

# Cannington Manor Provincial Historic Park

## Driving Tour



**Cannington Manor Provincial Historic Park**

26 kms southeast of Moose Mountain Provincial Park or 16 kms northeast of Manor.  
The four main access roads are graveled, grid roads.





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 Park Watch: 1-800-667-1788  
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*Follow historic points of interest in the Cannington Manor area. See the map for corresponding numbers*

- 1 Christopher Trail:** The road known as the Christopher trail was originally cut through heavy bush from Fish Lake (*now Kenosee Lake*) to Cannington Manor by Fred Christopher along with brothers Harold and Percy Fripp in the late 1890's. Today it remains a major access road to Cannington Manor Provincial Park.
- 2 Birch Hill:** As the name suggests, this is a hill covered with birch trees and is located on the south side of Christopher Trail, 5 km from Hwy 9. Captain Edward Pierce (*Cannington Manor founder*) leased 48.5 hectares of forest including Birch Hill to make a large desk for himself as well as all the furnishings inside All Saints Church at Cannington Manor.
- 3 Skeleton Lake:** Further along the Christopher Trail on the south side is this lake that was named after two human skeletons were found in 1895 in the northeast corner.
- 4 Rosemont:** One of the few stone homes still standing and occupied, was built by the Turtons one of the first families to settle in the area. The home was named the 'Rosemont' like in England, where homes were given titles such as the Brockman's home "Woodside" and the Beckton's "Didsbury".
- 5 Cannington Lake:** The English settlers were accustomed to summers picnicking, sailing and fishing by the seaside, Cannington Lake became the next best thing. The Becktons, who arrived at Cannington Manor in the late 1880's, ran a "whiskey camp" here that boasted a rowboat, diving board, deck chairs and of course, plenty of whiskey.
- 6 Abandoned House:** Built much later than the Cannington Manor time period, this house was used in the 1977 film adaptation of W.O. Mitchell's famous prairie novel, "*Who Has Seen the Wind?*"
- 7 White Bear First Nation:** Treaty 4 was signed in 1874 but the Cree and Saulteaux people who followed Chief White Bear (*Wahpeemakwa*) wanted to continue living a traditional hunting lifestyle so reserve land wasn't chosen until 1882. White Bear residents purchased goods at the Moose Mountain Trading

Company Store and sold goods such as firewood, tanned hides, beadwork and wild berries through the company. Grain farming was small but successful for farmers who brought their grain to the mill at Cannington Manor. Individual White Bear farmers had to go through the Indian Agent to sell their crops with proceeds placed in a trust. Residents would bring their ponies to race on the large oval track on the east end of town on Race Days ending with a large pow-wow featuring White Bear singers and dancers.

- 8 The Shiny House (Humphrys/Hewlett House):** James Humphrys put his shipbuilding experience to use designing this large, elegant, frame house for family. Like many of the settlers who came to Cannington, Humphrys believed he could achieve a higher standard of living for less in Canada's northwest. He hoped to become a gentleman farmer, successful businessman or maybe a Member of Parliament, but his death in 1903 ended that dream. The farm then sold to Arthur Hewlett and his wife Maisie Hewlett who led a more practical life. Rooms that once held formal teas and dances became storage areas for grain and farm implements. Much of the history of Cannington Manor is the result of Maisie Hewlett's research.
- 9 Manor:** The founder of Cannington Manor, Captain Pierce, died in 1888 shortly after learning that the coveted rail line would not come through the village. To avoid heavy bush and lakes, the line was instead built 16 kilometres south. Cannington Manor was soon abandoned as people moved closer to the supply line provided by the railway, where the Town of Manor was then established.
- 10 Cannington Community Cemetery:** Cannington Manor was almost abandoned until 1902 when the Holiness Movement Church moved to the district establishing a church, cemetery, parsonage and stable. The congregation moved to Wawota in 1967.
- 11 Glenadelaiide Cemetery:** John Turton owned or rented most of the land in the Glenadelaiide district which he named after his wife, Adelaide. There was a church built at Glenadelaiide in 1898, followed by a school. All that remains today is the cemetery and a stone cairn erected in memory of this early pioneer community.

### Park Contact Information

Moose Mountain Provincial Park  
& Cannington Manor Provincial Historic Park  
Phone: (306) 577-2600  
Email: moose.mountain@gov.sk.ca

### Hours of operation and park information

www.saskparks.com

### Emergency Contact Information

Park Watch (24HR): 1-800-667-1788  
Report Wildfires: 1-800-667-9660  
RCMP (Police)/Ambulance/Fire: 911  
TIP (Turn in Poachers/Polluters): 1-800-667-7561

Once emergency services are notified, then advise park office of situation.

### Other Local History Attractions:

Carlyle Rusty Relics Museum  
Alameda District Heritage Museum  
Arcola Museum  
Kipling Museum  
Kisbey Museum  
Moosomin Heritage Walking Tours  
Wawota and District Museum  
Alida Museum  
Broadview Museum  
Whitewood Museum & Walking Tours



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