

Canadian Forest History: A Path Forward?

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Looking Back, Looking Forward: The Ongoing History of Canada's Forests
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Cdn Forest History Preservation Project goals:

- Locate valuable forest history records in danger of loss or destruction
- Identify appropriate Canadian archival repositories to act as permanent homes
- Facilitate relocation of at risk records to an appropriate repository.
- Encourage forest history research and writing

Canadian Forest History Preservation Project



www.niche-canada.org/foresthstory

www.foresthistory.org/Research/fhscanada.html

Project Rationale:

Historical record is vanishing, because of

- Demographic shifts
- Corporate consolidation

Preserving our stories.

- Whose story do you want to tell?
- Who do you want to tell your story?
- What information do you want them to have access to?

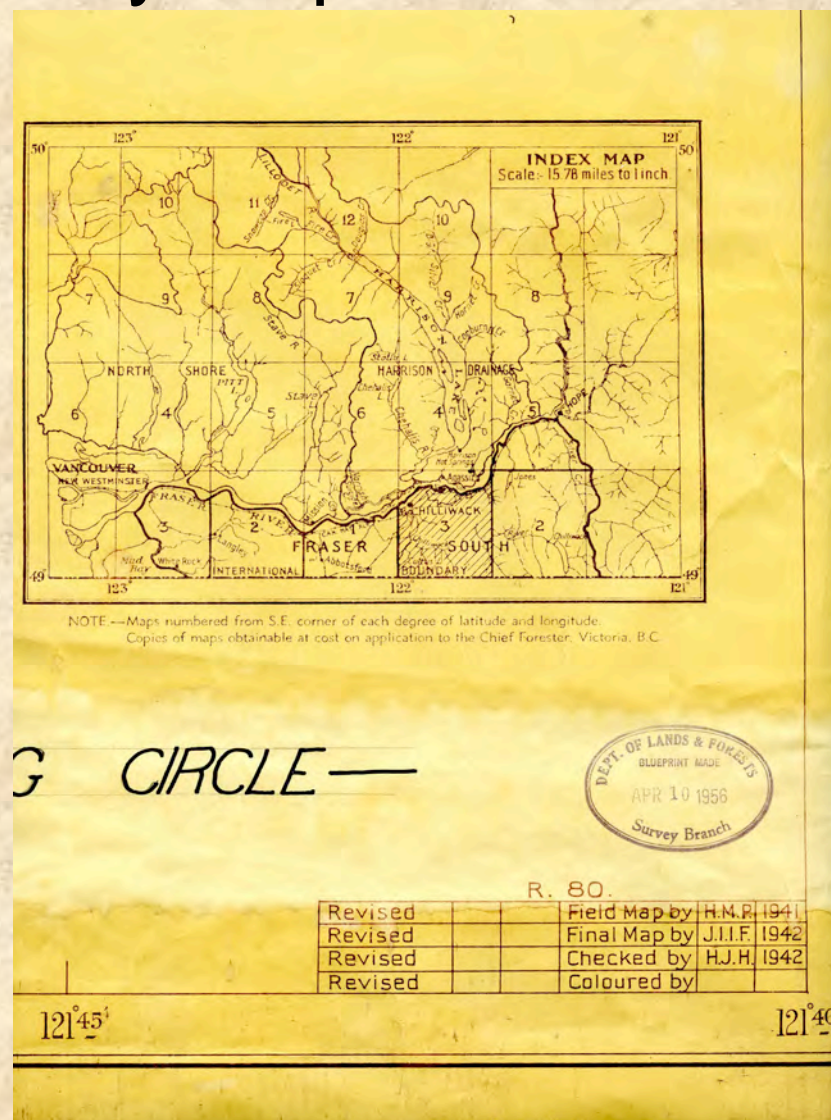
Facilitation of donations

1. Richard M. Herring fonds
(1931 - 2012).



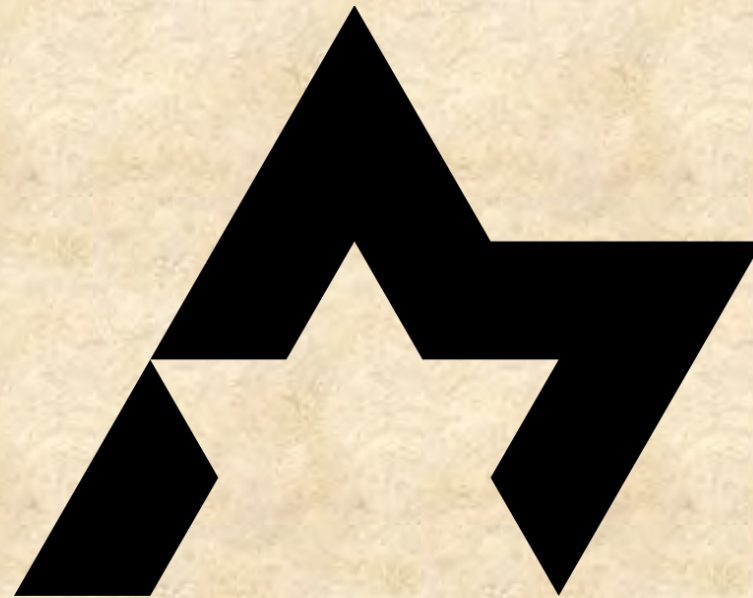
R.M. (DICK) HERRING

2. Chilliwack Forest Inventory Maps



3. Canadian Forest Inventory Committee

Regarding Standards for Implementation of Metric System.



Canadian Metrication Logo,
1970s, 1980s.

What do archives collect? Primary sources!

Ideally, a collection will be:

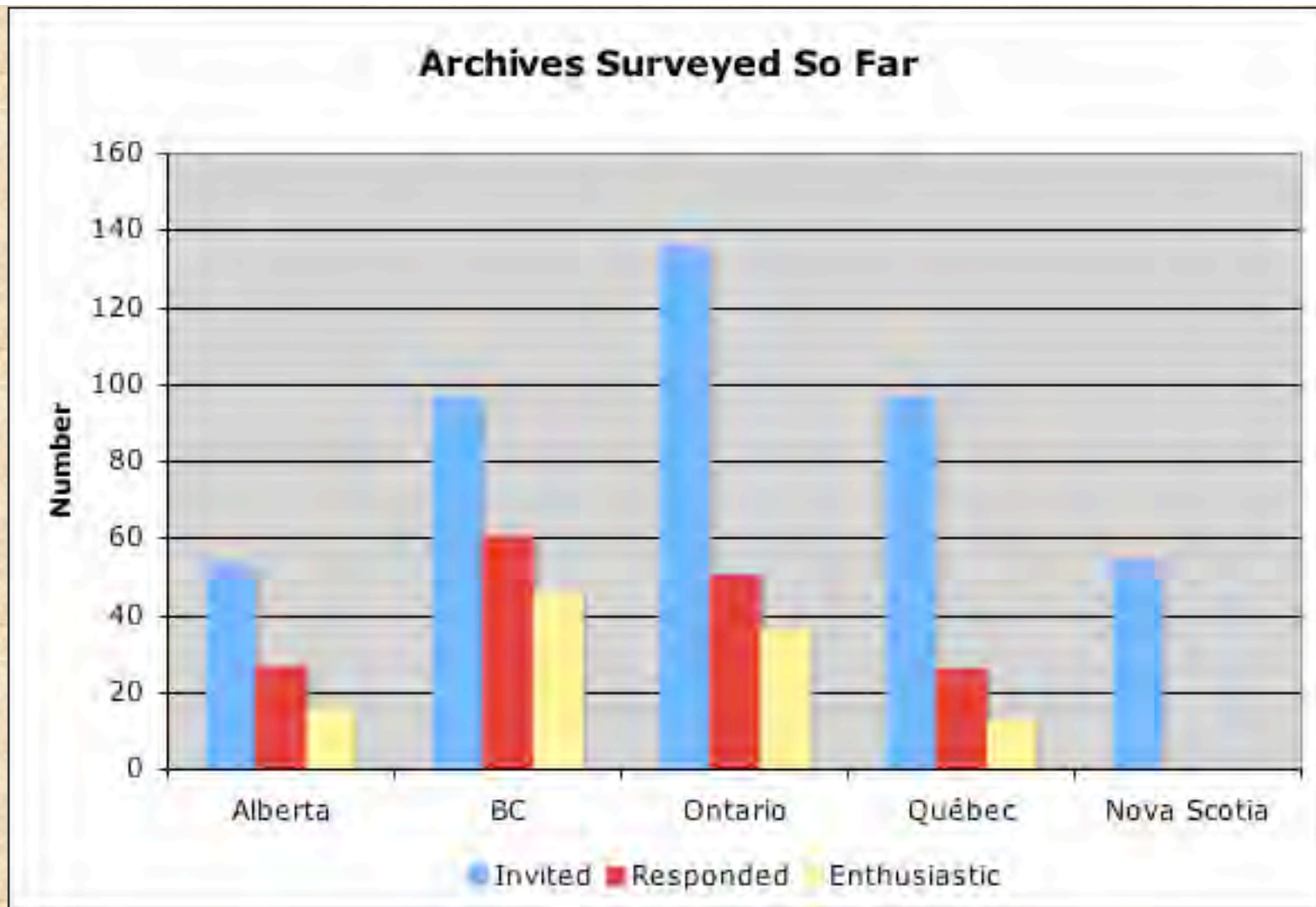
- Unique
- Hold some relationship to other records
- Represent range of Dates and time-span
- Usable/good physical condition

What's not collected?

Publications, artifacts, copies or duplicates.

Things to consider when making a donation:

- Physical ownership
- Intellectual ownership
- Have you finished using the records?
- Access restrictions
- Do you have a repository preference?



In general space limitations are the greatest obstacle, followed by staff limitations and lack of funds.

Overwhelmingly, finding aids are 'local'.


Consult brochure for more info:

Préservons l'histoire forestière du Canada

Comprendre le passé pour façonner un meilleur avenir.




- Identifier des collections de documents importants pour l'histoire forestière
- Repérer des centres d'archives qualifiés
- Établir des liens entre donateurs d'archives et centres d'archives
- Collaborer avec la communauté intéressée par l'histoire de la forêt
- Encourager la recherche et les publications sur l'histoire de la forêt




Preserving Canada's Forest History

By understanding the past, we shape a brighter future.



- Identify valuable forest history records
- Locate appropriate archival repositories
- Bring together donors and archives
- Collaborate with forest history community
- Encourage forest history research and writing



http://www.foresthistory.org/research/Canadian_archives_Fr.pdf

http://www.foresthistory.org/research/Canadian_archives_brochure.pdf

Opportunities for FH in Canada

- growing interest because of demographic shifts
- more communication between regions, CIF emerging as possible national venue
- strong professional community, academics, undertaking national projects

Challenges

- deluge of records because of demographic shifts
- apathy of those who control records
- difficulties facing archives: decentralization, modernization, cutbacks, lack of space and staff
- appropriate scale of FH, local/provincial, other?

What you can do:

- Distribute the project brochure
- Join your local society, or the FHS, read and critique historical narrative
- Get active in your local archive
- Tune in next week on session “Intro to writing historical narrative”
- Write for newsletter, or *Forestry Chronicle* “Old Growth” column, or FHS journal *Forest History Today*

A path forward.

- What are your aspirations for Cdn Forest History?
- What is the ideal structure/venue of Cdn Forest History?
 - none; existing societies; CIF; dedicated national organization
 - is there any possibility of a forest history assn in Atlantic Canada?
- What is the ideal relationship between professional historians and the interested lay public? Meeting ground of public history?
- A common project?

Please get in touch.

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