

ORALS QUESTION FOR 2005 MANITOBA ENVIROTHON

(05/05/09)

The Province of Manitoba has received a gift of a pioneer homestead dating back to the late 1890's. It is comprised of 160 acres (65 ha) of land located along the Drifting River with original buildings consisting of a farmhouse, barn, blacksmith shop, chicken coop, and assorted outbuildings. In addition to the buildings, the homestead has 30 acres (12 ha) of bush/woodlot (containing Manitoba maple, oak, aspen, and shrubs), 120 acres (49 ha) of agricultural land under cultivation, with the balance containing the river, pond, roadways, garden plot, and native prairie. Archeologists have done some preliminary digs on the property and have uncovered numerous artifacts from First Nations encampments and the early days of the farm including tools, a rusted flintlock rifle barrel, equipment parts, fire pits, bone shards, and flakes of flint.

The donor family has stipulated the homestead be developed for the education and enjoyment of all Manitobans, while retaining the cultural and environmental integrity of the land. Your task is to develop a cultural landscape management plan for the homestead, which also identifies the consultative process managers should follow in the development of such a plan. You must justify your plan to the donor family and the Manitoba Heritage Council. Be sure your plan incorporates each of the Envirothon themes, and acknowledges sustainability.