

Developing a Cultural Heritage Protocol for the Red River Métis

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Who we are



- Dr. Kisha Supernant is a Red River Métis/Papaschase/British woman whose family relations include Supernault, Gladu, Knott, Linklater, Desjarlais, and Gauthier among others. She is the Director of the Institute of Prairie and Indigenous Archaeology at the University of Alberta and of the Exploring Métis Identity Through Archaeology project.



- Emily Haines is a Red River Métis/Polish-Canadian woman originally from north-end Winnipeg and currently living in Edmonton, Alberta. Her family relations include Militaire/Malaterre, Larocque, McIvor, and Fleury among others. She is a master's student at the Institute of Prairie and Indigenous Archaeology, where she researches the histories of Métis cultural heritage in Edmonton.

Outline

- MMTP background
 - Historic Land Use
 - Archaeological Heritage
- Cultural Heritage Protocols
 - Examples
- Questions
- Discussion

The Project: MMTP Cumulative Effects

Demonstrate

Demonstrate presence of Métis historic land use in southern Manitoba where MMTP is located

Assess

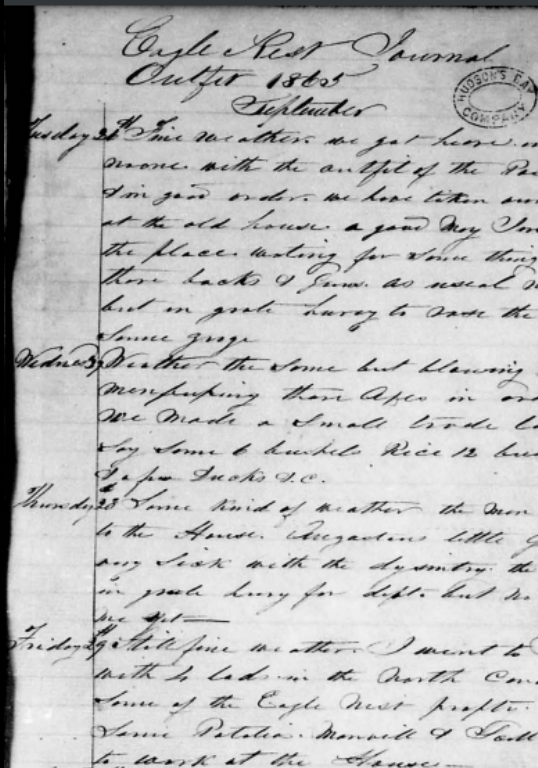
Assess cumulative effects of development on archaeological resources

Develop

Develop cultural heritage protocol to protect Red River Métis heritage resources

Historical Review

- 100 historical sources
- Focus on late 18th century - mid 20th century
- Area: central and southern Manitoba
- Journals and primary sources
- Secondary sources



Eagle Nest Journal
Outlet 1865
September

Monday Fine weather we got home in
morning with the outfit of the Post
I in good order we have taken over
at the old house a good day from
the place waiting for some thing
there lack of June as usual we
but in great hurry to save the
some more

Tuesday Weather the same but blowing
messing them after in our
we made a small trade la
by some 6 bushels Rice 12 bu
of for Ducks &c.

Thursday Some kind of weather the same
to the House. In garden little of
very sick with the dysentery the
in great hurry for left but we
we get

Friday Still fine weather I went to
with to look in the North Cor
Some of the Eagle Nest people
Some Potatoes Mammals & Salt
to work at the House

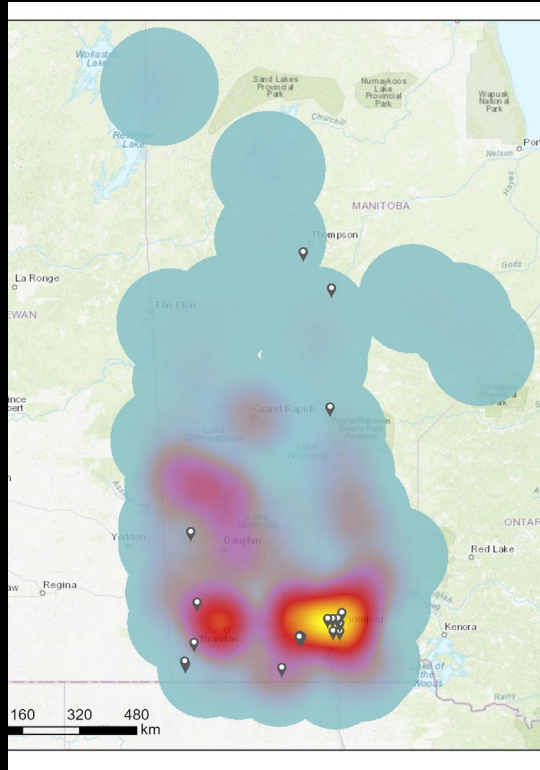
Historical Review

- 68 Traditional Knowledge resources
- Oral history recordings and transcripts
- Books and articles containing traditional knowledge
- Métis Nation occupation or use of specific locations in South or central Manitoba
 - + Specific locations required to create map
 - + Much more out there than we identified!

Historical Review: Challenges

- Most sources Euro-centric
- Many do not write about Red River Métis or only mention what they find relevant
- Historical terms not precise
- Authors not always concerned with identifying Métis people
- Precise geographical information of sites unavailable
- Many relevant sources inaccessible over study period (May-August 2020)

Historical Review: Results



- 417 sites of historical land use
- Most significant concentration in south
- Dates ranging from late 18th to mid 20th century
 - + Many sites still exist (ex. Communities) and are still places Métis live today
- Size of site ranges from single camp site to whole community
- Strong evidence of presence of the Red River Métis throughout the study area

Historical Review: Results



View of Fort Ellice in 1890

From Historic Sites of Manitoba: "Fort Ellice"

- Most common site types
- Trading post (133)
- Community (115)
- Displacement community (80)
 - + Road allowance communities
 - + Rooster town
- Demonstrates importance of trade and community to Red River Métis

Historical Review: Results

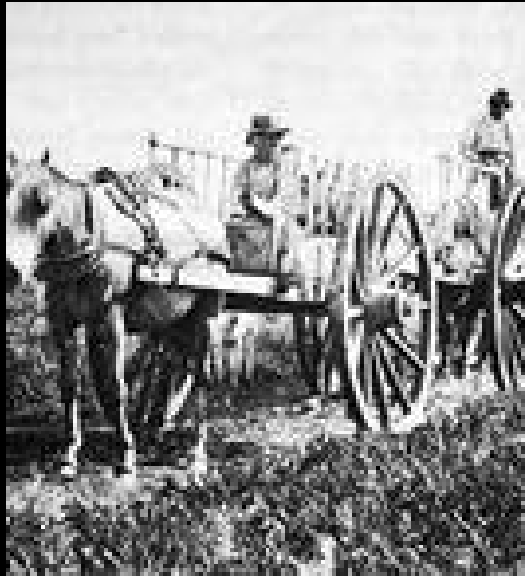
- 36 site types total
- Many kinds of resource harvesting sites
 - + Hunting/Fishing/ Trapping
 - + Farm/ranch
 - + Plant gathering
 - + Sugaring
 - + Salt production
 - + Wintering
- Shows connection with land and place of the Red River Métis



Remains of Monkman Saltworks at Red Deer Peninsula on Lake Winnipegosis in 1889.

From Petch, "Salt-Making in Manitoba"

Historical Review: Results



From Manitoba Archives

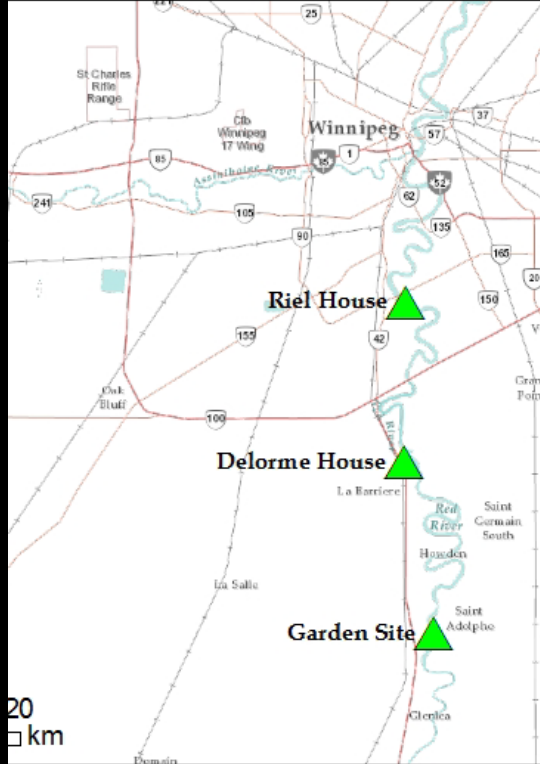
- Large range of site types
 - + Meeting and stopping places
 - + Water crossing
 - + Portage route/place
 - + Cart and foot trails
 - + Cemeteries
 - + Camp sites
 - + Religious sites/places of worship
- Shows the complexity and diversity of Red River Métis lifeways and history

Métis Nation archaeology in the homeland

- Archaeological site location and type are related to history of land use
- Métis historical land use and the corresponding archaeological sites are diverse
 - Farms
 - Camps
 - Overwintering sites
 - Trading posts
 - Trails

History of Métis Archaeology in Manitoba

- Very few sites have been identified as Red River Métis
 - + Riel House
 - + Delorme House
 - + Garden Site



Historic Métis Nation Material Culture

- Different from precontact material culture
- Often lumped more broadly into “historic” and not considered Métis
- Includes wintering sites, homesteads, camp sites, river lots, fur trade posts, cart trails
- Métis sites are archaeological sites and need to be protected
- Any historic era site in Manitoba should be considered a Métis site until proven otherwise

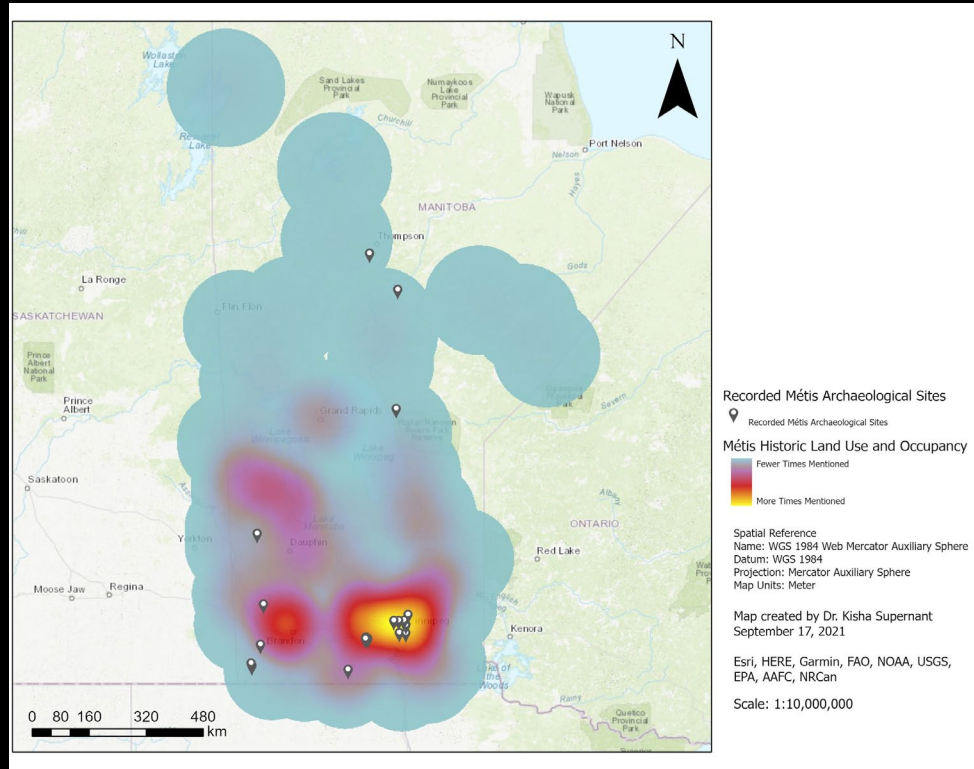


Types of Métis sites and material cultural heritage

- Architecture
 - + Red River frame cabins
 - + Chimneys and mounds
 - + Various cultural depressions
- Artifacts
 - + High bead concentrations and decorated ceramics may be good indicators of Métis sites
 - + Different artifact types will occur in sites with different activities

Impacts on Métis material culture

- Technically “protected” by Heritage Resources Act BUT:
- Red River Métis have not been consulted about impacts to archaeology
- Huge presence of cultural heritage in areas of development
- Many of our places have been negatively impacted



Indigenous Cultural Heritage



- “Indigenous Heritage is complex and dynamic. Indigenous Heritage encompasses ideas, experiences, belongings, artistic expressions, practices, knowledge, and places that are valued because they are culturally meaningful and connected to shared memory. Indigenous Heritage cannot be separated from either Indigenous identity or Indigenous life. It can be inherited from ancestors or created by people today as a legacy for future generations.” - Indigenous Heritage Circle

Why a cultural heritage protocol?

- Red River Métis is rights-bearing, including rights to our cultural heritage
- Red River Nation cultural heritage is present throughout the homeland
- When development happens that could impact our cultural heritage, Métis citizens are not usually consulted
- We need to have tools to assert our values and governance around cultural heritage



What is a cultural heritage protocol?

- Document that defines:
 - + Cultural Heritage values
 - + Mechanisms to protect cultural heritage
 - + Processes for consultation around cultural heritage

Examples of cultural heritage protocols

- BC has the most examples
- Some require permits
 - + Internally managed
- Some set up offices for cultural heritage management within the Nation
- Some define who must be involved in heritage management
 - + E.g., all projects in the territory must have a monitor from the Nation



STÓ:LŌ HERITAGE POLICY MANUAL

Xólhmet te mekw'stám ít kwelát.
We have to look after everything that belongs to us.

Approved by the
Stó:lō Nation Lalems ye Stó:lō Si:ya:m (LYSS)

May 5, 2003

Sto:lo Heritage Policy Manual

- Definition of cultural heritage, including different types of sites that qualify
- Definition of Sto:lo intellectual property
- Management options/measures for protection of heritage
- Process for assessing impacts to heritage
- An internal Sto:lo permitting system
- Collection and curation of artifacts, including cultural protocols

LIL'WAT HERITAGE POLICY



Lil'wat Heritage Policy

- Heritage Policy philosophy
- General goals of the policy
- Definition of archaeological and cultural heritage
- Describe the processes involved when dealing with aspects of archaeological and cultural heritage

Why we are here?

- Developing cultural heritage protocol/policy for MMF – Red River Métis
- Based on values of the Red River Métis
- Need input from Métis Citizens about what is important to include and how we can protect our heritage

Questions for Discussion

- How would you define Métis cultural heritage? What is important to you about Métis cultural heritage?
- What are core values around Métis cultural heritage that should be included in the protocol?
- How do you teach others about the places of your ancestors? How do you want to share Métis heritage with future generations?
- What parts of our past are most important to protect?

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