

A Walk to Remember...

Block G - The Bandshell

With the arrival of settlers in 1882, Carnduff was established approximately 2.5 miles west of its present location. With construction of the railroad finally reaching the area in 1891, a decision was made to move the community to its present site to accommodate the C.P.R. In 1905, Carnduff was officially incorporated as a town and the rest as they say is history....

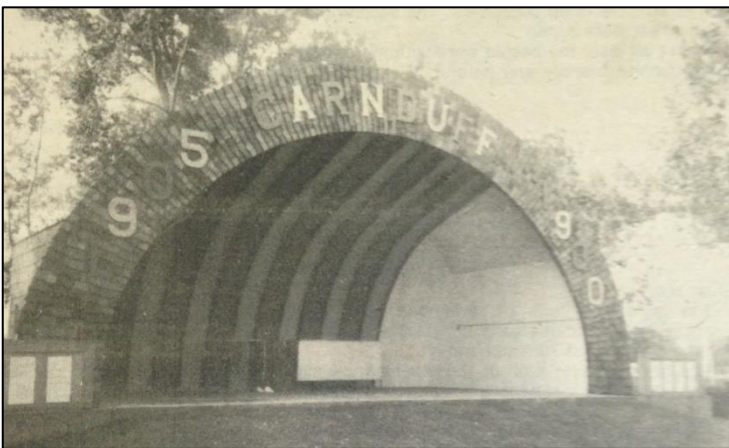
The legacy of the early pioneers and settlers has always remained important to the community. Inasmuch as Carnduff has prided herself on looking forward and progressing, remembrance and tribute to those on whose history the community has been built has never been lost. As early as 1930, plans for an early homecoming are evident in the minutes of the town council meetings to celebrate 25 years as a town.

In 1933, John Griffins Park, labelled for the councillor who conceived of and pushed for its establishment, became home to the cenotaph and swimming pool paying respect to the contribution and service of our fallen and veterans who proudly represented our community in a more troubled part of our history. By 1955 celebrations were more of a festive nature as the town gathered to celebrate 50 years. Individuals and families who once called Carnduff home, returned again in 1965, for a homecoming to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of both the Town of Carnduff and the Province of Saskatchewan. It was during this celebration that 'The Red Barn' now located in this park was 'raised' on Broadway, being built in a day in a 'bee' reminiscent of days gone by.

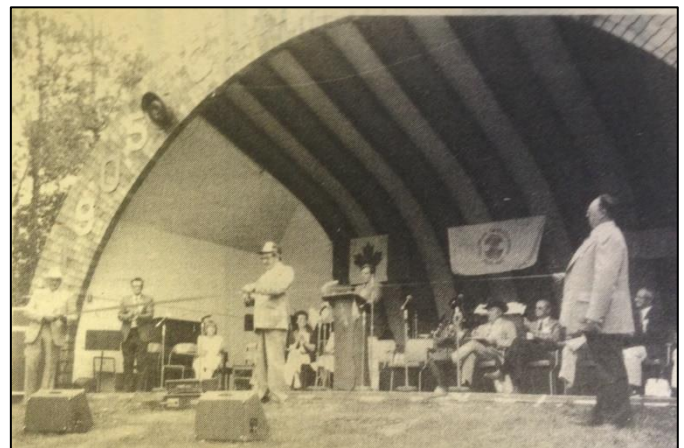
By 1980 with the community turning 75, it was once again time to pay tribute to the pioneers who had paved the way for all who followed. A group of dedicated individuals led by Orvil Swayze constructed the Carnduff Anniversary Stage as a permanent reminder of the courage and commitment of early settlers to building a better life for their families and neighbors. A plaque was mounted in "The Bandshell", as it became known, as a permanent reminder of the names and the history that were the foundation for the town's future success.

The Bandshell was a focal point of Homecoming 1980, an event which drew 4,000 registrants 'home' to once again celebrate Carnduff. Mayor Dwight Anderson cut the ribbon Friday, July 4, 1980 to officially open the homecoming celebrations and the Carnduff Anniversary Stage. Its' first performance was the Celebrate Saskatchewan Band. Since that time it has been home to talent both local and well-known.

While Carnduff has had the music stretching back to its roots, The Bandshell has also provided a home for many other functions throughout the years. Community wide church services, Remembrance Day tributes to our veterans, and other community gatherings, celebrations and homecomings have also been served by its proud heritage. It continues to stand proud and strong as did the pioneers on whose history it was founded, and will continue to serve the community for generations to come.



Bandshell Completion (c. 1980)



Bandshell Ribbon Cutting (c. 1980)