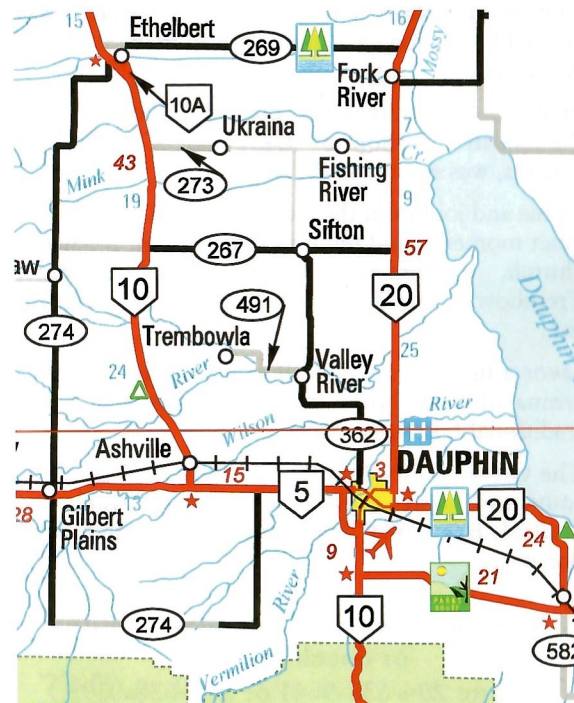## Municipality of Dauphin

The Cross of Freedom Site

1/2 mile North of Valley River on P.R. 362; 2 1/2 miles West, 1 mile North and 2 miles West on Trembowla Road. P.R. 491, or 16 miles (27 km) N.W. of Dauphin

Phone 204-638-9641 or 204-638-5495

Welcome to
TREMBOWLA
Cross of Freedom

HISTORICAL SITE & MUSEUM

'ВІТАЕМО' ХРЕСТ СВОБОДИ

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

History

The first settlers to the Dauphin area arrived in 1896 under the leadership of Wasyl Ksionzyk and settled northwest of Valley River, Township 26, Range 20W1 along the Drifting River. They named the new settlement Terebovlia (later known as Trembowla), after their hometown in Ukraine. On April 12, 1897, Rev. Nestor Dmytriw arrived to celebrate the first Ukrainian Catholic Divine Liturgy for the pioneers. They erected a wooden cross to commemorate their freedom in a new land.

Following research by historian Dr. Michael Marunchak, the history of the first wooden Cross of Freedom in Canada became known. In 1966 The Rural Municipality of Dauphin erected the permanent granite cross as a tribute to the pioneers to coincide with Canada's National Ukrainian Festival.

In 1977, the Ukrainian National Association of New Jersey marked the 80th anniversary of the first visit of Rev. Dmytriw to Trembowla by erecting a bronze bust of the pioneering priest. The bust is the work of famous sculptor Leo Moldozhanyn.

The Ukrainian pioneers of Terebowlia built the first log school in 1897 on the southeast corner of Section 29, Township 26, Range 20. It was replaced in 1916 by a large two-room school built 1/2 mile north of the first location, and served the families until 1960, when it was destroyed by fire. The present school building was moved from the River Bend district to serve the Trembowla area until its closure in 1966. It was relocated to the Cross of Freedom site in 1968 to be preserved. Locations of the two school yards are marked by a sign and cairn respectively.

To continue its preservation, a Board of Management was formed and incorporated in 1978 as The Cross of Freedom Inc., Trembowla Historical Site and Museum.

The Cross of Freedom Inc.
Box 183
Dauphin, MB R7N 2V1

Annual Service Honouring Pioneers

A Moleben Service commemorating the pioneers is held annually at the site on the Sunday of the August long weekend, during Canada's National Ukrainian Festival.

Visit St. Michael's Church, a fine example of traditional Ukrainian church architecture, which stands on the bank of the Drifting River. Built in 1898 at Mink River on the southeast quarter of Section 14, Township 28, Range 21, the church was moved in 1967 to its new location where it is preserved as the first Ukrainian Catholic church in Canada. It has been designated as a Heritage Site in 2000 and marked by a bronze plaque by Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism. A Grotto was erected beside the church in 1998 to mark its 100th Anniversary.

In 2002, a monument of Blessed Bishop Nykyta Budka, first bishop of Ukrainian Catholics in Canada, was erected at the site.

Come and join us in the historical event and enjoy a quiet moment amid the rich culture of St. Michael's church, monuments, Wasyl Ksionzyk home, Trembowla School and other historic buildings on site.

Savor a bit of history while enjoying the taste and aroma of fresh bread baked clay-oven bread and traditional Ukrainian food.

The Cross of Freedom Inc. has historical artifacts, souvenirs, and museum displays. Luncheons available by request. Tours welcome. Admission by donation.

Museum open daily summer months or check locally.
Phone 204-638-9641 or 204-638-5495
Museum 204-638-9047.

ХРЕСТ СВОБОДИ
збудований на березі річки Дрифтінґ Ривер, 27 км. на захід-північ від міста Давфин, є памяткою місця де о. Нестор Дмитрів служив першу Українську Службу Божу в Канаді, 12-го квітня, 1897-го року.