

# EARLY INDUSTRIES

## Some were counting on the Canadian Pacific Railway

**I**n 1875, the CPR was going to cross the Red River below Lower Fort Garry.

In anticipation, the Canadian government built a roundhouse, and the Hudson's Bay Company put up warehouses near the newly-surveyed East Selkirk. The speculation attracted small businesses, like the Doidges Pottery Works, to set up shop. The excellent quality of the clay in the area encouraged several brick works to follow suit.



Doidges Pottery Works  
Red River North Heritage

Unfortunately, the CPR decided to put their main line through Winnipeg instead, and local industries here either had to adapt or go out of existence.

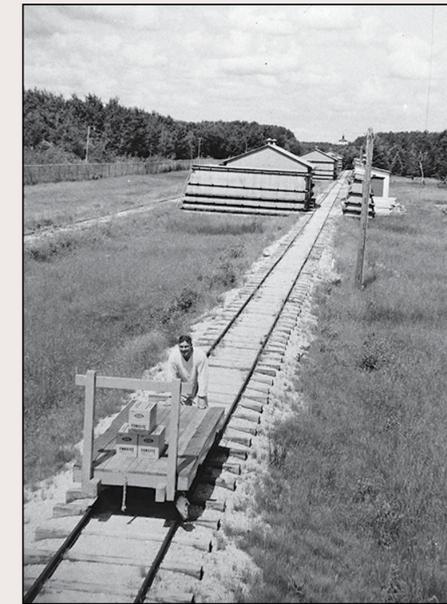
### Small Producers

Market gardens were a way for local farmers to sell produce directly to customers, especially those in the rapidly growing population of Winnipeg.

*"The pre-winter trip to Winnipeg, with the extra chickens and produce to sell, meant a two day trip with horse and wagon."*



Picking cabbage  
Red River North Heritage



Brainerd Works  
Red River North Heritage

### A Booming Enterprise

Just south of East Selkirk, in 1929, Canadian Industries Limited built an explosives factory. The "Brainerd Works" (named for Dr. Thomas Brainerd, a pioneer powder manufacturer) provided explosives to the new mines of Lake Winnipeg and northwestern Ontario.

### The Roundhouse

The roundhouse repaired CPR engines from 1879 to the 1890s.



CPR roundhouse "train fixers"  
Red River North Heritage

### Other local "industries" thrived in the area.

#### Seven Men To Face Still Case Charges

Provincial Police Court was filled with the fumes of home-brew today when the preliminary hearing of conspiracy charges against seven men in connection with an illicit still was set to open.

Winnipeg Tribune 1950

For more information on our area's history, please visit the Red River North Heritage website using the QR code below. Funding assistance for these signs was provided by the Manitoba government.



**St. Clements**  
The place to be