

THE LABRADOR INSTITUTE OF MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY PRESENTS

LABRADOR/ANS ON FILM

SCREENING #1: THE MIGHTY CHURCHILL

1. *Lure of the Labrador* (13min 45sec, 1926). Directed by Varick Frissell (1903-1931). Believed to be the first footage ever of Churchill Falls, *Lure of the Labrador* depicts the journey from North West River to the Falls. The film is all the more extraordinary when you consider that Frissell shot this footage with a hand-cranked camera. Frissell would go on to produce two more films in Newfoundland and Labrador. He life was cut tragically short while producing the second of these films, *The Viking*, when the sealing boat he was filming on exploded. A street in the community of Churchill Falls is named after Frissell.

2. *Power From Labrador* (20min 48sec, Crawley Films Canada for CF(L)CO, 1970). Director unknown. Produced by the now defunct Crawley Films Canada, you might find the voice of the narrator of this film familiar. While the film provides a clear overview of the development of the Upper Churchill project, it is particularly interesting as it takes a rather unusual approach towards covering the project. The musical score is unsettling and the editing is brisk. The film recalls science fiction films produced during the period.

3. *Power in Perpetuity* (20min 45 sec, Crawley Films Canada for CF(L)CO, 1967). Directed by Sally MacDonald. A companion piece to the previous item. While *Power in Perpetuity* takes the same basic approach as *Power From Labrador* – you may notice some of the same shots and some of the same music – the film contains footage from the 1928 Taylor-Rogers Expedition to the falls and emphasizes J.R. Smallwood's role in the development.

4. *Land & Sea: The Mighty Churchill* (23min 06 sec, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, 2007). Produced by Fred Greening. This episode of *Land & Sea* provides one of the few *social* histories of the Churchill Falls development and, perhaps even more importantly, the community of Churchill Falls. Some of the archival footage in this item might look familiar: it was taken from the previous two items, *Power in Labrador* and *Power in Perpetuity*.

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