**6: 20July2025-John Norquay Papers MG 13 C1-C4 – 21pp**

Gerald Friesen’s brief notes on a collection of papers that is separate and distinct from the Norquay Premier’s Papers. These files arrived in the archives before the Norquay Premier’s Papers donation and probably came from a variety of sources, including the Norquay family.

[notes on the first (indented) section below **not available here**]

16 typed pages – HBC ca. 1948, “Notes on Ancestry of Hon. John Norquay”

2 typed pages – Ellen Cooke Bio of JN for Eliz Aylen and U of M s’ship (dated 2 October and 10 December and 17 December 1985)

6 typed pages – HBC ca. 1948, “Andrew Setter and Family”

4 typed pages – copies of letters from JN to James Thomson in Orkney, 12 May & 29 Sept/79; 26 July/81; 31 Jan/1887

Photo of the Norquay plaque unveiling, with Mrs. McAllister looking at the plaque. *Winnipeg Free Press*, 29 October 1947

Notes re this distinct Norquay document collection, **MG 13 C1-C4**

1879 – Alex Begg letterbook volume 1-5

1871 Oaths of office 5

1884 issues –

1886 Royal Commission 7

1887 resolutions of Inter-Provincial Conference –

1870s-80s lands received by Norquay’s children under the federal grant 8-9

1947-8 – family and race—the John Norquay plaque in Legislature 9

John Norquay will 16-17

Tom Norquay scrapbook: 17

Bella, Mrs. N, race and byelection, HBR

Orkney Archives letter 19-20

**And:**

*Henderson Directories* 1876 – to 1889 20-21

**file 1: Norquay, John: Alex Begg Letterbook volume 1879**

JN to JAM, Minister of Interior, from Russell House, 5 March 1879 [p 2 of letterbook]

 ‘”My Dear Sir John Mr. Royal and myself being very anxious to return to Manitoba as soon as possible I would respectfully request a short interview when we could explain to you the object of our mission.” [p. 2]

Similar letters to Joseph Dubuc, Joseph Ryan, Senator J Sutherland, Senator M.A. Girard.

Many pages cut out.

**Note dated 10 March 1879: Norquay and Royal went to Gov General’s office,** accompanied by Thomas Spence, Clerk of the Leg Assembly, to present the address of condolence to the Queen, and the address of welcome to Marquis of Lorne, GG, on behalf of MB Leg Assembly. [27]

Many pages cut out

**Note dated 11 March 1879 [p 46]**: “Notice of motion: Will move for a return of all native appointees from Residents of Manitoba & the North West Territories to permanent salaried positions under the Crown” [46]

**Newspaper clipping: (“12th March” handwritten beside it):** “The Select Standing Committee on Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines met this morning, Hon H.L. Langevin in the chair.”

 Considered Act to incorporate the Saskatchewan Colonization Railroad Company.

Discussion: Tupper, Rykert, Schultz, Ryan (Marquette), Norquay, Haggart, Royal spoke.

 Ryan “thought the Act to incorporate the Company under the management of the member for Lisgar was what would suit the interests of the people of Manitoba.

 Norquay said MB needed “railway communication” and that he and his colleagues “had come to Ottawa for the purpose of watching such railway legislation as might affect Manitoba. He said that the line projected by those whose interest Mr. Schultz was engaged in promoting, would best serve the interests of the people as a whole.”

 “Mr Rykert wanted to know from the premier of Manitoba if the line proposed by the Selkirk and South Saskatchewan did not over the same ground as the other road, as far as suiting the necessities of the Country was concerned.

 Mr. Norquay said it would not.”

Royal also supported “the utility of the line projected by Dr. Schultz. They did not wish to connect with the American railway system, but with the Canada Pacific Railway.”

Appended to this story:

 Mayor and aldermen of Wpg endorse granting charter to SK Col.Rly – “in the interests of the country and as not interfering with the Canadian Pacific.” Sgd Alex Logan [50]

**Telegram Ottawa March 10th 1879, Begg to Allan Macdonald, Prothonotary, Wpg**

 “Confirm or correct number days occupied by court in [?//] North West prisoners on ….[??? He lists names and days but unclear writing] Telegraph answer immediately. Alex Begg” [p51]

**Memo by Alexander Begg: Ottawa 7 March 1879**

 -delegates met with JAMacdonald, various subjects referred to in the memo of Council were brought to his notice by Royal and Norquay, explanations given:

Railway development

Drainage of the wet lands

Public buildings

Lunatic asylum

School lands

Seed Relief advances etc etc.

 “Sir John evinced a disposition to meet the wishes of the deputation and considered that no demand made was unreasonable. Hon. Mr. Masson present and concurred with Sir John.

 Re public bldgs.: assurance had been given to the NW delegates in 1870. Most of the negotiations were with Sir George E. Cartier, and he believed that a promise had been given, and that the Dominion would pay for the erection of the bldgs. [p52-53]

**Memo by Alexander Begg: Ottawa 8 March 1879**

 Delegates met Col Dennis, Deputy Min of Interior re school lands and drainage. He outlined his view and promised “to acquaint the delegates with the conclusion arrived at as soon as possible.”[54]

**Memo by Alexander Begg: Ottawa 11 March 1879**

 “The deputation were engaged yesterday and today preparing the memorandum on the several subjects of their mission…”[on 10-11 March]. Begg called on Deputy Min of Justice on the 12th and provided a statement of the outstanding accounts between the Dominion and the Manitoba govt. Mr. Lash promised to review them next day. [p56]

**Two telegrams, Begg to Allan Macdonald, Prothonotary, Wpg, on 10 and 13 March**, **1879** re number of days occupied by trials of North West cases, “must be careful to have your figures in regard to North West cases correspond as near as possible with ones in my previous telegram [pp51 ,57]

**Memo by Alexander Begg: Ottawa 12 March 1879**

 Norquay and Royal attended the Railway Committee of the House of Commons today and gave the following evidence. See page [cf: above newspaper clipping 12 March]

 “On the 13th March the delegates had an interview with Hon Dr. Tupper Minister of Public Works in regard to railway matters – they placed before the minister the unsatisfactory condition of the Pembina Branch and made known their views in regard to the Colonization Branch and South Western Railway. Hon Dr. Tupper in return made known the policy of the Government to be presented to the House at an early date and which was highly satisfactory.” Schultz, Ryan, Dubuc were present.

 “In answer to a suggestion from Mr. Ryan Hon Dr. Tupper stated that as soon as a vote was secured for the purpose work would be immediately commenced [58] on the improvement of the navigation of the Assiniboine.”

 “On the same day the delegates had an interview with Hon. Mr. Langevin, Postmaster General and Jos Dubuc, …. Latter brought to the notice of the minister the irregularity of the mails to and from Manitoba.” HL assured them “that all the efforts possible would be taken to immediately remedy the evil.” [59]

“**On the 13th March**” delegates met with Hon. Mr. McDonald Minister of Justice re accounts for keeping lunatics, suggested those accounts and those for keeping NW prisoners should be at same rate per person per day. He would recommend to his deputy that a settlement on that basis be made. [60]

**Memo by Alexander Begg: Ottawa 12 March 1879 [pp58-60]**

 Delegates had an interview with Lt Col Dennis, Deputy Min of Interior – he proposed to recommend to Minister an amdmt to Dominion Lands Act “to give a grant of land requiring drainage to any parties undertaking the reclamation of these waste lands…”

 Delegates suggested that feds shd assist in the construction of the various roads which were avenues of communication in the Province and which served as Colonization roads and materially assisted the settlement of the Dominion Lands.” Dennis agreed this was reasonable, suggested an issue of scrip might be placed at the disposal of the local govt whereby they could raise funds to make needed improvements.

 Re school lands: Parlt will be asked to give Executive authority to dispose of the lands at the highest price obtainable, invest receipts in Dominion Securities, on which it would pay the Province for the purpose of Education 5% per annum.

**Memo by Alexander Begg: Ottawa 14 March 1879**

 Begg called again on Lash, Deputy Min of Justice – doubt over days of court in trying cases – thus will telegraph McDonald to confirm or correct the number

**Copy of telegram McDonald Wpg, to Begg in Ottawa – 10 March 1879**

Lists trials, total of 33 days

**Norquay & Royal to JAM, 17 March 1879 [handwritten, Begg copy]**

 Please grant us an early interview: must meet Legislature on 8 April

**Memo by Alexander Begg: Ottawa 15 March 1879**

 JN met Min of Justice McDonald re need to revise estimate for Prov’ Expenditures – in all an increase of about $36,000. “Mr. Norquay also pointed out very plainly why Dominion Government should assist the Province in the maintenance of roads -- the cause of increased expenditure being largely due to the action of Dominion Government in settling up their Crown lands. Mr. Norquay also showed how increase of tariff would operate on Manitoba and suggested that a corresponding advantage should accrue to the Province to equalize the increase of burden which must be borne by the Province generally from increased taxation – Manitoba being essentially a non-manufacturing province….

 Also – tax levied for public improvements hit local landowners hard, half of the lands being yet owned by the Crown. Ottawa should “place a certain rate for every acre of land owned by them and still held in the Province to be paid over to the Provincial Government for the purposes of general improvement believing that only by such provision could a tax on the people be made acceptable to them.” [90-91]

**Draft letter: MB delegates to Rt Hon. Sir [JAM] 24 March 1879:**

We suggest that Angus McKay, lately appted Indian agent for Treaty No 3 [?], be transferred to Duck Lake Agency. He “is a native of the country a half-breed and conversant with English, French, Cree and Saulteaux languages – he is known to be a man of discretion and judgement – and his intimate acquaintance and long intercourse with the leading half-breeds of the North West would in the present condition of affairs, render valuable assistance, and tend in a great measure to allay any feelings of discontent that might be entertained from the fact that all or nearly all federal appointments in Manitoba and the North West Territories are made of persons not natives of the country and consequently not acquainted with the language, customs & habits of the people with whom they have to deal.”

 “The Duck Lake Agency requires a better knowledge of Indian affairs, entails more work,…” and although…. Etc McKay would do it. [99-100]

**Copy of telegram: 24 March 1879 Norquay and Royal to D.M. Walker Wpg [p101]**

 “Are in full negotiations with Sub-committee of Privy Council. Impossible to meet Legislature on eighth. Cannot return in time. Secure adjournment for end of May if possible.”

**Draft pages re Provl expenditures** and needed increases, columns of figures as estimates for 1879-81, sent to Sir A. Campbell Receiver General, compared with New Brunswick, BC, QC, and ON, PEI, and NS. Argues that annual expenditures in 1879, 1880, and 1881 “on the most economical scale compatible with the increasing demands upon the Revenue” will include nearly $12,000 for Leg Assembly, $20,000 for roads & $20,000 for schools, $5000 for gaol and $4000 for charities, and $5000 for agriculture, $22,500 for Exec. Council and civil service, Govt House $5000, Pub Bldgs $10,000, Admin of Justice $20,000, Printing $12,000, for a total of $135,500. [pp107-124]

And **a letter to Alphaeus Todd, from Alex Begg,** returning to the Library the Provincial Journals that he had borrowed in the name of Dr. Schultz, MP [125]

On last page of letterbook, after 150 empty pages, **a draft letter to J Redpath and Sons**, re my “interview with your Mr. Drummond in regard to agency for your sugars in Manitoba” which Begg (presumably) is seeking. “I have had eleven years experience in the country and am intimately …” [copy stops there] [may or may not have been sent]

**Norquay-Notes-JN Papers MG 13 C1-C4**

**“MG 13, C: file 2: Norquay, John: Oaths of Allegiance and Office…”**

**Handwritten document entitled “Oath of Office and Oath of Allegiance”:** Interestingly, he took two oaths on 14 December 1871 and signed his name with a flourish under both. The first was to “be faithful and bear true witness to Her Majesty Queen Victoria” and to “defend her to the utmost of my power against all traitorous conspiracies….” Sedley Blanchard, Clerk of Executive Council, witnessed both that and a second, which concerned the office of Minister of Public Works and Agriculture.

**Norquay-Notes-JN Papers MG 13 C1-C4**

**Draft [handwritten by several different authors, including JN] of better terms document that will be submitted “for the consideration of Council”: nd, but ca. 1884, “To His Honor The Lt Governor in Council”:**

 Financial situation of province – note “the anomalous position which Manitoba occupies as one of the Provinces of the Dominion.” This has been communicated to the federal authorities, has secured “the intermittent increases to her subsidy, to meet the exigencies arising from settlement which in other Provinces are attended by corresponding sources of revenue.” The issue is “sources of revenue” which must be revised because the present condition “precludes the possibility of her attaining that independent position as a Province, which the spirit of Confederation contemplated.” People are coming to resent this unfairness, which prevents the “prosecution of their own development” and is made worse because the settlers are largely from provinces where they were “accustomed to enjoy all the franchises guaranteed provincial legislatures by the full application of the British North America Act.

 Public lands are administered by the Dominion and revenue derived from them accrue to the Federal Treasury. Large sums taken from this source “aid the construction of railways…” Moreover, to promote Settlement a liberal land policy has been pursued.” The consequence is rapid immigration which is gratifying to the Dominion “but embarrassing to the Province.”

 When informed of the problem, the “Government at Ottawa” has offered “only such relief …as would tide over the difficulty for the time being & no adequate provision made for the exigencies of Government that arise under the state of affairs….”

 The province cannot meet the demands of a large addition to the population – such an event “would be nothing short of an evil in disguise….” We must provide schools, roads, bridges, asylums, reformatories, and gaols and 80 cents per new arrival “would not commence to be adequate.” Ontario received revenue from Crown Lands in 1882 over $1 million. Manitoba “derives no benefit whatsoever from the lands, mines, minerals, or timber within its borders.

 This is a matter not just of expediency but a “broader principle that uniformity of treatment with that accorded the other provinces would promote a feeling of loyalty to the Dominion which the present discriminating policy is doing much to undermine.

 The Dominion Govt has argued that the other provinces “owned their lands before Confederation and brought them into the Union with them as their own property, whereas the whole of Manitoba was acquired by the Dominion by purchase from the H. Bay Co. and thus became the property of the Dominion….” And are thus like land in territories annexed in the US, where new states are created but the land itself remains the property of the United States.

 MB just had an election, land issue was discussed, people want to “be on the same footing … as are the other provinces in Canada, …irrespective of the policy pursued by the United States….”

 MB also has new population in eastern reaches where minerals abound and maintaining law and order will be more costly than in farm regions.

 Also: “the terms upon which Manitoba entered the Union are entirely different from those upon which all the other Provinces became confederated.” In others, legislatures accepted the terms “and thus through their own volition can be justly held to a strict adhesion to the original terms upon which they became confederated.” The terms were imposed on Manitoba by the Parlt of Canada….

 We did not agree last year that, given an increase, this would be the final asking for ten years. [crossed out – then redrafted and put in.]

 MB pays roughly $16 per head, a total in excess of the contributions per capita of the other provinces. [crossed out] [next draft]: compared to the other provinces which contribute from $13.72 to $1.82

 The eastern boundary should be “definitely settled.” And the western boundary should be extended to 102 meridian, and the northern boundary to Hudson Bay. [crossed out, then redrafted and re-inserted ]

Ottawa “is responsible for the discriminatory limitations and restrictions imposed upon the Province…. [and] by a timely and favourable consideration of the subject can avert consequences unpleasant to contemplate.

All of which is most respectfully submitted, J Norquay, Provl Treas”

**Norquay-Notes-JN Papers MG 13 C1-C4**

**Royal Commission, Norquay charges:**

Printed document, 15 March 1886, addressing Lt Gov J.C. Aikins, prepared for the signature of (but not signed by) D.H. Wilson, Provl Secretary, re apptmt of Royal Commission to be conducted by Hon. Lewis Wallbridge, Chief Justice of Court of Queen’s Bench, to investigate “certain allegations which had appeared in the *Manitoba Daily Free Press* … reflecting on his character and conduct as First Minister and a member of the said House: **[photocopy] [4 pages]**

**Resolutions: Inter-Provincial Conference 1887**

Printed document, 14 pp, JN signed, in pencil, on cover page – 5 of 7 provinces present:

BNA Act on powers of fed and prov legislatures – new system, “the authors of the Constitution performed a work, new, complex and difficult, and it was to be anticipated that experience in the working of the new system would suggest many needed changes; “twenty years’ practical working of the Act…” There are omissions, obscure provisions, and “what was common understanding and intention had not been expressed….”

 “…and whereas the preservation of Provincial autonomy is essential to the future well-being of Canada; and if such autonomy is to be maintained, it has become apparent that the Constitutional Act must be revised and amended….”

 therefore we duly accredited representatives of provinces, “believing that they express the views and wishes of the people of Canada, agree upon the following Resolutions as the basis upon which the Act should be amended, subject to the approval of the several Provincial Legislatures.”

1 -end federal govt’s power of disallowance of provincial statutes;

2 -equal facilities to fed and rovl govts to promptly obtain judicial determination respecting validity of statutes of both levels of govt, before as well as after statute has been acted upon;

3 -private litigants not be permitted to question constitutionality of fed or provl statutes except within a limited time, say two years;

4 -Senate shd have term limits, replacements to be named by province for ½ of its complement;

5 -LtGov of province: “That in respect of all matters as to which the Provincial Legislatures have authority,” the LG,”as the Representative of the Sovereign in Provincial affairs, should have the same Executive authority as other Governors and Lieutenant-Governors of British Colonies and Provinces;” and this should be clarified in the BNA Act;

6 -public works: feds claim power to withdraw from prov’l jurisdiction by declaring them to be for the general advantage of Cda, without compensation – amend BNA Act

7 -no need for separate fed voters’ lists; shd use provincial lists;

8 -provinces shd have right to appoint magistrates – make clear;

9 -fees paid in legal proceedings shd go to provinces;

10 -clarifn of LG’s right to issue commissions re courts etc.

11. -clarifn of provincial right to pass Acts defining rts and privileges of Leg Assembly and Council and of members thereof

12. -second chambers: in 5 provinces but not in 2 provinces: unnecessary, costs cld be saved; enable Queen to abolish Leg Councils where 2/3 of members of Assembly concur;

13. -feds recently claimed all Crown lands “as to which there was no treaty with the Indians before Confederation” – all such lands belong the Province in which they are situate, and not to the Dominion;

14. -give provinces jurisdn over bankruptcy and insolvency, instead of feds where now placed by BNA Act and where no federal law is now in force;

15. -power of reprieve and pardon should lie with LG, and “that the power of dealing with all matters relating to the execution of Provincial laws should belong” to the LG in Council of each province;

16. -boundaries of ON, MB, and CA should be established by Imperial statute; and the “the whole northern boundaries of Ontario and Quebec should be determined and established without further delay.”

17. -federal subsidy to provinces is “totally inadequate” – revise acc. to our proposal and then “to be declared by Imperial enactment to be final and absolute, and not within the power of the Federal Parliament to alter, add to or vary;”

18. -provinces, through their respective legislatures, should take steps to secure Imperial Parlt enactment of BNA Act statute “in accordance with the foregoing Resolutions.”

Sgd by JN, Premier, and C. E. Hamilton, Attorney General of MB, acc. to printed

**MG 13 C4 Norquay, John file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

This file may have been created by James A. Jackson, then secretary of the Manitoba Historical Society, in 1947-48, or by Margaret McWilliams, MHS president. It contains full documentation of the disagreements surrounding the plaque wording.

 Also: **“Extract from public notice of land grants under the Act 33 Victoria, cap. 3 to children of half-breed heads of families in the parishes of Poplar Point and High Bluff” [**typed page, letterhead of Provincial Library Winnipeg, nd, ca. 1948]

**Grant # 174 Thomas Norquay** b 17 October 1863, twp 9, rge 6 W, se ¼ of 15 and n ½ or NE ¼ of 10;

**Grant #175 Isabella JA Norquay** b 11 July 1865, twp 10, rge 6W, ne ¼ of 18 and s ½ of se ¼ of 19

**Grant #176 John George Norquay** b 7 Aug 1866, twp 8, rge 6W, sw ¼ of 19 and s ½ of nw ¼ of 19

**Grant #177 Alexander Norquay** b 6 Nov 1867, twp 8, rge 6W, ne ¼ of 30 and s ½ of se ¼ of 31

**Grant #178 Horatio Clarence Norquay** b 8 Nov 1869, two 11, rge 5 W, ne ¼ of 23 and n ½ of nw ¼ of 24

--fairly definitive research, probably by JA Jackson, on JN’s children receiving grants intended for children of “halfbreed heads of families”

Typed copies of **Jane Vincent letters** of 1 Oct 1843 and 7 Aug 1852 – a document below says the originals are in the possession of Caroline McAllister.[ **Alfred Savage to JA Jackson, 2 December 1947]**

**Alfred Savage “John Norquay” typed copy of speech, Savage’s signature in pencil at top [delivered at the Legislative Building plaque-unveiling ceremony?] MG 13 C4 Norquay, John file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

**Presumably this is the Savage-McAllister version of the biography:**

 Orkney origin, born 1841 near modern Lockport, and his father born in the colony, married Isabella Truthwaite, whose mother was Vincent. His grandfather was Omand Norquay, and *his wife was an Orcadian, Jane Morwick*.[*sic]*

 He probably learned Cree, Sioux, and Saulteaux. Bishop Anderson ensured that he also learned Parisian French, not “patois.” Taught school at 17 at Parkdale. Free fur trade. Farm at High Bluff.

 How he met Elizabeth is unknown. “It is certain, however, that on more than one occasion he walked from Winnipeg to Portage la Prairie to visit her. They married when he was 21, she 20.

 He stood 6’3” and weighed “something more than 300 pounds.” – “great muscular strength and agility. He loved to dance and usually carried one or two extra pairs of moccasins to see the night through.

 5 sons, 3 daughters. Played ball and swam with boys. “In summer, a Sunday at home always meant a walk around the fields with the two youngest ones in each hand.

 “(1) He was a man of the people. He liked people.

 (2) He was a big man in every sense of the word. He bore no malice, nursed no grudges, cherished no hatreds. Once, during the course of a rather heated debate in the house Mr. Mackenzie shouted at him, ‘Now you’re showing your Indian,’ whereupon Mr. Norquay raised his arm to show a very white wrist and slowly said, ‘I am proud of every drop of blood that flows in my veins.’ This remark has been interpreted both as an acknowledgment and a denial of Indian ancestry. Personally I have been unable to find the alleged Indian ancestor – or any trace of him.”

(3) He had the gift of oratory and a sense of humour.”

 “As always, it was Manitoba first with him.”

**Margaret McWilliams handwritten notes for her Introductory speech, on Government House stationery MG 13 C4 Norquay, John file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

 “Satisfaction Historic Sites & Monuments Bd of Canada Manitoba – memorials to its great men Honor – only native-born premier – only one who shares inheritance of primitive inhabitants – mainstay of colonists for first terrible [illegible] years”

**Invitation: The Historical and Scientific Society of Manitoba, Provincial Library, Legislative Building [letterhead]** “The President and Council of the Manitoba Historical Society [sic] request the pleasure of the company of yourself and associates at the unveiling of the plaque dedicated to the memory of the Honourable John Norquay at the Legislative Building on Tuesday, October 28th, at 8:15 pm in Room 255.”

Alfred Savage to Margaret McWilliams 15 March 1948 [copy] Thanks for letter and “photostatic enclosures.” On many points this material corroborates our information. But the references to Jacob Truthwaite: “The fact appears to be that his genealogy is unknown at present….According to the evidence so far available, and from as detached a viewpoint as I can assume, it seems that only the finding ‘Not proven’ would be warranted in the matter of Indian blood.”

**Clipping [FP or Trib?] Lillian Gibbons “Bronze tablet dedicated to Premier John Norquay” MG 13 C4 Norquay, John file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

 Erected by HSMB Canada; MHS conducted the ceremony,

 Pres. Mrs. R.F. McWilliams “invited a son and a daughter of the late premier to pull the cords and unveil the tablet.” Dr. H.C. Norquay of Selkirk, Mrs. J.E. McAllister of Wpg.

 Hon. Ivan Schultz, “minister in charge of libraries, archives and historical research, representing Premier Garson, said “the history of Manitoba is the biography of John Norquay from 1870 to 1889.”

**Numerous drafts of Norquay family genealogy, mostly handwritten and roughly sketched.**

**Text of announcements of the ceremony drafted for submission to several local radio stations**

**J.A. Jackson, secretary of MHS, to G.C. Coulter, Mayor of Wpg, 22 Oct 1947 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

Invites mayor and council to attend unveiling

 Identical letters to Reeve of St. Andrews RM, Pres of Canadian Club of Wpg, Pres of IODE, Principal of Norquay School (and inviting a group of students), faculty of St. John’s College, Archbishop Sherman of Anglican Church, Pres of MB Progressive Conservative Association etc.

**Photo, FP 29 Oct 1947, showing Mrs. McAllister at plaque unveiling MG 13 C4 Norquay, John file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

**J.L. Johnston - Memorandum for Hon. Errick Willis 23 May 1947 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

List of Norquay descendants

**Alfred Savage to J.A. Jackson, Sec.MHS, c/o Provincial Library 31 October 1947 [typed on U of M Animal Pathology and Bacteriology letterhead] MG 13 C4 Norquay, John file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

 We in family congratulate MHS on the program – ceremony, speakers, and their remarks “were most appropriate. Unfortunately it is impossible to approve of the plaque itself. I believe part of the wording to be untrue and the symbolic implication of this error to be pointless….Should my belief be substantiated, clearly the plaque should be amended or removed.”

 “Line 3 of the plaque reads, ‘Of Scottish and Indian blood.’ The adjective ‘Orcadian’ would be more exact that ‘Scottish,’ though the difference is not serious in this case. The word ‘Indian,’ however, I believe to be a gross untruth that should not be perpetuated.” Encloses copy of his remarks – “it might be helpful.”

 Descendants of JN could have been consulted; “Their amazement at the wording of this memorial was profound.”

**Caroline E. (Norquay) McAllister to J.A. Jackson, 3 Nov 1947 [handwritten] MG 13 C4 Norquay, John file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

 Re plaque: “I wd draw the attention of the Society to the gross misstatement of Father’s lineage.” JN’s grandparents (Mr. and Mrs. Oman Norquay) came directly from Orkney. Their son, John, married Isabella Truthwaite, daughter to Jacob, “an Englishman. Mrs. Truthwaite was also English – the line is perfectly clear. There could not, possibly, be any connection with either Indian or Metis! I do resent the misstatement being perpetuated and I feel sure the Govt wd object to such a misleading inscription being placed in the Legislative building.” Make correction or remove the plaque.

**Caroline E. McAllister to Mrs McWilliams, 1 Nov 1947 [handwritten] MG 13 C4 Norquay, John file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”** “Following our telephone conversation – You asked for particulars of Father’s family tree!”

 As above, adding that Truthwaite’s wife’s “maiden name was Vincent also English. The line is quite clear. Had the family been consulted as to the wording on the Plaque there need not have been the unpleasant surprise at the unveiling.”

**J.T. Norquay [Teulon] to Secretary, MHS, 8 Nov 1947 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

“the incorrect statement of his racial origin. Mr. Norquay was not part Indian.” Mrs. McAllister will give you full particulars.

**H.C. Norquay, Selkirk, to MHS nd ca Nov 1947 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

“ … the reference to Indian Birth is made. That is an entirely wrong statement. John Norquay was native-born but of mixed Orkney & English blood.” Correct plaque or remove it.

**Fr. Antoine d’Eschambault D.D. to Mrs. R.F. McWilliams 8 Nov 1947 HSMB stationery: 10 members of board listed – across Cda representation: MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

“…I had no intimation of any objection to the inscription….I am responsible for the wording and for that matter, for the tablet itself. I wanted to commemorate the services rendered by the Métis or half-breeds in this country. I think we have here something unique – a race or a group of men who have stood between the Indians and the incoming civilisation; who have served as a link between the two and made civilisation a lot easier because of that! I thought first of having a special plaque or monument of some kind to the Métis then it struck me it would be fitting if one was singled out. The name of John Norquay came to mind because his contribution had been such as to warrant a tablet and because he was one of the English-speaking half-breeds. At least I have always been told he was and have always taken it for granted that he was.”

 A d’E runs over the ancestors on both sides -- John’s parents. You ask me about sources: “Well I have heard countless people tell me John Norquay was a half-breed and this with a form of pride! All the French half-breeds or Métis claim him as one of theirs.”

Cites Father Morice – "Métis écossais” – in his history of the church in the West, and Alex Begg in Ten Years in Wpg, Schofield, …

 “As to the word ‘Métis’ it was inserted there to express the fact that he represented both the French and the English half-breeds. In fact I don’t like the word ‘half-breed’ and I don’t think the Métis like it either.”

 If the plaque is wrong, and N has no Indian blood, I will pay for the tablet myself and have it taken down. “But there will be no reason why John Norquay should have a tablet and I will not recommend it to the Board.”

**Jackson to Alfred Savage, 14 Nov 1947 – same to Mrs. McAllister, same to H.C. Norquay, J.T. Norquay 16 Nov/47 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

“…a vexing question.” HSMB decision on wording. We will pursue at MHS.

**Jackson to O.A. Lemieux, Census Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, 25 Nov/47 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

“Evidence found here in the Provincial Archives would appear to indicate that John Norquay was indeed of Indian blood. We are in possession of some of the working sheets of the 1870 Dominion Census in Manitoba which list a number of Norquays and other family connections as being ‘English half-breeds’. Unfortunately John Norquay himself is not listed in the material we have. Would it be possible to obtain from your office a certified declaration as to the manner in which Norquay is listed in the record of that first Manitoba Census?”

**Lemieux to Jackson 1 December 1947**

Went to archives, saw a copy of what you have in your archives. Sheets incomplete, can’t find John Norquay – did find “about 25 Norquays in the census and everyone but one were reported as half-breeds. I have also found a number of Truthwaites and everyone of them was reported as a half-breed.”

**d’Eschambault to I Schultz, 27 Nov 1947 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

 “Thank you for bringing to my attention the Norquay ‘tea-pot’ storm!... Here is the genesis of the case.” “For many years I have felt that we should, in some way or other, recognize the fact and services of the half-breed population of Western Canada. Here is a fact perhaps unique in the annals of history! The white race had not absorbed the native population but had been instrumental in bringing about a new race, a combination of both and this new race had been stabilized and had become of age so to say. It was the complaint of many historians – inter quos C.N. Bell who expressed it in my presence frequently – that the fact and services of the half-breeds had not been recognized….they stood between the Indian and the white race, much more akin to the white than the native, but served as a link between the two as Hind remarked in his famous report.

 “With this in mind I was trying to find a formula. I felt perhaps a monument should be erected but there was the question of the cost …then I thought if we honoured some of the half-breeds in such a way that it would indirectly honour the whole group? I thought of Riel I could not very easily sell him to a notable portion of the population, and had a plaque unveiled in St. Boniface on the centenary of his birth. Then I thought of John Norquay and felt he would rightly answer the purpose….”

 I drafted it, used word halfbreed. D.C. Harvey of the HSMB “thought there might be some objection to the word. I did not like the word myself and thought it did not express the true thing. The word ‘Metis’ had been applied to half-breeds of both languages and was a recognition of the services of the French and English half-breeds. So I suggested the word and couched the inscription as it stands today. We discussed every word of it at the meeting of the Board and accepted it.”

 “…if Norquay had not had Indian blood he would never in the wide world have had the distinction of being singled out as a one worthy of a tablet in Canadian affairs. He was not that remarkable! He was rather an ordinary man, with very limited means, except that he was quite a speaker but again he never rose above a certain level and not a very high one at that.”

**Alfred Savage to JA Jackson, 2 December 1947 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

 Mrs. McAllister has two letters, dated Moose Factory 1843 and 1852, from Mrs. Jane Vincent to Mrs. Elizabeth Truthwaite at the Red River Settlement. “The people mentioned were the grandmother and mother of the Hon. John Norquay. The handwriting is excellent. Copies are enclosed. The originals belong the Mrs. McAllister….”

**J.Leslie Johnston to Hon. Ivan Schultz 23 Dec 1947 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

 Outlines evidence: “It would appear from these five points or considerations, that it now is the responsibility of the Norquay family to provide identification for the names listed in the Census, the land Grants and for the wife of Vincent, married at Brandon House, between 1794 and 1821.

**Ivan Schultz to James McLenaghen, 5 Jan 1948 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”** 1/8 to 3/8ths “Indian blood,” it would appear

**JA Jackson to Mrs. McWilliams, President of MHS, 6 Jan 1948 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”** Draft of letter to Dr. Savage enclosed – please revise as necessary. Lists names of “English halfbreeds” appearing in 1870 census and 1874 lists of land grants to children of halfbreed heads of families. “If any of those listed are identified as blood relatives of the Hon. John Norquay, then it naturally follows that Norquay himself was of Indian blood.”

**Alfred Savage to Jackson 9 January 1948 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

Contains outline genealogy and “Notes” – the latter says that John’s father, John, married Nancy Ward “by license, Oct 9 1845. Archdeacon Cochrane officiated. Children Nancy 6 Sept 1846 and Loutit (1848).

 **Nancy Ward Norquay** remarried to Archibald Flett in 1853, residents of St. Andrews, Witnesses James Park and Isabel McDonald, marriage performed by Robt McDonald.

**Caroline McAllister to Hon J.O McLenaghen, atty genl, 12 Jan 1948 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

 Wish to “right a wrong done to the late Mr. John Norquay, and of course through him to his family.” Notes line on plaque “of Scottish and Indian blood” and a further reference to his link with the “Metis”. “It is very strange that so called ‘Historians’ should not have taken the trouble to look up records, or enquire of the family, before writing such fiction. Since the unveiling of the plaque, I have had the records re-examined, and checked: ‘there is no Indian strain in our branch of the Norquay family.’ We do resent the falsehood being perpetuated in bronze, and ask that the plaque be removed, if a correction cannot be made.” Encloses brief genealogy with very brief references

**Caroline McAllister to Hon Stuart Garson, Premier, 12 Jan 1948 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

 “… As there is no Indian blood in my branch of the Norquay family, perhaps you may imagine my feelings when I assisted at the unveiling of this memorial?

 “I am well aware of the romantic fiction that now seems to have become officially condoned. I assure you however that it is an untruth…Even romance can get out of bounds: in this case it has done so: ….” Encloses brief genealogy with very brief references

**Jackson to Savage 13 Jan 1948 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

 Thanks for the “genealogical chart” – could be some mistakes in transcribing details. I enclose a list of Norquays and Truthwaites, age, etc – could you “identify their relationship, if any, to the Hon. John Norquay. This information will be of great value in untangling the dilemma of the wording of the plaque.”

**Savage to JA Jackson 15 January 1948 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

 You pose many questions – “The list of 20 Norquay names I propose to deal with by numbers….

 “…it is theoretically possible, for all I know, that Henry and Harry Norquay, (his uncles) may have married full blooded Iroquois, Cree or Hottentots. Frankly, these collateral relations appear to be beside the point at issue….”

**Savage to Jackson 16 January 1948 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

 Nancy Ward was the second wife, and rumour has it that she may have been “partly Indian…. There is no desire to sacrifice the late Nancy Ward **IF** her genealogy were found to be mixed that discovery might explain a lot!”

“The Norquay-Indian legend would be established, -- the Hon. John’s parentage would not be affected and both sides of the ‘argument’ would be right!”

 “I am told that Nancy Ward married John Norquay with the consent of her parents – suggesting that she may have been rather young at the time..”

**Ivan Schultz to Mrs. J.E. McAllister 17 January 1948 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

“The first notification the Government had of the intention of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada was a request to the Honourable Mr. Willis, Minister of Public Works, by Rev. Father A. D’Eschambault for permission to erect a plaque in honour of Mr. Norquay in the Legislative Building.” We agreed that this was a worthy commemoration, “particularly under national sponsorship.” Mrs. McWilliams approached us several months later re the unveiling. “I knew nothing whatever about the wording on the plaque and, like yourselves, had no knowledge of the details of such wording until the night of the unveiling…. I understand [the HSMB] were motivated…to recognize the services of the Métis in our population. You will readily understand, therefore, that we have been placed in a most difficult position since yourself and other members of the family have taken the position that they would rather have the plaque removed than left with its present inscription.”

 I have asked J.L. Johnston, provincial librarian, to check the records. “If the investigation confirms what the record supplied by yourself indicates that the late John Norquay was of Orcadian, Welsh and English descent,” the MHS would “undoubtedly request the [HSMB] to make the necessary alterations or to remove it.” I have asked Mr. Johnston to conduct the research and lay them before the family. I know “you are only interested in establishing the facts for the information of the public and for historical record.”

 I’ve discussed this approach with “the Premier and Hon. Messrs. Willis and McLenaghen” [Atty General] and send this letter with their approval.

**Jackson to Mrs. McWilliams 26 January 1948 “Memorandum re Norquay plaque” MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

“It is to be noted that by amending statute, for the purposes of the Manitoba Act with regard to half-breed lands, women were to be classed equally with men as ‘heads of families.’

**Jackson to Mrs. McWilliams 26 January 1948 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

 Mr. Johnston and I prepared the memorandum outlining evidence and conclusions re Norquay plaque. “Perhaps it is time to approach the family with this evidence.”

**Caroline McAllister to Hon Ivan Schultz 29 Jan 1948 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

 Rec’d your letter of 17th yesterday. Yes, complete investigation is best. Dr. Savage will assist.

**Savage to Jackson 30 January 1948**

 Re Truthwaite family –

**Secretary J. Chadwick Brooks to Canadian Committee, Hudson’s Bay Company 19 Feb 1948,** in reply to your letter of 5 Dec 1947 [photocopy] contains the HBC “Notes on Ancestry of Hon. John Norquay” **MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

**Savage to Mrs. McWilliams 15 March 1948 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

 Thanks for your letter of 10 March and enclosures photocopies. Questions clearly remain, re Jacob Truthwaite

**Savage to JA Jackson 16 July 1948 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

3 pages, single spaced, typewritten, taking issue with HBC document, esp Jacob Truthwaite [arguing he was not mixed]

Ending: “Meanwhile, of course, the wording of the plaque continues to be offensive to the descendants of the late Hon. John Norquay.”

**Frank Milligan [now secretary to MHS] to Savage 18 July 1948 MG 13 C4 Norquay, John, file #2 “Correspondence and Papers –Ancestry”**

 I am not well-informed on this issue, have given the file to William Douglas, President-elect of the Society.

**File#3: Surrogate Court: John Norquay: letters of administration to Thomas Norquay [photocopies 1976]**

 **2 and 5 October 1889:** copies of court documents naming Thomas Norquay, John’s eldest son, to receive letters of administration for the estate of John Norquay, “insurance agent,” who died intestate, an estate estimated “under the value of” $2700.00. The deceased died on 5 July 1889, leaving widow and seven children. Thomas is also an insurance agent. The estate consists of a life insurance policy in The Standard Life Association of Montreal valued at $2500, and ne ¼ of s 15 and n ½ of ne ¼ of s 10, in twp 9, range 6, west of 1st meridian, “containing 240 acres and valued at $120, for a total of $2620.

 In swearing to a “personal knowledge of the facts deposed to herein,” Thomas said: “I believe that if the said deceased left any will, codicil or testamentary paper I would be aware of same as I was with him more than any other member of our family and was present with him during his last illness and at the time of his death.”

 Colin Inkster and John MacBeth posted bond for the process.

 **13 May, 20 May and 23 June 1892, dated at Kaslo City and Victoria**: court documents in which “Thomas Norquay the younger,” agent, of Victoria, is applying for supplemental letters of administration. The document states: JN, I later discovered, was not the owner of the 240 acre “halfbreed claim” described above. He did own “a part of Block lettered ‘A’ subdivision of Lot number Seventy of the Parish of Portage la Prairie.” William Fraser, of Kildonan Parish, Manitoba, Farmer, and James Clouston of St. Paul parish, Farmer, and Thomas Norquay, Victoria, agent, post bond of $300

**Thomas Norquay MPP Scrapbook [MG13 C3-4]**

**Obit for Bella,** “Fine Character Removed By Death / Miss Bella Norquay, assistant provincial librarian, died in hospital Saturday night”

 Notes that her father’s father “belonged to one of the old Orcadian families, from which the H.B. company drew so many of its officers. Her mother, Elizabeth Kennedy, descended from a noble Jacobite family, whose lands and titles were forfeited after the rebellion of forty-five.”

 Survived by Thomas in Miami, Arizona; John George of the CNR Edmonton; Alexander Dom Lands Agent, Edmonton, Dr. Horace of Norway House, Andrew of the provincial civil service, and Mrs. J.E. McAlister, of Dunalister, St. Andrews.

 Bella went to “the parish school of St. Andrew’s, in Old St. Mary’s academy, which she attended as a very little girl, and where she was a great favorite of Bishop Taché (afterwards archbishop), in St. Andrew’s school again, and in St. John’s Ladies’ college. She came to live in Winnipeg in 1885, the family removing to a large brick house on Hallet street, near the Red River.” There JN died.

 Reading room committee of the Women’s Canadian Club, entertained soldiers at St. Luke’s

 Mrs. Waugh, wife of the mayor, spoke of Bella’s mother, “who has been so long a half-invalid, and who was always her daughter’s first care.”

**Photograph of “Manitoba Government Staff of 1887”** Free Press, 30 July 1921 -- one of 2 surviving copies: “Thirty-four years ago, on an August day of 1887, the staff of the provincial government then headed by Premier Norquay, assembled between 12 and 1 o’clock noon on the steps of the old government buildings – now about to be torn down – and had their pictures taken by a prominent local photographer.” [names all 26 in picture].

**Race**: “Kildonan” editorial, Free Press 20 Jan 1890 Govt has called a by-election, two men running – Mr. Taylor and Thomas Norquay – “both natives to the soil and both Conservatives. Kildonan is essentially an old-settlers’ constituency, and it is fitting that it should return one of themselves to represent it in the Legislature at whose birth they assisted. Being old-settler candidates in an old-settlers’ constituency, it is also fitting that they should prosecute the canvass in the old fashioned way. Neither of them has adopted the modern custom of issuing an address to the electors, defining the policy by which he intends to be governed.” The problem is that this enables Taylor to claim to be both sympathetic to “the old Norquay or Conservative lines” when his audience required, and to hint at support for the Government on other occasions. “Mr. Norquay, we believe, has boldly avowed himself as an opponent of the Government.” Mr. Gunn, a Govt supporter, found that course hopeless and dropped out.Clipping in:**Thomas Norquay MPP Scrapbook [‘Norquay Family Material’ MG13 C3-4]**

**HBRailway**: *Free Press* 11 March 1890 [?]: “Legal Intelligence: The Suit of Hudson Bay Railway Against Mann & Holt Before the Court: Before Mr. Justice Killam” HBR’s suit against Mann & Holt, James Ross and the Imperial Bank of Canada to restrain them from dealing with $374,000 worth of bonds of the plaintiff company on the ground that they were obtained by fraud. The bonds were placed by the plaintiff company in the Bank of Montreal in 1887 to secure the performance of a contract between the plaintiffs and defendants Mann, Holt & Ross, for the construction of the forty miles of the road already built, and they were to be handed over by the Bank of Montreal to the defendants when the forty miles of road were completed according to the contract, and on its passing government inspection and being completed in such a way that the plaintiffs should receive the land grant on that portion of the road.

 “The fraud charged is that the defendants represented the road was completed according to the contract, had passed the government inspection, and that the government were ready to hand over the land grant when the road was constructed; on these representations an acknowledgment of indebtedness from the plaintiffs was obtained by the defendants, on which they got the bonds handed over to them by the Bank of Montreal and deposited them with the Imperial Bank for safe keeping.

 “The defendants served a notice on the plaintiffs that they intended to sell the bonds, unless they were redeemed within thirty days, upon which this bill was filed, the prayer of which asks that the defendants be restrained from dealing with the bonds in any way, that it may be declared by the court that they were obtained from the plaintiffs by fraud, and that they be restored to the plaintiffs or the Bank of Montreal, to hold until the defendants have completed the construction of the road in accordance with the contract.

 “An interim injunction was obtained by his lordship the chief justice, and a motion to continue the same is now made.”

**Clipping [photocopy]: 2 Feb 1922 in “…Evening… [FP?] column entitled “I first saw” [by “The Wanderer” “**I first saw Mrs. John Norquay about forty years ago this winter at a social evening held in a schoolhouse a few miles south of the ‘Stone Church,’ St. Andrews. She was present with her distinguished husband, the late Hon. John Norquay. He was the life of the evening, on the program for a speech and a song or two. He entered heartily into the spirit of the younger people and danced a Red River jig. …Rated at that time as one of the ablest orators in Canada – his oratory combined splendid thoughts as well as choice words – he had the advantage of a resonant, yet soft and clear musical voice. His English was perfect, and his mastery of French enabled him to get very near the numerous French-Canadian citizens and those more definitely described as the Metis. He had also familiarized himself with the language of the Cree and the Salteaux Indians, and he could likewise converse with the Sioux.

 “Celebrating today her eightieth birthday, is it any wonder that Mrs. Norquay looks back with pleasure …. [she] was born in the Settlement, Feb. 2, 1842, the daughter of George Setter and Isabella Kennedy, descendants of the original Rupertsland settlers whose history in Canada dates back over 200 years….. Eight children….”

 “Since 1889…Mrs. Norquay has lived in the closest daily companionship with her sons and daughters. Last summer it was my privilege to spend an hour in the home of her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. J.E. McAllister, at “the Rapids.” There I met Mrs. Norquay, the queenly mother, graciously sharing with her daughter the duties of hostess….

 Mention has been made of the happy days of old, but there were times of trial, a flour famine period for example, when the community lived on fish for a whole winter. What little flour was to be had was saved for the smaller children. Mrs. Norquay smiles, however, at the recollection of the trying days.”

 “…Today …eyesight slightly failing, she continues her daily reading of the Book of Books. It is ever by her side and an ever present comfort.”

**Clippings: Bella Norquay death [photocopy]**

**Clippings: Mrs. John Norquay 91st birthday 2 Feb 1933 [photocopy]**

**Clipping – photo – newspaper -- “Graduating Class in Agriculture at M.A.C.” J. Norquay in group**

**OTHER family sources:**

Dear Mr Friesen, I apologise for not replying to your first email properly. It is not often one of our enquiries slips through the net, so I am sorry that yours was one of them. I have not been able to find any letters from John Norquoy to James Thomson in any of our archive collections. There is one mention of him in **D31 - Ernest W Marwick Collection**, D31/20/2/36 which contains:

1.       Handwritten letter from Alex Norquoy, St Margaret’s Hope (12 pages long) regarding origins and history of South Ronaldsay Norquoy family and the journey of John Norquoy to Canada.

2.       A four page typed note dated 23rd Dec 1947 called “Memorandum for Hon. Ivan Schultz, K.C. re Hon. John Norquoy and the plaque of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.” It goes on to say, “The following information would lead to the suggestion that the Historical Society should request the family of Borquoy [I expect it means Norquoy] to identify the persons noted herein in repect of relationship.If there is a relationship the facts would appear to support the wording on the plaque.” It then shows the family tree from Omand Norquoy down to Mary Norquoy and Dr Savage and the various sources the information has come from.  The name at the end of the note is J L Johnston.

3.       A twelve page note called, “Notes on Ancestry of Hon. John Norquoy” by Alex Norquoy, 1948. This information lists information from sources in the Hudson Bay Company Archives and cannot be passed on further, according to their copying rules. But I can list the references numbers used, if you want them.

If you would like a scanned copy emailed to you of the above notes, the cost will be 60p per page, low resolution.

All our catalogued collections are listed to item level detail in the database in our searchroom. We do not have an online catalogue, as yet, but are working on it. If you would like me to send you lists of the Ernest Marwick and Storer Clouston collections, I would be happy to do so.

The only index we have for the Orkney Herald is from 1919-1932. The owners of the Orcadian newspaper (1854-present) are in the process of digitizing it for online searching. I believe it will be a couple of years in the making.

The Orkney Heritage Society collection has not be catalogued yet, but it’s always worth sending them a request for information. Their website address is [http://www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/ohs/](https://owa.ad.umanitoba.ca/owa/redir.aspx?C=Bd_Z_ggO_k-8zmu8DNpsFIxglPXZ4dEIroy6nrGEkrpPWEsYukTOIBU8QVY2tl9zhCKQfWSu4Gg.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.orkneycommunities.co.uk%2fohs%2f)

I hope this answers your questions.

Best wishes,

*Lucy* Assistant Archivist Orkney Library & Archive [lucy.gibbon@orkneylibrary.org.uk](https://owa.ad.umanitoba.ca/owa/redir.aspx?C=Bd_Z_ggO_k-8zmu8DNpsFIxglPXZ4dEIroy6nrGEkrpPWEsYukTOIBU8QVY2tl9zhCKQfWSu4Gg.&URL=mailto%3alucy.gibbon%40orkneylibrary.org.uk)

01856 873166 ext 3023 or 3024 Or: Lucy.gibbon@orkney.gov.uk

***Directories***

*Manitoba Directory for 1876-77* (Saint Boniface: La Rivière & Gauvin by Lovell Printing Montreal, 1876) Norquay is listed at MPP for St. Andrews South and Minister of Public Works, office in Government buildings, Post Office Street, Winnipeg. His home address is Parks Creek. He’s a member of the St. John’s College Council, a Justice of the Peace, and a Grand Steward of the Masons (Grand Lodge of Manitoba, AF&AM).

*Manitoba Directory for 1878-79* (Winnipeg: Manitoba Directory Publishing Company) JN entry is unchanged. Tom Norquay is clerk of County Court for Lisgar.

*Henderson’s Directory for the City of Winnipeg… 1884….* (Winnipeg: Winnipeg Directory Publishing Company) Norquay is listed at Premier and Provincial Treasurer and his residence as St. Andrews.

*Henderson’s Directory for the City of Winnipeg… 1885* Cover advert: “Crème de la Crème and Canvasback are the best 10-Cent Cigars: ‘Noisy Boys’ is a 10-Cent Cigar sold for 5 Cents. Try them.”

*Henderson’s Directory for the City of Winnipeg… 1886-87* Norquay is Premier and Provincial Treasurer, res. Parkdale. John Norquay Shell River; Thos Norquay St. Andrews; David Norquay Clandeboye.

*Henderson’s Directory for the City of Winnipeg… 1887* There’s a John L. Norquay at Asessippi; John Norquay Premier resides at 18 Hallett, and John Norquay jun. is CPR fireman and “bds 18 Hallett”

*Henderson’s Directory for Western Canada… 1888* same for Hon John, plus A. Norquay, “clerk, land dept CPR bds 18 Hallett”; “H. Norquay res. 18 Hallett;” “John Jr. CPR fireman, bds 18 Hallett”

 *Henderson’s Directory for the City of Winnipeg… 1888* Those residing at 18 Hallett St. included JN Premier, John Jun Fireman CPR, A is “Clerk Immigration Office CPR”

*Henderson’s Directory for the City of Winnipeg… 1889* Those residing at 18 Hallett St. are John MPP, genl supt Mutual Life Assurance”; John “fireman CPR”; Alex “farmer”; Thomas “insurance agent, Rowan Block”; Horace “clerk Mitchell Drug”; Andrew “telegraph messenger CPR”; [entries on pp 807 & 994]. It is worth noting that the mgr of Mutual Life NY in Winnipeg is T.C. Livingston.