

Two newspaper obituaries were found for Kathleen. One was found in the Wetaskiwin Archives' collection:

DEATH OF KATHLEEN HODGSON

We report the death of Kathleen beloved wife of John Hodgson, of the Duhamel district, who passed out of this life from cancer, at the age of 73 years—Deceased had been a resident of the place for a considerable period—She leaves to mourn her departure a husband and-grown up family. Her end came January 3rd and interment was made January 5th in the Roman Catholic cemetery at Duhamel. **JAN 11, 1933**

The other one was from the PEEL collection, the Wetaskiwin Times, January 5, 1933:

DUHAMEL

One of the earliest settlers of this district passed away on Tuesday in the person of Kathleen, beloved wife of John Hodgson, at the age of 73 years. She had been a patient sufferer with cancer for some time. Deceased was born in Saskatchewan and came to the Duhamel district about forty years ago with her husband. She leaves to mourn her demise a sorrowing husband, and one son, besides a host of friends in the community. The funeral takes place on Thursday, the interment taking place in the Roman Catholic cemetery at New Norway.

The Death Registrations for both Kathleen and John were ordered from the Provincial Archives of Alberta, in part, to determine where they were born. The registration for Kathleen confirmed the death date and the place of burial with Moore's in Wetaskiwin in charge of the burial. She was born at Fort Pitt, Saskatchewan. John's registration confirmed his death date and that Moore's in Wetaskiwin was in charge of the burial in Duhamel. John was born in Green Lake, Saskatchewan.

Form 1
This form, if placed in an envelope marked "Provisional Statistics," may, pending the 1933-34 census, be returned to the Division of Statistics of the Government of Canada, Ottawa, or, if so directed, to the local P.S.S.A.

FOR THE USE OF THE DEPARTMENT ONLY
CANADA
PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
Record No. **8** of **1933**

REGISTRATION OF DEATH

Name of Deceased (In full) (Christian name first) **Kathleen Hodgson**

Date of Death **3** day of **Jan** 19**33**

Place of Death (Street and No., if any, or Name of Hospital) **Wetaskiwin, Alberta**

Regular Residence of Deceased (If Address has since changed) **Wetaskiwin, Alberta**

Length of Time (In Town or District where Death occurred) **40 yrs.** (In Canada (If not immigrant))

Sex (State or Female) **M.** (Single Married Widowed or Divorced) **Married**

Age **73** Years Months Days (If less than one day) **hrs. or min.**

Place of Birth **Fort Pitt, Sask.** (City or Town) (Province or Territory) **English** (Race) **English** (Language spoken)

Last Occupation (a) **Housewife** (b) **Farmer** (c) **Teacher** (d) **Other**

Country of Birth of Parents (If Canadian, give province) **Alberta** **Alberta**

Cause of Death **Causes of cancer** **66 c.**

Name of Physician (If any) attending Fatal Illness **H. H. McNeill**

Name and Address of Undertaker or Person in charge of Burial **E. H. Moore** (Place of Interment) **Duhamel**

I certify the foregoing to be true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. Given under my hand at **Wetaskiwin** this **4** day of **Jan** 19**33** **Kathleen Hodgson** Registrar

I hereby certify the above return was made to me at **Wetaskiwin** on the **4th** day of **January** 19**33** **H. H. McNeill** Registrar

Registrar's Record No. _____ of 19 _____

Form 1
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FOR THE USE OF THE DEPARTMENT ONLY
CANADA
PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
Record No. **2318** of **1933**

REGISTRATION OF DEATH

Name of Deceased (In full) (Christian name first) **John Hodgson**

Date of Death **26** day of **October** 19**33**

Place of Death (Street and No., if any, or Name of Hospital) **Montgomery Municipality**

Regular Residence of Deceased (If Address has since changed) **Montgomery, Saskatchewan**

Length of Time (In Town or District where Death occurred) **40 yrs.** (In Canada (If not immigrant))

Sex (State or Female) **Male** (Single Married Widowed or Divorced) **Widower**

Age **81** Years Months Days (If less than one day) **hrs. or min.**

Place of Birth **Green Lake, Alberta** (City or Town) (Province or Territory) **English** (Race) **English** (Language spoken)

Last Occupation (a) **Farmer** (b) **Teacher** (c) **Other**

Country of Birth of Parents (If Canadian, give province) **England** **Canada**

Cause of Death **Cardiac failure (second day)** **97**

Name of Physician (If any) attending Fatal Illness **Dr. Mosher**

Name and Address of Undertaker or Person in charge of Burial **E. H. Moore** (Place of Interment) **Duhamel**

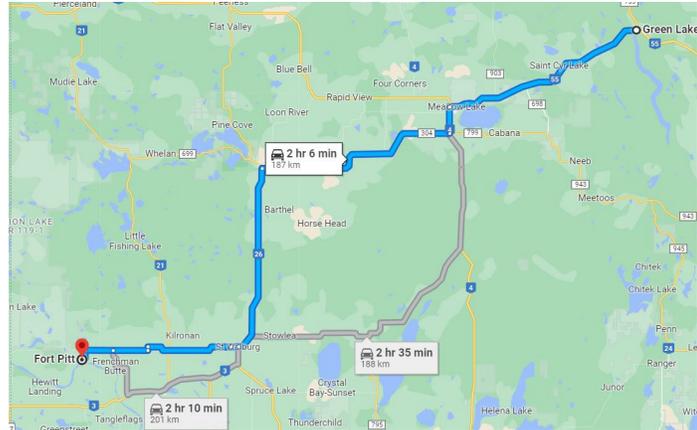
I certify the foregoing to be true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. Given under my hand at **Wetaskiwin** this **27** day of **Oct.** 19**33** **J. H. Hodgson** Registrar

I hereby certify the above return was made to me at **Wetaskiwin** on the **27th** day of **October** 19**33** **H. H. McNeill** Registrar

Registrar's Record No. _____ of 19 _____

Here's the GOOGLE map which shows Fort Pitt and Green Lake in Saskatchewan.

Both places are well north of North Battleford. In modern times with a fast car it would take over 2 hours to get from one to the other. Amazing that Kathleen and John would have met in the 1870's and begin a family.



It was easy to discover that Kathleen and John were buried in the St. Thomas Roman Catholic Church Cemetery a few miles north of the present hamlet of Duhamel. The Alberta Government designated the Church a Historical site in 1980.

The Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton was contacted to find out about this church. This is part of what was passed on:

"Because of its history and antiquity, the 1883 Duhamel St. Thomas Church has now been taken over by the Duhamel Historical Society. It is now a museum in memory of Father Hippolyte Beillevaire who is remembered primarily for his ministerial work with the Indigenous community initially, and in later years, with the white settlers who came to Battle River Settlement. The responsibility of the cemetery was transferred to the Duhamel Historical Society 31 May 1990."

Trying to contact the Duhamel Historical Society via email and phone didn't result in any communications. It was discovered, though, that no plot map existed for this cemetery. Where John and Kathleen Hodgson were buried is , and will always be, a mystery. It has been reported that the wooden crosses and fences that originally marked the graves were either destroyed by fire or the passage of time. The Archdiocese further stated that "Sacramental burial records do not include the plot location of the grave."



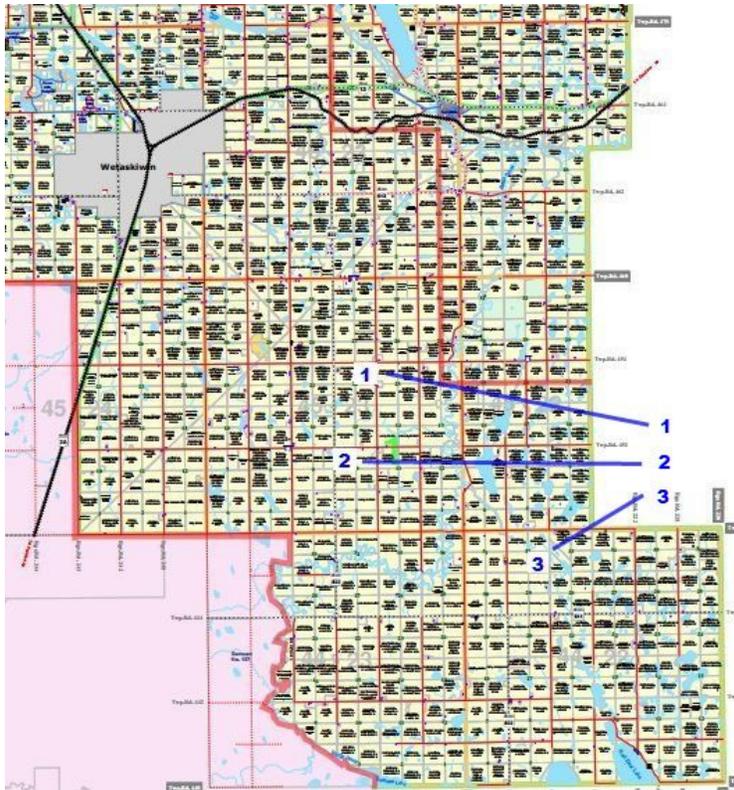
The Society did erect a two-sided Memorial Wall with names and years of death of all persons buried at this cemetery. John and Kathleen Hodgson are both listed under 1933 on the panel to the right. Further



research showed that Kathleen's name was really Catherine and John's surname, Jodgson, was obviously misread from the church records.

Although the research didn't conclude with what Marie L. was looking for, other interesting questions materialized; questions such as:

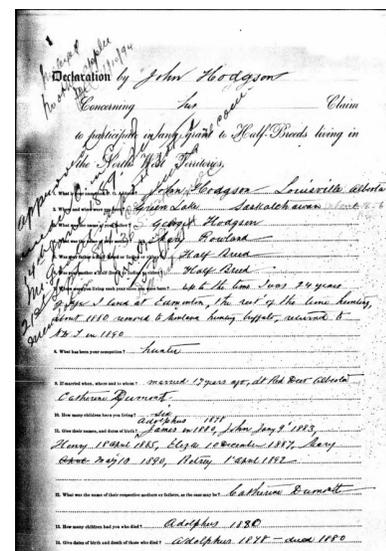
- 1) Why were John and Kathleen (Catherine) Hodgson's bodies prepared for burial in Wetaskiwin but buried in Duhamel?
- 2) Where were they living at the time of their deaths?



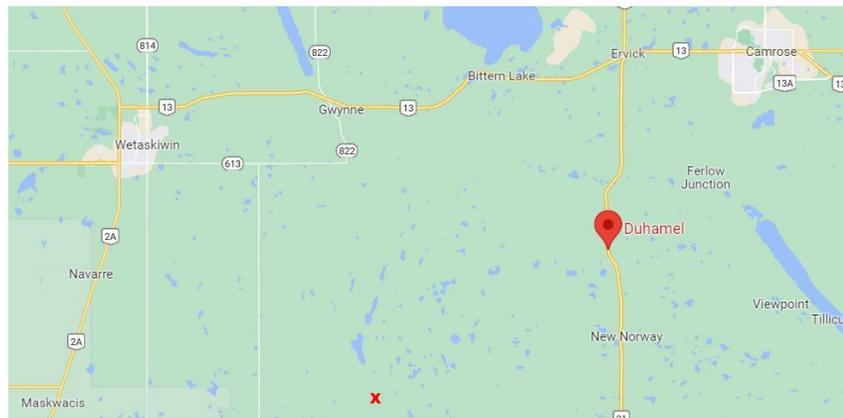
The 1931 Canadian Census shows that John and Catherine were residing at a farm at 32-44-22-4. The head of the household was William Hodgson, John and Catherine's son. The 1921 Canadian Census showed that John and Kath were operating this farm. Homestead records were searched. John and Catherine were involved in at least 3 homestead applications under the Scrip rules. In 1894 they applied for NE22-45-23-4 (#1 on map). In 1895 they were dealing with NW10-45-23-4 (#2 on map). In 1896 they applied for SE32-44-22-4 (#3 on Map), the farm where they resided when they passed away.

Homestead record applications can provide much more than just locations. In the 1894 homestead application it stated that John's parents were George Hodgson and Mary Rowland and that he was born at Green Lake, Saskatchewan. John was married about 1877 to Catherine Dumont (maiden surname) in Red Deer, Alberta. John listed 6 children on the application, two with birth years only, the other four with birth dates. John also stated that he lived in Montana from 1880 to 1890 and his job was that of a buffalo hunter.

It should be noted that all three homesteads are in the County of Wetaskiwin, and that it is probably the reason why hospital and funeral home services were used in Wetaskiwin and not in, say, Camrose.

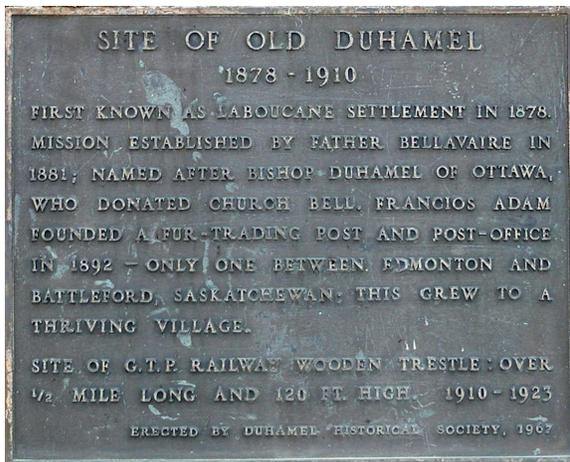


The red X on this map shows the approximate location of the Hodgson farm. The farm is definitely closer to Wetaskiwin than Camrose.



But now comes a third question:

3) Why did the burials of John and Catherine take place in Duhamel?



The site of Duhamel was originally named the Laboucane Settlement in 1878. The plaque on the left is on the monument which is located just off Hwy 21 and Twp Road 461 advertising the historical site which includes the St. Thomas RC Church. Another big display billboard at this site states: "Before the disappearance of the buffalo in the 1880's, this land had long been used by the First Nations people as a staging point for engaging in the buffalo hunt."

Although it is an assumption, one can probably say that John Hodgson, a buffalo hunter, met with many friends, fellow hunters and even other family members on a yearly basis in the Laboucane Settlement, later know as Duhamel. Perhaps this was the "home" congregation for John and Catherine Hodgson, John, apparently, being a "staunch Catholic".

A visit to the St. Thomas Church Cemetery showed monuments placed along the long pathway and only a few (probably more current burials) further out. It may be that families have erected monuments to honour the family members even though the exact locations of burial sites are unknown.

It was suggested to Marie L. that she might want to contact the Duhamel Historical Society with a paper letter delivered by postal mail and ask if monuments can be placed in the cemetery to honour family members even if plot locations are unknown. Since several of John and Catherine's children are also buried here, it was further suggested to place one monument with all family names and birth and death dates if known.