

Gabriel Dumont Institute Slide Presentation

Batoche is a small Metis village on the banks of the South Saskatchewan River, some 60 miles northeast of Saskatoon. It was here on May 12th, 1885, that Canadian troops led by Major-General Frederick Middleton defeated the Metis and their Indian allies under the leadership of Gabriel Dumont.

Slide Number

#1a Historic site

Batoche Church and Rectory and Part of the trenches of the Canadian Army.

#1b Church

Saint Anoine de Padoue Parish. Built in 1884.

#1c Church Interior

The French Metis of Batoche were Roman Catholics.

#1d Rectory

Built in 1883 the rectory served as both a school and hospital.

#1e Dumont and an Indian Chief(unknown).

#1f Battle of Batoche, May 12th, 1885

#1G Gatling Gun

During Batoche the Gatling gun was used for the first time on Canadian soil. There were two that were sent but only one was ever used.

#1H Retrenchments

trenches used by Middleton's Army still remain.

#1I Cemetery

The Names of Metis who lost their lives at the Battle of Batoche are engraved and mounted on this monument.

#1J Commemorative Plaque

Commemorating Metis hero and leader Gabriel Dumont.

Lifestyle

#11. One of the lifestyle that the Métis adapted from the Indian culture was buffalo hunting.

#12. This a Métis buffalo hunt camp. Notice the tipis, adapted from the Indian culture.

#13. A closer look at a family camp.

#14. An Indian woman preparing pemmican(dried and preserved buffalo meat) the Métis adapted from the Indian culture.

#15. Métis Fiddler, fiddling was the Métis 'traditional form of music. Adapted from the European culture.

#16. Métis square dancing was used a way of getting to know other people. Once again this was adapted from the European culture.

#17. Square dancing was for everybody..... the young...

#18. and the mature.

#19. These are two men jigging, the Métis adopted this tradition from their Irish and Scottish relatives. Jigging was unique because everybody had a different step and kept adding more.

#20. Jigging was for everyone young/old men/women.

#21. Mother and daughter jigging.

#22. Trapping was a means of survival - a trapper moving to the bush.

#23. Métis trapper

#24. Métis trapper preparing something to eat.

#25. Louis Riel, a famous Métis leader who fought and died for the rights and freedoms of the Métis. He also played a key role in Batoche.

#26. Gabriel Dumont, A military chief and a keen shot he led the Métis during their battles - the most noteworthy was the Battle of Batoche.

#1. Gabriel Dumont Institute...START

Transportation (PAST)

#2. Birchbark Canoe ✓

Used primarily during the fur trade.

Métis were employed as guides and interpreters.

#3. York Boats

These boats were also used during the fur trade primarily to move heavy or bulky goods and furs. The boats were 8 and a half to 12 meters in length.

#4. Dog Teams

These were used during the winter to haul materials for trappers.

#5. Horse

The horse was a cherished belonging for it was used as the most effective means of transportation, hunting guiding, etc.

#6. Red River Carts

One of the most noted accomplishments of the Métis. The Carts were constructed entirely of wood and was used to transport everything that each family owned. During a buffalo hunt you could see at least 100 of these carts travelling the prairies. You could also hear the squeaking for miles.

Clothing

#7. This is a Métis trapper - notice the snow shoes with the leggings and moccasins. The Sash, Capote(jacket)and the mitts.

#8. Métis woman and man at a fashion show. Women usually wore long skirts covered with an apron. The foot wear mainly consisted of moccasins.

The men usually wore leather jackets with flower beadwork, moccasins, sash and leather vests.

#9. These ladies are finger-weaving. Métis sashes were woven in this fashion. It took a long time to make one sash.

#10. Example of a man's leather jacket with a fur collar. Notice the bright flower beadwork.

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Batoche

#27. The rectory at Batoche. During the battle it came under fire by the gatling gun. you can still see the bullet holes.

#28. This is the Gatling gun that was used during the Battle of Batoche.

#29. These are the trenches the Canadian soldiers had built and can still be seen today in Batoche.

#30. The names of the Métis heroes who lost their lives at Batoche are engraved on this monument in the centre of the cemetery.

#31. Commemorative Plaque to Gabriel Dumont

"Born in Assiniboia, Ruperts Land he won early fame as a buffalo hunter. About 1868 he founded St. Laurent.....He commanded the Métis forces in 1885 and displayed considerable military ability. After the fall of Batoche he escaped to the U.S. He returned years later and resumed the life as a hunter."

#32. Battle of Batoche 1885

#33. Batoche is now the meeting place for all of the Métis. The Métis meet there yearly to pay their respects to the Métis who died during the Battle of Batoche and to have fun square dancing, jigging, and various other games and sports. Batoche is for everybody.....

#34. The elderly, young and not so young.

#35. Gabriel Dumont Institute...END.

Louis Riel

Born October 22, 1844, St. Boniface(Red River)

Died November 16, 1885, Regina Sask. Age 41 years.

Gabriel Dumont

Born 1837 in St. Boniface(Red River)

Died May 19, 1906 in Batoche

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Metis Force

Aproximately 350 men, 200 of whom Dumont says were armed

Canadian Army (Middleton's Army QuAppelle)

5456 junior officers and men

586 horses

8 cannons, 2000 shells

2 gatling guns and 70,000 rounds of ammunition

6000 50 caliber rifles, 1,500,050 rounds of ammunition

1000 winchester repeating rifles

Food for the men

Food for the horses

Field Hospital and medical supplies

Battle of Batoche

Started on May 9, 1885 at 9:00 A.M. and lasted for 4 days and ended on May 12, 1885 at 2:00 P.M. the Metis had run out of ammunition.

Lifestyle

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The Metis

The Metis are descendants of the North American Indian people and those of European background. Originally, most of the Metis were children of the fur trade in early Canada and had either french or Scottish fathers and Indian mothers. Although the Metis were a widely scattered Nation the Red River Settlement(Winnipeg) became the most famous Metis centre of activity. At Red River the Metis became distinct with their new cultural traditions.

Historically the Metis were the people who greatly influenced the development of the Canadian West.

The Metis were the children of women of the Indian nations and the men who had come to Canada from Europe to work in the fur trade. A distinct Metis culture emerged which incorporated various elements from their parental heritage.

1) A political system

- M.S.S. / M.N.S./M.L.A.

2) Lifestyle

- Historically, during the times of the buffalo, the Metis were well organized and nomadic. They would hunt the buffalo a means for survival. In time(and even today) they were trappers.

Today Metis are from different lifestyles, some are politicians, police officers, firemen, accountants, teachers, nurses, enginerrs, lawyers. Many have learned how to adjust their lifestyles to keep up with the ever changing times.

3) Language

- this unique language involved Cree, French and English and is call Mechif. However some Northern Metis communities speak Cree.

4) Food and Clothing

- Some of the food that are still prepared today are bannock fried, baked or cooked over an open fire, rabbit, prairie chicken(Pudreys) and various stews and delicacies.
- Metis clothing is an integration of Indian and European styles. Quilled and beaded garments, made of leather but cut in European designs.
- Metis ribbon shirts were worn by men so that they would look their best when they were reunited with their families and communities after being away for a long period of time. the colors of the shirt were often chosen purely for decorative reasons, because they looked well together, because they were a person's favorites. Some Metis followed the Indian beliefs

with regard to the symbolism of colors and the spiritual nature of the shirts, for most, however, the Metis ribbon shirt was part of traditional clothing and is worn today by people who want to identify themselves with pride as members of the Metis nation.

5) Music and Dance

- Metis musicians often used homemade fiddles, but today use factory made versions. Even today the main musical instrument is and will always be the fiddle.

- Dances were a big social event for the whole community and often continues to be so. metis dance is a unique form of dance. Although it is influenced by Scottish, Irish, French and Indian forms of dance, Metis dance is distinct from any of its particular origins. For example, the Metis adopted Scottish and Irish reels and jigs, in addition to the French stomp and quadrille. The Indian influence is evident in that the footwork of the dances is closer to the floor and the quadrille is executed in Indian-style circular formation.

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Batoche Facts

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