

CC: Sydney Lancaster <sydney.lancaster@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Research Query - Metis History in central Alberta

[ΔEXTERNAL]

OH my THANK YOU!

This is tremendous - I so appreciate your work on this!

I will dig through all of this, and let you know if there's anything more specific I am searching for - but all of this certainly puts me on a much more solid footing.

Again, my deep thanks!

Best Regards,

Sydney

On Dec 1, 2020, at 3:28 PM, maps <maps@ucalgary.ca> wrote:

Hello Sydney,

Thank you very much for the detailed description of what you are researching and what you need. Unfortunately, with regards to the maps, we don't really have anything showing pre-homestead assignments that show extent of occupation by the Metis and Indigenous peoples. What we do have are the Dominion Land Survey (DLS) Township Plans which I have scanned and uploaded for you along with a sheet from the 1918 Cummins Rural Directory showing your township of interest (T58-R18-W4M) and the adjoining township to the east which shows Victoria settlement, the Hudson Bay Company post, and the Wesleyan Methodist Mission Claim; you can download the zipped folder containing these from https://uofc-my.sharepoint.com/:u:/g/personal/ppeller_ucalgary_ca/EZk2m-VkEgRAoiYE6BZdDulBr5h9ZPg-q_I17VOfogdhg?e=Ef1DPR. As you surmised, the river lots do pre-date the DLS system and were originally Metis land; in fact, the river lots in that area have remained as such to the present day and were never subdivided into quarter sections. The first Metis immigrants actually arrived in that area in 1865 well before the post-rebellion period. This information was garnered from the following publication:

The Victoria Settlement, 1862-1922

<https://cdm22007.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p22007coll8/id/967693/rec/6>.

In addition there might be some useful information in a couple of other digitized local histories in our collection:

Between River and Lake by the Warspite Victoria Trail Historical Society -

<https://cdm22007.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p22007coll8/id/261028> (I

believe this is the publication you used)

By River and Trail: The History of Waskatenau and Districts, Volumes 1 & 2 -

<https://cdm22007.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p22007coll8/id/118767>

&<https://cdm22007.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p22007coll8/id/348679>

I also located an item of interest with some interesting general historical information regarding your area of interest:

From the Alberta Government's Heritage division, a brief history of the Victoria Settlement: <https://albertahistoricplaces.com/2011/09/13/albertas-victoria-settlement-still-a-special-place-after-150-years-2/>. I have also attached an Alberta Recreation and Parks booklet on the Victoria Trail which has some interesting information on the Metis settlers.

Here is a link to Taranko's record in the Land Grants of Western Canada database:

<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/land/land-grants-western-canada-1870-1930/Pages/item.aspx?IdNumber=330826&>

Otherwise, the historical photos and documentation information that you seek are outside our area of expertise. I would recommend that you contact our Archives and Special Collections group to see if they can help you with that. Their email is archives@ucalgary.ca.

The maps that I provided are no longer under copyright protection and may be used for any purpose and without any cost.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best regards,
Peter

From: Sydney Lancaster <sydney.lancaster@gmail.com>

Sent: November 30, 2020 4:35 PM

To: maps <maps@ucalgary.ca>

Cc: Sydney Lancaster <sydney.lancaster@gmail.com>

Subject: Research Query - Metis History in central Alberta

[ΔEXTERNAL]

Hello!!

I am doing some research on the history of Metis movement and settlement along the North Saskatchewan River, along the Victoria Trail, near Metis Crossing.

The allotments along the river appear to predate the Dominion Land Survey, and I believe they were originally Metis land, but I am not sure.

What I am really looking to find are:

