

Hugh: Genealogist and Family Historian, Brandon, wrote

Stories I heard lead me to believe Percy maintained two women in a two wife family. Your book has put the facts together very well. You deserve lots of credit. The true story has now been told. Your Great Grandmother Elise has become a legend.....

Louise: Business and Theatre Background, Winnipeg, wrote

Last night I finished my second reading of your book. The first time I have known the author. What a relief that your book is so good!

It is everything I hoped, detailed, scholarly, and honest. Every single page held my interest.

Many readers have family secrets, half-truths, and unfinished chapters waiting to be researched and written. There is no doubt your hard work has inspired some of us to follow your lead.

Audrey: from Website

This book has created the most discussion, not only in our Book Club but also in our community. I would walk up to one of our members—and upon hearing me comment on the book—other community members would jump into the conversation with passion!! How we have all enjoyed your book!

Marlene, PhD., lived in Trinidad & Mississauga

I've just finished your 500 magnificent pages and I'm overwhelmed at the monumental task you've completed so beautifully. Congratulations, Oriole!

What a treasure trove of rich primary sources you've unearthed, and used to great effect. This must have required the effort of about 3 Ph.D. theses.

You obviously have the perseverance and other strong genes of your totally remarkable great grandmother.

Percy Criddle, 'the autocratic ruler of his little empire' (p.474), reminded me of the same class of Englishmen who came to the Caribbean, owned people as slaves, tried to pretend they were the elite, & lost their humanity. When Percy could treat his own family so horrendously, it's perhaps not surprising that his compatriots in the slave-owning societies often displayed unbelievable cruelty.

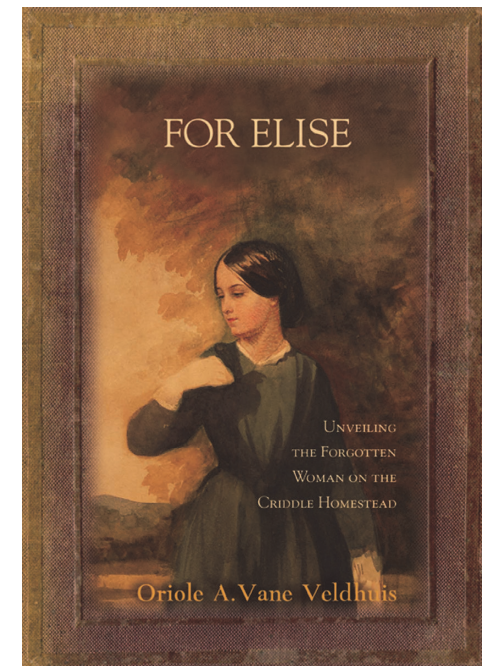
Your book is a gift to the world.

Cheryl: from Facebook

I am almost finished *For Elise!* And some part of me will never be finished. My heart hurts recognizing the horror of injustice, the total selfishness. Part of it was my maternal grandmother's story.

FOR ELISE:

*Unveiling
The Forgotten Woman
On The
Criddle Homestead*



By
Oriole A. Vane Veldhuis

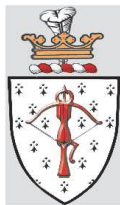
Our interpretation of history is constantly changing. In *For Elise* the established story of one pioneering family's battle to survive has been reviewed from the perspective of a rarely considered woman. Previously the diaries of Percy Criddle were taken at their face value but now, using not only the self-same diaries, but also a whole variety of other contemporary sources, Oriole has given us the tale from the point of view of Elise, her neglected great grandmother, who contributed so much to the success of the family's venture.

The resulting portrayal of the hardships endured by the Criddle/Vane family explains many previously unanswered questions and indicates the basis on which their eventual success was founded.

This book is quite breathtaking in the way it has turned established beliefs around. There is much to learn about nineteenth century Canada along the way. I was gripped from beginning to end.

**Laraine Hake,
Hon. Secretary,
Alabaster Society.**

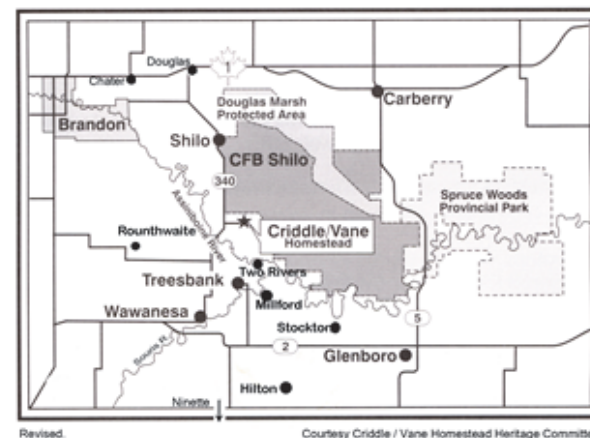
www.alabaster.org.uk



Oriole A. Vane Veldhuis, grew up in rural Manitoba. Normal School opened the door to adventure in classrooms and beyond. Interspersed between her years of teaching in Manitoba, Newfoundland and Ontario, Oriole studied at MacDonal Institute, Guelph, and at the Centre for Christian Studies in Toronto. Married to Art Veldhuis in 1963, they enjoyed United Church congregations in God's Lake Narrows, Holland, and Winnipeg, MB, and Elmira, ON. Art and their four children fitted into her busy life of working part time and studies—B. Ed., P. Bac. in Education, and M. Div. From one room 'Marm', her roles included: homemaker, potter, minister, teacher-librarian, researcher, writer.

In keeping a promise to her father, Oriole's discoveries were so interesting she felt compelled to write *For Elise*.

Also published: *Pastoral Care for Children*, and four short memoirs in *Measured Words I, II, III*.



Revised.

Courtesy Criddle / Vane Homestead Heritage Committee

The Criddle/Vane Homestead is located south-east of Brandon. A sign points east off Provincial Road # 340 traveling south from Shilo, or, north from Wawanesa, Manitoba.

When holidaying at Spruce Woods Provincial Park, the Homestead is an easy drive.

Contact

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