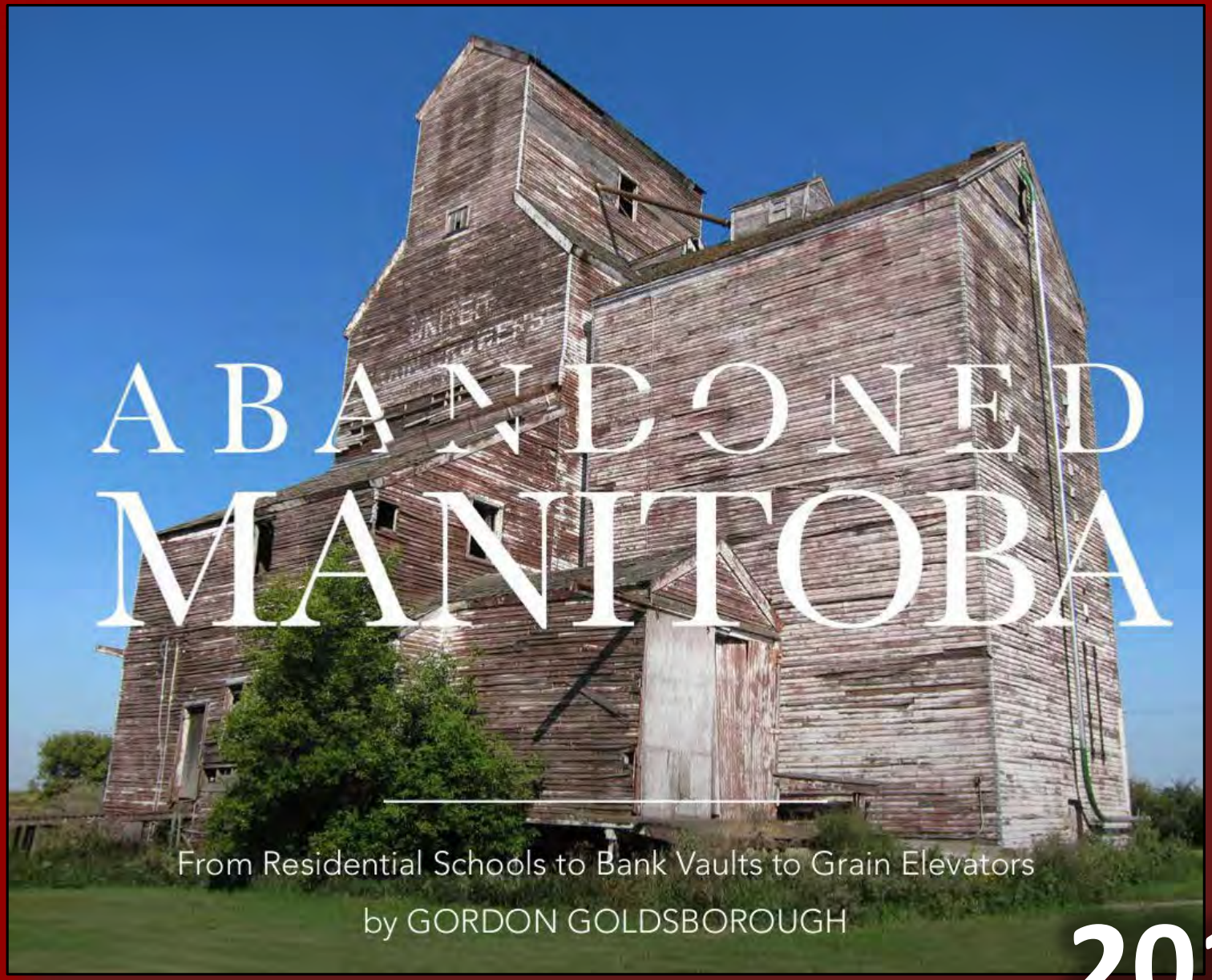
Mapping historic sites in rural Manitoba: development, themes, and applications

Gordon Goldsborough
Manitoba Historical Society


ABANDONED
MANITOBA
From Residential Schools to Bank Vaults to Grain Elevators
by GORDON GOLDSBOROUGH
2016

GORDON GOLDSBOROUGH
MORE ABANDONED MANITOBA
Rivers, Rails, and Ruins

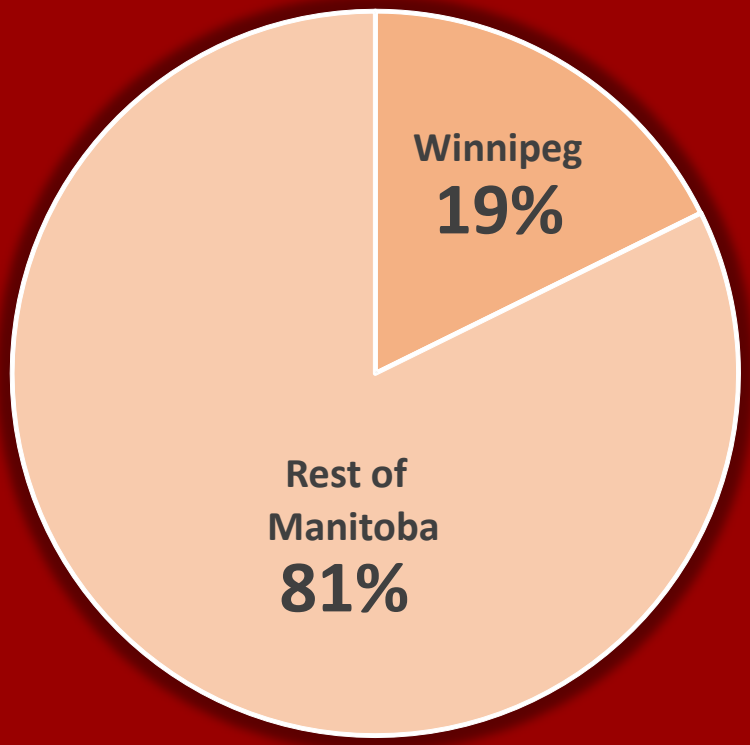
Presentation outline

- What is the MHS Historic Sites of Manitoba project?
  - How it started, how it was built, present status
- Project applications, especially pertaining to rural planning and development
- Future plans

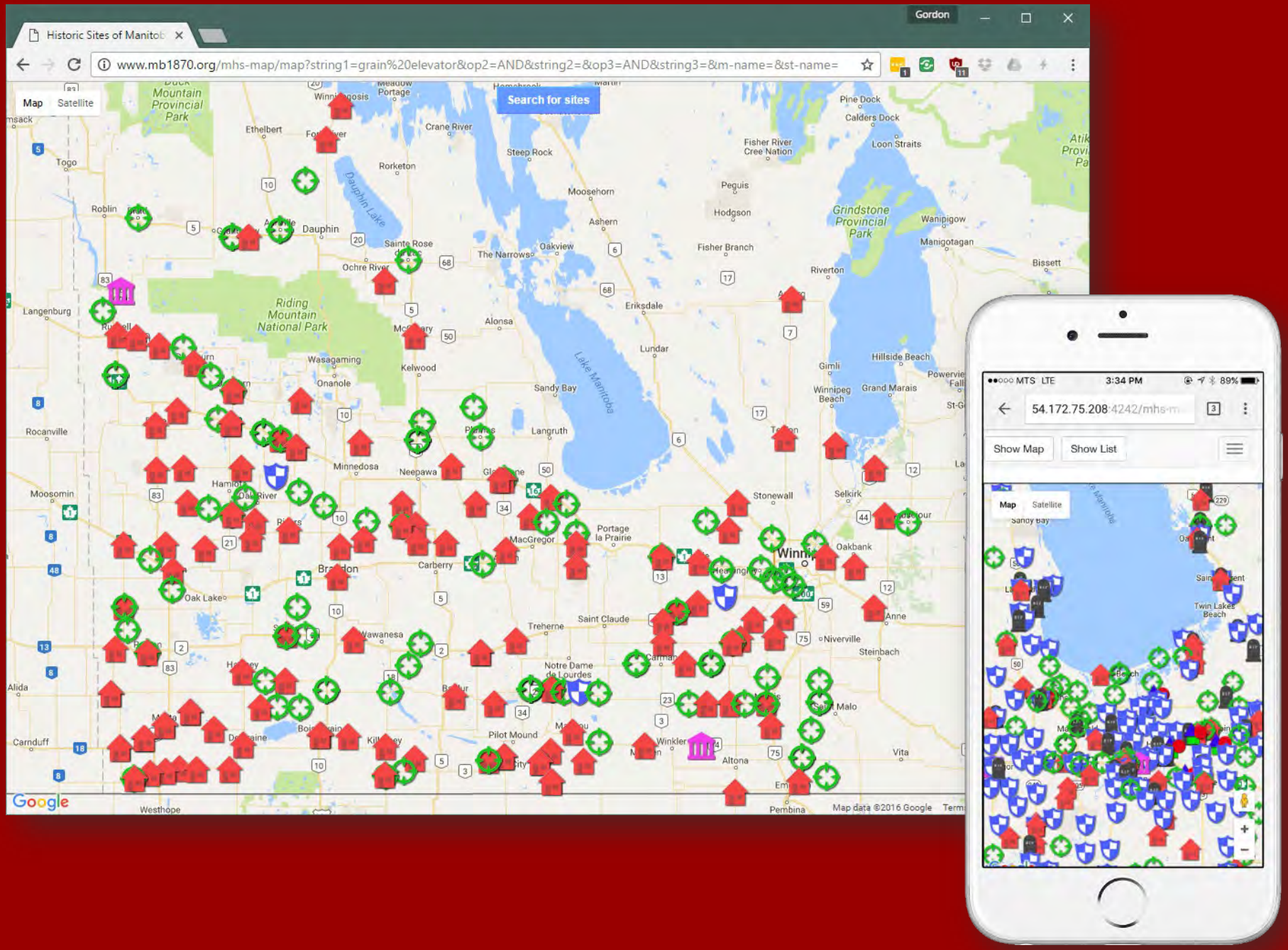
Historic site stats *

7,027 sites:

- 2,382 Buildings
- 1,036 Cemeteries
- 1,581 Locations
- 2,184 Monuments
- 200 Museums/Archives
- 197 Other



*** 14 November 2018**


Historic Sites of Manitob
www.mb1870.org/mhs-map/map?string1=grain%20elevator&op2=AND&string2=&op3=AND&string3=&m-name=&st-name=
Gordon
Map
Satellite
Search for sites
Riding Mountain National Park
Grindstone Provincial Park
Lake Manitoba
Dauphin Lake
Google
Map data ©2016 Google
MTS LTE
3:34 PM
89%
54.172.75.208:4242/mhs-m
Show Map
Show List
Map
Satellite

What makes a site historic ?

- Noteworthy object, built or natural, at site
  - Material, constructor, style
  - Level of structural integrity
  - Public or private role / function
- Noteworthy event at site
- Noteworthy person with connection to site
- Who decides what is noteworthy?

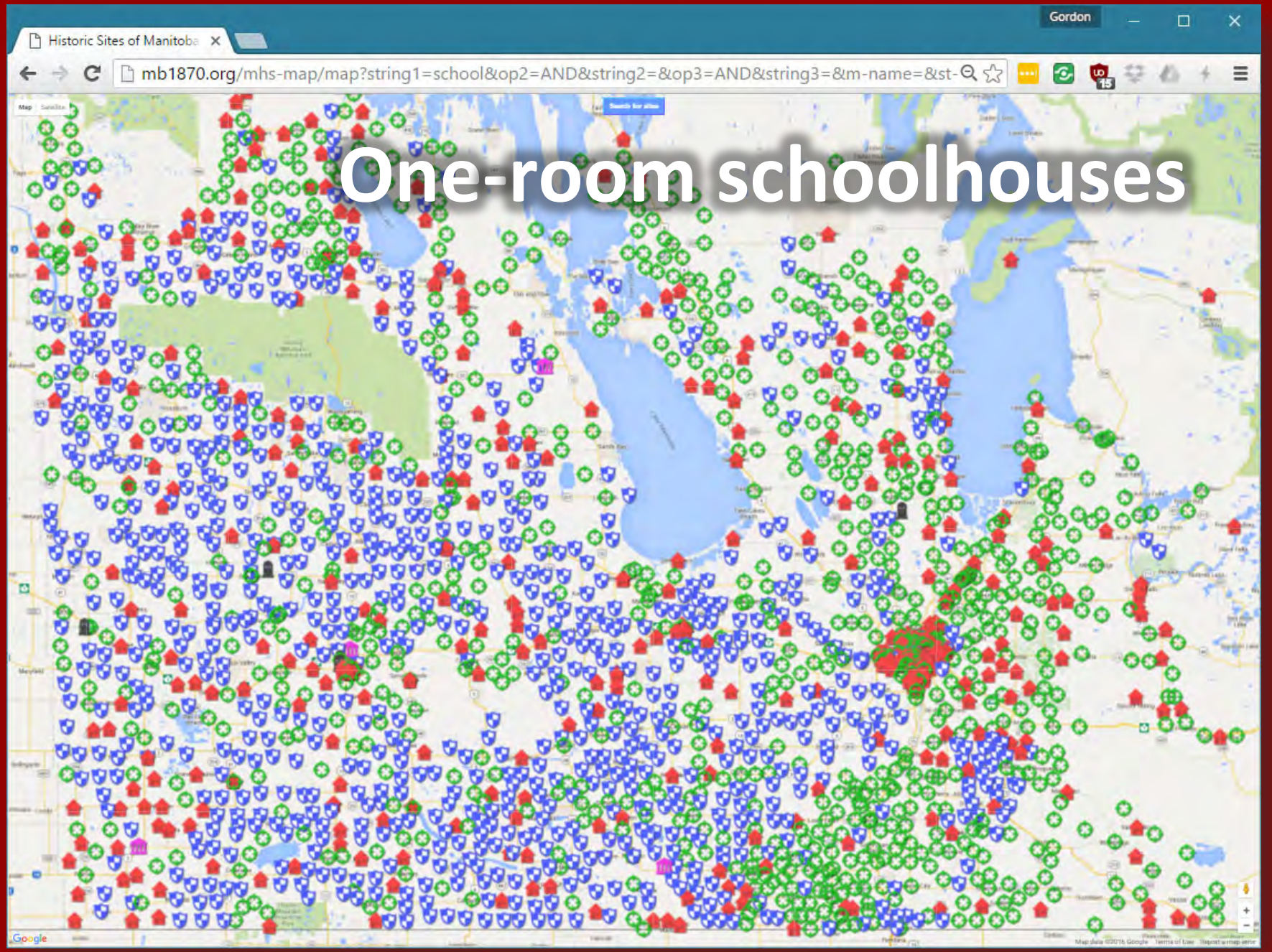
Finding the unknown

- Local history books
- Local knowledge, including social media
- Random driving and serendipity
- Google Earth
  - Look for signs of human hands at work (e.g., shelterbelts, foundations, roads, rights of way, and other straight or curved lines; land disturbance)

Little Saskatchewan River

Built 1918
Main road between Minnedosa and Rapid City

Hayland School


Historic Sites of Manitoba
Gordon
mb1870.org/mhs-map/map?string1=school&op2=AND&string2=&op3=AND&string3=&m-name=&st-
One-room schoolhouses
Google

RM of Macdonald school mapping project

Explorer's toolkit

ESSENTIALS

- Municipal maps
- Back road atlas
- GPS receiver
- Cameras
- Spare batteries / charger
- Notebook
- Mobile phone
- Business cards

OPTIONAL

- Emergency contact
- Drinking water / snacks
- Sun / insect protection
- Rubber boots
- Change of clothes
- Camping gear
- Extra vehicle fuel
- Talking books

Going inside ?

- Structural integrity
  - Look for signs:
    - Start in the basement
    - Water stains and holes
  - Stay close to walls or sides of stair treads
  - Step gingerly
  - “If in doubt, stay out”

Aerial views

No. 7 Bombing & Gunnery School, CATP

Mapping challenges

- Field work
  - Angry birds … and bugs, dogs, cattle, people
  - Barb wire, electric fences, dense and thorny foliage, mud
- Permission and privacy
- Sensitive sites

Permission and privacy

- In this “Secrecy Age,” finding contact information can be extremely difficult
- Online routes for contact:
  - **www.canada411.ca** (including reverse lookup)
  - Social media
- “Old school” detective methods:
  - Municipal office
  - Ask the neighbours

Permission & privacy

- “No phone call, no email, no letter.”
- Typically, it is easier to ask for forgiveness than permission.

ownership map

MANITOBA COMPANIES OFFICE PAGE 001

SEARCH AS OF 2016/09/19

NAME:	ELIE ELEVATOR INC.
BUSINESS NUMBER:	851885343MC0001
CURRENT JURISDICTION:	MANITOBA
DATE OF INCORPORATION:	2004/08/25
DATE REGISTERED IN MANITOBA:	N/A
CURRENT STATUS / STATUS DATE:	ACTIVE 2004/08/25
YEAR OF LAST RETURN ON FILE:	2015
NATURE OF BUSINESS:	SERVICES INCIDENTAL TO AGRICULTURE
REGISTERED OFFICE ADDRESS:	D'ARCY & DEACON LLP 2200 - ONE LOMBARD PLACE WINNIPEG MB R3B 0X7
MAILING ADDRESS:	ATTN : A. JASON D'ARCY & DEACON LLP 2200 - ONE LOMBARD PLACE WINNIPEG MB R3B 0X7

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL:

SHARE TYPE	AUTH	ISSUED	CONSID
COM A	UNLTD		
COM B	UNLTD		
PREF C	UNLTD		
PREF D	UNLTD		

DIRECTOR(S)

GILLES LEGAULT
PO BOX 185
ELIE
MB R0H 0H0

NORMAN FLEURY
3016 HWY NO 26
ST FRANCOIS XAVIER
MB R4L 1B5

THE ACCURACY OF THIS INFORMATION IS NOT GUARANTEED. IN PARTICULAR, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT CERTAIN FILINGS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED WHICH HAVE NOT YET BEEN UPDATED ONTO THE SYSTEM. YOU SHOULD CONSULT ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS OR OBTAIN APPROPRIATE CERTIFICATES WHEN YOU NEED TO BE CERTAIN OF INFORMATION.

SMALL PARCEL INDEX

RGE 1 WPM

A ROGALSKY 1-18825
2-18825
3-18825
4-18825
5-18825
6-18825
1-13330
7-18825

RGE 1 WPM

A SCHMIDT 1-31284

GE 1 WPM

1-25934
2-25934
1-33947

E 2 WPM

2 WPM

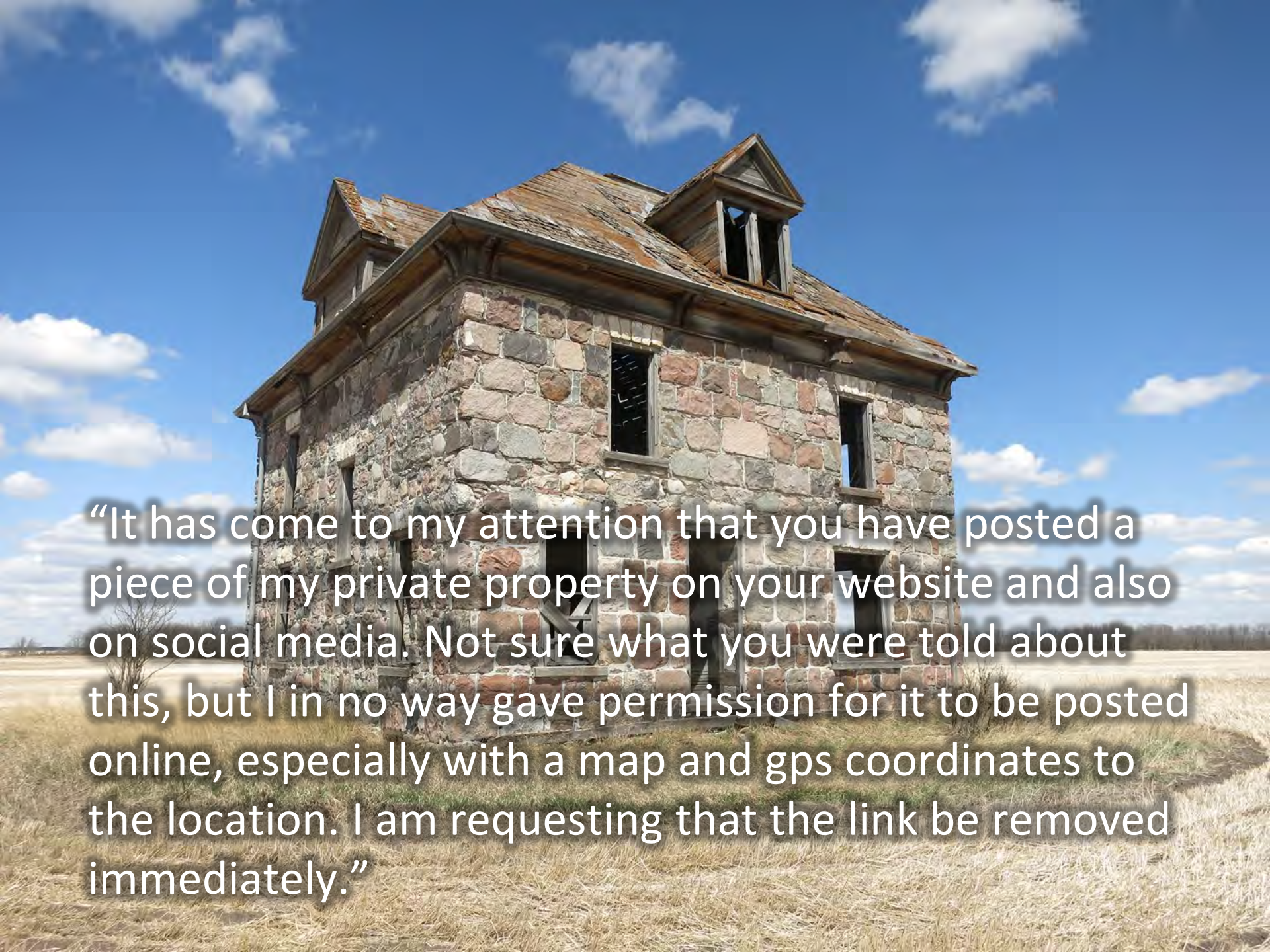
1-19153
1-27000

SEC 11 TWP 11 RGE 3 WPM

A - R M OF CARTIER	1-1-1978
B - IMPERIAL OIL LTD	2-1-1978
C - TOROMENT INDUSTRIES INC	3-1-1978
D - TOROMENT INDUSTRIES INC	4-1-1978
E - TOROMENT INDUSTRIES INC	5-1-1978
F - POWELL EQUIPMENT LTD	6-1-1978
G - TOROMENT INDUSTRIES INC	7-1-1978
H - TOROMENT INDUSTRIES INC	8-1-1978
I - TOROMENT INDUSTRIES INC	1-2-1978
J - TOROMENT INDUSTRIES INC	
K - TOROMENT INDUSTRIES INC	
L - TOROMENT INDUSTRIES INC	2-2-1978
M - TOROMENT INDUSTRIES INC	3-2-1978
N - TOROMENT INDUSTRIES INC	4-2-1978
O - TOROMENT INDUSTRIES INC	5-2-1978
P - IRENE M BOUCHARD	14-316
Q - V & HJ DECARIA	13-316
R - ROLAND & CA BOUCHARD	12-316
S - RALPH N WILLIAMS	11-316
T - DAAD HOLDINGS INC	1-316
U - RICHARD & LYNNE DESILETS	PT2-316
V - GERALD M & ROBERTA L ARNAL	1/2-2305
W - DIANE M MARTIN	3-2305
X - WESLEY J FREUND & TANYA L PARK	
Z - ROLAND DUFRESNE	3-316
A1- ELIE ELEVATOR INC	PT4-316
	1-2277

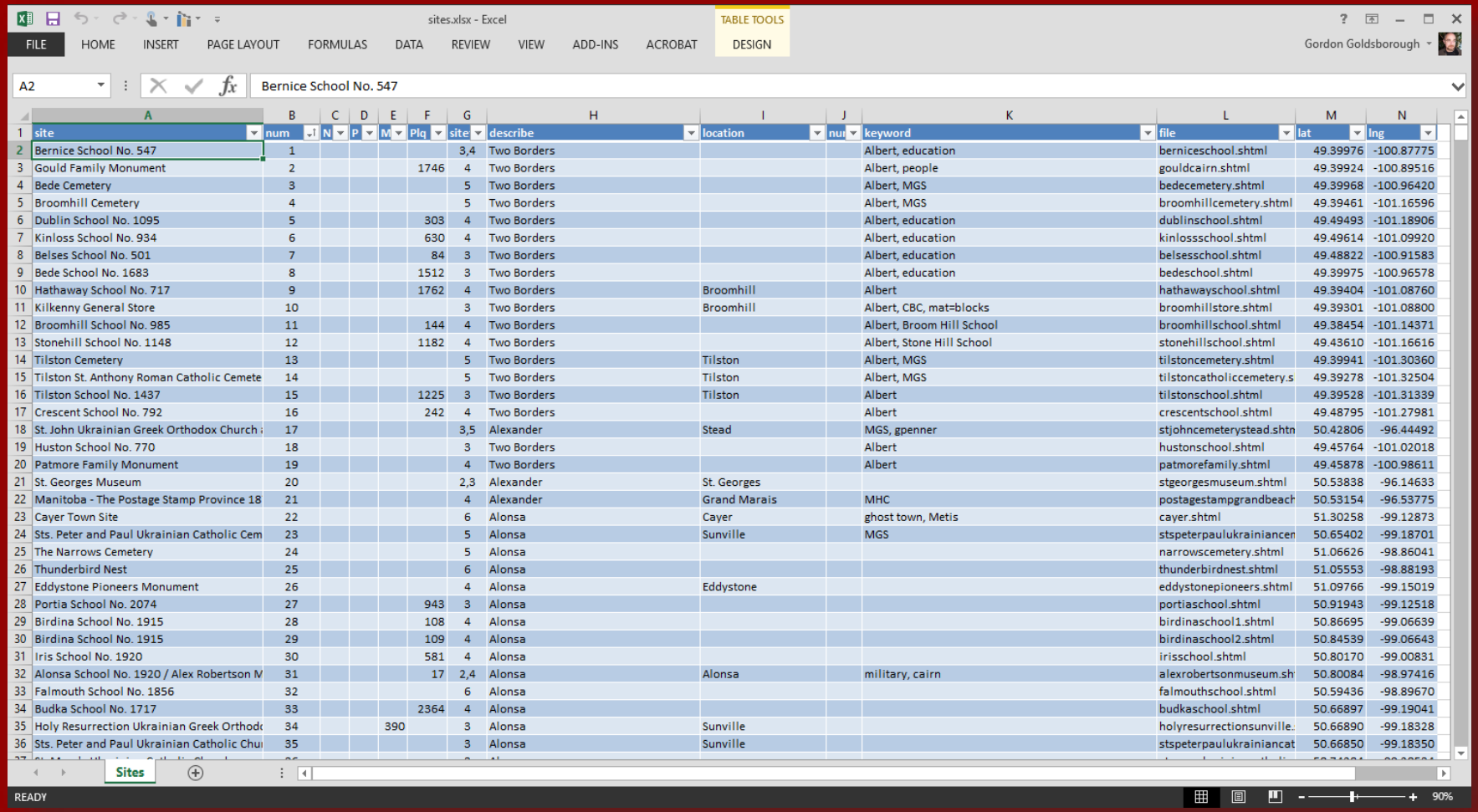
SEC 12 TWP 11 RGE 3 WPM

A - MICHAEL & SHIRLEY MARCOTTE	2-32225
B - DENIS LEGAULT	1-32225
C - VALMAR AIRFLO INC	1-25778
D - ELIE AIR SPRAY LTD	1-24085
E - PENTA FAMRS LTD	2-24085
F - CAL WALLACK	


“It has come to my attention that you have posted a piece of my private property on your website and also on social media. Not sure what you were told about this, but I in no way gave permission for it to be posted online, especially with a map and gps coordinates to the location. I am requesting that the link be removed immediately.”

Sourisford burial mounds

Map back end



sites.xlsx - Excel

FILE HOME INSERT PAGE LAYOUT FORMULAS DATA REVIEW VIEW ADD-INS ACROBAT TABLE TOOLS DESIGN

Gordon Goldsborough

A2: Bernice School No. 547

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1	site	num	N	P	M	Plq	site	describe	location	nu	keyword	file	lat	lng
2	Bernice School No. 547	1					3,4	Two Borders			Albert, education	berniceschool.shtml	49.39976	-100.87775
3	Gould Family Monument	2				1746	4	Two Borders			Albert, people	gouldcairn.shtml	49.39924	-100.89516
4	Bede Cemetery	3					5	Two Borders			Albert, MGS	bedecemetery.shtml	49.39968	-100.96420
5	Broomhill Cemetery	4					5	Two Borders			Albert, MGS	broomhillcemetery.shtml	49.39461	-101.16596
6	Dublin School No. 1095	5				303	4	Two Borders			Albert, education	dublinschool.shtml	49.49493	-101.18906
7	Kinloss School No. 934	6				630	4	Two Borders			Albert, education	kinlossschool.shtml	49.49614	-101.09920
8	Belses School No. 501	7				84	3	Two Borders			Albert, education	belsesschool.shtml	49.48822	-100.91583
9	Bede School No. 1683	8				1512	3	Two Borders			Albert, education	bedeschool.shtml	49.39975	-100.96578
10	Hathaway School No. 717	9				1762	4	Two Borders	Broomhill		Albert	hathawayschool.shtml	49.39404	-101.08760
11	Kilkenny General Store	10					3	Two Borders	Broomhill		Albert, CBC, mat=blocks	broomhillstore.shtml	49.39301	-101.08800
12	Broomhill School No. 985	11				144	4	Two Borders			Albert, Broom Hill School	broomhillschool.shtml	49.38454	-101.14371
13	Stonehill School No. 1148	12				1182	4	Two Borders			Albert, Stone Hill School	stonehillschool.shtml	49.43610	-101.16616
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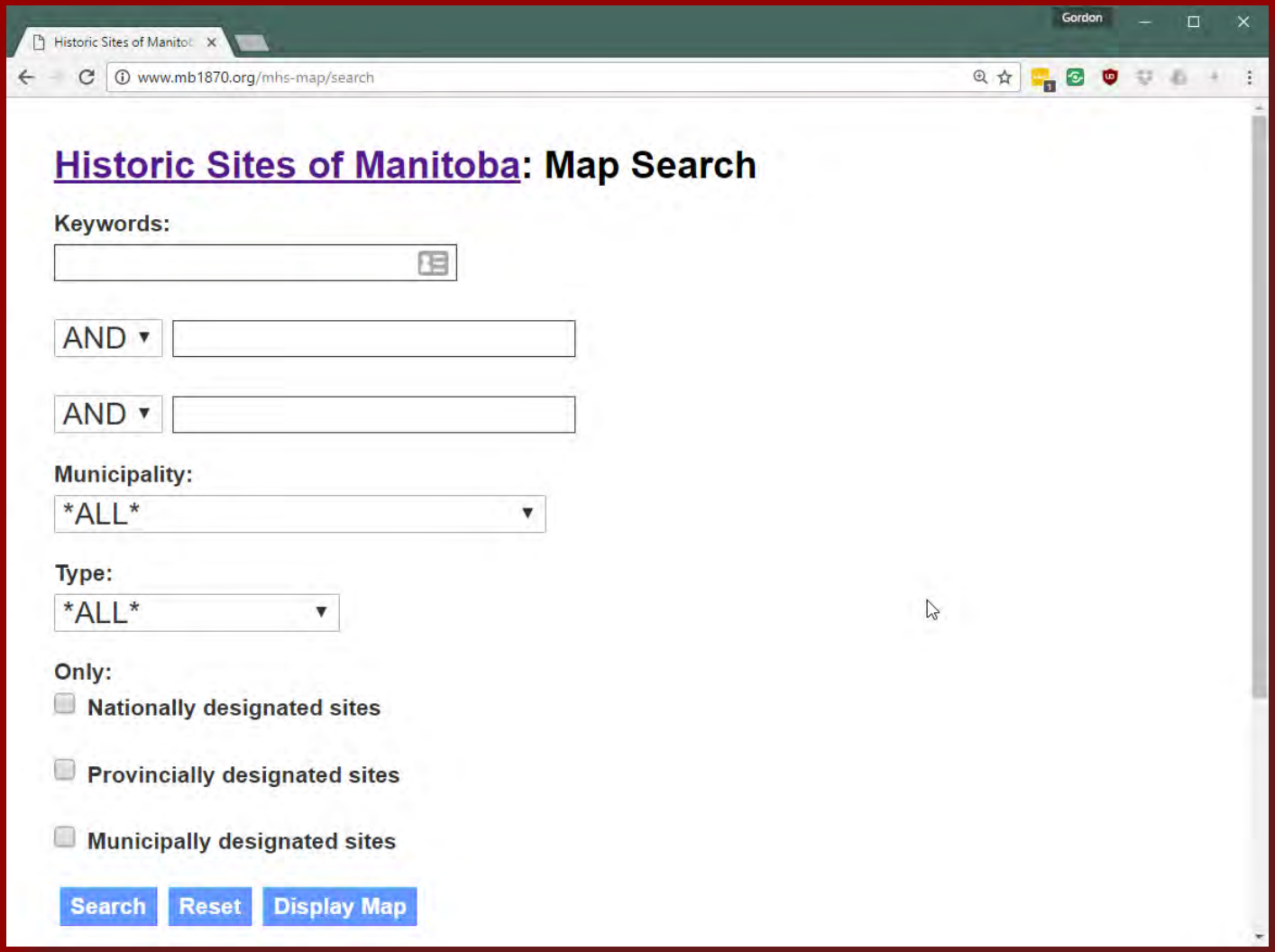
15	Tilston St. Anthony Roman Catholic Cemete	14					5	Two Borders	Tilston		Albert, MGS	tilstoncatholiccemetery.s	49.39278	-101.32504
16	Tilston School No. 1437	15				1225	3	Two Borders	Tilston		Albert	tilstonschool.shtml	49.39528	-101.31339
17	Crescent School No. 792	16				242	4	Two Borders			Albert	crescentschool.shtml	49.48795	-101.27981
18	St. John Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church	17					3,5	Alexander	Stead		MGS, gpenner	stjohncemeterystead.shtn	50.42806	-96.44492
19	Huston School No. 770	18					3	Two Borders			Albert	hustonschool.shtml	49.45764	-101.02018
20	Patmore Family Monument	19					4	Two Borders			Albert	patmorefamily.shtml	49.45878	-100.98611
21	St. Georges Museum	20					2,3	Alexander	St. Georges			stgeorgesmuseum.shtml	50.53838	-96.14633
22	Manitoba - The Postage Stamp Province 18	21					4	Alexander	Grand Marais		MHC	postagestampgrandbeach	50.53154	-96.53775
23	Cayer Town Site	22					6	Alonsa	Cayer		ghost town, Metis	cayer.shtml	51.30258	-99.12873
24	Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Cem	23					5	Alonsa	Sunville		MGS	stspeterpaulukrainiancen	50.65402	-99.18701
25	The Narrows Cemetery	24					5	Alonsa				narrowscemetery.shtml	51.06626	-98.86041
26	Thunderbird Nest	25					6	Alonsa				thunderbirdnest.shtml	51.05553	-98.88193
27	Eddystone Pioneers Monument	26					4	Alonsa	Eddystone			eddystonepioneers.shtml	51.09766	-99.15019
28	Portia School No. 2074	27				943	3	Alonsa				portiaschool.shtml	50.91943	-99.12518
29	Birdina School No. 1915	28				108	4	Alonsa				birdinaschool1.shtml	50.86695	-99.06639
30	Birdina School No. 1915	29				109	4	Alonsa				birdinaschool2.shtml	50.84539	-99.06643
31	Iris School No. 1920	30				581	4	Alonsa				irisschool.shtml	50.80170	-99.00831
32	Alonsa School No. 1920 / Alex Robertson M	31				17	2,4	Alonsa	Alonsa		military, cairn	alexrobertsonmuseum.sh	50.80084	-98.97416
33	Falmouth School No. 1856	32					6	Alonsa				falmouthschool.shtml	50.59436	-98.89670
34	Budka School No. 1717	33				2364	4	Alonsa				budkaschool.shtml	50.66897	-99.19041
35	Holy Resurrection Ukrainian Greek Orthod	34			390		3	Alonsa	Sunville			holyresurrectionsunville.	50.66890	-99.18328
36	Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Chu	35					3	Alonsa	Sunville			stspeterpaulukrainiancat	50.66850	-99.18350

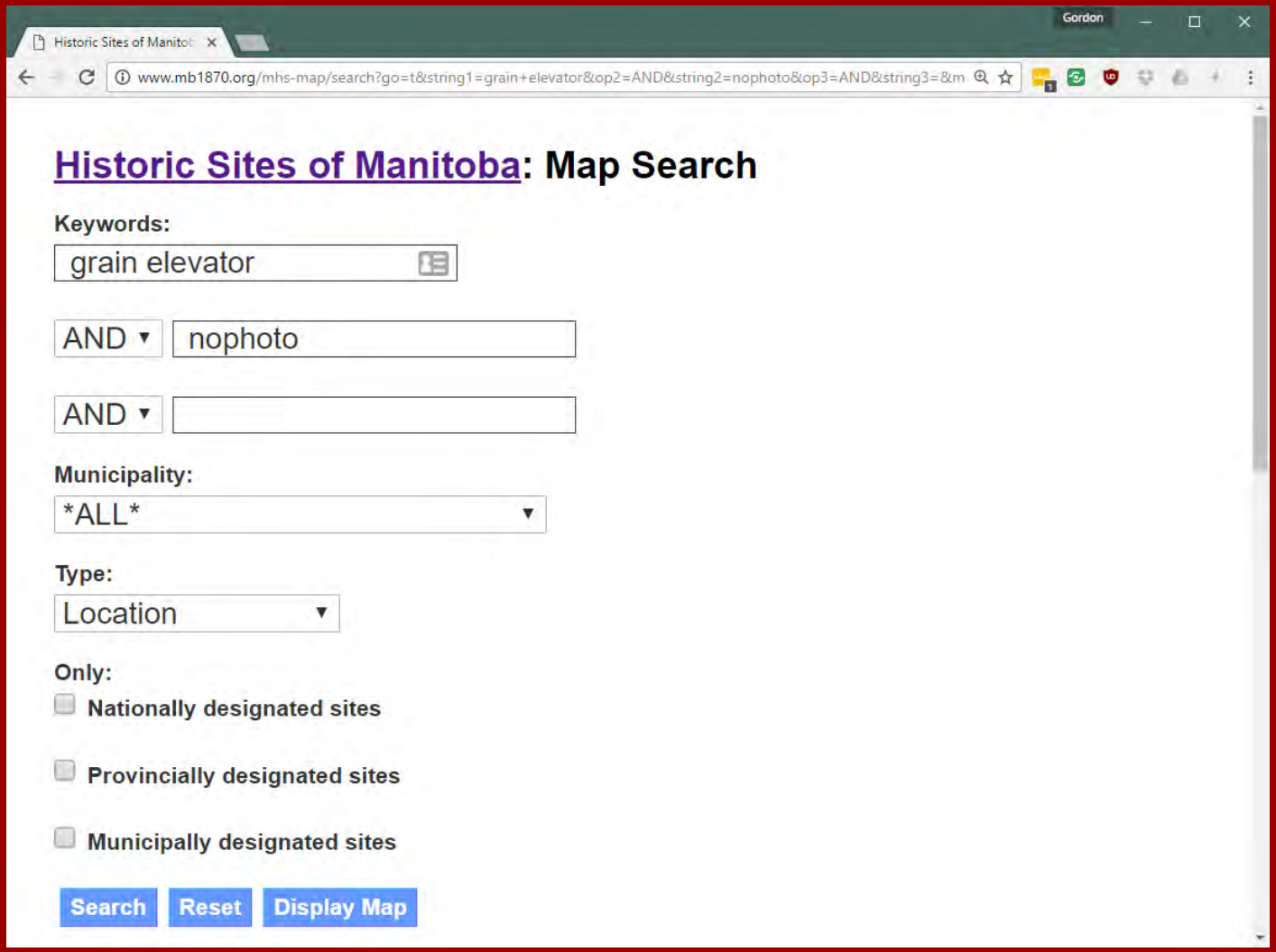
Sites

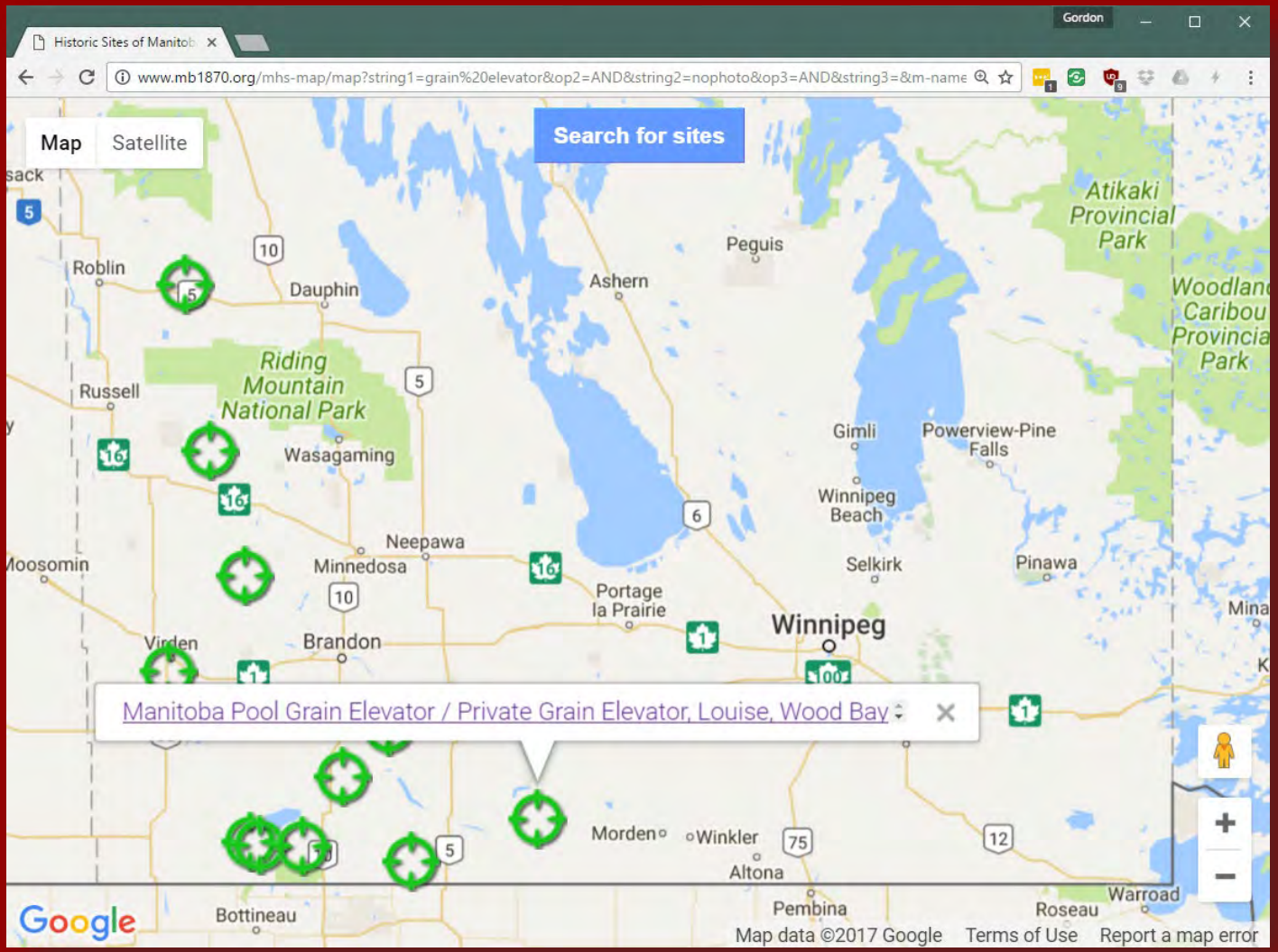
READY 90%

SQL database / Linux server

- Site name
- Municipality, town & street address
- Latitude & longitude
- Searchable metadata:
  - Alternative spellings, common misspellings
  - Building materials, name of architect, etc.
  - Type site: agriculture, military, etc.
  - Project name: Co-operator, CBC, QR codes, etc.
  - Ethnicity (Indigenous, Polish, Mennonite, etc.)
  - Neighbourhood descriptors


Historic Sites of Manitob
Gordon
www.mb1870.org/mhs-map/search
Historic Sites of Manitoba: Map Search
Keywords:
AND
AND
Municipality:
ALL
Type:
ALL
Only:
Nationally designated sites
Provincially designated sites
Municipally designated sites
Search
Reset
Display Map


Historic Sites of Manitob
Gordon
www.mb1870.org/mhs-map/search?go=t&string1=grain+elevator&op2=AND&string2=nophoto&op3=AND&string3=&m
Historic Sites of Manitoba: Map Search
Keywords:
grain elevator
AND
nophoto
AND
Municipality:
ALL
Type:
Location
Only:
Nationally designated sites
Provincially designated sites
Municipally designated sites
Search
Reset
Display Map


Historic Sites of Manitob
Gordon
www.mb1870.org/mhs-map/map?string1=grain%20elevator&op2=AND&string2=nophoto&op3=AND&string3=&m-name
Map
Satellite
Search for sites
Roblin
Dauphin
Ashern
Peguis
Atikaki Provincial Park
Riding Mountain National Park
Russell
Wasagaming
Gimli
Powerview-Pine Falls
Winnipeg Beach
Neepawa
Minnedosa
Selkirk
Pinawa
Portage la Prairie
Winnipeg
Virden
Brandon
Manitoba Pool Grain Elevator / Private Grain Elevator, Louise, Wood Bay
Morden
Winkler
Altona
Pembina
Roseau
Warroad
Bottineau
Google
Map data ©2017 Google
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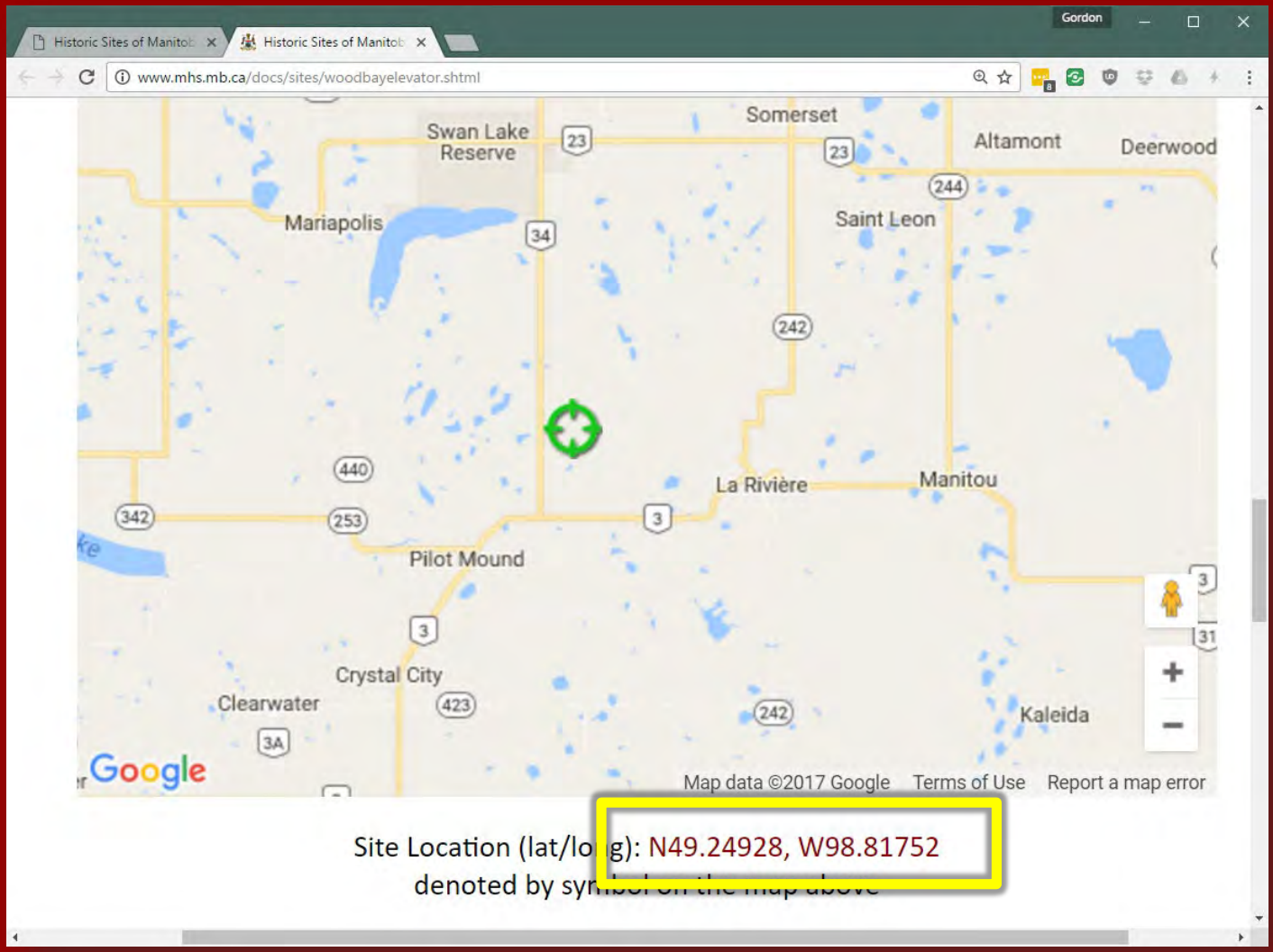
Report a map error



Site Location (lat/long): N49.24928, W98.81752
denoted by symbol on the map above

Some map themes

- Rural depopulation
- Agricultural mechanization
- Development of telecommunication and electrical infrastructure
- Changes in construction methods
- Evolution of educational system
- Changing attitudes to organized religion and institutions
- Home-front involvement in wartime

Map uses

EDUCATION

- Historical and genealogical research
  - "Scouting" for potential movie locations
  - Finding cemeteries where loved ones are buried
- Teachers can lead their students on tours of faraway communities
- Students can identify new sites and do research on them (e.g., cenotaphs)

Map uses

HERITAGE TOURISM

- Sites get more exposure than by accidental discovery
- Visitors can plan trips in advance
- Helps visitors to find obscure sites
- Provides expanded / updated information beyond what is provided at site
- GPS-enabled (& driverless) vehicles give historical information along travel route

Map uses

ADVOCACY AND PUBLIC DESIGNATION

- Many sites warrant official designation, repair and protection
- Inclusion on the map may provide local leverage in the face of raised public awareness

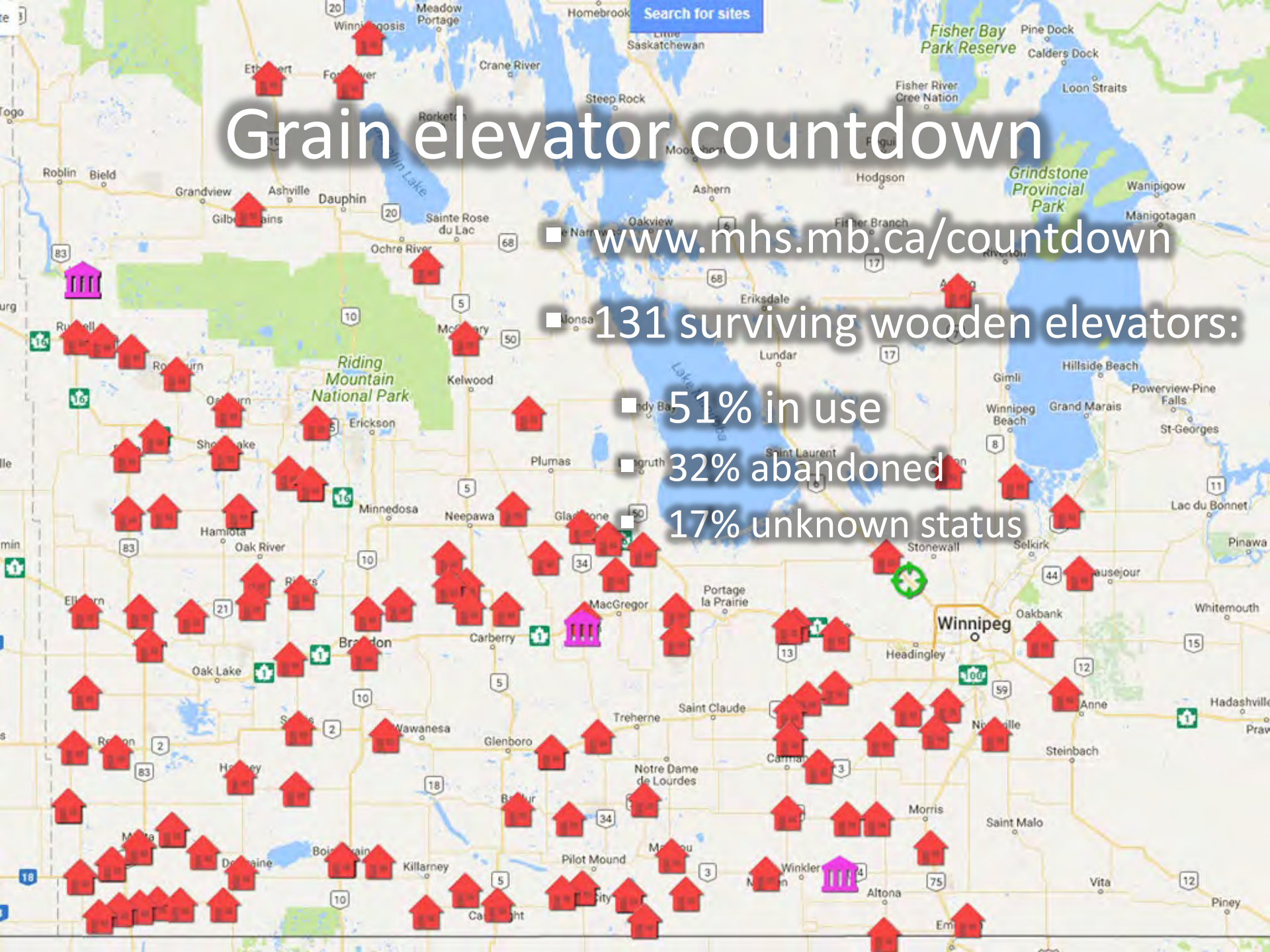
Democratization of site designation

- Everyone helps to develop comprehensive inventory of historic sites for benefit of all
- Everything is made publicly, freely available
- Everyone is acknowledged
- Mistakes are corrected as found and new information is added as it becomes available
- Standard protocol ensures consistency and accuracy

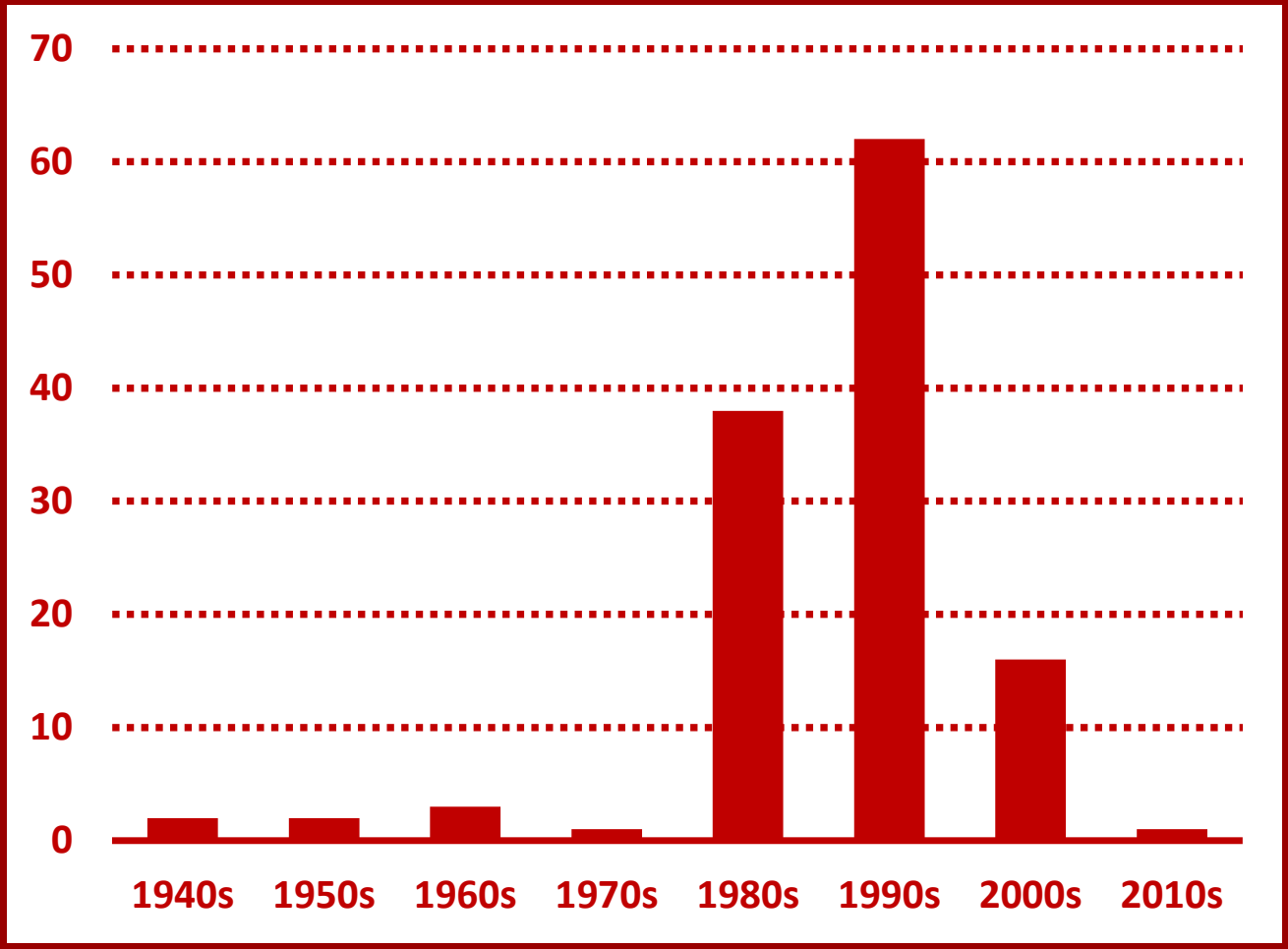
LAKE OF THE WOODS
MILLING CO LIMITED

Grain elevator countdown

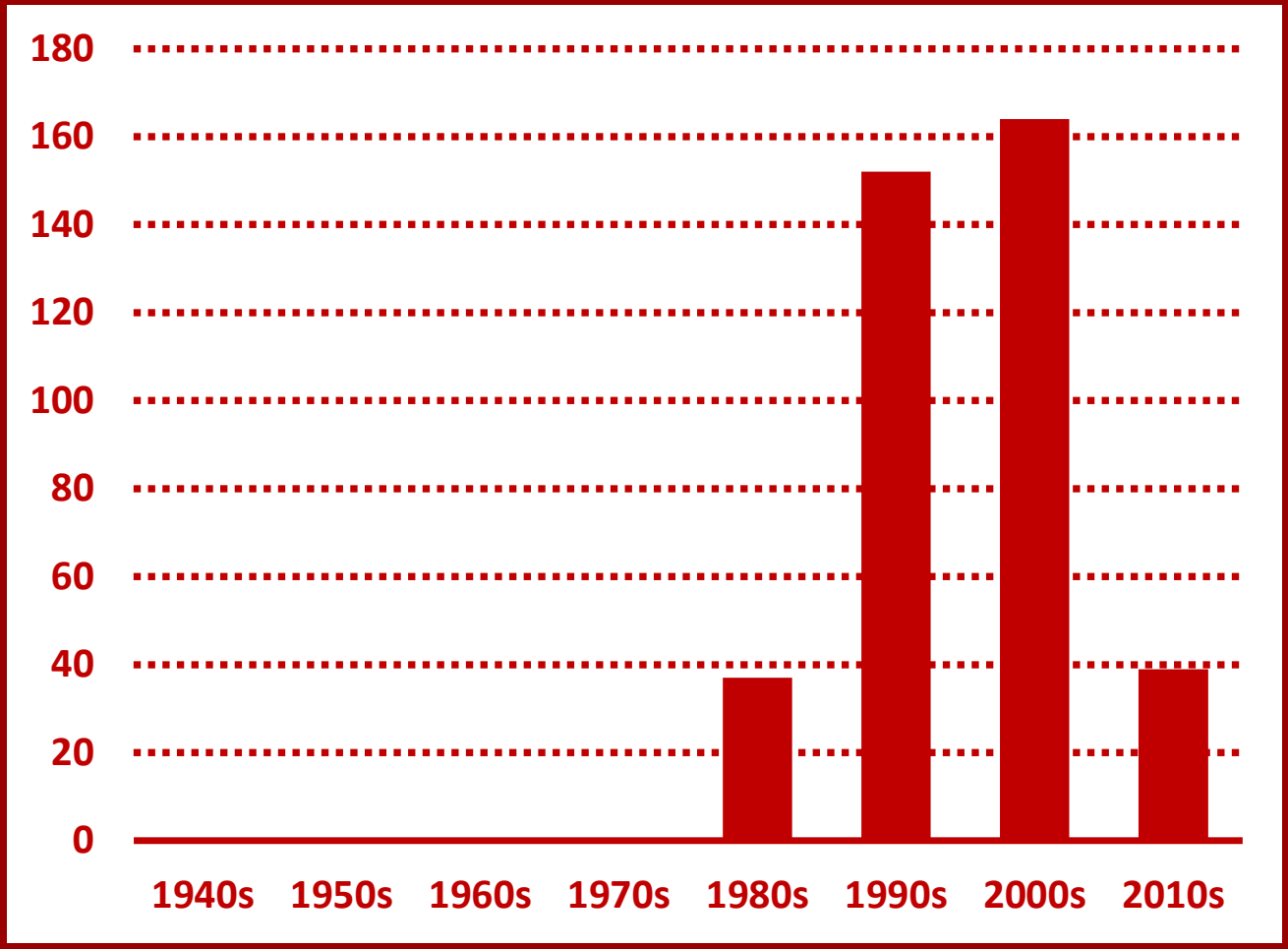
- www.mhs.mb.ca/countdown
- 131 surviving wooden elevators:
  - 51% in use
  - 32% abandoned
  - 17% unknown status



Provincially designated sites



Rural municipally designated sites



Map uses

RURAL HERITAGE PLANNING

- Inventory
  - You cannot count it, manage it, or promote it unless you know about it
  - Achieve critical mass by crowdsourcing
  - The back story: who, what, when, where, why

Map uses

RURAL HERITAGE PLANNING

- Management / Preservation
  - Worldwide talent pool
  - Acquiring statistics
  - Monitoring site status and effect of policies (“many eyes make light work”)
  - Identifying problems or opportunities for maintenance, adaptive reuse, etc.
  - Gauging community priorities (abandonment is a public statement)

Map uses

RURAL HERITAGE PLANNING

- Promotion
  - Online inventory provides deeper experience, via links to online information (e.g., QR)
  - Reach new audiences
  - Engage public dialogue on heritage priorities

Our future plans

- Continue mapping of “new” sites
- Maintain and update existing site information as possible (importance of ongoing public dialogue)
- Improved (and mobile) map interface
- Expand metadata to improve searchability of site inventory

Contact me …

Gordon Goldsborough
Email: gordon@mhs.mb.ca