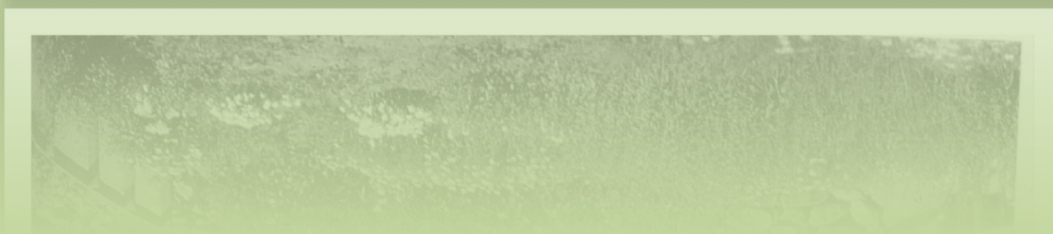
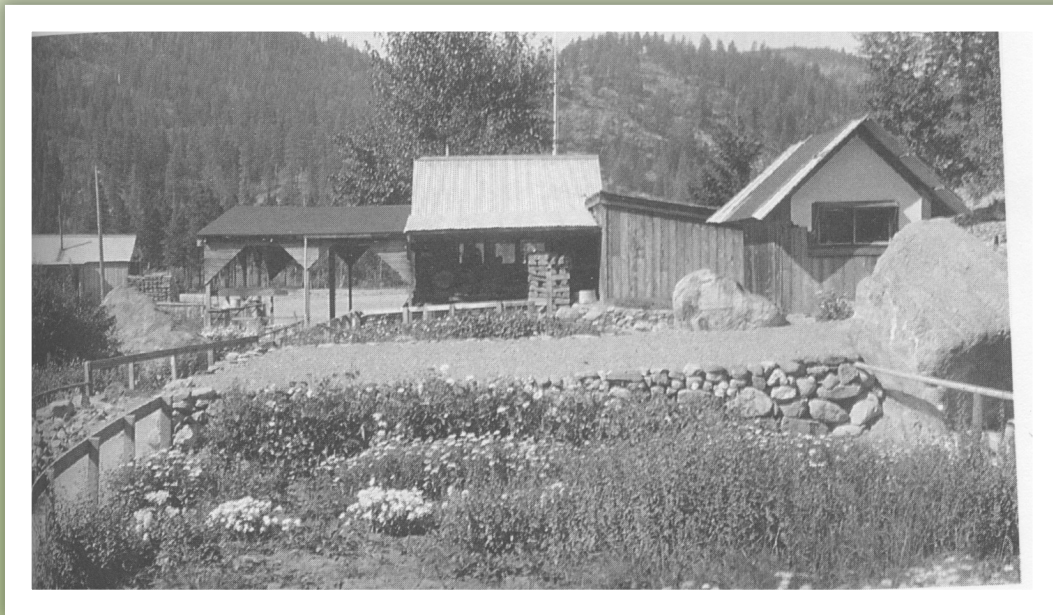


Haylmore Site Report and Statement of Significance
For the Bridge River Valley Community Association
Edited Oct 3, 2014

Susan Medville



Introduction

In April of 2014, Bridge River Valley Community Association (BRVCA) Board, requested that a Statement of Significance (SOS) for the Haylmore Site be prepared. This work is being done in conjunction with the plans of rehabilitating the property to house either the Artist Co-op or the Visitor's Center on the property. The preparation of an SOS for the site is important because it will provide baseline heritage data on the site. Thereby, any rehabilitation work that is done on the site will be conducted with the heritage values in mind and their preservation well planned for.

Research Notes and Brief Site History

William Haylmore (b.1874) came to Canada in 1891 at the age of 17. He first found employment with the Canadian Pacific Railroad then left to follow the Barkerville gold rush passing through Bridge River area. He returned to the Bridge River area to stay in 1894 with a claim staked at Why Not. On December 13, 1910 he married Maud Mason of Lillooet (b.1884, d.1971), they had one child Hilda Maude Haylmore, (b. 1911). It is reported that he owned a home and brickyard in Lillooet, however little is written about his time or his occupation there and his involvement in the mining industry is better documented. In 1916 he signed the Attestation Paper to be a member of the Canadian Over-Seas Expeditionary Force, to serve in World War I, however no further documentation was found of his deployment and family members state he did not serve. At that time he listed his occupation as a Mine Superintendent and Blacksmith. By 1917 Haylmore filled the position of 'super intendancy' of the Coronation and he owned and operated the Ida May on Caldwater Creek until 1923. Through his work as a prospector he explored the region extensively on foot likely being one of the first individuals to climb Mount Sloan.

The Ministry of Mines for the Province of British Columbia appointed Haylmore as the Deputy Mining Recorder (also referred to as the Sub-Recorder) for the Clinton and Lillooet Mining Division's from 1924-1956. In this position he ensured orderly staking of gold bearing ground and assisted in the settling of any mining claim related disputes. He operated his office from the property on which he held a placer claim since 1922 on the Hurley River. The area had been worked since the 1880s. Traditionally his property was known as South Fork, however with his residency there it became known as Haylmore and was designated so. The site appears named on the Pre-Emptor's Maps in 1932 and 1938. It is noted that for a time Haylmore also ran a Government Post Office on the property. It is likely that between 1922-1924 Haylmore built the two main structures still standing on the property. The first building known as the cabin served as the Sub-Mining Recorder's Office and the second building now know as the workshop historically served as Haylmore's home.

The family of three lived there together in the summers. Maud and Hilda would return to their other home Lillooet in the winter so that Hilda could attend school. Hilda assisted Haylmore with the recording work during the summers. Haylmore held the reputation of being a hardworking individual, the 1948, Minister of Mines, Province of British

Columbia, Annual Report noted the ‘industry’ that defined Haylmore’s work style. An additional story told of his efforts to file claim renewals where he would walk the paper work overnight to the main office in Lillooet to avoid the claims expiring. Another account along the same line tells of he and Hilda working through all meals and in non-stop shifts during the busiest period of recording in the 1930s at the office. Through the position of Sub-Recorder he interacted with the local population on a regular basis and was well know throughout the region.

The people of his community also recognized Haylmore for assisting those in need by providing them with work, particularly during the Depression. The rock walls terracing the length of the property are a standing testament to this. The dry stacked walls are earth filled terraces, made from boulders collected from the near by riverbed brought to site. Recollections state that if a prospector came to him to file the claim, however did not have the recording fee, Haylmore would grubstake them and allow them to work off the fee constructing his walls. He also employed some to work his placer claim, doing tasks such as diverting the Hurley River with a channel in the 1920s and working his in his adits on the site.

In all Will Haylmore spent 54 years in the Bridge River Valley, passing away January 21, 1964. He lived on the property until it was necessary for him to have additional care and his family brought him to Lillooet, then to a nursing home in Kamloops. He is buried on the property. At the time of his death the property and mining claim returned to the tenure of the Crown.

From 1964- the mid 1970s the placer claim was worked by a number of individuals, including Tom Illidge, Harry Mc Gee and John Tacconie. Beginning in the late 1970s Clay Wade operated the placer claim. He lived on the site with his family in a modular unit that sat to the north of the office. The Wade’s constructed the outdoor stage (22 feet long by 18 feet deep) on the east side of the property over the rock walls. The large concrete pad adjacent to the stage was the location of a music room, and the boulders in the corner were part of a water feature within the room. It is possible that the Wade’s dug the two deep open wells that are to the south of the Haylmore house-workshop near the river. The modular house and the music room were removed from the site prior to 2000, the wells are currently covered with a piece of corrugated metal held down by two rocks. The wade’s utilized Haylmore’s home as a workshop during their tenure on the property.

The Mineral Titles Branch had limited information on the property, only covering the period from 1991 through 2003. Submitters for actions on the property included Matts Conversion (1991), Great Thunder Gold Corp. (1992-1994), Jim M. Miller-Tait (1995), Great Thunder Gold Corp (1996), Vivienne Ross (1996), James Murton (1997), Ross again (1998-1999), Great Thunder (2000), Ross (2001), Great Thunder (2001), Mineral Titles Branch (2001), John P. Gairns (2002) and the Mineral Title Branch in 2003 when the title became forfeiture and the tenure number was removed from the map.

In 2001 Bridge River Valley Economic Development Society (BRVEDS) began the process of trying to obtain the property with the intent to rehabilitate the historic

buildings and walls on the property and use the place for a visitor centre for the area. The process began by the organization with Vivien Ross as its Program Administrator securing the property. A Bill of Sale Absolute from the BC Ministry of Employment and Investment, Energy and Minerals Division, Mineral Titles Branch from, August 14, 2001 shows Louis Wolfen of Mill Bay Ventures sold 100 percent of the Placer Title to Tenure Number 267739 (PL246) to the BRVEDS. BRVEDS applied with the British Columbia Ministry of Energy and Mines, Mineral Titles Branch under the Mineral Tenure Act , Section 22, August 15, 2001, to have the area designated as a 'Non-Staking Reserve' for both mineral rights and placer mining. The intent of the application being to protect the historic site from being destroyed by modern mining. BRVEDS received a letter January 2, 2002 from Ministry of Energy and Mines stating that the mineral rating was considered too high to place a reserve on the site and that the application was not successful.

With this setback the SLRD stated their intent to make an application for BC Assets and Lands for tenure to the site by way of Crown Grant and also planned on applying to have a 'no staking reserve' placed on the site in December of 2001. The Land and Water B.C. Inc granted a License of Tenure Offer to the SLRD May, 1, 2003. The Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management granted a license of Occupation for the property to the SLRD May 23, 2003. There is no documentation of the 'no staking reserve' status being granted in the record within the documentation the SLRD has on file.

The SLRD passed By-Law No. 791 which established the Electoral Area A Heritage Conservation Service and By-Law No. 792 passed which designated the Haylmore Property as a heritage property June 23, 2003. August 2006, the SLRD and BVREDS attempted to enter into a 30 year Sublicense Agreement with BVREDS to undertake the preservation of the cabin and the land as a historical site and to operate a tourist information booth from the cabin. However the matter remained unresolved until February 2013 when both parties signed the Sublicense agreement.

In 2001-2002 with funding secured from the now defunct British Columbia Heritage Trust (1977-2003) BRVEDS undertook the first steps of the proposed restoration work on the site. The Heritage Branch funded \$22,000 worth of work for site cleanup and 'renovates' to cabin-office plus an additional \$4,550 to hire a heritage consultant for advice and guidance. Funds were to be spent by September 30, 2003. In 2001-2002 BVREDS oversaw the removal of garbage, brush, dangerous trees and mining equipment from the property as well as minor stabilization work on the cabin and rock walls by people from the community, both volunteers and paid labors. During this time the road scraper was donated to the property by the Gold Bridge Inn. The scraper had been salvaged as an item of interest by Tom Illridge and gifted to the Inn in the 1980s from Gray Rock.

In 2005 the BC Heritage Branch requested that funds be returned by BVREDS if the renovation of the mine recording office had not yet been completed. An account ledger on file with the SLRD for the Haylmore Project indicates that further work took place on the property in the spring and summer of 2007, stabilizing the cabin at the cost of

approximately \$22,300. There is no further documentation on record as to what occurred at this time and if monies were returned or not to the Heritage Branch or if an extension was granted by the Branch to complete the work.

Community interest began again in the property in early 2013, with the BRVCA considering relocating the visitor centre to the site. The Artist Co-Op expressing interest partnering with the BRVCA and further utilizing the property to showcase their work. Volunteers from the community have been working towards further cleaning the property by clearing brush and garbage. With no maintenance to the two main buildings or the stage since at least 2007 the organizations will need to plan to further stabilize the two structures and undertake the work necessary to rehabilitate them for the intended uses. The intent of the following SOS is to provide the organizations with a deeper understanding of the heritage values of the property and thereby plan and take on the work in such a manner that the property retains its historic integrity.

Methodology and Deliverables

The consultant walked the site on March 28, 2014 with Bradley Dickson and Roger Geeves. A second site visit took place April 25, 2014 during which time field notes were taken and the site extensively photographed. Interviews took place with Tom and Lynda Illidge and a phone interviews with Bill Smith, Ray Howard and Vivien Ross.

The SLRD provided a file of background information on the site including correspondence from the earlier restoration efforts. This file contained the only available drawing of the site illustrating the building footprints and location of the structures, dating from 1981, no earlier or later drawings for the site were found in the investigation. Research took place at Vancouver Public Library, the Bralorne Pioneer Museum and Pemberton Library.

Online research included the review of the Minister of Mines, Province of British Columbia Annual Reports from 1920-1960, review of the Mineral Titles from 1991-2003, review of the British Columbia Historic and Operating Mines Atlas Excel Table, digitized information from the British Columbia Archives and Ancestry.com. Research inquiries were made with the following institutions, the Office of Mineral Titles Online, the Library of the British Columbia Geological Survey, the Lillooet Museum and Lillooet Library, however none had additional information available. The BC Archives has written correspondence of Will Haylmore and the Deputy Minister of the Department of Mines and oral histories with Maud and Hilda Haylmore, however obtaining copies of these in Victoria, did not fit within the timeframe or the proposed budget of the project. A written request was sent to the Archives requesting copies if available of the documents. The documents received in June 2014 did not contain additional information pertinent to this report.

In May 2014 the with the bulk of the research completed the draft report was compiled and SOS written and submitted to the BRVCA for review. Once the review is completed and revisions are made, the electronic submittal of the SOS to the BC Register of Historic Places (BCRHP) and the Canadian Register of Historic Places (CRHP) will be completed.

When the SLRD and Heritage Committee have established a Community Heritage Register (CHR) for the area, and this site has been added to the CHR, this SOS must be submitted electronically to BCRHP and the CRHP. The consultant will provide a disc that includes the following:

- This report and Statement of Significance (Word)
- The completed Data Entry Template (PDF form)
- Images (JPG format)

The BRVCA and SLRD when ready to make the submittal will need include the above-mentioned disk and the following to be submitted to the BC Heritage Branch:

-A copy of the resolution or bylaw from the Council minutes adding the site to the Community Heritage Register.

-A map clearly indicating the boundaries of the formally recognized site.

- A cover letter to Minister responsible for the Heritage Conservation Act. Sample wording:

This letter serves as official notification, in accordance with S.977 of the Local Government Act, of the Council's decision (RESOLUTION # if applicable) to include the Haylmore Site on its Community Heritage Register on DATE, as listed below:

Haylmore Site, Haylmore Lane, PID

For further information please contact CONTACT NAME at EMAIL or TELEPHONE.

Mail the disc and cover letter to:

Susan Green, Registrar

Heritage Branch

PO Box 9818 Stn Prov Govt

Victoria, BC

V8W 9W3

Please see this site for more detailed instructions if needed.

http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/heritage/external!/publish/web/Preparing_and_Submitting_Records_for_BCRHP_2013.pdf

Statement of Significance

Haylmore Site
Haylmore Lane
Gold Bridge, BC

Susan Medville, Heritage Consultant, May 5, 2014



Historic Place

The historic place is a 2.6 hectare triangle shaped placer lease, tenure number 2267739 PL246, Minefile 09JNE026, consisting of two buildings built around 1922-1924, a gravesite 1964, extensive terraced rock walls and mine workings constructed between 1924-1956. The property sits at the end of Haylmore Lane off of Highway 40. The southwest boarder is formed by the North Fork Channel of the Hurley River near the South Fork junction with the Bridge River. The northeast side of the property is marked by a steep rocky hillside. The north boundary line runs through a treed grove of pines and willows. Mount Sloan 2,720 meters and Green Mountain 2,161 meters dominate the view to the south of the property. The town of Gold Bridge is located less than a kilometer to the northeast. BC Hydro has a right of way through the northwest corner of the property with wood poled lines.

Heritage Value

The historic place is valued as the long time office, home and placer claim of the Lillooet Mining Division, Sub-Officer William Haylmore and his family. It has historical value for its associations with the early settlement, growth and gold mining history in the upper Bridge River Valley, the richest mining district in British Columbia during the 1930s-1950s. While there are many historic mining related sites in the area the majority of the structures have been reclaimed by the elements, this historic place remains largely intact with a good level of integrity due to previous stewardship efforts by the Bridge River Valley community. This place provides a sense of historic settlement and human industry on the edge of predominantly un-settled land.

The historic place has architectural value for its two main buildings, the Sub-Recorder's Office and the house, as well as two out buildings, these all being representative of wood-frame vernacular building at the time. The simple functional buildings likely constructed between 1922-1924, reflect the immediate need for shelter and workspace with limited resources. The office sits on the east side of the property and the terraced rock walls and

Haylmore's gravesite sits just behind it under the shelter of a large pine and a few big boulders. The house-workshop sits out in the open near the bank of the Hurley River. Also on the site to the east of the office is a shed-roofed one-seater outhouse. To the east of the outhouse between the dirt access road and the river is an 8-foot-by-8-foot front gabled hoist house for a mining shaft.

Haylmore's individual expression and his documented desire, 'for a garden in the wilderness,' are demonstrated through the extensive rock walls terracing throughout the property built by underemployed prospectors and miners whom he hired. The walls have heritage value and contribute to the uniqueness of site. The walls which run over 300 feet long on the east side of the property retain a high level of integrity and make the site a local landmark.

Character-Defining Elements

The character defining elements of the Haylmore Mining Sub-Reorder Office include:

- The L shaped plan, 1 story height, medium pitched gable roof on the front portion of the building and the shed roof on the rear portion of the building.
- The positioning of the building nestled in large boulders, under a large pine, and flanked by the stone walls.
- The variety of wood siding including, vertically hung plank, lap, and horizontal plank over a wood framed structure.
- The wide wood plank flooring.
- The original window openings including four side-by-side 2'4" by 2'4", one, 2'4" by 2'4" opening, one fixed 4' 6" long and 2" 6" tall picture window, three side-by-side 2'4" by 2'4" openings and the rear shed has a boarded over side-by-side window opening.
- The original positioning of the doorways.
- Illustrations adhered to the sloped ceiling from *The Illustrated London News* and other sources from the 1920s-1950s and Haylmore's handwritten notes.
- The associated out house with a shed roof, circular window opening and a single seat to the south east of the office.
- Its association with William Haylmore, prospector, miner, and Mining Sub-Recorder from 1924-1956.

The character defining elements of the Haylmore house and workshop include:

- Its long rectangular shape, two distinct halves and single story construction.
- Original window openings including: two set of three side-by-side windows, one side-by-side sliding window and one fixed with intact glass and two side-by-side window openings. The intact windows are located on the floor inside which likely belong to this building or the office.
- The north side of the building with its centered heavy wood plank front door and hardware.
- The variety of layered siding on the building including the horizontal hung plank, wood shingles, lap board, vertically hung plank and corrugated metal.
- The interior wall and ceiling cladding of tongue and groove.
- The plank flooring.

- The heavy double wood doors on the east elevation.
- Haylmore's handwritten notes regarding the weather on the ceiling from 1946- 1947.
- Its association with William Haylmore.

The character defining elements of the landscape include:

- The park like setting
- The views of Mt. Sloan.
- The location on the bank of the Hurley River, near Haylmore's placer workings.
- The tiered dry stacked rock walls running over 300 feet long and three feet tall against the east and north end of the property, the terracing created with dirt fill and leveled.
- The machine gun post, to the west of the office, a 30 foot-by 30 foot, four cornered dry-stacked rock wall filled with dirt used by Haylmore to post his three Maxim 8mm machine guns, surrounded by the tear shaped driveway at the end of Haylmore Lane.
- Remnants of mining activity on the site including the oval shaped sealed shaft within the tear shaped end of the driveway and the collapsed adit on the east side of the property with rock walls providing a pathway to where the entrance once was. The trenching of the riverbed worked intermittently from the 1880s through 2000 and the 8-foot-by-8 foot, horizontal wood plank sided, hoist house near the river.
- The rectangular granite gravestone of Will Haylmore engraved: Haylmore, Will, London, England 1874, Kamloops, B.C. 1964 and grave site surrounded by a simple rock oval under the large pine behind the office.
- The additional metal memorial plaque bolted to a boulder engraved: Bill Haylmore, Old Timer & Mine Recorder, Jan 1964, BB.



Historical Photographs



1.



2.

Photo 1.) Will Haylmore at his stonewall embankment that held his three Lewis machine gun posts, taken 1935.

Photo 2.) Haylmore's, Mining Sub-Recorder office in the foreground, his home in the background, taken 1935. Both photographs by W.A. Hutchings, Green, *The Great Years*)



3.

Photo 3.) Interment of William Haylmore behind his office, 1964. Photograph by George Thompson.



4.

Photo 4.) 2006 photo of the office with restoration work taking place. Note that the awning present in the 1935 picture above is still present. The window frames used to construct a green house were also removed. It is believed that these are currently stored in the house. Photograph by P.J. Hutton(?), SLRD File.

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