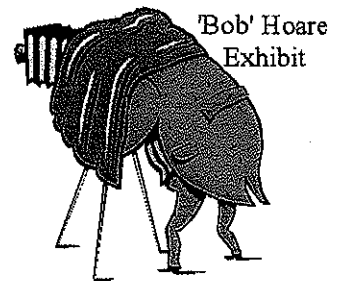


# Bowden Pioneer Museum

Box 576  
Bowden, AB  
T0M 0K0

Location:  
2201- 19th Avenue  
(old curling arena)



## Fact Sheet:

**Historical Facts:** The Museum's main focus is to tell the stories and preserve the history of Bowden and the surrounding area.

- \* 1967 - opened in July as a Centennial Project, with the donation of Gerald Robin O'Brien (Bob) Hoare's photographic equipment, shop sign and photos of central Alberta at the 'Turn of the Century'.
- \* 1984 - moved into the Hardware Store on Main Street, owned by Fred Anderson and later his son Roy Anderson,
- \* 2000 - moved into the Curling Rink totally refurbished by Bill Hendriks and a team of volunteers.
- \* 2004 - acquiring the Irene M. Wood Avon Collection necessitated a total re-vamp of the Museum. New Exhibits are: the G.R. Hoare Studio/House: the Bowden Hardware/General Store: the Bowden School and the Avon Collection Exhibit.
- \* 2007 - "Our Disappearing Landscapes" Exhibit.

### Feature Attractions:

\* The Bob Hoare Home and Studio, which shows a foyer, living room, kitchen, bedroom and back entry, displaying a unique and wonderful collection of cameras, developing tools, photographic instruction manuals, original photographs, original studio sign and original back-drop and furnishings belonging to Bob Hoare. One of the earliest photographers in this province, his pictures are on display representing an important and complete picture of Alberta village and rural life at the 'turn of the century'.

\* Irene M. Wood Avon Collection: This is an amazing collection of over 6000 pieces of Avon from over 30 years of collecting. Avon started in 1886 by David H. McConnell and was called the California Perfume Co. by 1929 the products were sold world wide. In 1939 with the product line Avon the name was changed to Avon to be more international. This is an extensive collection of Avon from over 30 years of collecting Avon memorabilia.

\* Millie Meyers Ceramic Town Display: depicts an immigrant family's journey from England to Bowden, Northwest Territories. The journey began in Heston, England by boat to Halifax, by wagon train and transcontinental railroad to Calgary and then on to Bowden. Although this follows only one family's journey to Canada, in 1883 with Sir John A., Macdonald's Great Canadian Dream of the transcontinental railroad opening up the West to the most extensive immigration period in Canadian history, three million new citizens from British Isles, Continental Europe and the United States joined the relatively small population of Canada and the West.

\* Bowden Museum's newest display, Our Disappearing Landscape: depicts Railway Avenue in Bowden in 1905. This display features a mural looking west to the mountains. Train Engine #159 and four grain cars are pulling in behind replica's of three of Bowden's original elevators. The mural and train were painted by local artist Eldon Walls and the elevators were built and donated by Ben Hueven. The details that bring this display to life were provided by Mary McNain and Donna & George Bunney.

Avon  
Exhibit



HOURS : Seasonal Opening: May Long Weekend 1- 4 pm.  
June: 1- 4 pm Sundays.  
July & August: 10 - 4 pm Wednesday to Saturday.  
1 - 4 pm Sundays.  
September: 1- 4 pm Sundays.



Our Disappearing Landscape

E-mail: [bhs@shawbiz.ca](mailto:bhs@shawbiz.ca)

Web page: [www.museum/anwc.net](http://www.museum/anwc.net)