

Métis Road Allowance Communities: Little Chicago or Chicago Line, Saskatchewan

Chicago Line (Little Chicago) was located on the municipal road allowance between five and seven miles outside of Lestock, Saskatchewan. There were from 15 to 20 families living at Chicago Line. The area had marginal land made up of brush, sloughs and swamp. Some of the children from Little Chicago attended the Residential Mission Day School at Lestock. The adults were seasonal workers, brush cutting, stone picking, hay cutting and most families picked Seneca root north of Lestock in the summer.

In 1949, the government moved many of the road allowance families from Little Chicago to the Métis Colony at Green Lake, Saskatchewan. A couple of years after the move, the government burnt down the Métis' road allowance houses at Chicago Line.



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References:

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Interview with Eva LaPierre, Aug. 18, 1982, Gabriel Dumont Institute, Virtual Museum of Métis History and Culture.

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Author's personal communications with Stan LaPierre, Winnipeg, MB. 2004.