

Coronach District Museum
Self Guided Tour – June 2023

WELCOME to our museum! The Coronach District Museum was originally located next to the Catholic Church on Main Street in the home of Mrs. Allace Black. We are very fortunate that Allan and Allace Black had the foresight to begin an antique collection in their own home as this collection was then purchased by the RM of Hart Butte and the Town of Coronach in 1986 and thus we had the beginnings of our museum.

With the Black home being too small, the collection was moved to our current location which used to be the Coronach Union Hospital. This building had become vacant because of the building of a new Health Centre in 1992 on the east side of our town. This building itself is from part of a hangar from the Mossbank Air Force Base. The east end (the waiting room and parlor, etc.) was added on after the hospital was officially opened in 1949.

Some of the artifacts in this museum were owned by the Black family, but since the expropriation of the Black Collection many items have been donated by the residents of Coronach and surrounding areas. In fact we have received so many community donations that they now exceed the number of artifacts in the original Black Collection.

As you walk in to our building you will notice our roaring 1920's mannequin. Also take note of the fumed oak desk. On this desk can be found our "Coal in Coronach" booklets which are available for purchase. Also did you see our guest book? Please take a minute to sign it.

To the left of our mannequin, you will enter our **parlour/dining room**. Back in "the day" the dining room was reserved for special occasions and company – thus not being used very often. Notice our tea cozy with 196 beads per square inch on the south wall. And, on the north wall we have a rather large collection of depression glass and tea cups. Our "chandelier" is the operating room light from this room's years as the hospital emergency room. Also, take note of our many clocks. One is a souvenir from World War 1 (1914 – 1918) and the other, formerly owned by the Setrum family since the turn of the 20th century. Be sure to also read the article on the mirror of the sideboard.

Our next room is the **kitchen**. In the kitchen you can view our McClary Cook Stove complete with ashes and a clinker. You can also find a Herrick Ice Box, a Miss America cupboard, ironing board, washing machine, clothes drying rack and other various kitchen related items.

In the **library** we have ration books from World War II (gas, liquor, meat, sugar, etc.) and old catalogues, photo albums and newspapers. This room is also a great source of Coronach History. Did you know that once upon a time you could buy your home out of an Eaton's catalogue?

Backtracking from the library and turning left you will find our **x-ray room** from the days when this building was our hospital. The tiny room at the back is the darkroom where all x-rays would have been developed.

The next room is our **delivery/operating room**. Notice the stirrups on the delivery table. The apothecary's wooden cupboard was originally found in Coronach's first Drug Store back in 1926 and was used to mix drugs. Next to the dentist chair is a medical bag used by one of Coronach's first doctors (Dr. Coodin) from 1929 – 1932. All the medical instruments on that same wall are from his medical bag. Dr. Coodin's salary was \$40.00 per month.

In the **toy room** we have paper dolls, tin dishes, a tea set and toy sewing machine from 1912.

Starting down the hallway from the toy room, in the first room on your left you will find a New Empire Map (5th edition) of Saskatchewan from 1917. This map indicates where all post offices and railways were located. This room also hosts some artifacts from our coal mining days as well as some interesting reading about the Gold Rush of 1931.

In the **bathroom** you will find a claw foot tub, wash stand with wash bowl and pitcher, hair dryer, etc.

On the right, **the shop** has our collection of license plates (every plate from 1919 – 1977), an oxen yoke, grinding stone, harnesses and many other tools and equipment.

The **bedroom** has an oak dresser with a caravel mirror, a brass bed and a wicker ware carriage. Take note of the handsewn christening gown from 1888.

On the left you will find the **sewing room**. Here we have a loom, a spinning wheel, and a hand operated Singer sewing machine brought from England in 1900 still in it's original box. In this room there are also hand wool carders, knitting machines and many fiber arts.

On the right is our **school room** complete with water cooler and dipper, a map of the school districts in the RM (rural municipality), the school clock and many other school related items. There is also a replica of the Roseland School made by Milton McBurney. On the back of this school there is a list of all students, teachers, and the original board members

Across the hall in the **office**, you can find compuwriters which were used by the Triangle News (our local newspaper service) to set their spacing and make their columns. They are basically a primitive computer. We also have a antique printing press. You will also find survey maps, tax notices and Coronach's development map from 1927.

The small room off the office contains an old spring bed frame with a straw filled mattress and an old fur coat make into a blanket.

The next room is the **communications room** featuring an old switchboard, many radios, a gramophone, typewriters, and other equipment.

Up next is the **church room**. The furniture in this room is from the All Saints Anglican Church and the vestments are from the Catholic Church. We have also recently had some donations from our Lutheran Church.

Hey - Did you check out the wooden phone booth in the hallway that contains an old phone?

Across the hallway is our **store**. We have a homesteader's stove and pipe where you could warm up in the winter. As well, there is a bulk food cupboard, a cheese box, a national brand cash register and our buffalo coat in this room.

This is just been a brief outline of what we have in each room – how many other interesting things did you find? Hope you enjoyed spending time with us, THANK YOU for coming and don't forget to tell you friends!