ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING OF THE
HEALING ROCK PILINGS INSTALLATION

INTRODUCTION

On March 17, 1998, three piling holes were augered near the Low Line Bridge for the installation of support pilings for the Healing Rock. These holes were situated five (5) metres east of the east side of the bridge and four (4) metres north of the north bank of the Assiniboine River. Due to the high potential of this location at The Forks, it was deemed necessary to monitor the excavations. The archaeological monitoring was conducted under the terms of Heritage Permit A76-97 (copy attached), issued by Historic Resources Branch, Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Citizenship.

The auger holes were twelve (12) inches in diameter and extended to a depth of 15 feet (4.6 metres). The spacing was in a triangular pattern with the apex to the north and a distance of approximately one metre between each hole.

OBSERVATIONS

The soil profiles observed in the auger cuttings indicated considerable prior disturbance at the location. The upper stratum consisted of railroad cinder deposits extending to a depth of 165 cm. Below this layer, a stratum of blackish brown silty clay, averaging 10 cm thick, was recorded. Rather than this stratum being a buried soil horizon, it has resulted from staining by downward leaching of minuscule coal dust particles from the upper stratum. Underlying the stained layer, the soil is a light brown silty clay which contains small amounts of pea gravel, fragments of brick, and cinders. It is apparent that this soil had been excavated during the construction of the north abutment of the Low Line Bridge and re-deposited after construction. Undisturbed riverine silty clay, of the same light brown colour, was encountered at a depth of 400 cm in the two holes closest to the abutment and at a depth of 365 cm in the easternmost hole. No evidence of relict soil horizons or Pre-Contact archaeological horizons was observed in the undisturbed sediments.

RECOMMENDATIONS

No further archaeological activity is required in conjunction with this project. The scope of the prior disturbance due to bridge abutment construction is unknown, but would extend further to the east and north.
Heritage Permit No. A76-97

Pursuant to Section/Subsection 53 of The Heritage Resources Act:

Name: Quaternary Consultants Ltd.
Address: 130 Fort Street
Winnipeg MB R3C 1C7

ATTENTION: Mr. Sid Kroker

(hereinafter referred to as “the Permittee”),

is hereby granted permission to:

conduct a heritage resource impact assessment by monitoring excavation of piling auger holes adjacent to the Low-Line Bridge at The Forks (DILq-33).

during the period:

March 3 to 17, 1998

This permit is issued subject to the following conditions:

(1) That the information provided in the application for this permit dated the 27th day of February 1998, is true in substance and in fact;

(2) That the permittee shall comply with all the provisions of The Heritage Resources Act and any regulations or orders thereunder; Please note attachment re custody and ownership of heritage objects

(3) That the Permittee shall provide to the Minister a written report or reports with respect to the Permittee’s activities pursuant to this permit, the form and content of which shall be satisfactory to the Minister and which shall be provided on the following dates:
   July 31, 1998

(4) That this permit is not transferable;

(5) This permit may be revoked by the Minister where, in the opinion of the Minister, there has been a breach of any of the terms or conditions herein or of any provision of The Heritage Resources Act or any regulations thereunder;
(6) Special Conditions:

a. All surface collections, excavations, etc. are to be carried out using the provenience system established for use at The Forks;
b. All heritage objects (artifacts) recovered are to be catalogued according to the CHIN system with the relevant Borden designations; D1Lg-32/96B; D1Lg-33/96B; or as appropriate;
c. All heritage objects from The Forks are to be deposited with the Manitoba Museum by July 1, 1998, for permanent curation and storage, unless appropriate loan requirements are arranged with the Curatory of Archaeology prior to that date;
d. A complete set of archaeological field records, catalogue sheets, laboratory analysis records, photographs, reports, etc. are to be deposited with the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature upon completion of the archaeological research, or sooner if required; and any subsequent revisions or additions to these records are to be filed as soon as possible thereafter;
e. All computer systems and programs employed in archaeological research should be compatible with the computer system established for The Forks;
f. Appropriate arrangements and funds should be made available for the conservation of perishable heritage objects collected from these sites;
g. In the event that any human remains are encountered during the excavations, all activity in that particular locus will cease immediately, and the Historic Resources Branch notified immediately so that appropriate action can be determined and taken;
h. The Permittee will be on-site supervising all aspects of the field work;
i. The Permittee shall be responsible for the conduct of the laboratory analysis of recovered heritage objects and information to be included in the permit report;
j. The report identified in #3 above shall conform at a minimum to "The Contents and Format of a Heritage Resource Impact Assessment";
k. Neither the Government of Manitoba nor the party issuing this permit be liable for any damages resulting from any activities carried out pursuant to this permit, and the Permittee specifically agrees, in consideration for receiving this permit, to indemnify and hold harmless the Minister and the Government of Manitoba, the Minister and any employees and officials of the Government, against any and all action, liens, demands, loss, liability, cost, damage and expense including, without limitation, reasonable legal fees, which the Government, Minister or any employee or official of the Government may suffer or incur by reason of any of the activities pursuant to or related to this permit.

Dated at the City of Winnipeg, in Manitoba, this ___2nd________ day of ______March____________ 1998.

[Signature]

Minister of Culture, Heritage and Citizenship