

*D*ocument
*E*xamination
*C*onsultants
Inc.

Forensic Report

File No. 1349/02

Re: Handwriting Identification of Norval Morrisseau

January 24, 2002

Maslak McLeod Gallery
25 Prince Arthur
Toronto, Ontario
M5R 1B2

Attention: Joseph McLeod

Forensic Report

File No. 1349/02

Re: Handwriting Identification of Norval Morrisseau

You have asked me to examine signatures and accompanying handwriting on several paintings reportedly produced by Norval Morrisseau during the 1970's. The actual paintings examined are itemised below. In each instance the signatures and hand printing in question are found on the reverse side of the canvas and, for the most part, they appear in the upper right panel. Two of the paintings in question have signatures executed in pencil, while the remainder have signatures and writings produced with a paintbrush and ink. Given the limitations of signing one's name and hand printing titles with a paintbrush, due consideration was paid to the potential differences that might arise between such signings and those done with a normal pen. For comparison purposes I have been provided with three letters: one addressed to Dear Sussana and dated December 30 1968; one addressed to Dear Mrs. S. McLeod and dated Jan. 15 1965. The third is a photocopy of a portion of a letter beginning with the words "So I will close" and is undated. Also provided were original signatures in a set of prints titled "The French Print", of which there were six sample signatures.

The paintings of interest are as follows:

Copper Thunderbird: measuring approximately 6' x 4', bearing the title "Warrior Thunderbird", a questioned Norval Morrisseau signature and the date "77".

Artist Speaks to Moose Spirit: measuring approximately 5' x 5', bearing the title "Artist Speaks to Moose Spirit", a questioned Norval Morrisseau signature and the date "79".

Bears in Landscapes: measuring approximately 5' x 4', bearing a questioned Norval Morrisseau signature and the date "74".

Loons: measuring approximately 2½' x 3½', bearing a questioned Norval Morrisseau signature and the date "75".

Fire Spirit: measuring approximately 2½' x 2½', bearing the title " Fire Spirit ", a questioned Norval Morrisseau signature and the date "77".

Spirit Composition: measuring approximately 3' x 4', bearing a questioned Norval Morrisseau signature (written in pencil) and the date "79".

Shaman Astral Plane: measuring approximately 5' x 5 ½', bearing the title "Shaman on Astral Plane", a questioned Norval Morrisseau signature and the date "77".

Beaver God: measuring approximately 4' x 3', bearing a questioned Norval Morrisseau signature and the date "74".

Shaman Underworld: measuring approximately 5' x 3', bearing a questioned Norval Morrisseau signature and the date "78".

Together: measuring approximately 5' x 4', bearing the title "Together", a questioned Norval Morrisseau signature and the date "77".

Family: bearing a questioned Norval Morrisseau signature and the date "71".

Astral Spirit with Evil Serpant: bearing the title " Astral (Ansistail?) Spirit with Evil Serpant ", a questioned Norval Morrisseau signature and the date "78".

Colour copies of the paintings and the hand printing and signatures appearing on the reverse side of each painting are attached to this report.

Methods and Observations

As stated earlier, many of the signatures, hand printed titles and accompanying dates have probably been executed with a paintbrush and ink. As such the movements are somewhat more simplistic and elementary than one would expect to find in a normal cursive signature executed with a pen. Consideration was given to the influence of the writing instrument and surface in the comparison that was conducted. On some of the paintings the signature and/or title is partially missing due to either smudging or gradual removal of portions of the ink. As such, certain characteristics in the signature can no longer be assessed.

Seven of the signatures, some of which are accompanied by titles, show clear indications of writing movements that are consistent with the hand printing and signatures in the Norval Morrisseau samples. The types of similarities identified are habits of connecting certain letters and disconnecting others; proportions of one letter to another; the relative size of one letter to another; slope; spacing; and alignment. In most instances it was noted that the uppercase **N** and **M** of the given and surname had some differences in structure. Most particularly they differ from the specimens in that they often lack some of the initial movements and have separated strokes. In my opinion these discrepancies may very well be accounted for by the influence of the writing instrument, resulting in cruder letter structures. The specific paintings that

show the above similarities are: Artist Speaks to Moose Spirit, 79; Copper Thunderbird, 77; Loons, 75; Spirit Composition, 79; Shaman Underworld, 78; Together, 77; and Family, 71.

The signatures and titles on the remaining paintings are either too indistinct or too abbreviated in form to allow an opinion to be expressed.

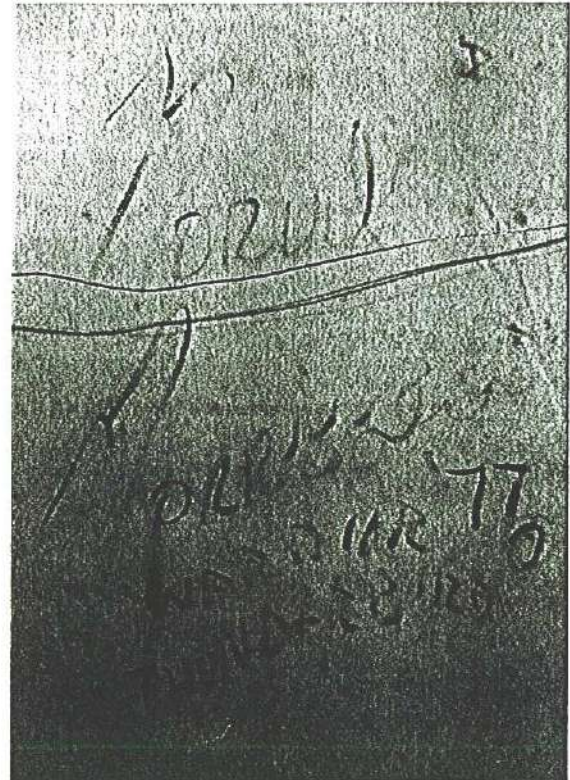
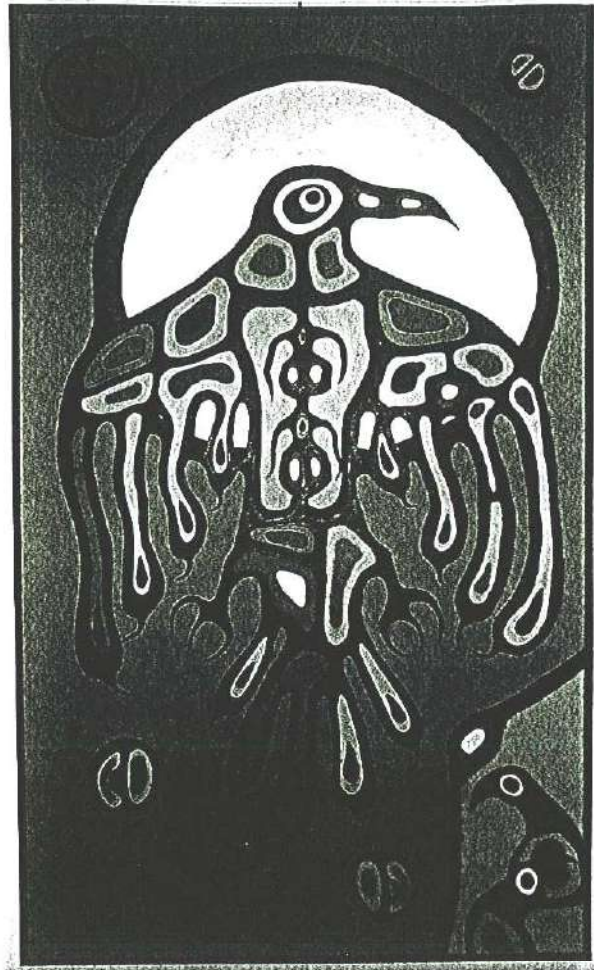
Attached to this report is a copy of my curriculum vitae.

Prepared by:

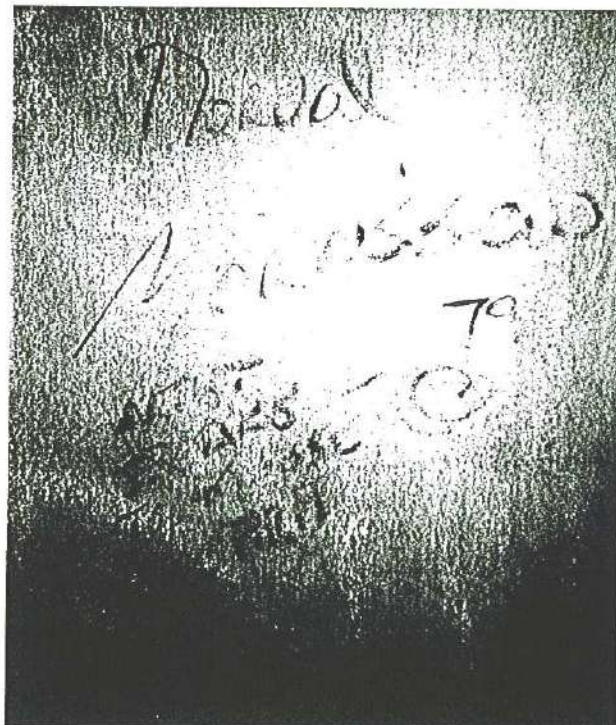
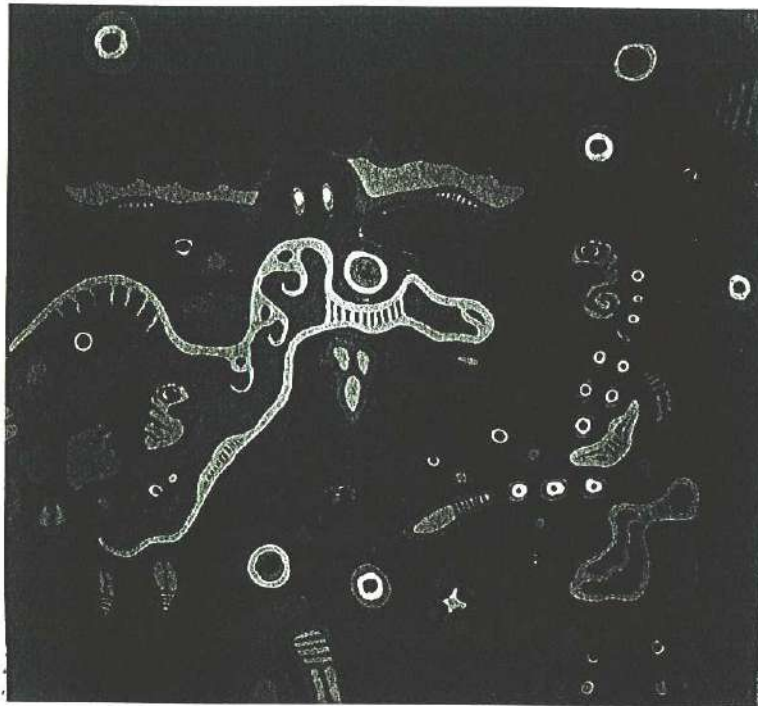


Brian Lindblom, B.A., F.S.S. Dip.
Forensic Document Examiner

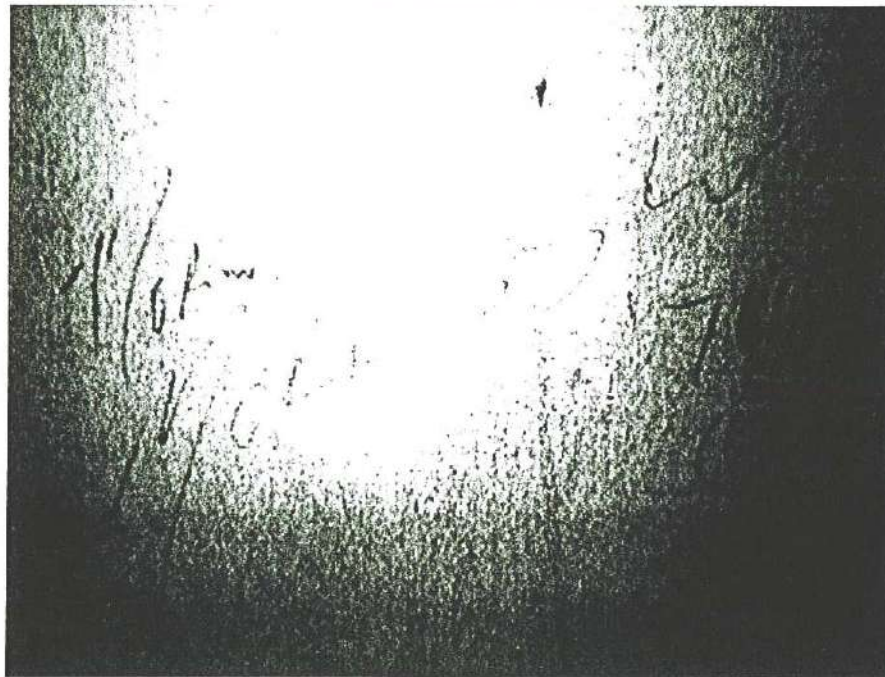
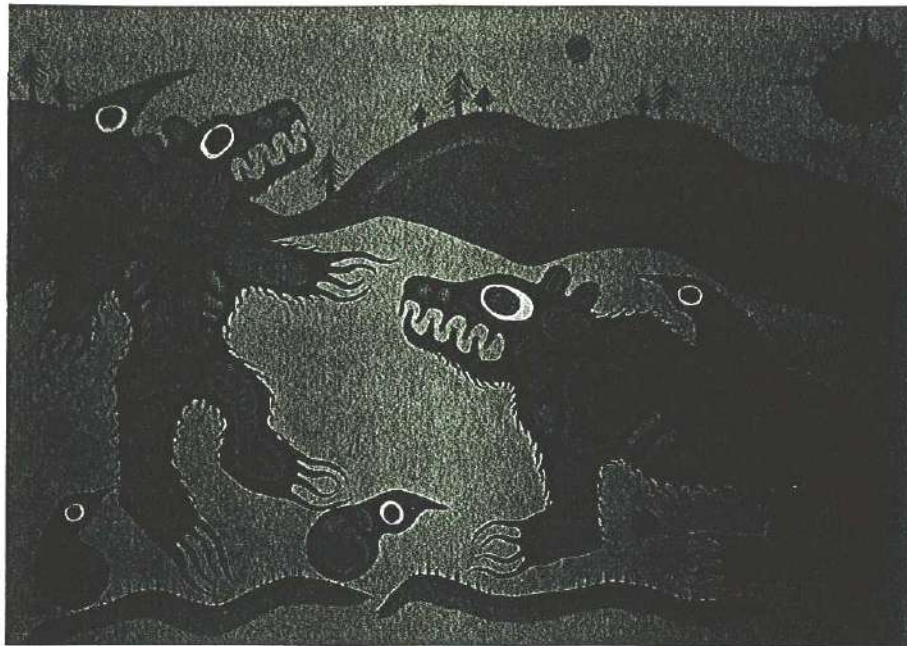




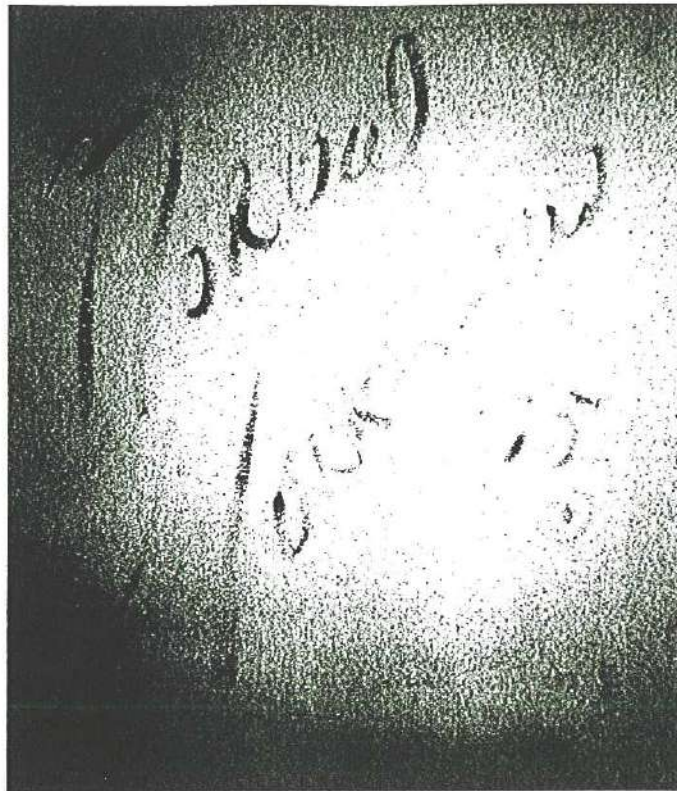
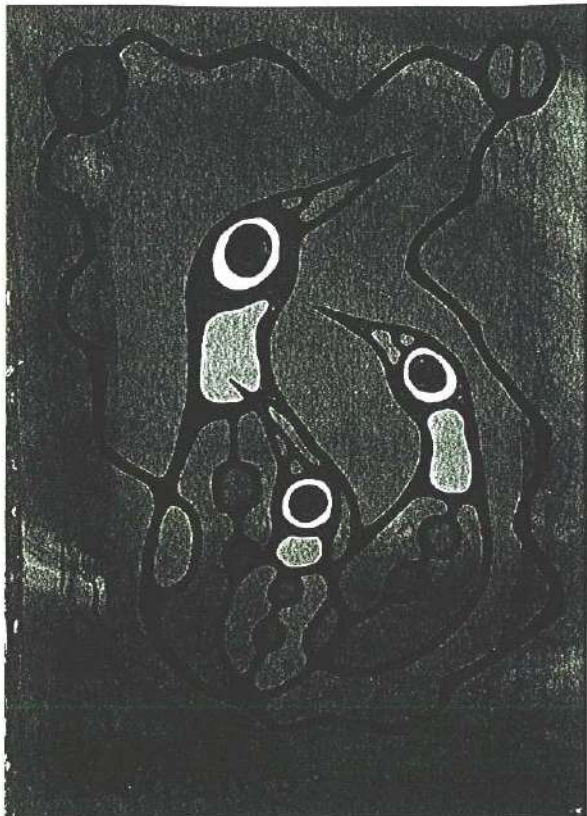
1. Copper Thunderbird - approx. 6'4'
Back: Norval Morrisseau - Warrior Thunderbird - '77



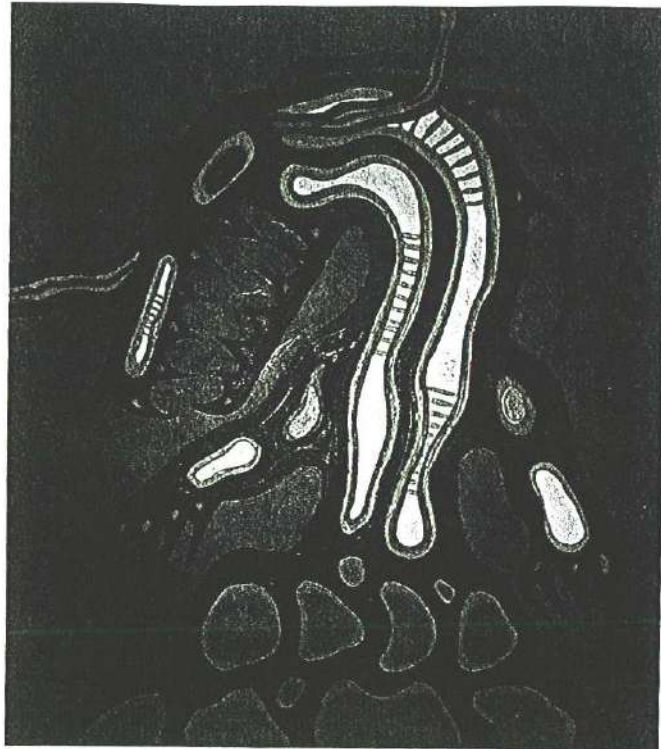
2. Artist Speaks to Moose Spirit - approx. 5'5'
Back: Norval Morrisseau - Artist Speaks to Moose Spirit - '79



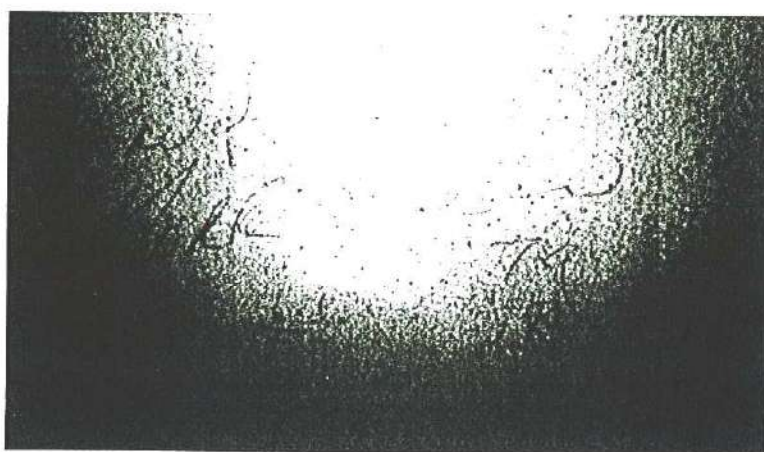
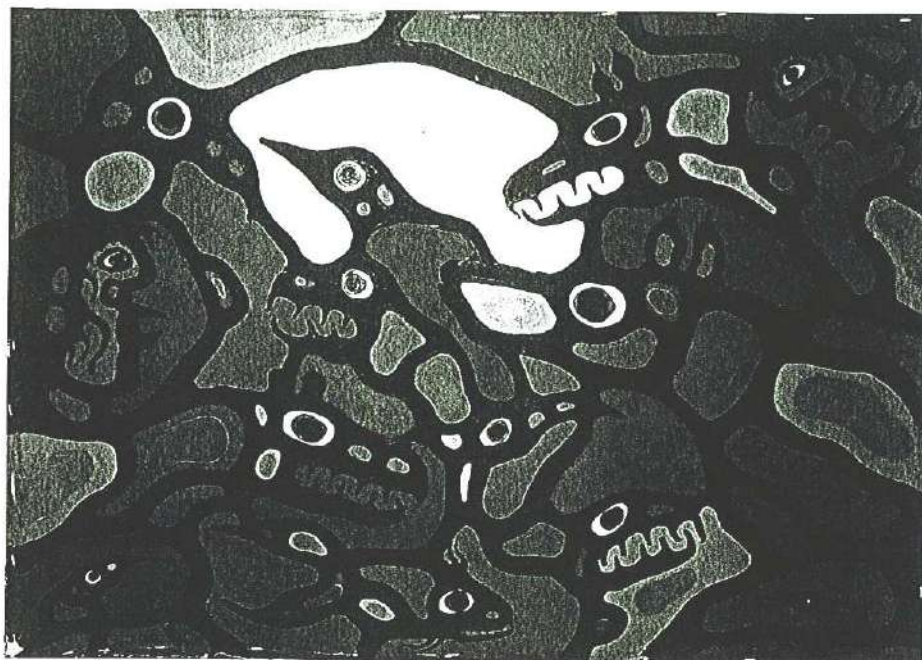
3. Bears in Landscapes - approx. 5'4'
Back: Norval Morrisseau - '74



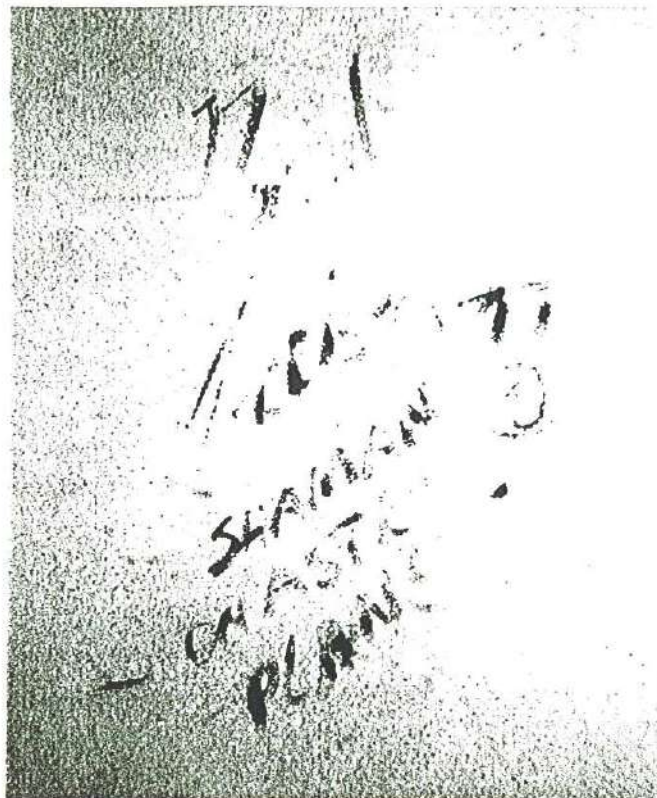
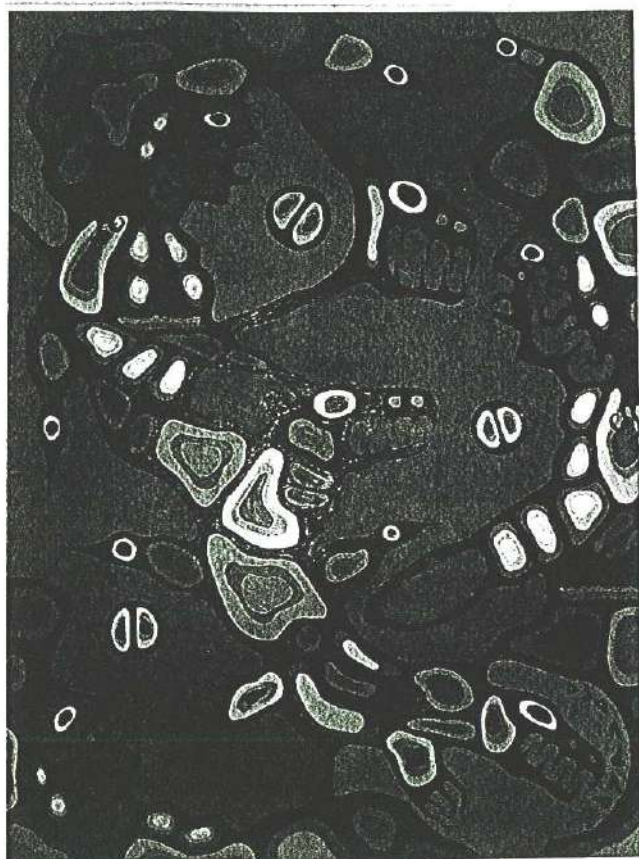
4. Loons - approx. 2.5'/3.5'
Back: Norval Morrisseau - - '75



5. Fire Spirit - approx. 2.5'/2.5'
Back: Norval Morrisseau - Fire Spirit - '77

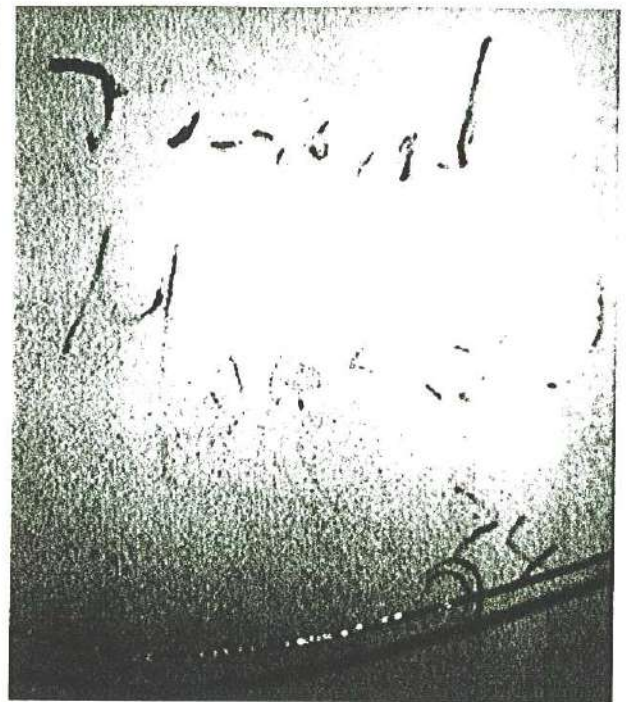
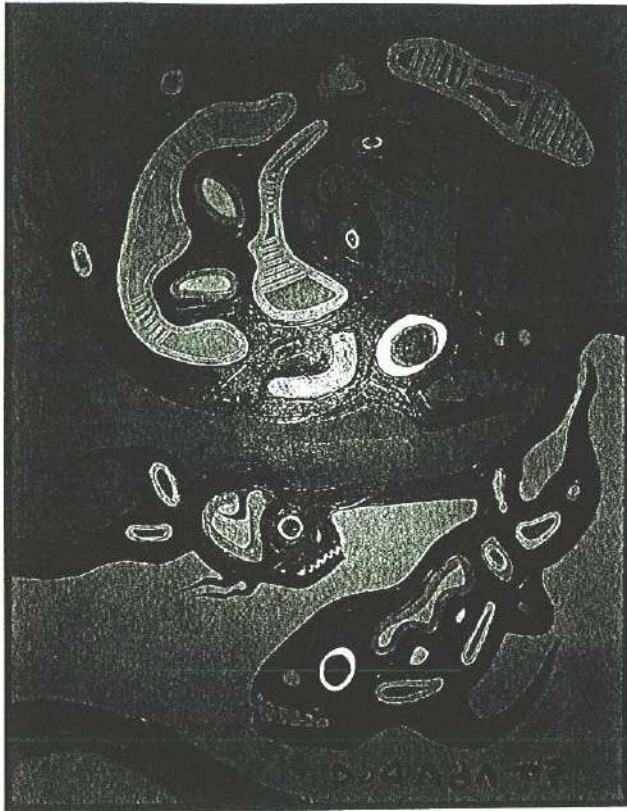


6. Spirit Composition - approx. 3'4'
Back: (Pencil) Norval Morrisseau - '79

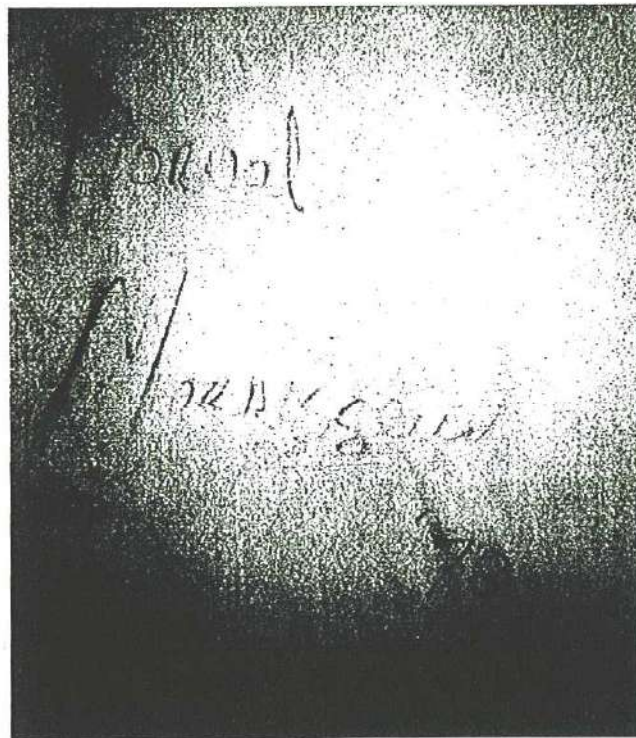
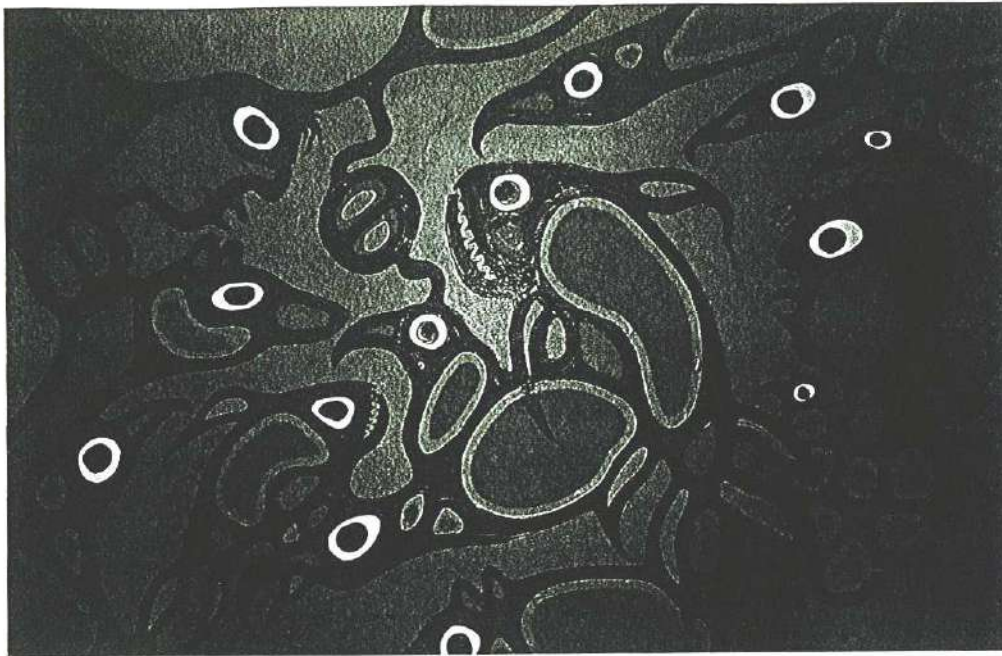


7. Shaman Astral Plane - approx. 5'/5.5'

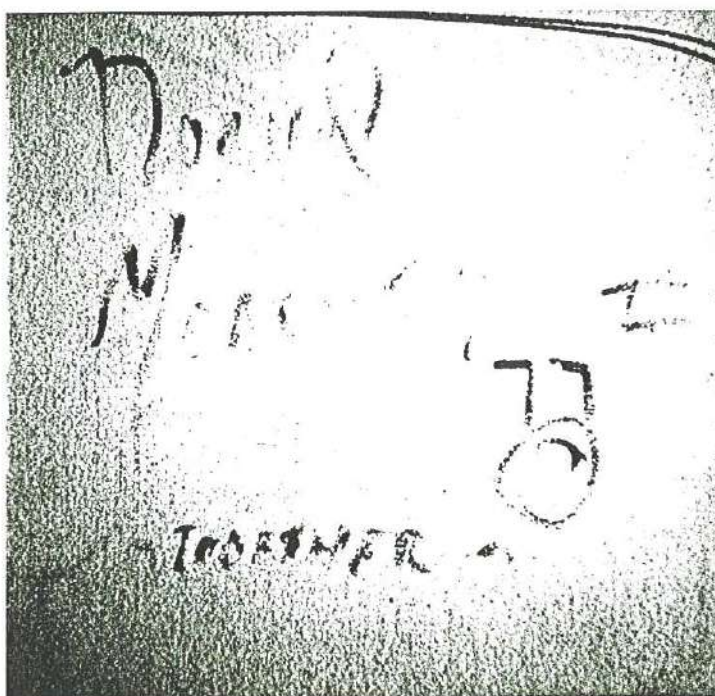
Back: Norval Morrisseau - Shaman Astral Plane - '77



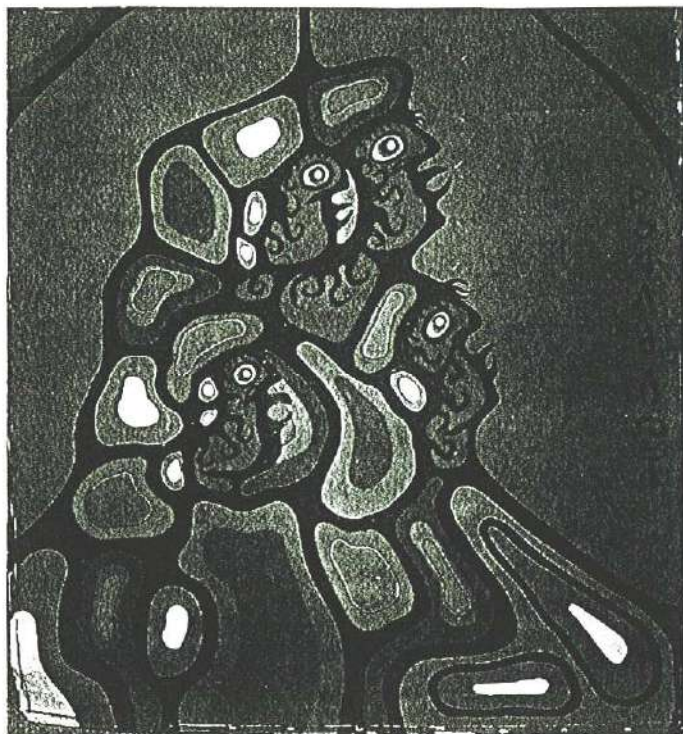
8. Beaver God - approx. 4'3"
Back: Norval Morrisseau - '74



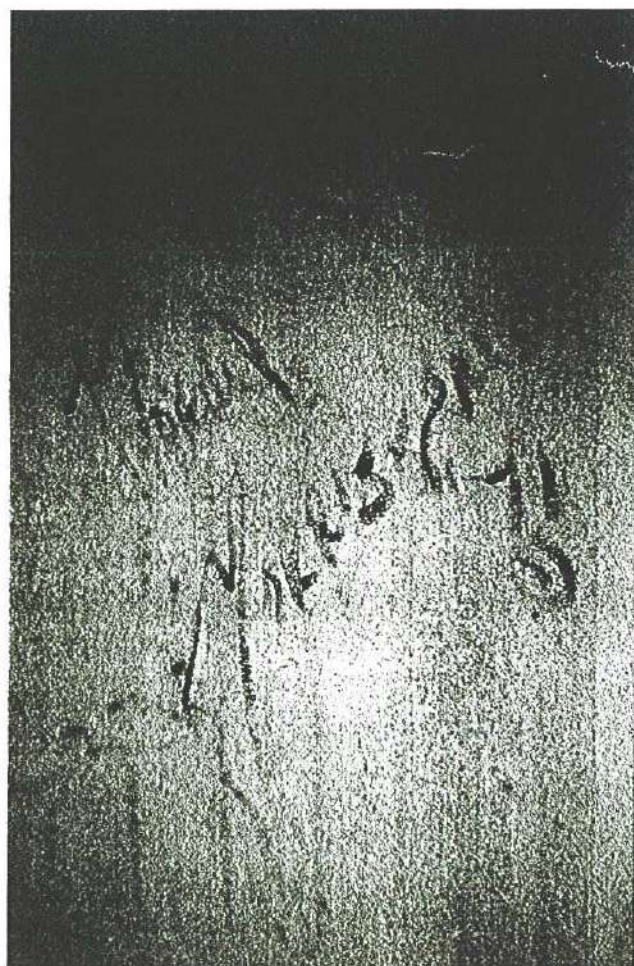
9. Shaman Underworld - approx. 5'3"
Back: Norval Morrisseau - - '76

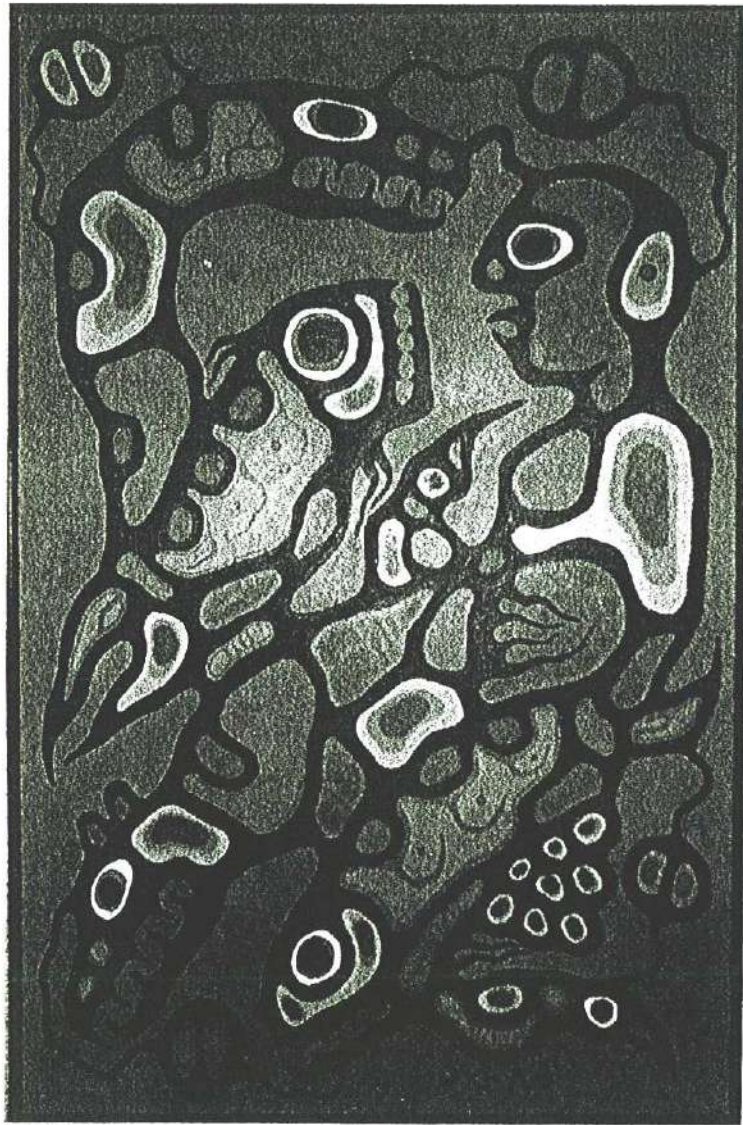


10. Together - approx. 5'4'
Back: Norval Morrisseau - - '77

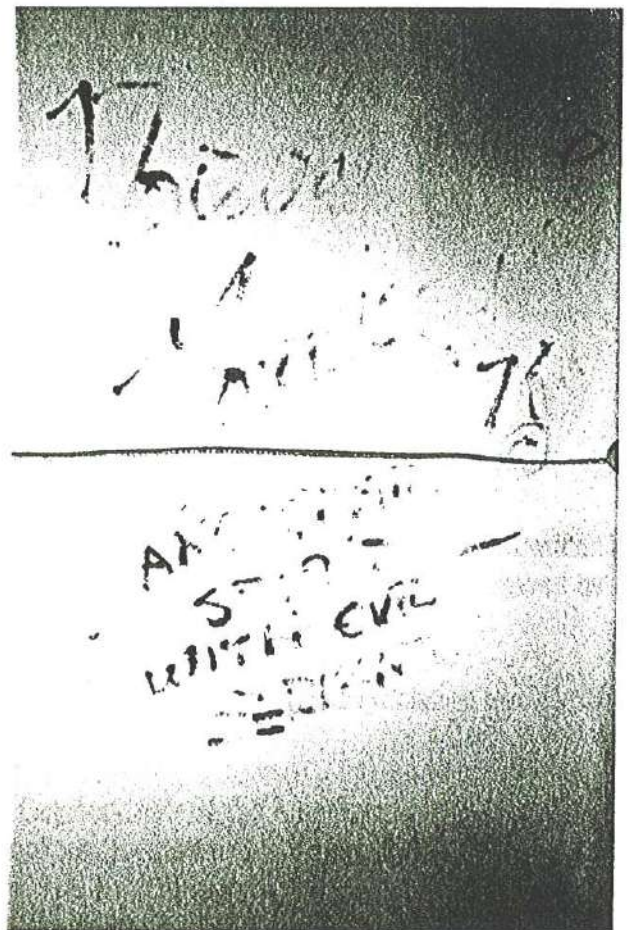


Family.
Norval Morrisseau 1971.





Title: Astral Spirit with Evil Serpant.
Norval Morrisseau 1978.



CURRICULUM VITAE

of

BRIAN LINDBLOM
Forensic Document Examiner

DOCUMENT EXAMINATION CONSULTANTS INC.
(613) 722-7058 – Ottawa (416) 927-1453 – Toronto

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND - University of Manitoba, B.A., 1979

EMPLOYMENT - Document Examination Consultants Inc: November 1987 to the present.
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police Central Forensic Laboratory (Ottawa): June 1980 to November 1987.

FORENSIC TRAINING - Understudy Program in Document Examination at the R.C.M.P. Central Forensic Laboratory commenced in June 1980 and completed in December 1981. This program included modules on such subjects as:

- Methods and Systems of Handwriting
- Principles and Philosophy of Handwriting Comparisons
- Characteristics of Traced, Simulated and Disguised Writing
- Mechanical Product Comparisons
- Restoration and Decipherment of Indented Impressions and Damaged Documents
- Examinations of Altered, Eradicated and Indented Writing
- Ink and Paper Analysis
- Physical Matching Techniques.

Understudy Program in Graphic Arts was completed at the R.C.M.P. Central Forensic Laboratory in 1985. This program of study included modules on such subjects as:

- Paper Manufacture
- Photography
- Printing Processes
- Production and Issuance of Genuine Security Documents
- Methods of Producing Counterfeits
- Principles and Methodology Employed in Examining Counterfeits.

Each program included reading assignments, study tours, essays, practical exercises, oral presentations and written examinations. Practical training included the completion of more than ninety cases, all of which were reviewed by senior examiners.

A **Diploma in Forensic Document Examination (F.S.S. Dip.)** was awarded by the Forensic Science Society of England in September 1986.

Certification as a Forensic Document Examiner was awarded in October 1990 by the American Board of Forensic Document Examiners (ABFDE) after completion of Board examinations. Elected to the Board of Directors in July 1995. Member of testing committee for certification until July 1998. The ABFDE is the only certifying body in North America and it is sponsored by the Canadian Society of Forensic Science, American Academy of Forensic Science and American Society of Questioned Document Examiners.

CONTINUING EDUCATION - Have attended workshops and seminars on a variety of forensic subjects including; paper analysis, complex signature cases, facsimile machines, advanced infrared examinations, digital image enhancement, physiology of writing, providing expert testimony and technical writing. These sessions were sponsored either by the Canadian Society of Forensic Science, The American Society of Questioned Document Examiners or The American Board of Forensic Document Examiners.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Canadian Society of Forensic Science (1983 - present)
- American Society of Questioned Document Examiners (1983 - present). Advancement to Full Membership achieved in 1989, following completion of examinations. Member of: Evaluation and Examinations Committee, September 1995 - December 1996; Journal Committee, January 1995 - August 1997
- The American Academy of Forensic Sciences (1996).

EXPERIENCE

Several thousand documents have been examined respecting questioned handwriting, typewriting, inks, paper, photocopy manipulation, facsimile copies, stamp impressions, alterations, counterfeit and altered negotiable instruments and travel documents.

Casework has been completed for:

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|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| • law firms | • school boards |
| • insurance companies | • accounting firms |
| • private and Crown corporations | • banks |
| • unions | • police departments |
| • municipal governments | |

as well as regulatory bodies such as:

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| • The Professional Association of Engineers of Ontario | • The Law Society of Upper Canada |
| • The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario | • The Law Society of Manitoba |
| • The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba | • The College of Nurses of Ontario |
| • The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan | |

Expert evidence has been given at civil and criminal trials, employment arbitration's, immigration hearings, and before licensing boards. Testimony has been presented in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick.

CONSULTING SERVICES

While employed at the Central Forensic Laboratory, provided assistance with, and recommendations for, the development of security features in Canadian negotiable documents and passports. As a private examiner have designed and evaluated negotiable instruments and immigration documents for Crown and private corporations.

TEACHING

Training programs were developed for the examination of travel documents. Trainees' assignments and casework were monitored. Programs for the screening of suspect documents were designed and presented to police officers, immigration inspectors, visa officers and customs officials in Canada and the U.S.A.. Lectures have been given in the forensic science courses at the University of Ottawa Law School and at the University of Toronto. Workshops and lectures have been provided to the American Society of Industrial Security, the Canadian Institute, the Council of Private Investigators of Ontario, and the American Board of Forensic Document Examiners.



PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Practical Problems in the Relative Dating of Inks
MAFS Conference (Minneapolis) September 2001
- A Case Study Illustrating Detection of Digital Manipulation
ASQDE Conference (Ottawa) August 2000
- Tracking of Sourced Impressions
ASQDE Conference (Ottawa) August 2000
- Enlargement and Reduction Characteristics of Facsimile Transmission Copies
ASQDE/IAFS Conference (Los Angeles) August 1999
- Write-On 1.0 Using Pikaso Software to Aid in the Comparison of Handwriting
ASQDE/IAFS Conference (Los Angeles) August 1999
- The Litigator's Guide to Expert Witnesses
Document Examination Chapter, Canada Law Book Inc, 1997
- An Evaluation of Line Quality in Photocopied Signatures
ASQDE 54th Annual Conference (Washington, DC) August 1996
Science and Justice, Journal of the Forensic Science Society, 1998
- A Collection of Fax Fonts, Part II
ASQDE 53rd Annual Conference (Chicago, IL) September 1995
- The Role of Forensic Document Examination Where Issues of Authenticity Arise in Estate Matters
Factual Disputes In Estate Matters, The Canadian Institute, March 1994, Section 2
- Facsimile Header (TTI) Examinations
ASQDE 52nd Annual Conference (Long Beach, CA) August 1994
- The Application of Forensic Document Examination in Estate and Trust Disputes
Estates and Trusts Journal, September 1994. Vol. 14, No. 1.
Reproduced in Will Power, CCH Canada, 1995
- Forensic Evidence in Canada
Document Examination Chapter, Canada Law Book Inc, 1991
- The Examiner as Forensic Consultant and Expert Witness - Professional and Ethical Considerations
ASQDE 49th Annual Conference (Lake Buena Vista, FL) August 1991
Canadian Society of Forensic Science, Annual Conference (Montreal, Quebec) September 1991
- An Unusual Tracing Method
Canadian Society of Forensic Science Annual Conference, 1990
ASQDE 47th Annual Conference (Washington, DC) August 1989
- Fraud Prevention Measures
Canadian Security, Feb/Mar 1990
- The Forensic Examination of Last Wills and Testaments
Estates and Trusts Journal, August 1989. Vol. 9, No. 3.
- Current Trends in the Alteration and Counterfeiting of Travel Documents
Canadian Society of Forensic Science and IAFS 11th Triennial Conference (Vancouver, BC) 1987

- The Alteration of Laminated Canadian Citizenship Cards
ASQDE 43rd and Canadian Society of Forensic Science joint Annual Conference (Montreal, Quebec) 1985
- Stripper Plate Markings - An Individual Characteristic in Chequewriter Impression Examinations
Canadian Society of Forensic Science Journal, 1984. Vol. 17, No. 3.
International Association of Forensic Science, Conference (Oxford, England) 1984
- Printing Characteristics of the Perm-a-Rite Mark II Label Tape Marker
Canadian Society of Forensic Science Journal, 1984. Vol. 17, No.4.
International Association of Forensic Science, Conference (Oxford, England) 1984. (Poster Presentation)
- Identifying Characteristics in the Handwriting of the Visually Impaired
Canadian Society of Forensic Science Journal, 1983. Vol.16, No.4.
ASQDE 41st Annual Conference (Lake Tahoe, Nevada) 1983.

SEPTEMBER 2001