

Upper Fort Garry as Teaching Resource

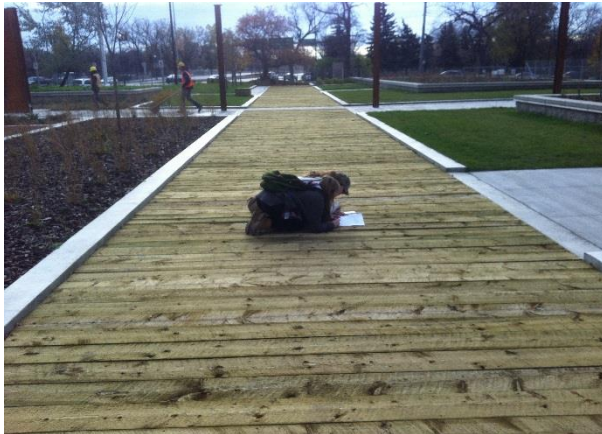
SAGE 2014

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Presentation Schedule

- **Evolution of the Site** Chris Young
- **Why is Upper Fort Garry Historically Important?** Chris Young
- **Teaching History with Historical Thinking** Connie Wyatt Anderson
- **How might Teachers and their Students use the Site?** Matt Henderson
- **Teaching Upper Fort Garry—a lesson plan** Raymond Sokalski
- **A Visit to the Site with Students** Chris Young
- **Questions**

UPPER FORT GARRY



THE EVOLUTION OF THE SITE

- When the City of Winnipeg proposed to sell adjacent land for commercial development in 2006, the **Friends of Upper Fort Garry** was formed to preserve the entire site as a heritage park.
- In 2008, the Friends of Upper Fort Garry were given 107 days to raise \$10 million in capital funds in order to save the site. They achieved their goal!
- On June 1, 2009 the city transferred the title of the site to the **Friends of Upper Fort Garry** to develop a historic park and interpretive centre. The founding chair was the Hon. Peter M. Liba and the current chair is Dr. Jerry L. Gray
- In 2010 The Manitoba Legislature passed the Upper Fort Garry Heritage Provincial Park Act which created a **Provincial Park** in the heart of the city!
- On October 18, 2014, the Upper Fort Garry Provincial Park opened to the public.

THE VISION



The North Side of the Park

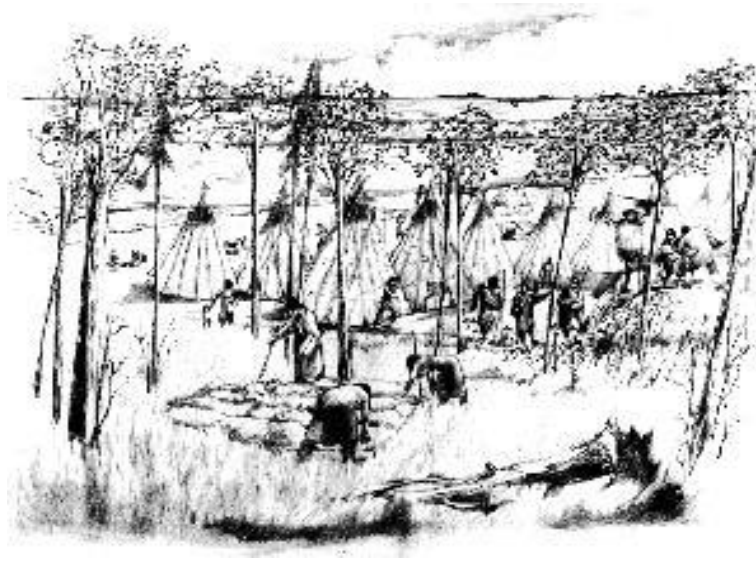


THE HERITAGE WALL



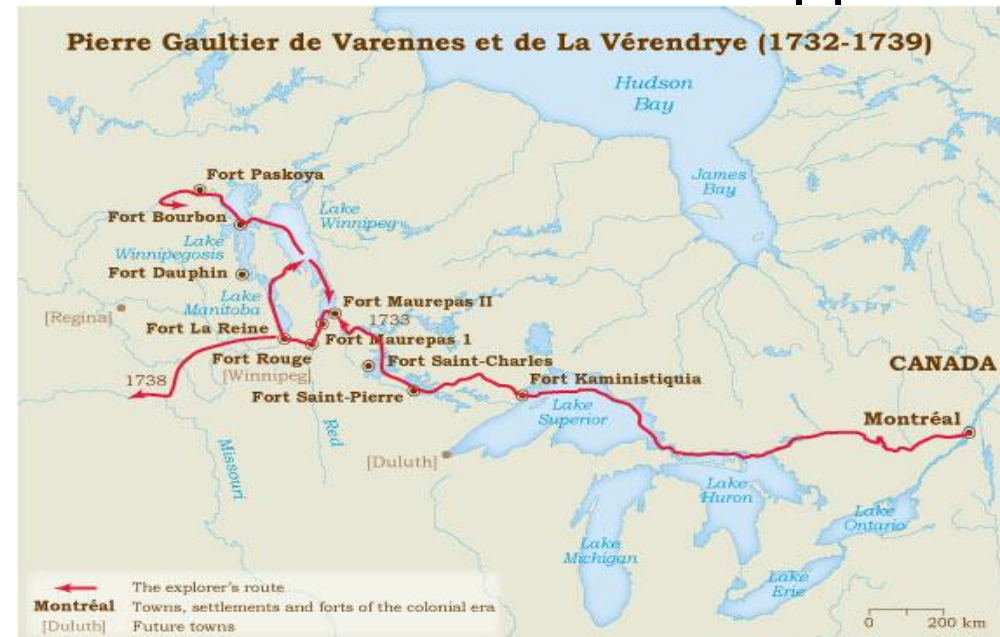
WHY IS UPPER FORT GARRY HISTORICALLY IMPORTANT?

- Archaeological investigations have shown that as early as 6000 years ago **Aboriginal peoples** were trading at the junction of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers.



LA VERENDRYE

- In the 1700s, Pierre Gaultier de Varennes, sieur de La Vérendrye (1685- 1749) a French Canadian military officer, fur trader and explorer established **Fort Rouge** not far from the current Upper Fort Garry Site.



THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY

- In 1822, the Hudson's Bay Company built Fort Garry as a trading post to service the Red River Settlement.
- After a flood destroyed the fort (1826), Upper Fort Garry was rebuilt in 1835.
- In this period, the fort played a key role in the administration of the Hudson Bay's Company and the settlement.



THE BUFFALO HUNT

- Upper Fort Garry was a departure point for the **Metis Red River Cart Brigades**. Often the brigades had to travel as far west as Montana to find the buffalo.
- “In June 1840, an army of 1,630 set out from Red River with 1, 210 carts and 542 dogs.” Alexander Ross



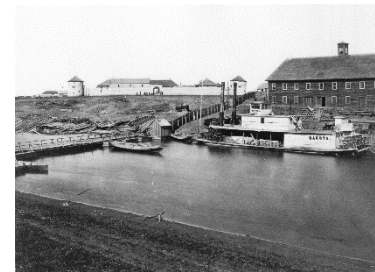
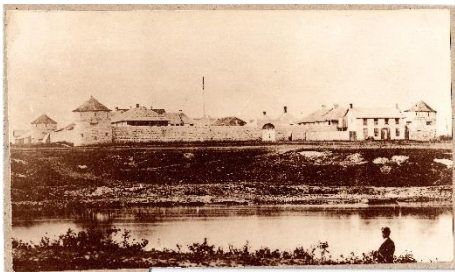
THE YORK BOAT BRIGADES

- The Metis tripmen manned the York boats that used the river system systems of the Northwest from York Factory to the distant Athabasca region.
- Leaving the Upper Fort in the spring bound for York Factory the boat brigades carried the products of the region to northern posts.
- On their return in the fall, the boats brought trade goods from York factory, English provision, agricultural equipment and mail.



THE RED RIVER RESISTANCE 1869-1870

- In 1869, the Hudson's Bay Company agreed to surrender its monopoly in the North-West, including Upper Fort Garry. Many of the 12,000 people who lived in the Red River Settlement worried about their economic and political future. In late 1869, the fort was seized by Louis Riel and his followers.
- At Upper Fort Garry, representatives of the **Legislative Assembly of Assiniboia** negotiated Manitoba's entry into Canadian Confederation.
- Manitoba became a province on July 15, 1870.



THE FIVE INTERPRETIVE THEMES FOR TEACHING UPPER FORT GARRY

- 1) Upper Fort Garry as a Transport Hub in British North America: Power, Authority and Linking Western Canada with Global Trade
- 2) Upper Fort Garry and the Red River Resistance: The Birth of Manitoba and Winnipeg and the Growth of Canada
- 3) The Cultures of Red River: Upper Fort Garry and Daily Life in the Red River Settlement
- 4) Upper Fort Garry and the First Nations Experience
- 5) The Upper Fort in Its Environment: Resources and Natural Systems

A QUICK LESSON ABOUT THE RIEL RESISTANCE 1869-70

- Students were given the hand-out “The Red River Resistance” to read in class (10 minutes)
- There was then a discussion about the key moments that occurred during the Resistance. We identified the main historical actors and discussed why the Resistance is historically significant. (35 minutes)
- To support what they learned from the text and from our discussion, the students then watched *Canada: A People’s History* about the Riel Resistance (“From Sea to Sea”) (15 minutes).
- At the site, they were given a hand-out. They needed to visit ufg.pattern.hosting.com in order to complete the assignment.

AT UPPER FORT GARRY

