

THE FRANCESTOWN HERITAGE MUSEUM

Newsletter

July 2015

SUMMER – AT LONG LAST

A TRULY FORLORN SIGHT



About the only thing colder than this picture of the museum was the inside of the museum itself.

Folks have asked why we don't open in winter. . . . well we will if asked. If you have a family gathering or group that would like to see the museum during the winter, please contact either of the curators. We will be happy to open for you. Dress warmly.

While the museum does not currently have any regularly scheduled hours, we try to be open for events in town and also for any special occasion requested by an individual or group. There is no charge for this type of opening.

To schedule a special event, please contact one of the curators:

Bob Abbott at 547-6894

Bill McAuley at 547-8320

SO WHAT DOES THE MUSEUM DO DURING WINTER?

THE VISITOR GUIDE

FRANCESTOWN HERITAGE MUSEUM



VISITORS GUIDE

We are in the process of creating a guide that should help

A TRIPLE STROKE OF GOOD FORTUNE

Three new transportation artifacts have been received this year for our exhibits. These old time modes of transportation came from three Francestown families – The Hills, The Kiblin's and The Places.

search of new artifacts for the museum. We would like to be able to change displays in order to give people the broadest view possible of "the way it used to be"

questions they may have.

This is a work in progress and we would appreciate any comments or suggestions that you may have.



Summon your Doctor in the olden days and they would arrive in their Doctor's buggy (Yes, the Doctor even made house calls back then). The sight of the Doctor going down the road in his buggy with his bag beside him usually meant some neighbor was in need. Medical emergencies could arrive in any weather, day or night. Thus the covered buggy seat.



This buggy was loaned to the Museum by Walter and Misty Kiblin. We have not yet been able to establish the provenance of this buggy. It was not in the Kiblin family originally. Regardless, it is a vivid reminder of long ago days when the first question asked of those who were ill was not "do you have insurance".



This one-horse, two-person buggy was donated to the Museum by the Hill Family in Memory of Ellen Mayo Hill. This buggy was purchased new by the family and had remained there until now. Our resident Hill Family member, Isabella Britain Hill is trying to determine just when the family purchased this buggy and who the maker was.

For its age this buggy is in remarkably good condition and has never been restored. The wood is solid and even the leather seat covering is still flexible. The wheels are tight and the buggy rolls easily – a fact no doubt appreciated by the horse.



This one-horse, one-person sleigh is on loan to the Museum from the Place Family members. Here again, we know this sleigh was original to the Place family but have not determined the year purchased or the maker.

As with the Hill family buggy, this sleigh for its age is in remarkably good condition and has never been restored. The wood is solid, the shafts move easily and the runners are tight.

In addition to these three major items, the Museum has also received a number of other gifts from the Thulander Family ranging from a corn seeder to a three holed privy seat. Yes, the holes are a different size to accommodate Mama Bear, Papa Bear, and Baby Bear (an item overlooked in the tale of Goldie Locks and the Three Bears).

