

Brief History of Lindbergh

There are many stories of the development of the Lindbergh area. One such story deals with two trappers who shared a little shack a quarter of a mile east of Lindbergh, about 1904. That winter supplies were extremely scarce and it is believed, though never proved, that one of these men murdered his partner so he could survive on the few groceries they had. The grave of the unfortunate trapper may still be found on the sand plains above Lindbergh, near the edge of the jack pines, not far from the road today.

Rex Hatchard moved to the district in 1907 and filed on the quarter section of land. Rex's family followed him in 1908, consisting of his wife and five children. A son, Burrell, was born in 1911 and he was the first baby boy born in this area. Rex's first breaking outfit was a little team of mules, a black saddle horse and a Jersey bull, with a twelve-inch walking plough.

For many years Vermilion was the nearest centre for purchasing supplies and necessities. This trip, by way of Hopkins ferry west of Elk Point, took four days one way, so shopping trips were not made often. A doctor was available at Vermilion too. When he was needed, one must first wire money to Vermilion, then meet the doctor at the river and transport him to the patient. It's fortunate that our pioneers were a hardy lot and didn't require medical attention very often.

The need for a ferry nearby was urgent so the homesteaders worked long hours to build a road down to the river. This road work was done almost exclusively by oxen. The road to the river was completed and the Mooswa ferry was installed soon after 1910. The first ferryman was "Dad" Chilibeck. He had come down the river on a scow, bringing his family, some roofing and other building materials with him.



Early Mooswa Ferry

Although he was a bachelor, Bob Chandler was a major influence in the building of the first school. He collected money for a fund to hire a teacher and equip the school. This Moose Creek school, a one room log building with siding, was built just to the west of this siding.

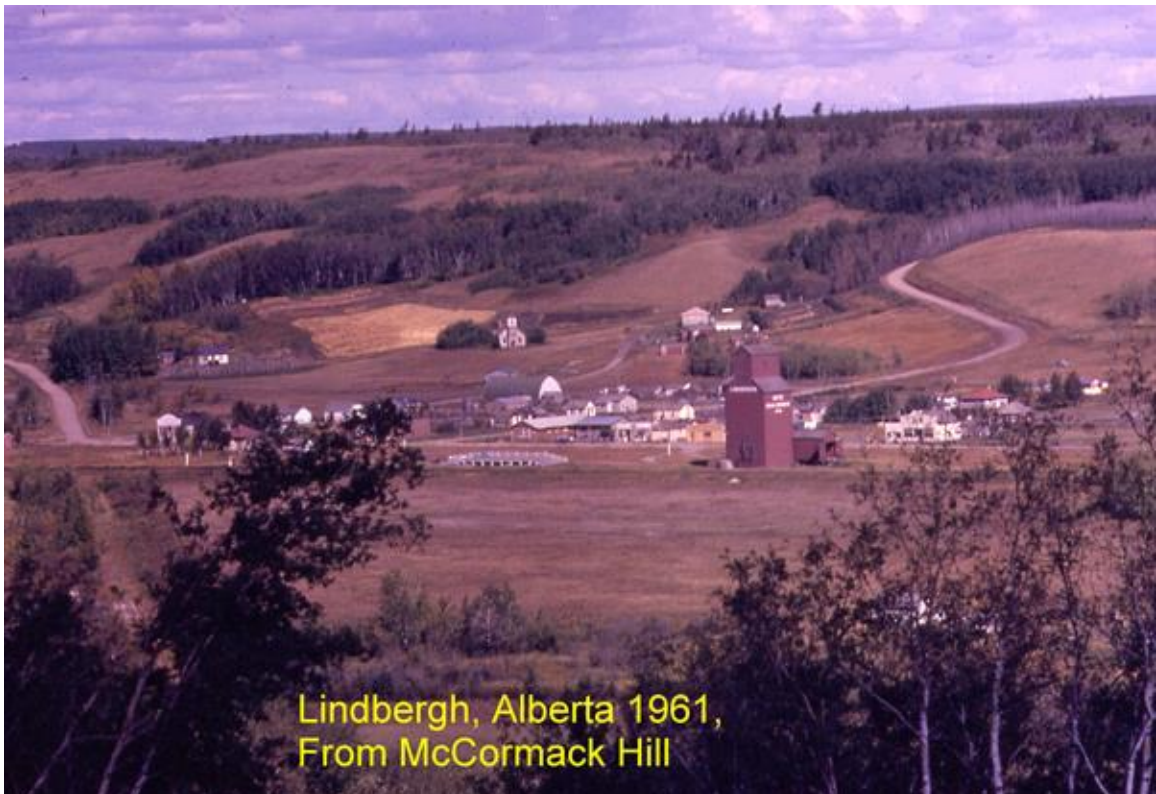


Moose Creek School

The first building on the present Lindbergh town-site was John Palynchuk's store, built in 1927 just across the road from this grove of trees. This store served the community for a year before the railway came in and the town began to develop. The United Grain Growers elevator was being built at the same time. In 1928 the first train arrived. That fall the first grain was weighed in at the new elevator Lindbergh grew rapidly then. Eddie Davis moved his store and post office from Mooswa to the new location. Mooswa disappeared and the post office officially became Lindbergh. So named for Charles Lindbergh, who made his historic flight over the Atlantic in 1927.



1 Lindbergh in the early 1950s from the top of the elevator



For more information see <https://lindberghab.ca/>