



City of Edmonton Archives EA-10-128



Glenbow Archives NA-4022-4

Gunn Métis Local Council 55

Lac Ste. Anne Métis Community

December 06, 2016
Stony Plain, Alberta

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History of the Métis in west central Alberta

- Recent research regarding the establishment and subsequent history of Métis community and settlements.
- The Métis settlement at Lac Ste. Anne came to form a central node of a broader Metis community.
- Separate and distinct community from the Métis of Red River, or even other Métis communities in Alberta.
- Mobility, independence and freedom from outside interference is the key, central tradition of the Métis.

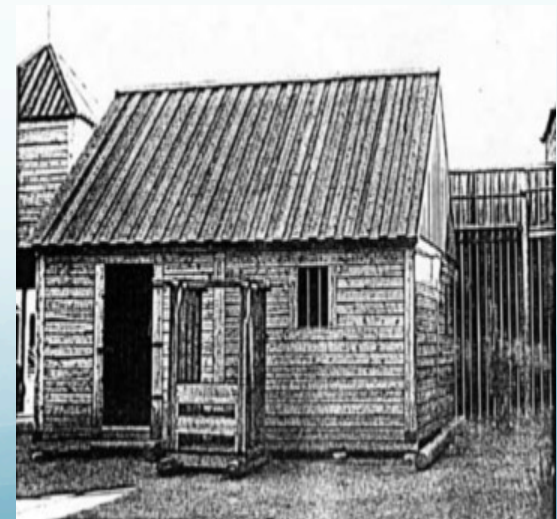




Arrival of the fur trade to these lands



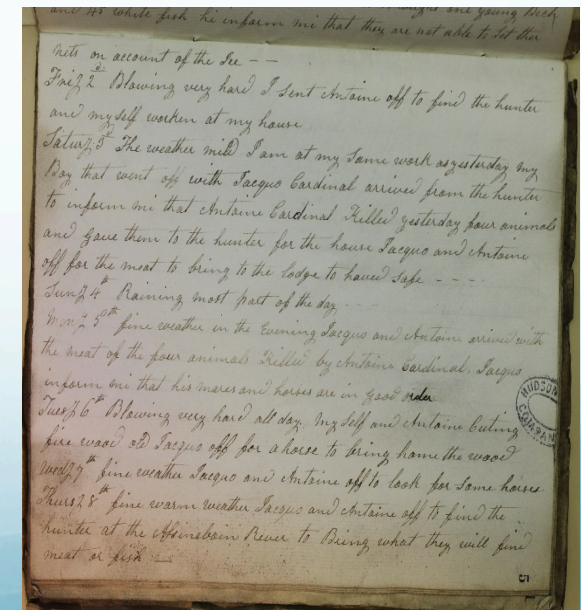
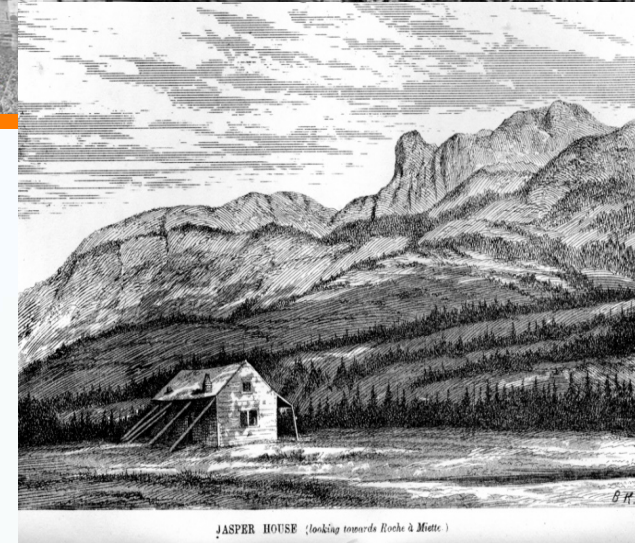
- Fur trade history is key to Métis history.
- Beginning in 1795 – fur trade posts est. nearby.





Athabasca River Basin Connections

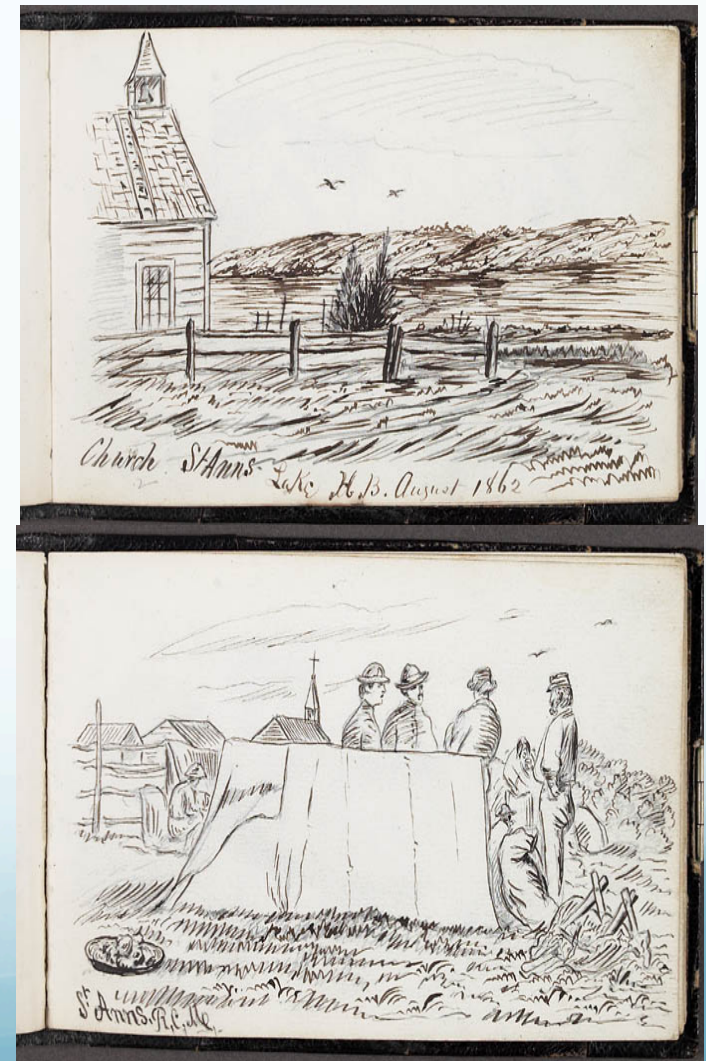
- Jasper House Post and Lesser Slave Lake post journals reveal early family names, including: Antoine Auger, Jacques and Antoine Cardinal, among others.
- 1846 Father De Smet wrote of his encounter with Louis Kwaragkwante (Callihoo), or Walking Sun, and his family of 36 (!)
- Also Métis freemen living at and around Lesser Slave Lake.





Roman Catholic connections

- 1844 Thibault, along with young priest named Joseph Bourassa, established mission at Lac Ste. Anne.
- Explosion of population: families in 1850s include Salois, Alexis, Galarneau, Lacombe (Lamframboise?), Callihoo, Gacy, Moveawachink, Ward, Savard, and Cunningham.
- John Cunningham recorded as the Métis' "principal leader."
- Callihoo, largest group of Iroquois population, moved to Lac Ste. Anne in 1856.





Bison hunts

- Formed the mainstay of the Métis diet through 1870s, as well as supplied material for much of clothing and other goods.
- Residents of Lac Ste. Anne, St. Albert, etc. traveled en masse twice a year, spring and summer, lasting for weeks if not months – with shorter hunts in winter.





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Métis livelihoods in the 19th C

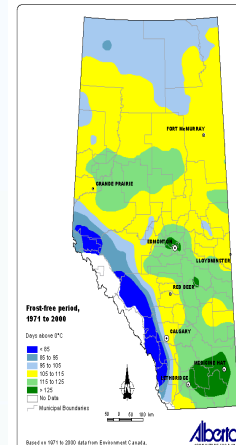
- Lac Ste. Anne Métis utilized a wide range of natural resources, and engaged in many different activities to provide for themselves.





Agriculture

- The Lac Ste. Anne mission attempt to establish an agricultural community; thwarted by early frosts. Mission moved to St. Albert for this reason.
- Agriculture does become fairly important at Lac Ste. Anne, however.

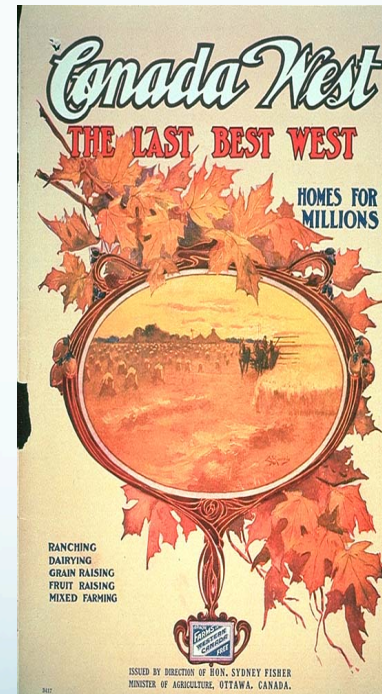


The Mission at Lac Ste. Anne





Settlement and the Dominion





The Lac Ste. Anne Metis community today

- Gunn Métis Local 55
- Focus for the Local Council:
 - *Good governance*
 - *Creating sustainability and prosperity*
 - *Community planning and action*
 - *Education and training*





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Recent news and community impacts

- ✧ United Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)
- ✧ Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada – Calls to Action
- ✧ Daniels v. Canada (Supreme Court decision)



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THANK YOU

