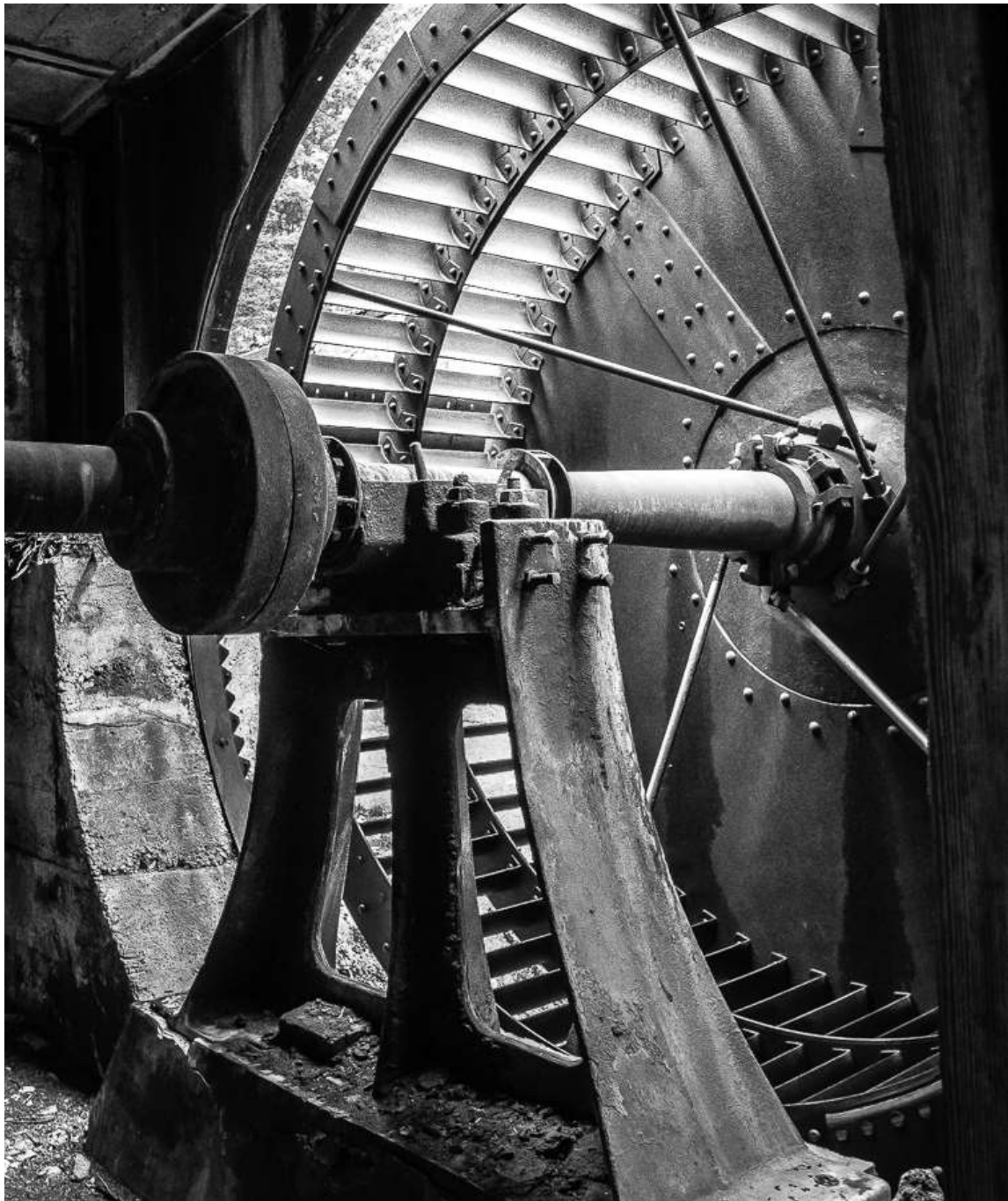


HERITAGE VIEWS

History and Heritage in Crowsnest Pass, Alberta



Issue 69



December 2022

IN THIS ISSUE

- Editorial and cover photo
- Local Heritage News
- Century Home Club
- Articles: *Digital Douglas Allison* and *Fantastic Outdoor Artifacts*
- Book Review: *Coal Town Kids*
- Oral History: Roy Whitehouse
- Heritage Hike: Frank Dam
- News, 100 years ago
- Sign of the Times
- Local Heritage Attractions

We like to see heritage buildings returned to their original condition and appearance, but sometimes they are modernized rather than restored. Purists might frown on such updating when the character of the building is compromised, but this is still better than abandonment, decay, and demolition.

The best way to ensure survival of a heritage building is to give it a modern job, so that it's worthwhile to invest in and extend the life of the building. The revamped building must be able to perform as a modern home or business, which often requires significant changes. Hopefully it can still retain most of its vintage features.

I can think of some tasteless makeovers from the 1960s and 1970s which conceal great-looking heritage buildings; maybe someday those façades will be removed.

- Ian McKenzie, Editor

On the cover: Detail of the big fan in the old International Mine fanhouse near York Creek. Both the fan and its fanhouse building were probably the largest in the Pass. According to a newspaper article in the *Coleman Miner* on May 15, 1908, it ran at over 200 rpm and moved 135,000 cubic feet of air per minute.

Photo: Chris Doering, from a series shot in 2021. www.bigdoer.com is a really interesting site.

Heritage Views is a publication of the Crowsnest Heritage Initiative. We are a cooperative committee of local heritage organizations and interested individuals who seek to promote the understanding and appreciation of heritage within the Municipality of Crowsnest Pass, Alberta. For more information on who we are and what we do, click here: <http://www.crowsnestheritage.ca/crowsnest-heritage-initiative/>

This issue was edited and produced by Ian McKenzie and proofread by Isabel Russell and Ken Allred. Inquiries, comments or submissions can be sent to heritageviews.cnp@gmail.com. Future contributors should send in their articles in MS Word or something similar, with any photos sent as separate jpeg files. Do not embed photos into your document; we will just have to strip them out and reinsert them into our newsletter format.

Back issues of this free newsletter are available at www.crowsnestheritage.ca by clicking on the "heritage newsletter" link on the home page.

Local Heritage News

The historic **Bellevue Cafe** is undergoing some much-needed renovations by its new owners, including vibrant paint colors outside.



Photo:
Vic Bergman

The annual **Harvest of Memories** museum fundraiser on September 24 had to cancel the live event, but the online auction proceeded. Once again, the fundraising goal for the **Crowsnest Museum** was exceeded.

An unveiling ceremony for the **Roxy Theatre** designation as a Provincial Historic Resource took place on September 8th. CHI rep Fred Bradley, MLA Roger Reid, and CanDo president Tim Juhlin presided.



Blairmore Enterprise, January 5, 1922

Photo:
facebook



The Blackbird B&B, the former Catholic church in Coleman, has some long-awaited new shingles and a fancy new paint job.

The Century Home Club

Address: 7525 17 Avenue, Coleman

Year built: about 1903, one of the first houses in Coleman.

Features: Modest cottage-roofed home, vacant for many years. It retains its original form.

Known occupants: Harry Gate and Hannah (Messenger) Gate, four children (Bill, Joe, Mary, Elizabeth), and Hannah's mother.



Detail from a postcard mailed in 1906. The long building in the background is the Italian Hall.
Photo: Crowsnest Museum and Archives

The Digital Douglas Allison

from the Internet

From www.peakfinder.com:

A prominent landmark in the Crowsnest Pass, Allison Peak was officially named on July 22, 1915, by Dominion Land Surveyor Morrison Parsons Bridgland. Bridgland chose the name to honour Douglas Allison, an early settler in the Crowsnest Pass who died on August 4th, 1912.

[also Allison Lake and Allison Creek]

* * *

<http://peel.library.ualberta.ca/newspapers/>
the *Lethbridge Herald*, Aug 6, 1912:

The Very Early Days: Death at Coleman of Douglas Allison, an Old Time Rancher and Former Member of the R.N.W. Mounted Police

Coleman, Aug. 5 – Douglas Allison, one of the most widely known and earliest pioneers of Alberta, was found dead in his bed shortly after noon Sunday. Deceased, who roomed at the rear of the Coleman drug store, returned home on Saturday night, from a couple of days spent with old-time friends at Pincher Creek. He retired early, complaining of indisposition. Mr. Orr, who occupies an adjoining room, attempted to rouse Mr. Allison after lunch on Sunday, only to find that "Taps" had sounded for the ex-policeman, ex-soldier, ex-rancher, ex-printer, ex-adventurer in the northland. An examination disclosed that he had been dead for several hours, from an attack of heart failure.

Douglas Allison was born at Compton, Que., and removed with his parents to Wisconsin, when ten years of age. There he attended school with the present Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, president of the C.P.R. Reaching manhood's estate, he came to Alberta, and in 1875 he enrolled as a member of the R.N.W.M.P. with which organization he remained for several years, reaching the rank of sergeant. In 1885 he was owner of a fine ranch, three miles west of Macleod, which was stocked with 700 or 800 horses, and an equal number of cattle. He came to the Pass in 1891, and a little later located on a quarter section of land a few miles west of Coleman. He improved the ranch by the erection of substantial buildings, and had a herd of several hundred horses. In May 1898 he took his band of horses to Edmonton, and struck out along the trail from that city to Fort Resolution.

This was the time of the rush to the Yukon, the people going by way of Edmonton to Fort Resolution, and thence up the Liard River.

The following winter he returned with the remnant of his band of horses, and camped in the hills near Edmonton.

Colonel Steele was at Edmonton at that time recruiting the Strathcona Horse, and Allison enlisted under Col. Steele, who was an old-time comrade in the R.N.W.M.P., both men having been sergeants in that force. Before

the arrival of the troop in South Africa, Allison had been promoted to quarter-master-sergeant, which office he held throughout the South African campaign.

On returning from South Africa to the Pass, Allison found that his quarter section had been entered for and allotted to Mr. Parish, who still retains the land. After considerable correspondence, the government allotted to Mr. Allison the adjoining quarter section to the one he had located, which claim he afterwards disposed of to Blairmore parties for \$3,600. For the past two years he has made his home in Coleman.

Among his early associates on the R.N.W.M.P. force were Harry Stedman, mayor of Macleod; John Herron, ex-M.P. for Pincher Creek riding; Postmaster King of Calgary; John Johnson of the Eagle Café, Coleman; Robert Patterson, M.L.A. for the Macleod riding; Fred Shaw, collector of customs, Lethbridge; Colonel James Walker, Calgary; Captain Bagley, Calgary; E. Mansell, Macleod; Wm. Parker, Macleod; W. Parker, Medicine Hat; J.H.G. Bray, Medicine Hat; G. H. McEfree, Victoria; Colonel Wainright, Vancouver; E. C. Miller, Fort Steele; E. Larkins, Lethbridge; R. E. Steele, Victoria; Colonel Jarvis, Nelson; Colonel Robert Delchor, Edmonton; Peter McDonald, Great Falls; Charles Boulton, Vancouver; C. Whitney, Lethbridge; Colonel L. Fortesque, Ottawa; Colonel Steele, Winnipeg.

The body was removed to the undertaking parlors of T. W. Davies this morning, where it was prepared for the funeral. The date of the funeral has not yet been set. A sister of the deceased, living in New Jersey, has been

notified by wire, also old-time friends in Pincher Creek and neighborhood.

At some time in his career, Mr. Allison had served an apprenticeship to the printing trade, and claimed to have been proficient in the art preservative of all arts.

As near as can be ascertained, deceased was aged about 64 years. He had been a man of magnificent physique, and was still fairly well preserved, notwithstanding the marks he bore of a wandering life, portions of which had been spent unwisely and too well.

** * **

From the Pincher Creek Echo, August, 1912:

Douglas Allison, one of the oldest old-timers in this part of the province was found dead in bed shortly after noon on Sunday. Death presumably resulted from heart failure. Mr. Allison had been in Pincher Creek on Saturday to attend the funeral of his friend Peter Bertles.

Mr. Allison was for several years a member of the RNWMP and reached the rank of sergeant. He was afterwards promoted to quarter-master sergeant, and held this office throughout the South African war. Mr. Allison was also one of the first ranchers in the Pass. He was about 64 years of age.

** * **

From www.abgenealogy.com which includes the Alberta Homestead Index:

West Sherman Paris (Parish or Parrish) - NW Sec 11 Twp 8 Rge 5 W5M.

Douglas Allison - NE Sec 10 Tp 8 Rge 5 W5M.



Location of quarter-sections homesteaded by Sherman Paris (original Allison ranch) and Douglas Allison, and the Jim Good ranch cabin which still exists on the former Bohomolec property. Photos of the log cabin on the Paris ranch can be found in *Crowsnest And Its People* on pages 757-758.

From www.findagrave.com:

His South African War Service indicates he enlisted in Edmonton in 1900 (showing his occupation as a rancher) and took his discharge in 1901. He received a South African War Medal with two clasps (delivered to him in Beaver, BC in 1903). There are two regimental numbers for Douglas Alison in the Boer war.

Lord Strathcona Horse #1036; and Lord Strathcona Horse #168.

* * *

From www.crowsnest-highway.ca:

When the [railway construction] work was completed and the crews moved on, only a tiny portion of the settlement [on Crowsnest Lake], anchored by the Lake View Hotel, stayed. Throwing off its canvas, the Hotel built itself in wood and confidently awaited the deluge of tourists that were sure to pause a few days at this perfect paradise. The CPR never did build a station there, and

few travellers stopped. By 1905 the Hotel stood alone, hoping that enough fishermen would book rooms to make another season worthwhile. By the 1920s, its hopes betrayed, the Hotel gave itself over to act as headquarters to Douglas Allison's horse ranch for a few years before time claimed its due. [note: Allison died in 1912]

* * *

From the 1901 census, <https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/census/1901/Pages/1901.aspx>
The Territories, Alberta District, Blairmore Sub-district:

Alison, Doug; male; single; age 48; born 23 August, 1853, in England; age 48; immigration year 1856; naturalization 1875; race Scottish; nationality Canadian; religion Church of England; occupation Rancher.

[Some of this information is at odds with information in the *Lethbridge Herald* article.]



A 1918 photo of the Allison Creek dam. The wooden dam still exists but the log flume is gone. Downstream, this creek ran between the Allison and Paris homesteads.

Photo: Crowsnest Museum and Archives, CM-BL-34-06

Heritage Feature

Fantastic Outdoor Artifacts

various contributors

Ventilating fans were an important part of every major underground mine's safety infrastructure. They supplied fresh air into the mine, and/or extracted bad air, and could be reversed as required. Fans were located on the surface near the lower or upper ends of the mine, and operated constantly, not even pausing to change belts. Workers called bratticemen would try to direct airflow within the mine by hanging sheets of brattice cloth from timbers.

Because they were so large, and sometimes located in remote areas, many old mine fans were abandoned in place rather than salvaged at the end of a mine's life. The Alberta side of Crowsnest Pass has many such artifacts scattered about, for hikers to discover. When found they attract immediate attention, and are always photographed. There are a lot more mine fan survivors here than you might think.

Greenhill

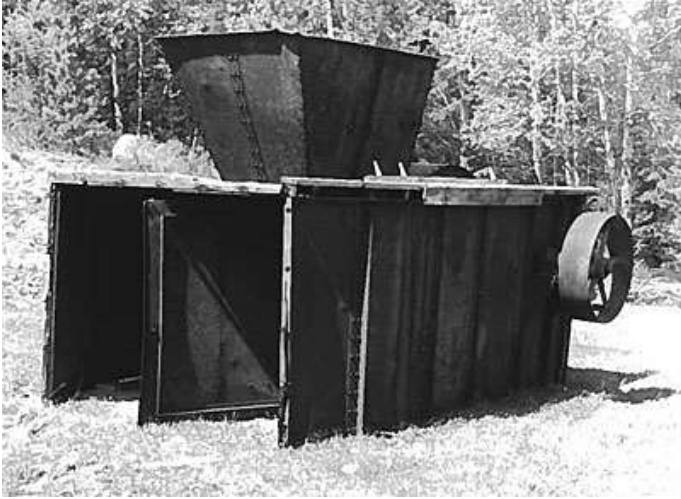
This fan at the main Greenhill mine site appears to have been moved and stored there from another location.



Photos: Alberta Culture, Historic Sites

Boisjoli

There are three fans here, similar or identical to the Greenhill fan noted above.



Photos: Alberta Culture, Historic Sites



Cougar Valley



Photos: Rachel Newrick/Ian Crawford



Gold Creek (Bellevue mine)

One of the better-known fans, as it was featured in *Hiking the Historic Crowsnest Pass* (Ross and Tracy).



Photos: John Kinnear



Frank mine



Photo: Heather Davis, Uplift Adventures



Photo: Ian McKenzie

Falls Creek (Hillcrest mine)

This fan presumably helped exhaust 'afterdamp' during the 1914 mine disaster.



Photos: Claire Allum



If you know of another mine fan in Crowsnest Pass, drop us a line at heritageviews.cnp@gmail.com. We'd love to hear about it!

Bellevue mine

This fan was moved here from the Balmer North mine in Michel/Natal, BC and never operated here on the Alberta side. It is now part of the outdoor displays at the Bellevue Underground Mine tour operation.



Photo: Ian McKenzie

York Creek (International mine)

A large fan, in the largest fanhouse in Crowsnest Pass.

Photos: Ian McKenzie



McGillivray

Remnants of what might have been fans are intermixed with other debris in metal trash heaps above the McGillivray Mine entrance.



Photos: Henry Bruns

Incident in Coleman: A Talk with Roy Whitehouse (1919 - 2005)

Excerpts from Ralph Thurn's interview in *Voices From The Pass* (courtesy of Crowsnest CanDo Society)

I was brought over when I was two years old, and was left as an orphan when I was about five years old. My mother had died and left myself and my two sisters, one elder one younger, and father run away. So I was taken in by foster people, an old couple at that time, were in their fifties, and brought up rather strictly in the old English style, not like it is today. You got a slap across the ear for practically anything, you know.

So anyway as I grew up I came to Coleman in 1936. I believe I was about sixteen, somewhere around there, and got a job with, company was called Distributors, and that time it was distributing beer. And I was a big strong husky guy, so you - the beer was mostly delivered to the hotels. And we had, um, three hotels and the Legion here at the time. So it was my job then to deliver these big kegs of beer which is around 250 lbs each, yup, well there was a knack in learning how to handle them you know it's not just, you don't lift like that (gestures), and also you could have the beer delivered to your home, and kegs too. So that again was part of my job, delivering the beers and especially the kegs then was going to the, an area in Coleman which we call Bushtown now, mostly, where they had these weddings that went on for about a week. And this is where a lot of the beer kegs



went, and with a hand pump to pump the beer out. It was quite an experience.

One time I got held up while I was working there and, it was in January and very cold day, and the boss' son was sitting with me. And I look out the window and I see these two men coming with handkerchiefs around their face, I said my god it must be really cold (laughs). And they come with a gun at my face, got away with 90 some odd dollars which is a lot of money in them days. The boss who was running that, he was a Scotchman, was in the back there where the beer was [stored?] and they were having a drink, him and his pal, and happened to look, and there was a little window between the office and this place. And the little Scotsman said "shall I fling a beer bottle at him" (laughs). However after they had gone and the boss sent me out to trail them through the snow. This building happened to be downtown in Coleman, it's still there, close to the CPR tracks where it's a garage now, for a trucker, I forget his name. There I was running across the tracks there, in the snow, tracking them, then all of a sudden it hit me, hey, wait a minute, they've got a gun, so I slowed down and followed them all the way to Bushtown and then the tracks got on the road and that was the end of that.

Book Review

Coal Town Kids by Duane S. Radford (2021)

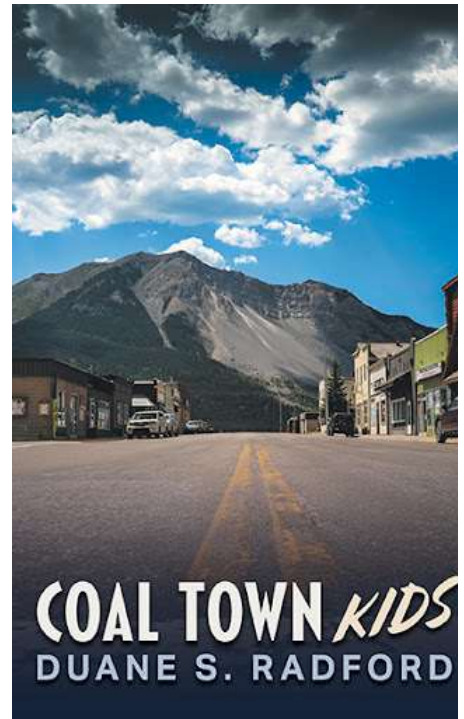
Review by Ian McKenzie

This book consists of the author's personal memories about growing up in Bellevue in the 1950s and 1960s, reinforced by vignettes in a similar vein by some of his friends. Its setting and subject matter is reminiscent of the semi-fictional *The Grasshopper* and *The Boy Who Couldn't Die*. It is an enjoyable read, and a bit of an eye-opener for people living the middle-class dream in the Pass today.

Each section can be read independently and in any order, and altogether present some pretty clear themes. Unlike other parts of the country, the 1950s were tough years for the Pass, reminiscent of the Great Depression. High unemployment was hard on the parents and grand-parents of these kids, with hunting, fishing, and backyard gardening getting families through the toughest times. Despite this, kids were by and large happy and recall these years fondly. Friendships were solid, there was a strong sense of community, and people helped each other. Their worried and stressed parents never considered going back to the Old Country or even leaving the Pass, though one contributor did admit that "it was a sad day to leave the Pass, but maybe one of the best things that ever happened to me."

There are a few historical errors of fact which, in a memoir, are not so important. The passage of time means that Radford's recollections might not match those of his contemporaries in the Pass, a risk with all childhood memoirs. There is, however, one curious statement which cannot go unchallenged: "With not much written about the area, *Coal Town Kids* is the first substantive nonfiction account dealing with the Pass since 1952" [the date of Jim Cousins' thesis *History of the Crow's Nest Pass*]. Crowsnest Pass is one of the most written-about regions in the country, and I can easily recall a dozen books on Pass history – including *Crowsnest and its People* (1979) which the author mentions twice – not to mention many university theses, historical papers, magazine articles, and a few films produced over the past fifty years.

Disregard that one sentence, take the stories with a grain of salt, and this book is a winner. It provides insights into what the post-war Pass was really like, and a reminder that the pre-war Pass had no monopoly on hardship. But kids are resilient, thank goodness.



The Frank Dam

Ever since the discovery of Black Beauty (the fossilized T.rex remains found near Lundbreck), it has been every kid's dream to find a big dinosaur skeleton here in the Pass. But large fossils just don't seem to be that common in the mountains. So it is with some satisfaction that I saw some fair-sized fossils here in the Pass, although I certainly was not the first to notice them, as they are right up against the old Frank dam.

Mountain towns are blessed with an abundance of fresh water, but it must be captured and stored for use. For Frank, a dam was constructed on Gold Creek and water was piped through wood-stave pipes into town, probably around 1901. The idea behind wood pipes is that the water causes the wood to swell and seal off most leaks, but with the healthy flow in Gold Creek no one minded if the pipes leaked a little, or even a lot. As pipes need a steady gradient and efficient route, a handful of properties within Frank had waterline easements registered on their titles, and probably still do despite the abandonment of that pipeline many years ago. At some point the wood pipes were abandoned in favor of metal ones.

I think the Frank dam was in service until sometime after Amalgamation, and the "1984" date in the concrete may be a clue to that. The original Frank dam was likely made of wood (one such wood dam still exists, up Allison Creek) but the present, abandoned

dam is concrete. There used to be quite a few wood-stave pipes and a few metal ones in the creek, but floods over the years have destroyed or carried away most of them. You might still see one or two, though.

To get to the old Frank dam, drive the Frank Slide Interpretive Centre access road as far as the hairpin curve, and park right there. Left (northwest) of the cattleguard is an old track, which you walk to a junction, turning right and passing a vehicle gate - only about 300 metres in total to Gold Creek and the dam, a really short, easy walk. There is a new house just on the far side of the creek; as far as I know the creek and dam are on public land, but please behave like a guest.

So, the fossils. Look down just as you are about to step off the dam on your way home. There - on a flat slab a metre below your feet - are they bones, or plant leaves, or something else? I don't know. Kinda neat though. They do 'disappear' in wet weather or when the creek sprays over them, so go during dry, very low-flow conditions.



News, 100 Years Ago

Here are excerpts from the December 7, 1922 edition of the *Blairmore Enterprise*. A lot was going on that week in the Pass:

Accident at Blairmore Mine

A rather serious accident happened at the Greenhill mine of the West Canadian Collieries, No. 3 level, on Friday afternoon, in which John Patterson, fire boss, and three miners – D. Peresini, Edward Cemencin and Antonio Costigana – were the victims. An explosion caused by a pick hitting a live cap was the cause. The three Italians suffered severe lacerations to the faces, while Costigana is likely to lose the sight of both eyes. A specialist was called in from Calgary and after viewing the men at the Blairmore hospital decided they should all be moved to Calgary for treatment. Patterson, Peresini and Cemencin left by Sunday night's train, accompanied by William Patterson and a brother of Peresini's. William Patterson returned to town on Tuesday and reports that John's condition is not serious. Costigana's condition will not yet permit his removal.

Summit Hotel Destroyed By Fire

Fire, believed to have originated in the basement of the main building, completely destroyed the Summit hotel at Crows' Nest on Friday afternoon last. The loss is roughly estimated at \$30,000. The building is said to have been owned by J. McCool and was leased by Donald Lewis, who had sublet the dining room and kitchen to a Chinaman. The

Summit hotel formed an historic spot and years ago became famous through Andy Goode and his menageries. Andy Goode has since passed away, as has also all signs of the menagerie.

Emilio Piccariello and Mrs. Lassandro Guilty

Emilio Piccariello and Mrs. Florence Lassandro were found guilty on Saturday evening of the murder of Constable S. O. Lawson at Coleman on September 21st, and were sentenced by Mr. Justice Walsh to be hanged at Fort Saskatchewan on February 21st, exactly five months following the act which resulted in the death of the constable.

...

There was a movement in front, and the clerk crossed to the wall, took down a calendar and passed it up to His Lordship. Piccariello watched this, but he maintained his poise, except for a new pallor on his cleanly shaven face. He watched Mr. Justice Walsh unmoved as the measure of his span of life was counted. . .

Items of Local Interest

A Detroit man is seeking divorce because his wife chews tobacco.

The attorney general of British Columbia has announced that no interference with enforcement of law and order by the Klu Klux Klan or any other organization will be tolerated.

Major Gustav H. Schoof, victim of a war tragedy – suspected of being a German spy, although a loyal British soldier, and reported executed – put on the red coat of the Royal

Northwest Mounted Police to march in the Armistice Day parade in Minneapolis. Schoof is an adventurer who fought with Madeiro against Diaz in Mexico, was imprisoned and sentenced to death and later released, to continue his thrilling career. In the war a man who used Schoof's name was put to death in the Tower of London as a German spy. Weeks later the major succeeded in proving that he was still alive, a loyal British soldier. He will spent the winter in the States, returning to his home at Claresholm, Alberta in the spring - Minneapolis Daily Journal, Nov 12

Fishing for automobiles is to be the latest fad at Crows' Nest Lake. Most of the cars, or their occupants, passing that way now, are so dry that they feel obliged to take a plunge in the lake, and of course the car remains there.

The Thrill of Love!!!
Do WOMEN LOVE Better?
The Thrill of Human Touch!
SHOULD A WOMAN ADVERTISE FOR A MATE?
Why Should a Girl be Married Before 18 and the Man Before 27 ?
Marriage, Divorce, Love, Eugenics, Birth Control, Sex Hygiene, Etc., Etc.
HOW TO MARRY SUCCESSFUL AND ATTAIN HAPPINESS
 These are only some of the subjects exclusively dealt with in every issue of the "FOLD" Magazine. America's big and high class **LOVERS' PUBLICATION**. Devoted only to such problems.
 Send 10c for **SAMPLE COPY** and complete information about our **Friendship Club**.
SUBSCRIPTION price now only 75c per year, 3 years for \$2.00.
 This special offer to increase the circulation of the "FOLD" is good only for a short period. Every subscription includes **FREE** membership to our **FRIENDSHIP CLUB**, with thousands of members (both sexes) in every state and city.
 Send 75c with your name and address to the
"FOLD" MAGAZINE
 1151 Broadway, N. Y. City, U.S.A.

Sign of the Times

The Crowsnest Heritage Initiative has installed four information kiosks, about fifty signs, and over a hundred building plaques, each revealing a small piece of our diverse history.

There is a sign panel at the Chinook/Allison xc ski area, at the base of the first big hill just past the gate.



Have you read it?

Our Local Heritage Sites (check websites for rates, schedules, and closures)



- **CROWSNEST MUSEUM and ARCHIVES** - 7701 18th Avenue, in Coleman National Historic Site. 403-563-5434, cnmuseum@shaw.ca, www.crowsnestmuseum.ca. Glimpse the rich social, economic, and natural heritage of Crowsnest Pass from 1900 - 1950 in two floors of themed rooms, plus large artifacts outdoors. Gift shop features local and regional books, and many other items.



- Close to the museum, the newly-restored **ALBERTA PROVINCIAL POLICE BARRACKS** includes exhibits and artifacts on prohibition, rumrunning, and the legendary shooting of Constable Lawson and the subsequent execution of “Emperor Pic” and Florence Lassandro. 403-563-5434, cnmuseum@shaw.ca, www.appbarracks.com.



- **BELLEVUE UNDERGROUND MINE** - off Main Street in Bellevue. The premiere authentic historic underground coal mine tour of western Canada offers a family-oriented experience of what miners from a century ago saw and heard at work each day. Pre-book tours online; www.bellevuemine.com.



- **FRANK SLIDE INTERPRETIVE CENTRE** - off Hwy 3. 403-562-7388, www.frankslide.ca. Knowledgeable staff share fascinating stories of the Frank Slide of April 1903 through dynamic interpretive programs and presentations. State-of-the-art interactive exhibits focus on Canada’s deadliest rockslide. Closed winter Mondays (but open Family Day).



- **HILLCREST CEMETERY PROVINCIAL HISTORIC SITE** - Hillcrest. Visit the mass graves of the 189 victims of the Hillcrest Mine Disaster of 1914, and many other historic graves. Interpretive signs explain it all. The **Millennium Memorial Monument** is Canada’s homage to miners killed across the country. The adjacent **park** features interpretive signs about life in Hillcrest and the effect of the disaster, and picnic tables. All free.



- **LEITCH COLLIERIES PROVINCIAL HISTORIC SITE** - Highway 3, east edge of town, www.leitchcollieries.ca. Stabilized ruins of a century-old coal processing facility explained through interpretive signs. Parking lot closed in winter. Check out the nearby **Burmis Tree**, probably Canada’s most-photographed tree; free.



- **COLEMAN NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE** - downtown Coleman. Free map and pamphlet for a self-guided tour of this authentic coal-mining town amongst buildings from 1903 - 1986; most have interpretive building plaques. Glimpse the ruins of the mine plant and coke ovens, walk or drive through the “miners cottage” neighbourhood of West Coleman. An interpretive booklet can be purchased at the museum. Later, walk the pleasant **Miners Path**, retracing the steps of miners on their way to the McGillivray Mine. All free.



- **LILLE PROVINCIAL HISTORIC SITE** - A 6km long trail leads to this remote site. Ruins in or near this former mining village include the powerhouse, hotel foundation, and coke ovens. Interpretive signs on site. Enquire at the Frank Slide Interpretive Centre, 403-562-7388. Backcountry safety and etiquette apply. Free.

More information on these sites and other activities is at www.crowsnestheritage.ca