

GCPS Progress Report November, 2016

- On October 26, Bert Rice and Ron Kohlman took in some heavy equipment to the Cemetery and began clearing out dead brush. They also brought in a lot of gravel which was donated from Ron's claim. This is to help clean up the road to the Cemetery and the parking lot. Their time only in this project is valued at over **\$2,000**. The gravel would add additional value. Bob sent out an email to the government officials involved in helping us reopen the Cemetery to let them see what can be done with volunteer work. In his email Bob stated: *"The purpose of sending you these photos is to show what can be accomplished by a Volunteer organization without spending a dime. This represents over \$2000 worth of work using heavy equipment, not to mention the cost of the donated gravel. Perhaps now you can see what I mean when I say (proudly) what we can accomplish, and have accomplished already, without having so much as a budget."* We can't thank Bert and Ron enough for their amazing work at the Cemetery. We are so very grateful to them. This could never have been accomplished without their expertise and heavy equipment. **Thank you Bert and Ron!!!**
- Ole received an inquiry regarding the article on the GCPS website on Catherine Dunn-Parker-Austin. She is trying to confirm whether Sarah Douglas Parker was a daughter of Catherine. After doing some research, I was able to confirm that she was. I managed to find the marriage certificate of Sarah Parker and Donald McGillivray. This listed Catherine and Samuel Parker as Sarah's parents. I know that they had a trading post in Port Douglas in the 1860's. On the marriage certificate it stated Sarah was born in 1866 in Douglas, B.C. (probably how she got her middle name). The woman who had emailed us was very grateful for the information.
- Joyce Knudsen (nee Clotworthy) was added to the Cemetery index and also online at Find-A-Grave and the Canadian Gravemarker Gallery. We spotted a marker in the Cook plot. Bob photographed it and it is now included in the records. When we next update the board at the Cemetery, her name will be on it.
- I received an email from Find-A-Grave. Another member had information on the Danish couple buried at the Granite Creek Cemetery. I updated the information on both the website and in our records.
- The November RDOS Regional Connections Newsletter made the following announcement:
"The Board of Directors have supported the application to the Canada 150 fund Program for heritage conservation activities in the Granite Creek Townsite and Cemetery as well as the West Bench area. The proposed funding application would support heritage conservation activities within the Granite Creek Historical Townsite and Cemetery as well as the West Bench Area. The project will introduce interpretive signage to mark a self-guided walking tour through the site of a major placer gold rush of 1885. The latter project proposes to complement existing heritage signage throughout the West Bench

Area to unify a single walking corridor. In addition to the existing signage the proposed project will highlight natural history of West Bench ecosystems, along with the cultural significance to First Nations. Additional heritage conservation activities will include advertising materials and fees, site amenities, and one-time operational expenses for inaugural ceremonial events.”

- Kelley Cook very kindly sent me an email with a map from Bob Harris' collection. It shows Ernie's property. She thought it might be helpful to us. It appears Bob Harris was also looking for the Bromley Trail. Thank you Kelley for thinking of us and forwarding this map.

- I was contacted by someone from Mineral Exploration Magazine. They have written an article about Granite Creek and wanted photos for the article. They had contacted the Museum in the summer and were sent some pictures, but the quality wasn't good enough. I sent them the same photos which I had in my collection and they seemed happy with those. I was informed the issue will not be out until the spring or summer edition of the magazine. I did ask them to send me a copy of it when it goes out.