

Métis Archaeological Heritage Resources in the BiPole III Study Area

Clean Environment Commission Public Hearings

November 13, 2012

Winnipeg, MB

Presented by Dr. Kisha Supernant on behalf of the Manitoba
Métis Federation

Rationale

- Heritage review prepared for Manitoba Hydro was general
 - Métis archaeological resources not considered
 - Lack of on-the-ground research
- Report prepared to:
 - Provide a historical background for Métis land use in Manitoba
 - Define Métis archaeological heritage in the study area
 - Provide specific recommendations to ensure proper consultation occurs with Manitoba Métis Federation around heritage resources

Background

- New Nation emerging from social, cultural, economic, and political dynamics of the fur trade
- Played an important economic role
 - Hunting, trapping, trading, farming
- Significant role in the formation of Manitoba
- Largely disenfranchised after 1885 and the advent of scrip



Boundary of Rupertsland



Métis Traders

http://firstpeoplesofcanada.com/fp_Métis/fp_Métis1.html

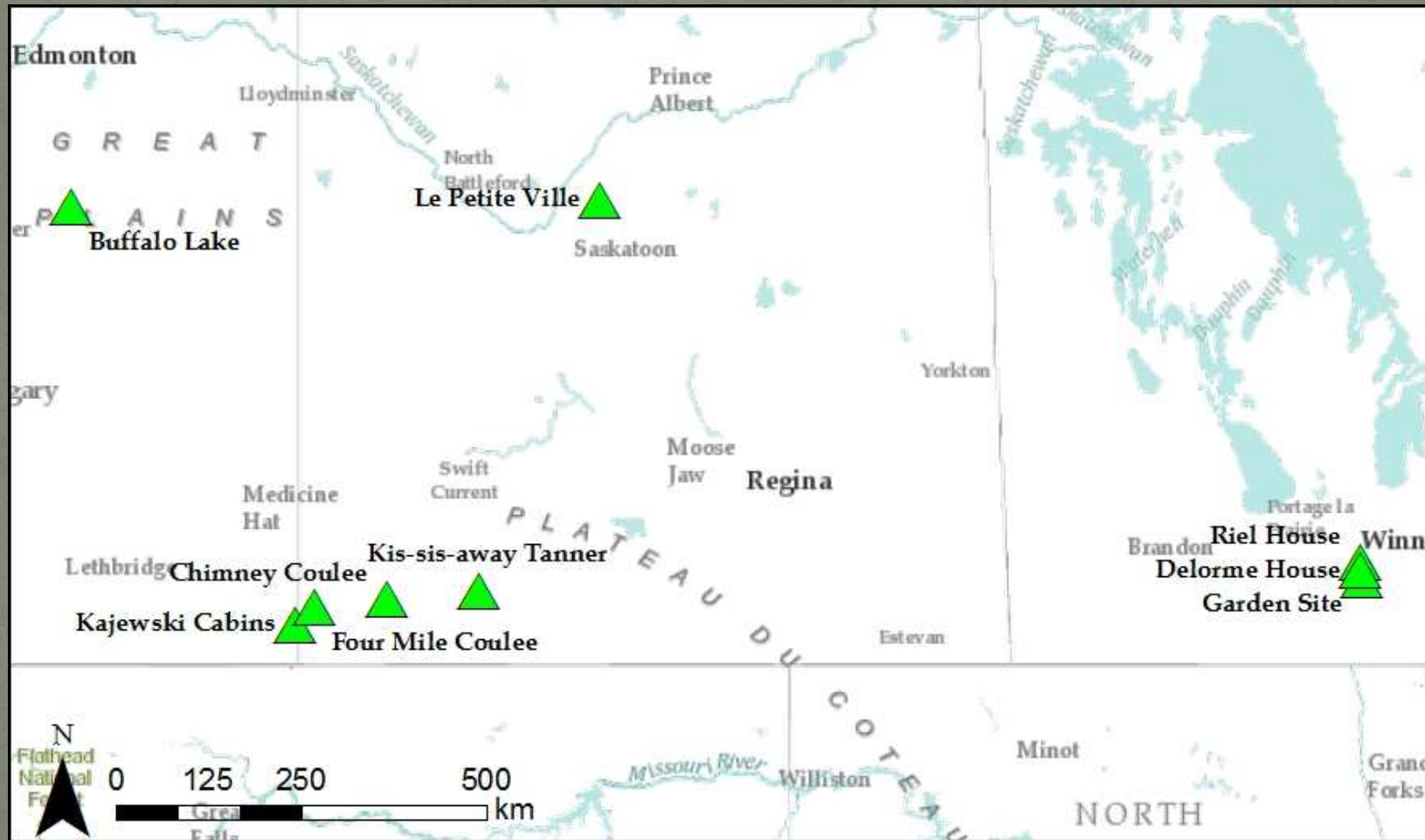
Historical Métis Land Use

- 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
 - Transport
 - Hunting
 - Trapping
 - Overwintering sites
 - Presence at fur trade era forts
 - Trails

Past research on Métis archaeology

- Limited previous research
- Research done on various sites in the 1970s and 1980s
 - Excavations in Manitoba
 - Permanent settlements
 - Excavations in other provinces
 - Overwintering sites in Alberta and Saskatchewan
- Total of nine sites in Canada with previous excavation
- Significant lack of knowledge of Métis archaeological heritage

Sites with excavations

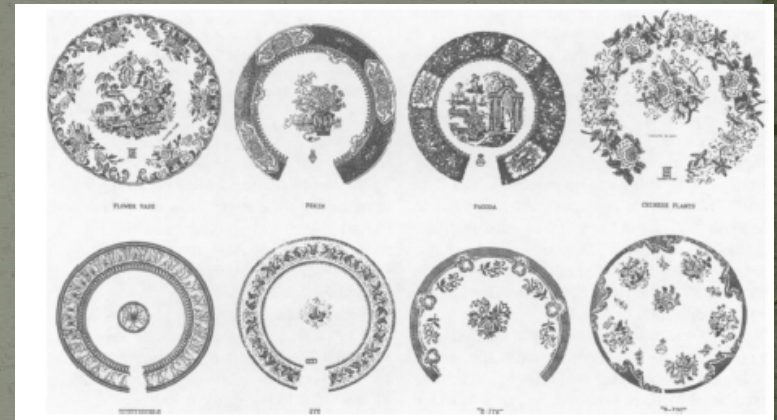


Defining Métis Site Types

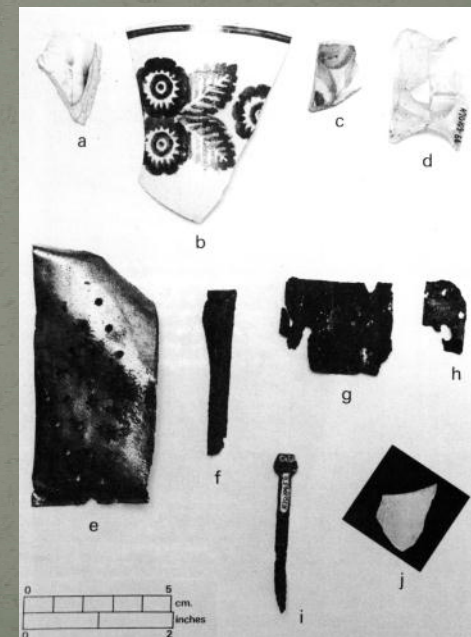
- Combination of factors determine different Métis site types
- Architecture
 - Red River frame cabins
 - Chimneys and mounds
 - Various cultural depressions
- Artifacts
 - Métis material culture in some contexts may not look distinctively different from other historic sites
 - High bead concentrations and decorated ceramics may be good indicators of Métis sites
 - Different artifact types will occur in sites with different activities

Métis Material Culture

- nails, both square and round;
- chinking used in architecture;
- pane glass of several types;
- Hudson's Bay Company ceramics, including rare and delicate ceramics;
- other forms of ceramic;
- kitchen utensils and other kitchen tools;
- pipes;
- brass buttons;
- large numbers of beads;
- weaponry;
- bones of fish, birds, small, and large mammal; and
- lithic materials, including flakes, points, and scrapers.



Burley 1989

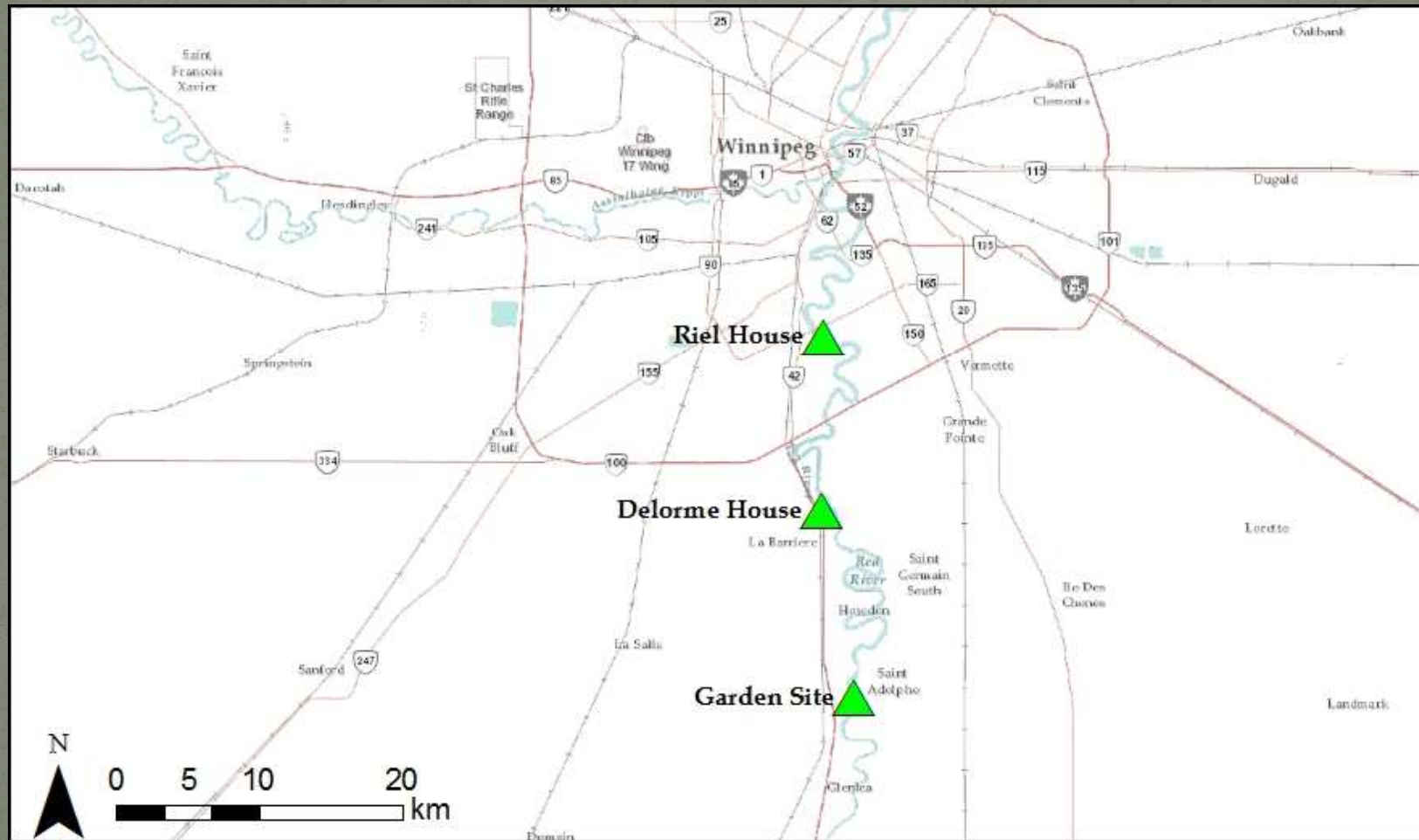


Doll et. al 1988

Métis Site Types in Manitoba

- Permanent Métis settlements
 - Higher proportion of ceramics and architectural remains are expected
 - Use of Red River framing
- Overwintering sites
 - Some architecture, ceramics, and beads
- Camps and other temporary locations
 - Hunting material (arms), faunal material
- Fur trade posts
 - Métis material part of fur trade activities

Location of Sites Discussed in McLeod



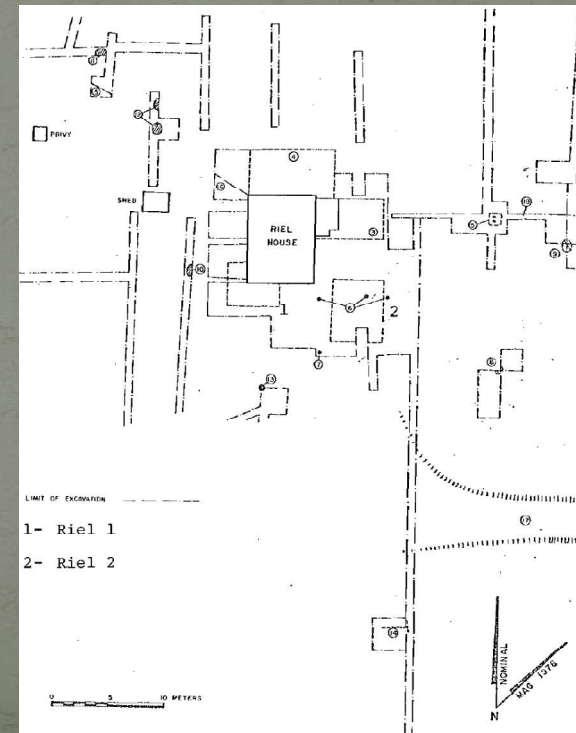
Riel House

- Located in Winnipeg
- 2 areas excavated in the late 1970s
- Great historical significance
- Different units from different occupations by the Riel family
 - 1842-1892
- Diverse material culture
 - High count of ceramics
 - Nails common



Riel House:

www.mhs.mb.ca/docs/mb_history/21/riellandclaims.shtml



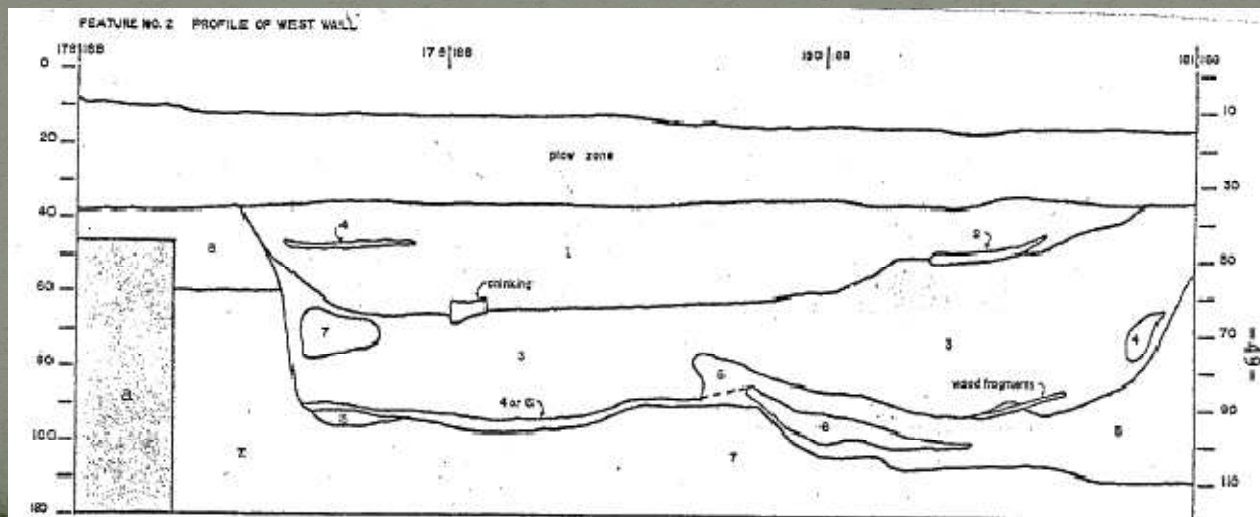
Delorme House

- Located in the parish of St. Norbert
- Cellar feature excavated in 1981
- House occupied from 1854-1880s by the Delorme Family
- Similar artifacts to Riel House
 - Nails most common
 - Ceramics next most common
 - Clothing frequent



Garden Site

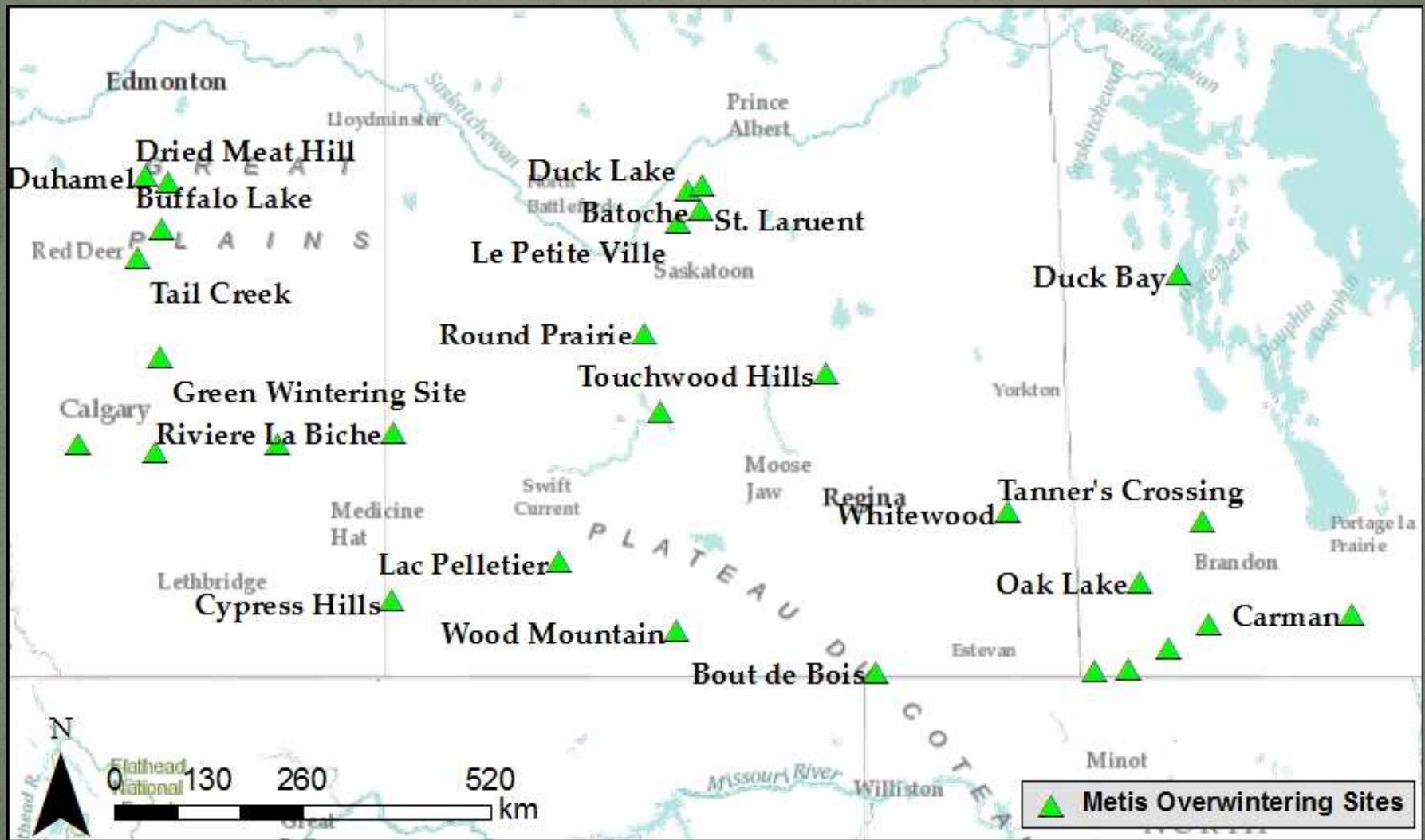
- Also located in the parish of St. Norbert
- Excavated in 1979
- Occupied from 1842-1880s by the Beauchamp family
- Diverse artifact types
 - Beads very common compared to other sites
 - Ceramics common, nails frequent



Artifacts from Métis sites in Manitoba

<u>Artifact group</u>	<u>Garden</u>		<u>Riel 1</u>		<u>Riel 2</u>		<u>Delorme</u>	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
<u>Kitchen</u>	446	28.8	154	69.4	507	53.3	217	16.0
<u>Architectural</u>	373	24.1	38	17.1	307	32.3	852	62.9
<u>Furniture</u>	1	0.1	0	0.0	4	0.4	10	0.7
<u>Arms</u>	19	1.2	0	0.0	1	0.1	3	0.2
<u>Clothing</u>	622	40.1	10	4.5	79	8.3	81	6.0
<u>Personal</u>	7	0.5	0	0.0	8	0.8	20	1.6
<u>Pipes</u>	27	1.7	16	7.2	4	0.4	5	0.4
<u>Activities</u>	55	3.5	4	1.8	41	4.4	166	12.2
TOTAL	1550	100.0	222	100.0	951	100.0	1354	100.0

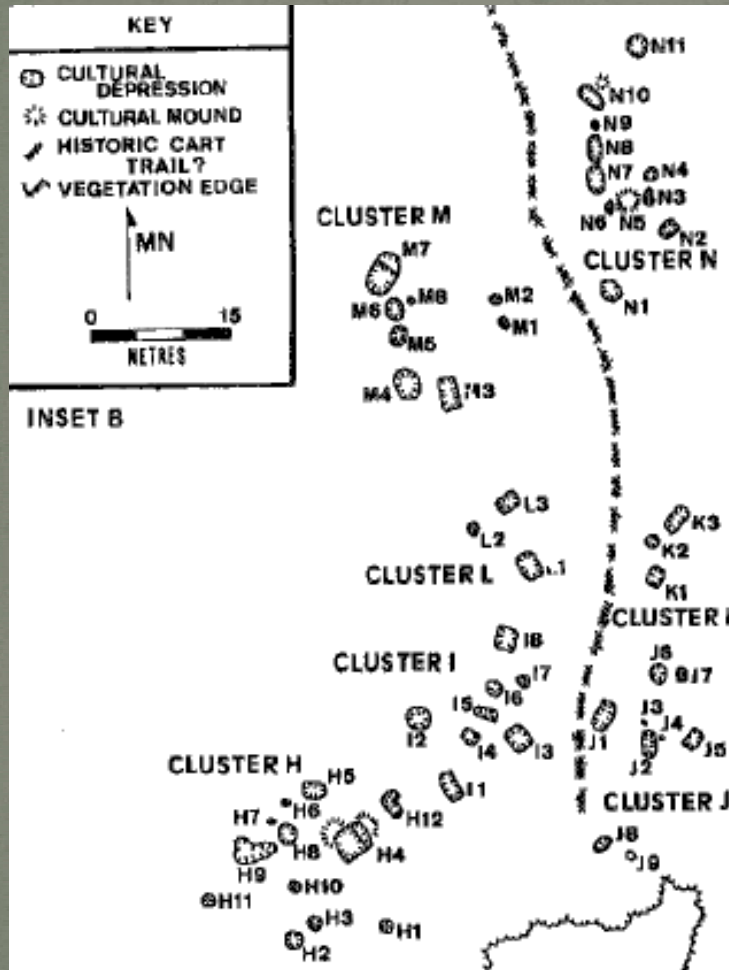
Overwintering Sites



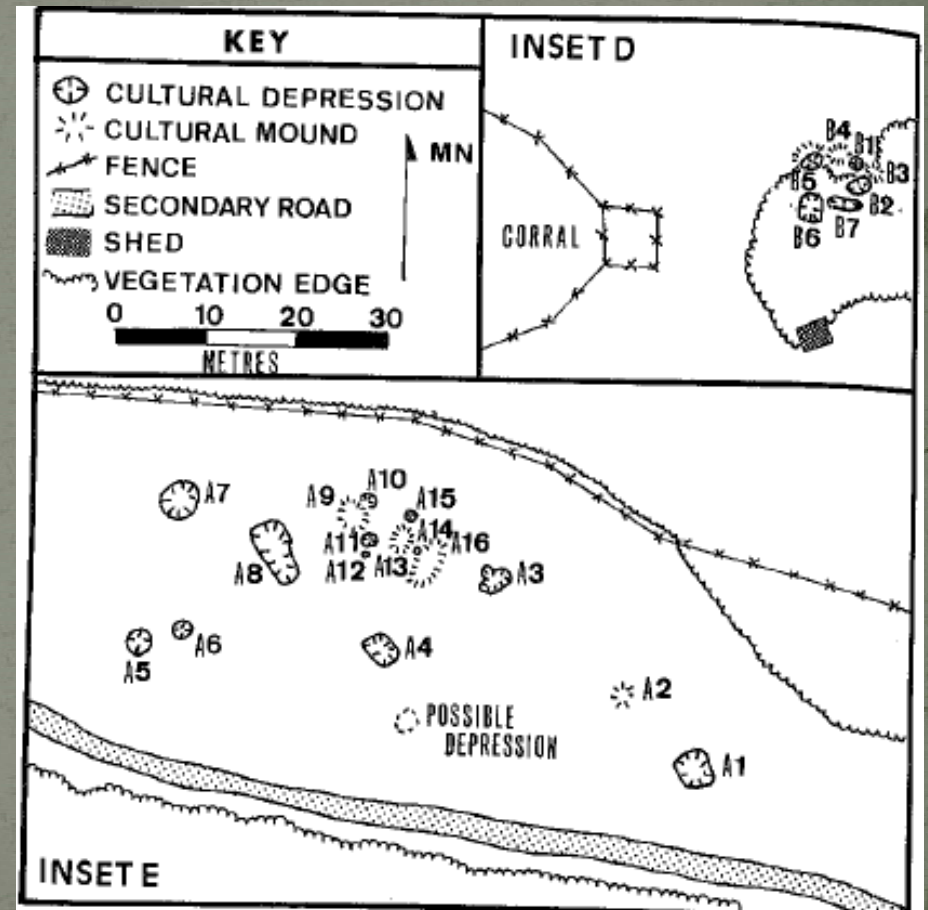
Characteristics of Overwintering Sites

- Collection of cultural depressions and mounds
 - Cabins, chimney mounds, mudding pits, storage pits
- Clustered together at sheltered locations with easy access to wood and water
- Artifacts found at these sites include:
 - architectural debris
 - kitchen material
 - personal items, especially beads
 - arms
 - food remains

Overwintering Site Layout



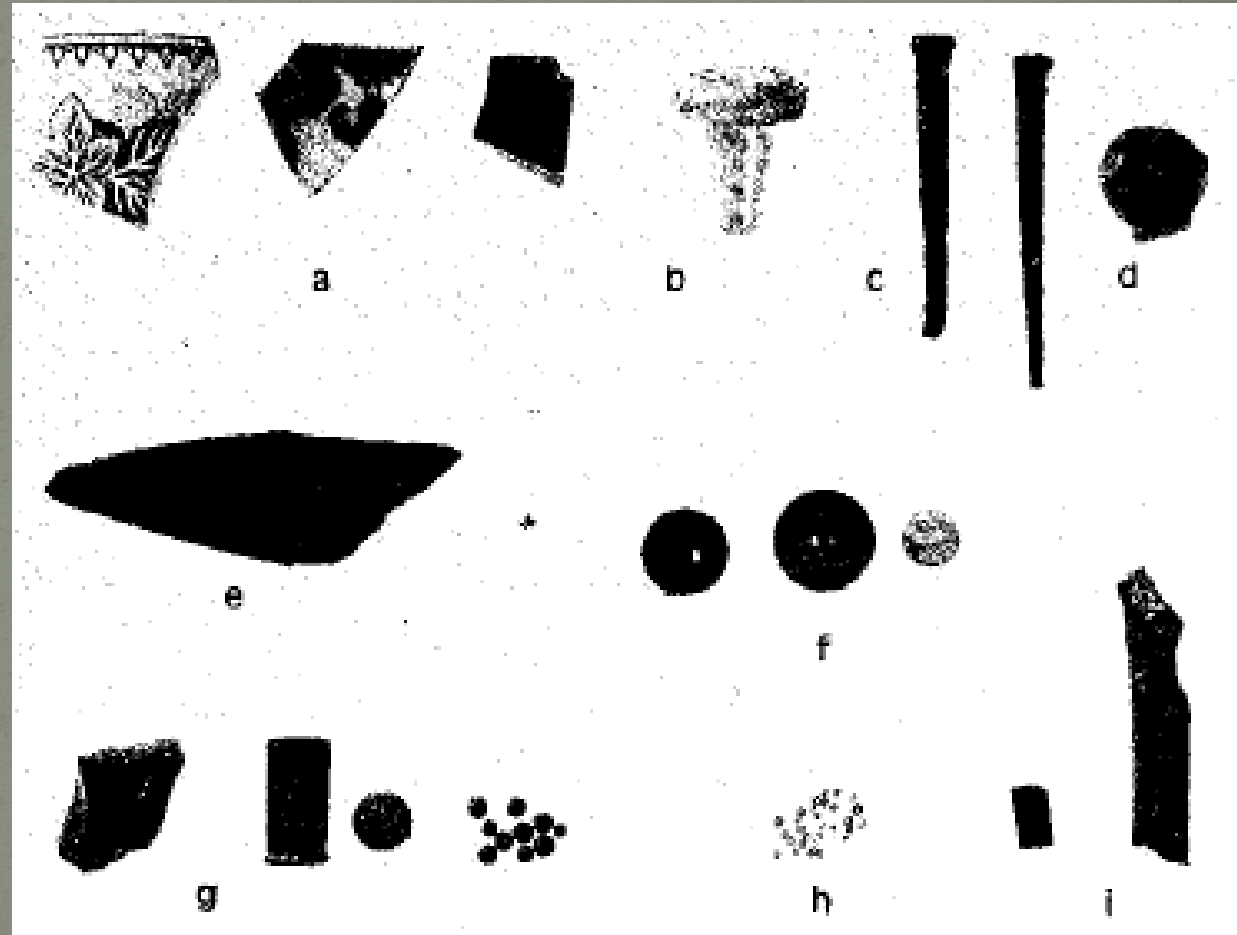
Petite Ville, Saskatchewan



Four Mile Coulee, Saskatchewan 18

Overwintering Artifacts Example

- Ceramics
- Machine cut nails
- Writing slate
- End scraper
- Buttons
- Bullets
- Glass beads

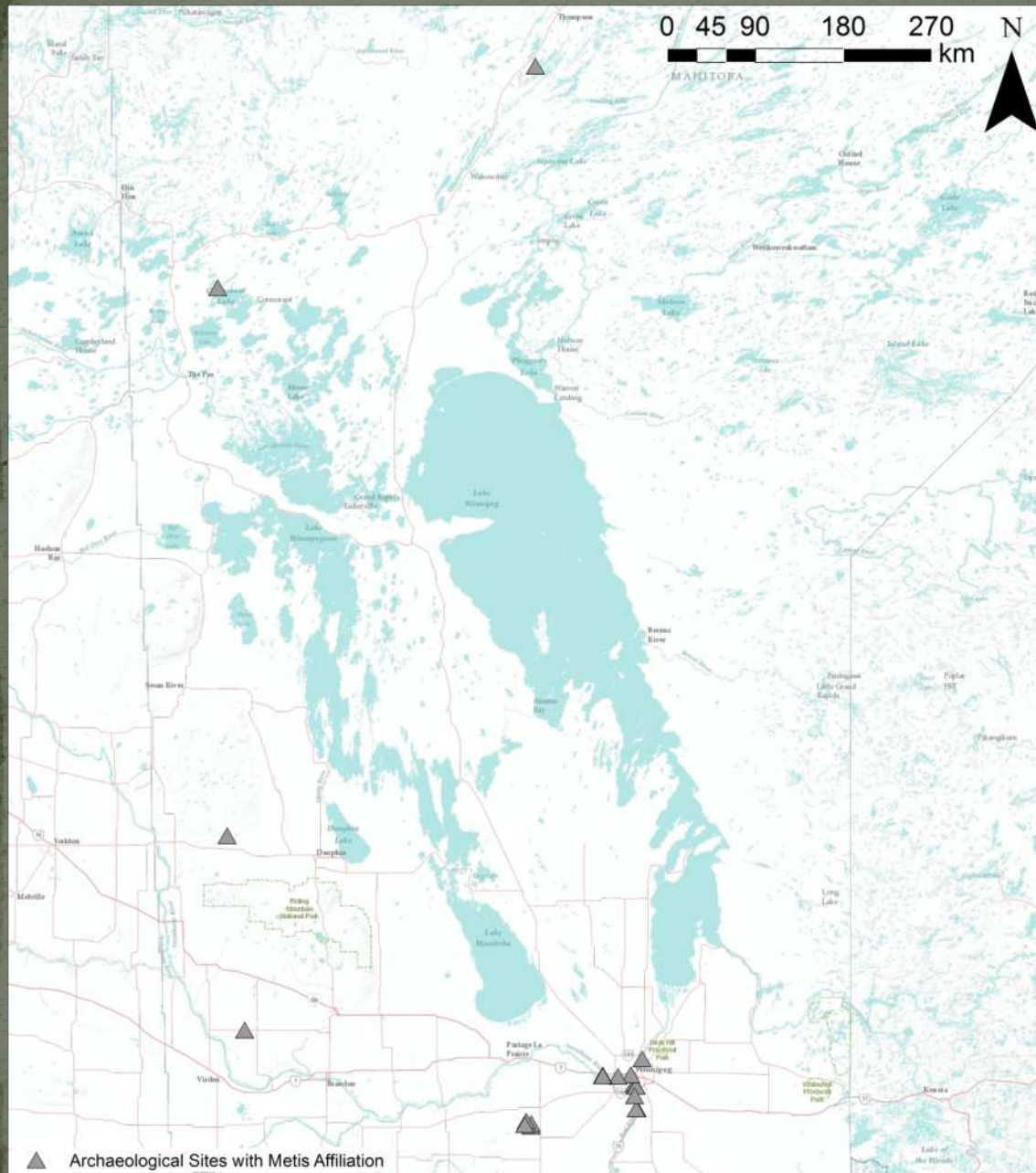


Petite Ville, Saskatchewan

Sites in the BiPole III Study Area

- Review of known sites with Métis affiliation
 - Exact boundaries of the area not provided, so visual review was undertaken
- 20 total known sites in the study area
 - Unknown how many of these might fall within the ROW
 - Some sites undisturbed
 - Many residential sites
 - Some campsites
- High probability of presence of unknown sites in the BiPole III study area

Borden Number	Site Name	Site Type	Condition
DjLm-3	Ilets De Bois Log Chapel	Historic	Unknown
DjLm-4	St. Daniel Mission	Historic	Unknown
DjLm-5	St. Daniel Mission Relocation	Historic	Unknown
DjLm-6	St. Daniel Mission Church Relocation	Historic	Unknown
DkLg-16	Garden site	Historic	Unknown
DkLg-18	Delorme House	Structural	Main Building Moved To St. Norbert Heritage Park
DkLg-29	Métis School Site	Public	Destroyed
DkLg-30	Riel House	Residential	Disturbed
DkLg-36	Name Not Available	Campsite	Destroyed
DkLg-5	Name Not Available	Campsite	Disturbed, Or Destroyed
DkLg-6	Klann Site	Permanent Settlement	Destroyed
DlLg-13	226 Academy Road	Residential	Disturbed
DlLh-31	Name Not Available	Residential	Disturbed
DlLh-4	Sutherland Site	Permanent Settlement	Largely Undisturbed
DlLi-11	Brown Site	Permanent Settlement	Largely Undisturbed
DlLi-12	Name Not Available	Isolated Find	Disturbed
EaMe-2	Eagle Creek Métis Site	Campsite	Natural
EhMf-10	Cowan	Burial; Structural	Slow Building Decay Due To Natural Processes.
GbMf-1	Day Use Area Site	Structural	Disturbed 21
GiLm-4	Ilets De Bois Log Chapel	Historic	Unknown



Known Métis Sites in Study Area

Example: DjLm-6

- In study area
- Cemetery site
- State of intactness unclear
- St. Daniel Mission – home to 30 Métis families (Francis and Palmer 1992:154)
- Of historical significance



http://shsb.mb.ca/Deuxieme_cimetiere_Saint-Daniel_SHSB1910



http://shsb.mb.ca/Eglise_de_Saint-Daniel_SHSB16954

Potential Impacts to Métis Archaeological Heritage

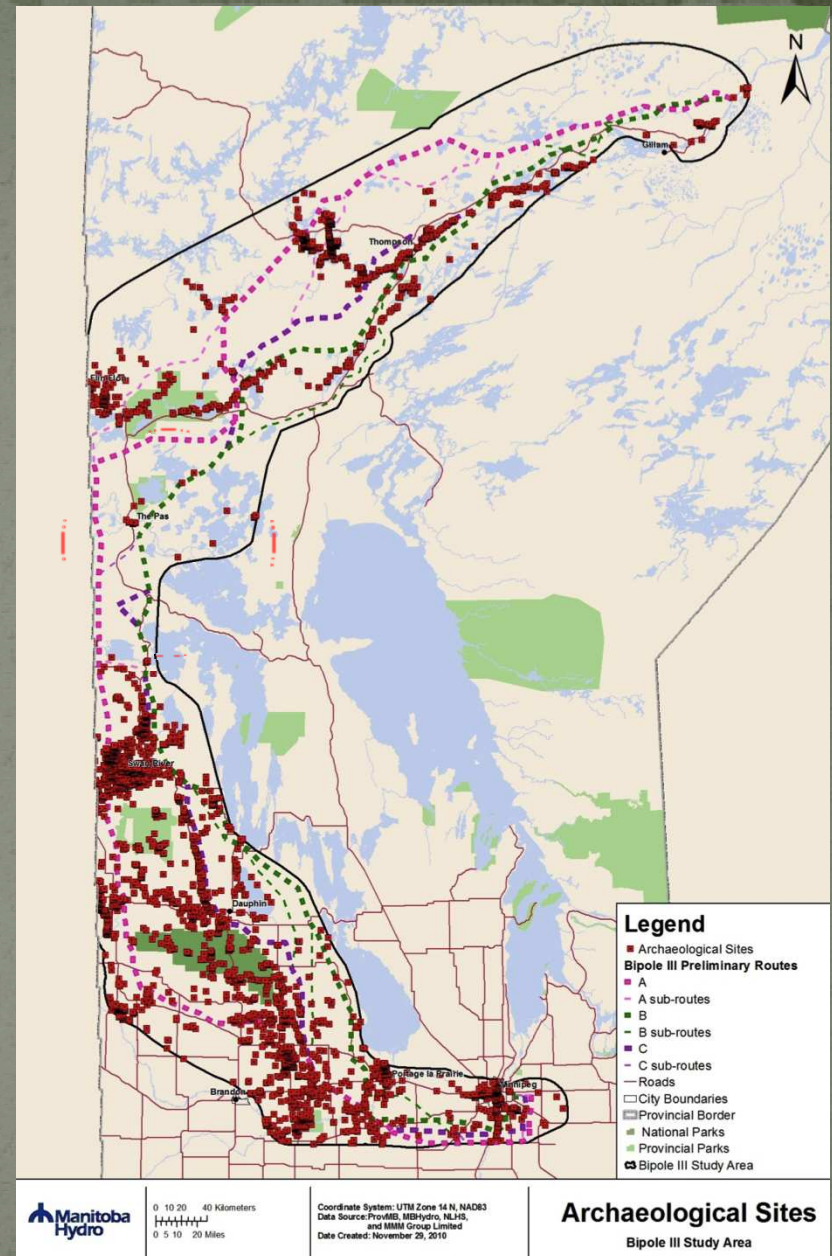
- Disturbance of known sites
- Disturbance of unknown sites discovered during project activities
- Continuing disturbance of heritage resources due to increased access to areas adjacent to the BiPole III transmission line
- Sites that could be impacted include culturally sensitive areas such as burials

Mitigation concerns

- All heritage sites are protected under Manitoba Heritage Act
- Unclear how mitigation protocols will meet the concerns of the Manitoba Métis Federation
 - Métis specific protocols for sites need to be developed
- Métis sites may not be identified as Métis during monitoring
 - Heritage monitors may not be familiar with characteristics of Métis sites
 - Métis sites may not be easily distinguishable from other historic era sites

Mitigation Concerns

- Lack of on the ground testing of the predictive model
- Predictive model based on known sites
 - Not inclusive of the complete range of Métis site use
 - Gaps in the basic archaeological knowledge in portions of the study area



Management Recommendations

1. Additional research must be done to identify areas of high potential for Métis archaeological heritage throughout the BiPole III project area
 - Any changes in the route must undergo reassessment of heritage impacts
2. Before a heritage permit is issued by Manitoba Heritage for archaeological monitoring of the ROW for BiPole III, the MMF should be given the opportunity to review and comment on the permit application**
3. The proponent should financially support a full-time MMF Heritage/Cultural Sites Coordinator throughout the duration of the project's construction

BC Archaeological Permit Regulations

- http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/archaeology/policies/heritage_permits.htm
- complete Applications are referred by the Manager to First Nations asserting traditional interest in the proposed study area, with a request for comment, preferably in writing, within a reasonable time, usually 15-30 days;
- written comments that identify concerns over the study methodology are referred by the Manager to the applicant for response;

Management Recommendations

4. During all segments of the Project's construction, local/regional Métis Heritage Monitors will be identified by the MMF in order to and work with Manitoba Hydro and liaison with the MMF through its Heritage/Cultural Sites Coordinator
5. Establishment and implementation of Métis-specific protocols concerning archaeological heritage which will be included in the MMF's proposed tripartite agreement with Manitoba Hydro and MCWS in relation to the Project EPP.

Management Recommendations

6. Explicit protocol requiring regular reporting to MMF when sites with Métis archaeological heritage are found during the construction phase of BiPole III.
7. Ongoing consultation about potential long-term impacts to heritage sites from the operation of BiPole III (i.e. access roads).

Conclusions

- Métis archaeological heritage exists in the study area and will be impacted by BiPole III
- Lack of knowledge about Métis archaeological heritage may lead to adverse impacts
 - High potential for unknown Métis heritage resources
 - Concern that Métis heritage will not be recognized
- The MMF must be involved in the permit approval and monitoring process throughout the duration of the project