

John Herd Thompson PhD

**Professor of History,
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Curriculum Vitae

December 2004

1. **Personal**

Born Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, 18 September 1946.

Citizenships: U.S. and Canadian

Languages: English and French.

2. **Education**

Ph.D., Queen's University, 1975.

M.A., University of Manitoba, 1969.

B.A. Honours, University of Winnipeg, 1968.

3. **Academic Career**

a) **University Appointments**

Distinguished Visiting Professor, University of Alberta, 1997-99

Professor of History, Duke University, 1989-

Professor of History, McGill University, 1986-1990

Visiting Professor, Simon Fraser University, 1982-83

Associate Professor of History, McGill University, 1977-85

Assistant Professor of History, McGill University, 1975-77

Lecturer in History, McGill University, 1971-75

b) **University Administrative Positions**

Chair, Department of History, Duke University, 2000-2004

Director of Canadian Studies, Duke University, 1993-2003

Director of North American Studies, Duke University, 1994-96,
2003-04

Director of Graduate Studies, Department of History, Duke
University, 1992-94

Director of Canadian Studies, McGill University, 1983-1989

Chair of the Undergraduate Majors Program, Department of History,
McGill University, 1978-82, 1983-85

c) Teaching

My general teaching area is North American history (Canada, the USA, and Mexico); my specialized teaching areas are North American Western history, rural history, and the history of U.S.-Canada relations. I've taught giant survey courses on pre- and post-confederation Canada and on North America, intermediate lecture courses on U.S.-Canada relations and the North American Wests, and undergraduate and graduate seminars in rural history, Western history and comparative North American history. I've also taught historiography courses at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. My work in Canadian Studies Programs at McGill and Duke Universities has provided the opportunity to do considerable interdisciplinary teaching.

Two courses that I have developed of which I am particularly proud are:

- * "Across the Great Divides: The U.S. and Canadian Wests in the 19th and 20th Centuries," an intermediate lecture course that I've taught at Duke and as a visitor at the University of Alberta; and
- * "Canada, Mexico and the United States: North America in Comparative Perspective," a sophomore lecture course which is the core course in Duke's North American Studies Program.

For each of these courses, I have created an extensive website with Duke's BLACKBOARD software. I would be pleased to provide guest access to these websites on request.

d) Graduate Supervision

I have directed thirty-two MA theses and thirteen doctoral dissertations to completion, five at McGill University and eight at Duke University, and am at present chair of four doctoral

committees at Duke. McGill and Duke Ph.D. graduates who worked under my supervision teach at the University of Auckland, Davidson College, Dawson College, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Simon Fraser University, the University of British Columbia, the University of Maine, the University of Vermont, Western Washington University, and at York University.

4. Publications

a) Books and Monographs:

Patricia E. Roy and John Herd Thompson, *British Columbia: Land of Promises*, a volume in *The Oxford Illustrated History of Canada* (Toronto: Oxford University Press, February 2005.) Pp viii + 222

John Herd Thompson and Stephen J. Randall, *Canada and the United States: Ambivalent Allies*, third edition, (Athens, University of Georgia Press; Montreal, McGill-Queen's Press, 2002.) The third edition contains a new eleventh chapter and a new bibliographical essay, as well three other substantially revised chapters. Pp 432

John Herd Thompson, *Forging the Prairie West*, a volume in *The Oxford Illustrated History of Canada* (Toronto, Oxford University Press Canada, 1998.) Pp xii + 212

John Herd Thompson and Stephen J. Randall, *Canada and the United States: Ambivalent Allies*, second edition, (Athens, University of Georgia Press; Montreal, McGill-Queen's Press, 1997.) The second edition contains one new and two substantially revised chapters. Pp xvi + 384

John Herd Thompson and Stephen J. Randall, *Canada and the United States: Ambivalent Allies* a volume in the series *The United States and the Americas*, Lester D. Langley, ed., (Athens, University of Georgia Press; Montreal, McGill-Queen's Press, 1994) Pp xiv + 387

John Herd Thompson, *Ethnic Minorities During Two World Wars*, No. 19 of the *Canada's Ethnic Groups* series, (Ottawa, Canadian Historical Association, 1991) Pp iii + 20

John Herd Thompson, *Les Minorités Ethniques Pendant les Guerres Mondiales*, (**version française** of the above) Pp iii + 21

John Herd Thompson with Allen Seager, *Canada 1922-1939: Decades of Discord*, volume 15 of *The Canadian Centenary Series* (Toronto, McClelland and Stewart, 1985) Pp xiv + 438

Frances Swyripa and John Herd Thompson, eds., *Loyalties in Conflict: Ukrainians in Canada during the Great War* (Edmonton, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies/University of Alberta Press, 1983) Pp 213

John Herd Thompson, *The Harvests of War: The Prairie West 1914-1918* (Toronto, McClelland and Stewart, 1978 / Oxford University Press 1998) Pp 207

b) Sections of Books:

John Herd Thompson, "Professional Historians and Heritage Commemoration," in Thomas M. Symons, ed., *The Place of History: Commemorating Canada's Past* (Ottawa: Royal Society of Canada, 1997), pp 55-64.

John Herd Thompson, "Canada's Quest for 'Cultural Sovereignty': Protection, Promotion and Popular Culture," in Stephen J. Randall and Herman W. Konrad, eds., *NAFTA in Transition*, (Calgary, University of Calgary Press, 1996), pp 393-410. This is a updated and expanded version of my 1991 article; it has also been reprinted in the fifth edition of Douglas Francis and Donald Smith, eds., *Readings in Canadian History: Post-Confederation* (Toronto: Harcourt-Brace Canada, 1998.)

John Herd Thompson, "The West and the North," a chapter in Douglas Owram, ed., *A Student's Guide to Canadian History*, volume II: *Post-Confederation* (Toronto, University of Toronto Press, 1994), pp 341-373.

John Herd Thompson, "Nicholas Flood Davin," a 4000-word biography in Volume XIII of *The Dictionary of Canadian Biography* (Toronto, University of Toronto Press, 1993), pp 248-253.

John Herd Thompson, "Canada's Quest for 'Cultural Sovereignty': Protection, Promotion and Popular Culture," in Stephen J. Randall et al. eds., *North America Without Borders?: Integrating Canada, the United States, and Mexico* (Calgary, University of Calgary Press, 1992), pp 269-85. Reprinted in Helen Holmes and David Taras, eds., *Seeing Ourselves: Media Power and Policy in Canada* (Toronto, HBJ-Holt Canada, 1992), pp 188-201, and in R. Douglas Francis and Donald B. Smith, eds., *Readings in Canadian History: Post-Confederation* (Toronto, HBJ-Holt Canada, 1993).

John Herd Thompson, "Writing About Agriculture and Rural Life," in John A. Schultz, ed., *Writing About Canada: A Handbook for Modern Canadian History* (Scarborough, Ontario: Prentice-Hall Canada, 1990) pp 97-117.

John Herd Thompson, "The Voice of Moderation: The Defeat of Prohibition in Manitoba," in Susan Mann Trofimenkoff, ed., *The Unknown Decade: Western Canada during the 1920s* (Ottawa: Museum of Civilization, 1972) pp 170-190.

c) Articles in refereed scholarly journals:

John Herd Thompson, "Playing By Washington Rules: The U.S.-Canada Relationship, 1994-2003," *The American Review of Canadian Studies*, 33:1 (Spring 2003) pp 5-26.

John Herd Thompson, "The Future of North America[n Studies]?" *The American Review of Canadian Studies*, 26:2 (Summer 1996) pp 169-176

John Herd Thompson, "Entry and Exit: the Dynamics of Immigration to Canada," *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 533 (March 1995) pp 185-198.

John Herd Thompson, "Integrating Regional Patterns into a National Canadian History," *Acadiensis* XX:1 (Autumn 1990) pp 174-184.

Ian MacPherson and John Herd Thompson, "The Business of Agriculture: Prairie Farmers and the Adoption of Business Methods, 1880-1950," *Canadian Papers in Business History*, I (1989) pp 245-269. Reprinted in R. Douglas Francis and Howard Palmer, eds., *The Prairie West: Historical Readings*, second edition, (Edmonton, 1992), pp 475-496.

John Herd Thompson, " 'Writing History with Lightning': Mackenzie King's Television Biography," *Canadian Historical Review*, LXIX:4 (1988) pp 503-510.

G.R.I. MacPherson and John Herd Thompson, "An Orderly Reconstruction: Prairie Agriculture in World War II," *Canadian Papers in Rural History*, IV (1984) pp 11-32.

Robert Ankli, H. Dan Helsberg, and John Herd Thompson, "The Adoption of the Gasoline Tractor in Western Canada," *Canadian Papers in Rural History*, II (1980) pp 9-40

John Herd Thompson, "Bringing in the Sheaves: The Harvest Excur-sionists, 1890-1929," *Canadian Historical Review*, LXI:4 (1978) pp

467-489.

John Herd Thompson and Allen Seager, "Workers, Growers, and Monopolists: The 'Labour Problem' in the Alberta Beet Sugar Industry during the 1930s," *Labour/le travailleur*, 3 (1978) pp 153-174. Reprinted in Michael Horn, ed., *The Depression in Canada: Responses to Economic Crisis* (Toronto, Thomson Nelson, 1997) pp 30-50

John Herd Thompson, "Permanently Wasteful but Immediately Profitable: Prairie Agriculture and the Great War," *Canadian Historical Association Historical Papers* (1976) pp 193-206.

John Herd Thompson, "Webb and Winnipeg were Synonymous: The Political Career of Ralph H. Webb," *Red River Valley Historian* (1976) pp 1-7.

John Herd Thompson, "The Beginning of our Regeneration: The Great War and Western Canadian Reform Movements," *Canadian Historical Association Historical Papers* (1972) pp 227-245. This article has been reprinted three times: S.D. Clark et al eds., *Prophecy and Protest: Social Movements in Twentieth-Century Canada* (Toronto, 1975) pp 87-104; R.D. Francis and D.B. Smith eds., *Readings in Canadian History: Post-Confederation* (Toronto, 1982) pp 287-302; R.D. Francis and Howard Palmer, eds., *The Prairie West: Historical Readings* (Edmonton, 1985) pp 450-465.

J. Lee Thompson and John H. Thompson, "Ralph Connor and the Canadian Identity," *Queen's Quarterly*, LXXIX:2 (1972) pp 159-170. Reprinted in Dennis Poupard and Paula Kepos, *Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism*, vol 31 (Detroit, 1989) pp 113-117.

John H. Thompson, "American Muckrakers and Western Canadian Reform," *Journal of Popular Culture* (1972) pp 1059-1070

d) Non-refereed publication:

John Herd Thompson, "Comic Relief: The American Comic Book in Canada," *Horizon Canada*, 91 (January 1987) pp 2174-79.

e) Encyclopedia Articles:

In David J. Wishart, ed., *The Encyclopedia of the Great Plains* (Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 2004)

"European Peoples - Settlement Patterns: Canada"

In *The Canadian Encyclopedia*, second edition (Edmonton:

Hurtig, 1988):

"Beauharnois Scandal," p 191
"Cartoons, Humourous," pp 374-5
"Norris, Leonard Matheson," p 1507
"Simpkins, James N.," p 2005
"Unger, James," p 2211

f) **Multimedia Projects**

In *Canada Confederation to the Present*, a web/CD-ROM project created by Chinook Multimedia (Edmonton AB, 2001): "The Prairies, 1860s to the Present," an 11,500-word master narrative of Canada's Prairie West.

g) **Scholarly Book Reviews:**

Reviews are listed alphabetically by journal title, then by volume, date and page numbers of the issue in which the review appeared.

Alberta: 1:2 (1989) pp 129-30.

American Review of Canadian Studies: VI:1 (1976) pp 176-179; VI:2 (1976) pp 144-145; VII:1 (1977) pp 131-134; VIII:1 (1978) pp 73-75; XVII:4 (1987-8) pp 332-4; 32:4 (2002) pp 708-10.

Books in Canada: 9:3 (1980) p 10.

Canadian Ethnic Studies: X:1 (1978) pp 146-147.

Canadian Historical Review: LIII:2 (1972) pp 209-210; LIII:4 (1972) pp 457-458; LIX:2 (1978) pp 249-251; LIX:3 (1978) pp 372-373; LIX:4 (1978) pp 513-515; LXI:2 (1980) pp 228-229; LXV:4 (1984) pp 596-597; LXVI:2 (1985) p 306; LXVI:3 (1985) pp 416-417; LXIX:2 (1988) pp 264-5; LXIX:3 (1988) pp 432-4; LXX:1 (1989) pp 123-4; LXXV:4 (1994) pp 610-612; and forthcoming.

Histoire sociale/Social History: 19 (1977) pp 171-172; 22 (1978) pp 527-528.

Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History: 15:3 (1987) pp

318-9.

Journal of the West: (1982) pp 82-83.

Journal of Interdisciplinary History: XXVII:1 (1996) pp 173-4.

Great Plains Quarterly: forthcoming

Labour/le travail: 6 (1980) pp 219-220; 8-9 (1981-2) pp 378-380.

Manitoba History: 27 (Spring/94) 26-27.

Ontario History: LXXX:4 (1988) pp 332-4.

Prairie Forum: 6:1 (1981) pp 213-215.

Queen's Quarterly: 93:4 (1987) pp 917-20.

Revue d'histoire de l'Amérique française: 43:3 (1990) pp 419-21;
44:2 (1990) pp 276-9.

Shofar: Winter, 1987.

Social Science History: forthcoming

h) Book in progress:

Family, Farm and Community: The Rural Northern Plains, 1860-2000, A comprehensive comparative rural history of the region to the "great disjuncture" following the Second World War, examining how institutions, "culture" and historical contingencies shaped such a geographically homogeneous region into the six very different states and provinces of North and South Dakota, Montana, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

g) Book chapter in progress:

"Canadians and the British Empire, 1901-1939," chapter 8 of a volume on *Canada and the British Empire* edited by Phillip Buckner, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, contracted to Oxford University Press for publication in 2005.

5. Historical Consulting Work:

* Historian for The Heritage Project / Le projet Reflets du

patrimoine, 1988 - 2002.

I served as one of two historians (the other was Jean-Claude Robert of l'Université du Québec à Montréal) on this long-term educational program to create greater interest in Canada's past, supported by the CRB Foundation and other corporate and governmental sponsors. My responsibilities in this program have included:

- Work on the Heritage Minutes/ les Reflets du patrimoine, one-minute historical microdramas broadcast on Canadian television networks and shown in Cineplex-Odeon cinemas. Patrick Watson and Robert-Guy Scully produced Heritage Minutes. I contributed at all phases of production, from the conception of a Minute through script writing to working as consulting historian on the set during production. Sixty-four Heritage Minutes have been released to date. In the 24-minute documentary Minute By Minute: The Making of A Canadian Mythology, I appear on screen. A VHS videocassette of the Minutes, including the documentary, is available on request.
 - Work on We Are Canadians, curriculum materials created as part of The Heritage Project.
 - Annual participation in the CRB Foundation's summer institute for teachers of Canadian history.
- * Historical consultant on Canadian history and government for the Microsoft Corporation's ENCARTA encyclopedia, 1999-2002
 - * Historical consultant to the National Film Board of Canada, 1997-2001
 - * Historical consultant to the Pier 21 project, Halifax NS, 1998-99.
 - * Expert historical witness for Agriculture Canada in three constitutional cases with regard to the Canadian Wheat Board, 1996-1998.
 - * Historical consultant to the Founders' Hall project, Charlottetown PEI, 2000-01.
 - * Historical consultant to TV Ontario for the documentary series Origins: A History of Canada to 1867, 1987-88.

6. **Awards and honors**

Margaret McWilliams Medal, Manitoba Historical Society, 1968.

W.L. Morton Gold Medal, University of Manitoba, 1969

Canadian Historical Association Regional History Prize for *The Harvests of War: The Prairie West, 1914-1918*, 1981

H. Noel Fieldhouse Award for Distinguished Teaching, McGill University, 1985

Governor-General's Award finalist for *Canada 1922-1939: Decades of Discord*, 1986

7. **Major Grants in Support of Scholarship**

Canada Council Leave Fellowship, 1977-8, \$15,000 CDN

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Leave Fellowship, 1984-5, \$20,000 CDN

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Grant in support of Prairie Rural History, 1986, \$12,000 CDN

United States Department of Education Title IV National Resource Center Award for Duke's Canadian Studies Center, 1990 to 1996, approximately \$170,000 US per year, co-investigator and principal investigator.

United States Department of Education Title IV National Resource Center Award for Duke's North American Studies Center, 1997 to 2000, approximately \$250,000 US per year, principal investigator and co-investigator.

8. **Other scholarly activities:**

I have presented papers, commented on sessions, and/or served

as a session chair at meetings of, in alphabetical order by learned society,

- The Agricultural History Society, 1976, 1987.
- The American Historical Association, 1993, 1995.
- The Atlantic Association of Historians, 1989.
- The Association for Canadian Studies, 1994.
- The Association for Canadian Studies in the United States, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2003
- The B.C. Studies Conference, 1986.
- The Buffalo Bill Historical Center, 2002
- The Business History Association, 1993.
- The Canadian Historical Association, 1972, 1976, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1985, 1986, 1992, 1993, 1997, 1999.
- The Canadian Political Science Association, 1996.
- The Northern Great Plains History Conference, 1972, 1995.
- The Organization for the History of Canada, 2004
- The Organization for the Study of the National History of Canada, 1997.
- The Organization of American Historians, 1999.
- The Western History Association, 1999.
- The Western Literature Association, 1998
- The Western Canadian Studies Conference, 1972, 1987.

I have delivered **invited papers or keynote addresses** to the following universities and learned societies, listed in alphabetical order:

- The University of Alberta, History Department, L.H. Thomas Distinguished Visitor, 1992.
- The American Orthopaedic Association, where I

delivered the H.K. Steele lecture in 2002.

- The University of Calgary, History Department, George Self Lecture, 1997.
- Harvard University, Canadian Studies Program, 1987.
- High Point University, 1997.
- The Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, 1996.
- The University of Maine, Canadian Studies Program, 1994.
- The University of Manitoba, James Jackson Memorial Lecture, 1988.
- Mount Allison University, History Department, 1986.
- The Organization for the History of Canada, Ottawa, 2004
- The University of North Carolina, Humanities Institute, 2003
- The State University of New York at Plattsburgh, Canadian Studies Program, 1980, 1986, 1991.
- St. John's College, Winnipeg Manitoba, 2001
- Southwest Texas State University, 2002
- Texas State University, 2003
- The University of Victoria, History Department, 1978.
- Wilfrid Laurier University, History Department, 1980.
- The Woodrow Wilson International Center, 2002
- Yale University History Department, 2003

The **professional memberships** that best define my academic interests are those I hold in the Canadian Historical Association, the Association for Canadian Studies in the United States, the Society for American Baseball Research, and the Western History Association. I have been particularly active in the CHA, serving on the Publications Committee from 1978 until 1983 and chairing the Western

History Group from 1978 until 1980. I was elected to the Council of the CHA in June 1992, and served until August 1995. I served as an elected member of the executive council of ACSUS, 1997-2001.

I have **refereed scholarly articles** for Acadiensis, the American Review of Canadian Studies, The Canadian Historical Review, CHA Historical Papers, The Canadian Review of American Studies, Forest & Conservation History, Great Plains Quarterly, Histoire sociale/Social History, the Journal of Canadian Studies, Labour/le travail, Manitoba History, Ontario History, Pacific Northwest Historical Quarterly, Prairie Forum and Social Problems.

I **served terms on the editorial boards** of The Journal of the Canadian Historical Association, Environmental History, Histoire sociale/Social History, Labour/le travail, and The Journal of the West, and am at present a member of the editorial boards of The American Review of Canadian Studies, Great Plains Quarterly, and Saskatchewan Historical Baseball Review.

I have **evaluated book manuscripts** for Broadview Press, McClelland & Stewart, McGill-Queen's Press, Oxford University Press, Prentice-Hall, the University of Alberta Press, the University of British Columbia Press, the University of Calgary Press, the University of Illinois Press, the University of Toronto Press, the Canada Council and the Canadian Social Science and Humanities Research Council's Aid to Scholarly Publication Program.