls its connection to a notable Manitoba political family, two of whose members, Rodmond and Duff, were Premiers.



The Courcelles House, a typical example of the kind of small farmsites that define rural areas of the region.

The Dandenault Barn and Silo are important examples of the kinds of major farming operations that defined the region.



## Builders and Craftsmen

The work done for the De Salaberry/St. Pierre inventory has revealed the names of a handful of men who were seriously involved in the building trade, working on more than just their own property but also as trusted craftsmen in the community:

- Josephat Desaulnier
- Ovide Prefontaine
- Armand Lavergne
- Joseph Arpin
- Adhemar Renuart
- M. Desrosier
- Franz Yafram
- Hector Dandenault
- Joseph Cure

Attention to this aspect of heritage buildings is important. Buildings are not significant only because they describe certain styles or traditions, or because they present interesting materials and attractive details. At a time when the history of technology is naturally undervalued and poorly understood (given Western society's compulsive need to leave old technologies behind in the name of progress), and when museums are the key repositories interpreting only the artifacts associated with the theme, buildings provide a connection to the subject on a daily basis. They are the common, obvious and visible places where we can study and appreciate old ways of doing things, and even the places where we can gain insights into the ideas and solutions behind those old ways.



Armand Lavergne was a building contractor who put up this house, at 454 Jolys in St. Pierre, in 1921. He also built churches throughout the southeast part of the province and several dwellings around St. Pierre.



Ademar Renuart was involved in the lumber business and was also a builder, with his skill in evidence at 579 Jolys in St. Pierre.



Jean Desrosier put up three concrete block houses in the St. Malo area, including this fine example of the type.



Franz Yafram was a master carpenter from Germany who came to Canada to build churches in the early 1900s. His skills are in evidence at the Honeyland Farms, where this distinct round building was constructed in 1936.



In 1943 Hector Dandeneault and Joseph Cure put up this impressive wooden silo at the Dandeneault Farm. Used to store corn for the dairy operation, this kind of construction required careful attention to detail – and a definite comfort with heights.

## Memorials

The region has an impressive claim for memorial sites, including four large way-finding crosses and an exceptional war memorial in St. Pierre.



The Cross at the Louis Malo Pioneer Site, just north of St. Malo, is the most visible of four such large crosses that define historic entry points in the region.

The War Memorial at St. Pierre-Jolys, featuring sculptural figures of a pensive soldier and a heroic Joan of Arc, is one of the finest examples of memorial art in the province.



## Cemeteries

The two major cemeteries in the area, at St. Pierre-Jolys and St. Malo, are notable sites for anyone interested in exploring local family history, as well as for fine examples of funerary art.



The cemetery in St. Malo is situated behind the looming towers of the Roman Catholic Church.



The monument for Father J.M.A. Jolys, situated in front of the Roman Catholic church in St. Pierre, features a splendid sculptural tableaux and a bronze bust.

The Renuart Family Memorial in the St. Pierre-Jolys Cemetery is one of the finest examples of funerary art in the province.



## Modern Buildings

While they are not yet considered heritage sites, the community of St. Pierre contains two important buildings that one day could attain that status: the Regional Library and the new Roman Catholic Church.



Left: The Regional Library in St. Pierre (shown here in a detail) was designed by one of Manitoba's most important Modern architects, Etienne Gaboury (with Denis Lussier).

Below: Also by Etienne Gaboury, the Roman Catholic Church at St. Pierre is an important Modernist building.



# De Salaberry-St Pierre's Significant Heritage Sites

The following list of buildings and sites constitutes the De Salaberry-St Pierre Heritage Advisory Group's recommendations to council and the community about those places that have major claims for local heritage significance.

- Convent of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, St. Pierre
- Goulet House, St. Pierre
- Louis Malo Pioneer Site, St. Malo area
- Prefontaine House, St. Pierre
- St. Malo Roman Catholic Church
- Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church, Dufrost
- La Fournaise Log House, Hwy 59 Sud
- Turenne Farm Silo, Rat River Road
- Desaulnier House, St. Pierre
- Dotremont House, Rat River Drive
- Honeyland Farms, Dufrost area

The selection of these sites has been the result of a rigorous process carried out by representatives of the community with assistance and direction from the Historic Resources Branch of Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism. That process began with the production of a comprehensive inventory of 70 historic buildings and sites in the area, and included an analysis

and then finally a numerical evaluation of sites to determine those select few that would be identified as Special Places.

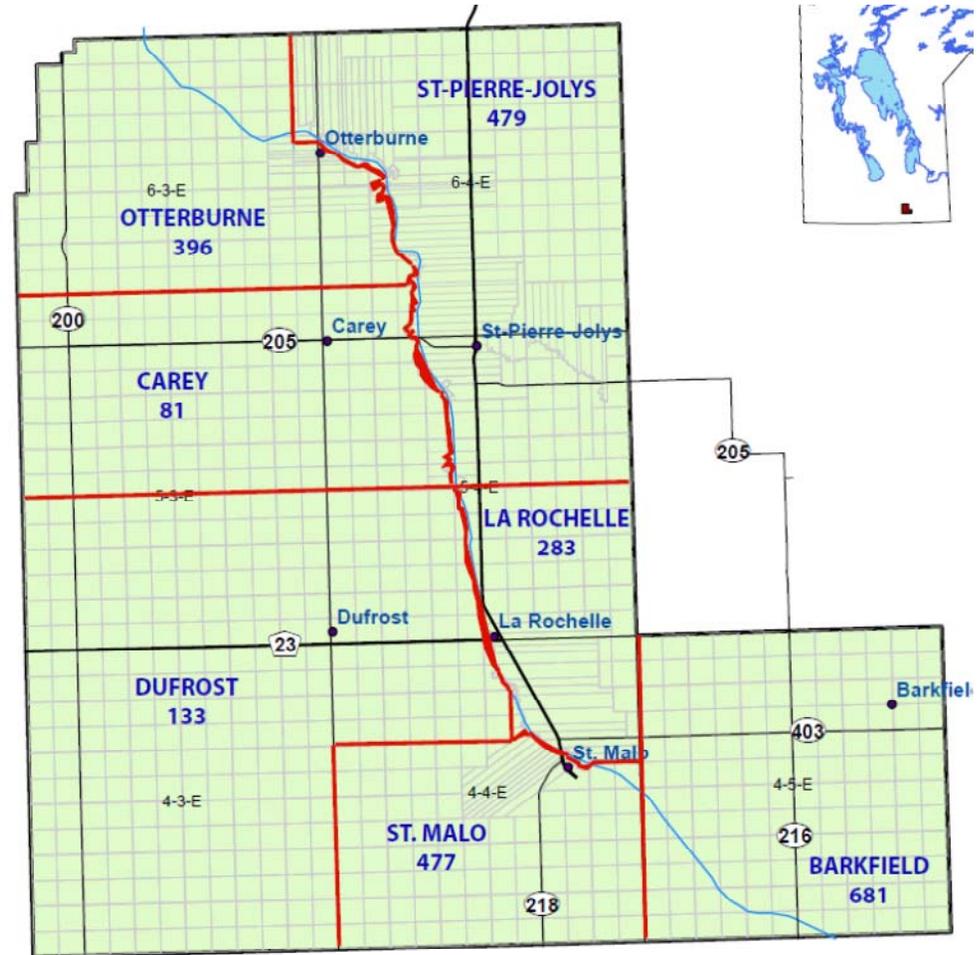
As a collection, these 10 buildings and one site define many aspects and themes from our past, and do so through places that are at once significant, but also often interesting and attractive. These are places that the people of De Salaberry and St. Pierre-Jolys can look to with pride. These buildings remind us of past glory, but also suggest an enduring sense of community, and are a beacon for its future.

Each of these important buildings and sites is presented on the following pages with an accompanying Heritage Value Statement that elucidates that place's key heritage attributes.

At the same time, the De Salaberry/St. Pierre-Jolys Heritage Advisory Group notes that the 19 other buildings and sites that were also assessed for their heritage value should be noted here, in a concluding section called Additional Sites of Interest. While not attaining superior claims for heritage significance, these places are also valued, providing interesting historic and architectural qualities that help define the region's heritage. This kind of short, sharp list will enable the community to focus attention and resources when it undertakes future heritage endeavours, be they updates to the walking tour, community websites, school projects, plaquing programs and designations.

## Map of De Salaberry

This basic map of De Salaberry can be co-ordinated to locate sites noted on following pages, which are identified with street addresses.



## Map of St. Pierre

This basic street map of St Pierre can be co-ordinated to locate sites noted on following pages, which are identified with street addresses.

