

# **1. Information on Aboriginal and Rooster Town Residents Transcribed from the 1881-1921 Censuses**

## **1.1 The Projects**

As part of the project, data were collected from the manuscript census for two different projects.

1.1.1. The Winnipeg Census project: This project aimed to record and quantify the Aboriginal community in Winnipeg and the City of Saint Boniface between 1901 and 1916. Through linking, it also attempted to follow the movements of individuals who were part of this community within these censuses.

1.1.2. The Rooster Town project: This project aimed to record and quantify the Aboriginal community in Rooster Town between 1901 and 1921. Through linking it also attempted to follow the movements of Rooster Town community members between 1881 and 1921.

## **1.2 Index of Project Excel Sheets**

### **1.2.1. The Winnipeg Census Project**

Winnipeg 1901, Winnipeg 1911 and Winnipeg 1916: Includes all people identified as Aboriginal in Winnipeg and the City of Saint Boniface in that particular census.

Outside 1901, Outside 1911, Outside 1916: Includes all people, identified as Aboriginal, who are living in Manitoba, but outside of Winnipeg and the City of Saint Boniface, and who are linked to a person who lives in the city in a different census year.

Duplicates: When an individual appears twice in the same census, the first instance is recorded in one of the above documents and the second is recorded in this document.

Linking: Includes details about linked individuals. See Rules for Linking Document.

### **1.2.2. The Rooster Town Census Project**

Rooster Town 1881 and Rooster Town 1891: Includes all people, who are identified as Aboriginal, who are living in Manitoba, but outside of Rooster Town in these years, and who are linked to a person who lives in the city in a different census year. Note that Rooster Town only forms around 1901.

Rooster Town 1901-Rooster Town 1921: Includes all people identified as Aboriginal living in Rooster Town in that particular census. Also, includes all people, who are identified as Aboriginal, who are living in Manitoba, but outside of Rooster Town in these years, and who are linked to a person who lives in the city in a different census year.

Duplicates Rooster Town: When an individual appears twice in the same census, the first instance is recorded in one of the above documents and the second is recorded in this document.

Linking Rooster Town: Includes details about linked individuals. See Rules for Linking Document.

## **1.3. Sources of Census Data**

The most significant sources used to transcribe the manuscript census were Automated Genealogy (especially 1901 and 1911) and Ancestry (All other censuses)

<http://automatedgenealogy.com/index.html>

<http://home.ancestry.ca/>

#### **1.4. Methodology for Gathering Census Data**

The methodology for gathering data was virtually the same for both projects and the data from the Rooster Town project was often used in the Census Project. The most commonly used techniques for gathering data were:

1.4.1. Scrolling through individual pages of the manuscript census, looking for identifying features. Most importantly an Aboriginal tribal origin, colour or language. See the Confirming Indian Identity document for a discussion of what was considered an Aboriginal identifier.

1.4.2. Using the search by Nationality/Race function on Ancestry.ca

1.4.3. Linking people who were Aboriginal Matches to other censuses. See the Rules for Linking document.

1.4.4. I would occasionally find Aboriginal matches by examining individuals who, in the manuscript census appeared to be Aboriginal non-matches but were recorded in the manuscript census in the area of Rooster Town. If it seemed possible that the non-matched individuals were Aboriginal (for example, they had a common Métis surname or were all born in Manitoba), external sources were used to confirm or deny this suspicion. Note that this was only done for individuals near to Rooster Town.

#### **1.5 Who and What was Recorded in the Excel documents?**

In each project, if an individual was found to be an Aboriginal match, their entire family, as found in the manuscript census, was recorded in an excel sheet. The exception to this was when individuals were living in institutions with over 25 members, if less than one third were aboriginal. In cases such as this the start and end of the institution were recorded as well as all Aboriginal people living there and other individuals living there were not recorded.

When transcribing information from the manuscript census to the excel sheet, most of the data were recorded, the exception being data considered useless to the project (For example: Year of naturalization). It should be noted that in some cases information left out may have actually been useful. Examples of this include:

1.5.1. Household Number which wasn't recorded in any documents.

1.5.2. In 1881 Vessels/Shanties wasn't recorded and neither was Months of Schooling.

1.5.3. I'm not sure about this, but there's a good chance I didn't record a number of students and farmers son's in the occupation category (at least I know that for a while I was unsure of whether to record them or not).

#### **1.6. Navigating the Excel Documents**

Many of the excel documents are huge, containing dozens of columns and hundreds, or thousands of rows. There are a couple of techniques for searching through this data that will make it a lot easier to find what you are looking for.

1.5.1. When looking for a specific person, or a specific piece of information in an excel document, use the Ctrl F search function. You can also select a specific column to narrow the search.

1.5.2. Using the Sort function in Excel makes it possible to arrange the data by different columns. This is especially useful for documents like the linking documents or the Rooster Town Year by Year document, that contain data spread out over several years. For example, you can sort the document so that people who live in Rooster Town in 1901 appear at the top and then re-sort it so that people who live there in 1956 are at the top.

1.5.3. The linking documents and the Rooster Town Year by Year document can act as an index to see where a person is linked to over time.

1.5.4. Each row of data in the excel documents has its own unique ID number. This is generally found in the first or second column of a document. Sorting the document by this column will put the data into its default order. In the census documents the ID number will be under "Document ID," in the Linking document it will be under "Link ID" and in the Rooster Town Year by Year Document it will be under "Family Tree ID."

1.5.5. In addition to the default ID, most documents will also contain other ID numbers to help track people through multiple documents. For example, the Rooster Town census documents also contain columns for "Link ID" and "Family Tree ID." This allows the researcher to quickly find an individual in multiple documents. For example, in the 1881 Rooster Town Census document Charles Cardinals Document ID is 208.3, his Link ID is 834 and his Family Tree ID is 42. If you go to the Linking Document and search the Link ID column for 834, you can see all of the census years he is linked to. Similarly, if you go to the Rooster Town Year by Year document and search by 42, you can see all of the years he lives in Rooster Town.

## **1.7. Helpful Web Links**

1.7.1. Overview of data included in Censuses and how they were recorded from Library and Archives Canada (See Index on left side for specific censuses):

<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/census/Pages/census.aspx>

1.7.2. Occupation codes used in the 1911 and 1916 censuses:

<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/obj/006003/f2/006003-1911-e.pdf>

And

<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/census/1911/pages/about-census.aspx>

1.7.3. Instructions to Enumerators

1881

[http://www.prdh.umontreal.ca/census/en/uguide/enum\\_1881.aspx](http://www.prdh.umontreal.ca/census/en/uguide/enum_1881.aspx)

1901

[https://www.nappdata.org/napp/resources/enum\\_materials\\_pdf/enum\\_instruct\\_ca1901a.pdf](https://www.nappdata.org/napp/resources/enum_materials_pdf/enum_instruct_ca1901a.pdf)

1911

<http://www.ccri.uottawa.ca/CCRI/Images/1911%20Enumerator%20Instructions%20-%20English.pdf>

1916

[http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/canada-gazette/093/001060-119.01-e.php?document\\_id\\_nbr=6234&image\\_id\\_nbr=201495&f=g&PHPSESSID=qgruv5g7sgrvn49q1eqm2ljlo6](http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/canada-gazette/093/001060-119.01-e.php?document_id_nbr=6234&image_id_nbr=201495&f=g&PHPSESSID=qgruv5g7sgrvn49q1eqm2ljlo6)

1921

<http://www.ontariogenealogy.com/1921enumeratorinstructions.pdf>

## **1.8 How do the excel documents differ from the manuscript census**

There are a number of differences between the manuscript censuses and the transcribed excel documents.

1.8.1. A great deal of standardization took place to make the excel documents more consistent and easy to use. These are some of the most common ways the excel sheets were standardized:

- Months were shortened to three letters and written in English (For Example: Aug)
- Years were written in numbers and in full (For Example: 1989)
- For people under the age of one year, age was recorded in months. For people over the age of one year, age was recorded in years.
- Where appropriate, full words were abbreviated or shortened (For example: Wood became W)
- In some categories, most notably, Racial and Tribal Origin, Religion, Occupation and Language spoken/Mother Tongue, similar answers were combined (For example: Roman C, RC and Roman Catholic all became RC). Note that I didn't do as good a job with this as I could have. A lot of similar but unique answers remain.
- Negative answers, often recorded in the manuscript census as blanks, dashes, the letter N and the word no, were left blank in the excel sheet.
- Positive answers, often recorded in the manuscript census as Ticks, lines, the letter Y and the word Yes were recorded as the letter Y in the excel sheet.
- In the excel sheets, ditto ("" ) marks in the manuscript census, were recorded as the answer that the mark was referring to

1.8.2. Some marks and numbers from the manuscript census were not transcribed in the excel documents. This was mostly done in cases where it appeared that the mark appeared to not relate to the category it was written in or was difficult to understand. For example, in the 1901 census, tick marks that looked different that the standard often appeared in the Working on Own Account Column. They were not recorded in the excel sheet because it became clear that these were not positive answers, but rather the marks of someone who was counting in the census at a later date.

1.8.3. In some cases different symbols and colours, not found in the manuscript census were used in the excel documents.

- **Red letters:** Crossed out or partially erased data from the manuscript census. Note that crossed out data was only recorded in the excel documents when it was considered relevant to the project. For example if someone was recorded as Aboriginal and then it was crossed out.

- **Purple Lettes:** Information not recorded in the manuscript census, but inferred. For example, if an individual was recorded in the same house as their family, but their address was given as Camp Hughes, the data would be recorded as: **Family Address** Camp Hughes.

- **Green and Blue Highlights:** Address is within the borders of Rooster Town in this particular census

- **Question Marks:** A question mark in an empty cell meant that the whole cell was indecipherable. A question mark at the start, middle or end of a word meant that part of the word was indecipherable (For Example: ?ndian or Ind?n)

## **1.9. Notes about Common Headings in the Censuses**

### **1.9.2. Added During the Analysis**

#### **In Winnipeg/ Saint Boniface, or Outside (Winnipeg Project Only)**

'A' refers to individuals living in Winnipeg or Saint Boniface (city)

'B' refers to Individuals in Manitoba but outside of Winnipeg or Saint Boniface (city)

#### **Document ID**

The unique ID number given to an individual in a particular census. Sort by this column to put everyone in order.

#### **Aboriginal Census (Winnipeg Project Only)**

A code number based on the likelihood an individual is Aboriginal based on the census. See the "Confirming Aboriginal Matches" document.

#### **Aboriginal External (Winnipeg Project Only)**

Whether an individual appears Aboriginal based on non-census sources. See the "Confirming Aboriginal Matches" document.

#### **Aboriginal Final**

In both the Winnipeg and the Rooster Town documents, this indicates whether a person appears Aboriginal after considering the census and external documents. If Yes "Y," if No "N," if unsure "U"

#### **Family Tree ID (Roostertown Only)**

The unique ID number given to an individual in the Rooster Town Family Tree.

**Link ID**

The unique ID number given to an individual in the linking document. See "Rules for Linking" document.

**Duplicate?**

Will be Y if a person appeared several times in the same census. See the Duplicates document.

**1.9.2. Recorded in the manuscript census****Province/District/Subdistrict/Enumeration District/Page/ Line**

Details used to locate an individual in the manuscript census

**Household #**

The ID given to each unique home in a particular enumeration district in the manuscript census.

**Family # (Roostertown Residents only)**

The ID given to each unique family in a particular enumeration district in the manuscript census. Note that this wasn't recorded for the whole excel sheet, but only for families living in Rooster Town in a given year.

**Name First/Name Last**

Titles were generally removed (The main exception being "Sister").

Middle names and initials were recorded in the same cell as first names.

**Street Number**

If recorded in the census, Lot numbers and Township/Range numbers were also recorded in this category. -Note that some addresses are missing in 1901 because of difficulty getting access to the schedule 2 census.

**Street Name**

If recorded in the census, this category also included Town/Rural Municipality name, institution name or further details on housing location (For example: Living in Bush)

Note that some addresses are missing in 1901 because of difficulty getting access to the schedule 2 census.

**Sex**

If male "M," if female "F"

**Marital Status**

If married "M," If single "S," If divorced "D," If widowed "W"

**Place of Birth/Place of Father's Birth/Place of Mother's birth**

In the excel sheets, if a person was born in Canada, their province of birth was recorded in short form (For example: Man) and if they were born outside of Canada their country were recorded in long form (For example: England)

#### **Born in an Urban/Rural area**

If Urban "U" if Rural "R"

#### **Racial or Tribal Origin**

In the excel documents the racial or tribal origin of Aboriginal people was generally standardized in acronyms (For example: Métis French, Met Fr, MF and Métis Francais all became MF). An important exception to this was when specific bands were discussed (For example: Cree Scotch Breed became Cree SB instead of CSB). The exception to the exception was cases where the enumerators used acronyms to describe a specific band (For example: if a person was recorded as CSB in the manuscript census, they were recorded as CSB in the excel document)

Common acronyms: M=Métis, B= Breed, H=Half, O=Other, E= English, F= French, I = Irish, S= Scotch, C=Likely Cree, but possibly Chippewa.

#### **Nationality**

In the excel sheets, if a person was Canadian, they were recorded in short form (For example: Can) and if they were not Canadian they were recorded in long form (For example: England)

#### **Religion**

Common abbreviations and acronyms: Catholic=RC, Anglican=CE, Baptist=Bapt, Presbyterian= Presb, Methodist= Meth

#### **Earnings from Occupation/Earnings from Secondary Occupation/Earnings per hour**

These categories were often very difficult to read and were very messy. The data from them should be used with caution.

#### **Other Notes**

Any notes made by the enumerator that didn't fit into another category.

### **1.10 Notes about Headings Unique to Certain Census Years**

#### **1881**

##### **Vessels or Shanties**

Appeared in the manuscript census but was not put in the excel sheet.

#### **1891**

##### **Vessels or Shanties**

If Vessel "V" if Shanty "S"

##### **French Canadian**

Replaced the racial or Tribal Origin category in this year.

**Wage Earner**

**Unemployed in Week Preceding census**

**1901**

**Colour**

The color of a person's skin

Tribal origin was sometimes recorded in this category. For example, some people's color was recorded as Indian

If white "W," if Black "B," if Indian "R," if Asian "Y"

**Employed at Home or Factory?**

If home "H", if factory "F"

**1906**

**Horses all Ages/Milk Cows/Other Horned or Neat Cattle, all ages/Sheep and Lambs, all ages/Hogs and Pigs, all ages**

**1911**

**Occupation Codes**

See: <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/obj/006003/f2/006003-1911-e.pdf>

And

<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/census/1911/pages/about-census.aspx>

**1916**

**Military Service**

if Overseas "O" and if in Canada "C"

**Township Range and Meridian**

If provided in the manuscript census, this category also included a lot number

**Employer, Employee or Own Account**

If Employer "E", if Employee or worker "W" or if, Working on own account "OA."

**Occupation Codes**

See: <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/obj/006003/f2/006003-1911-e.pdf>

And



**1921**

**Municipality**

**Home owned or Rented**

If Owned "O" or if renting "R"

**Rent paid per month**

If owned "BB" (note, I don't know what this means) or if renting, the amount paid.

Note: According to the enumerators guide, if a house wasn't owned, it was considered Rented, regardless of whether rent was actually being paid.

**Class of Home**

If apartment "A", if semi detached home "D," if row or terrace house "T," or if single dwelling "S"

**Materials used in Home Construction**

If brick "B," if stone "S," or if Wood "W"

**Rooms Occupied**

**Employer, Employee or Own Account**

If Employer "E", if Employee or worker "W" or if, Working on own account "OA."

**If Employer: State Principal Product. If Employee: State Where Employed. If on Own Account: State Nature of Work.**

**If Employee: Were you out of Work June 1st, 1931**

**Weeks Employed in Past 12 Months**

**Weeks of Work Unemployed Since June 1st, 1921 Because of Illness**