

Appendix I. Resources

Books

A Journal of Voyages and Travels in the interior of North America, Daniel W. Harmon, a Partner in the Northwest Company (AMS Press, New York). An excellent resource for fur trade era interpreters. He spent the period of 1800-1819 in the north west. This journal presents all sorts of insights into the era although, as with all journals, one must consider his perspective which, in this case, is a strict religious background from New England.

A Toast to the Fur Trade, Robert C. Wheeler, Wheeler Productions. Excellent primer on the fur trade with good illustrations. Available at Museum of the Fur Trade and maybe in local bookstores.

Chippewa Customs, Frances Densmore, Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1979. Probably the most important source of information on traditional Ojibwe life. Written early in the 20th century based on information from a variety of Ojibwe informants and Densmore's keen observations.

Daily Life in Early Canada from Champlain to Montcalm, Raymond Douville and Jacques-Donat Casanova, (The MacMillan Company; 1968). An excellent description of the early French settlements along the St. Lawrence River. Covers all aspects of daily living including emigration, army, civilian life, economics, explorers and coureurs des bois, transportation and social life.

Exploring the Northwest Territory: Sir Alexander Mackenzie's Journal of a Voyage by Bark Canoe from Lake Athabasca to the Pacific Ocean in the Summer of 1789, edited by T.H. McDonald, University of Oklahoma Press. A riveting account of Mackenzie's exploration of the river that now bears his name. Insights into traveling and Indian life.

Five Fur Traders of the Northwest, edited by Charles M. Gates, Minnesota Historical Society. Diaries and memoirs of five traders involved in the fur trade in the late 1700's and early 1800's. Provides descriptions of day-to-day life at fur posts and insights into the workings of the trade.

(George Nelson's Journal) A Winter in the St. Croix Valley, 1802-03, Richard Bardon and Grace Lee Nute, Minnesota History (Vol 28, 1947). This presents the short journal kept by George Nelson when he clerked the XY post at Yellow River (Folle Avoine) in Wisconsin. Excellent first hand account of the trade by an observant person.

Historical Colonial French Dress (A Guide to Recreating North American French Clothing), Mary Moyars Johnson with Judy Forbes and Kathy Delaney, Smoke and Fire News, 1982 revised in 1997. Provides historical context, descriptions, use and well-laid out patterns for all types of clothing used by colonial era French inhabitants of North America. In terms of clothing, at least, provides French version of Beth Gilgun's American colonial fashions. Great resource for reenactors of the French era or of voyageurs.

How Indians use Wild Plants for Food, Medicine and Crafts, Frances Densmore, Dover Publications. First-hand information on how the Ojibwes of Minnesota used wild plants. Densmore extracted a wealth of useful knowledge and insights from various Ojibwe informants.

How to Make Your Own Moccasins, Sylvia Grainger, Lippincott Publishing. Step-by-step illustrated description on how to make a variety of moccasins. Not all styles fit the fur trade, but lots of ideas and easy-to-follow instructions.

Indians in the Fur Trade: their role as hunters, trappers and middlemen in the lands southwest of Hudson Bay 1660-1870, Arthur J. Ray, University of Toronto Press, 1974. A textbook (occasionally dry) that presents detailed research on the evolving roles played by Indians during the fur trade era. Great resource for information on trading habits and patterns. Much of the book focuses on the relationships between environment, needs of the tribes, and their role in the trade.

John Sayer's Snake River Journal, 1804-05, Douglas Birk, 1989. A superb resource for interpreting the fur trade in northern Minnesota. Birk provides a primer on the trade, establishes the setting for the journal, and then provides the complete journal.

Many Tender Ties, Sylvia Van Kirk, University of Oklahoma Press, 1983. Excellent resource for understanding the complex roles of women during the fur trade era.

Narrative of Jean Baptiste Perrault, Michigan Pioneer and Historical Collections (copy at White Oak library). A first hand account of life as a trader/voyageur around the Lake Superior region including White Oak Point. A must for anyone interpreting our area.

Ojibwe Heritage, Basil Johnston, University of Nebraska Press, 1990. A sensitive and thorough presentation of Ojibwe spiritual thought. This is a readily accessible introduction into Ojibwe worldview and religious concepts.

Peter Pond: Fur Trader and Adventurer, H.A. Innis, Irwin and Gordon, 1930. Annotated presentation of Pond's most interesting journal. Among other things, he was an early trader into the far northwest He was the first white man to cross the Methye Portage into the Mackenzie River drainage.

Portage into the Past, Arnold Bolz. Modern (1960s) camping trip along the Minnesota-Ontario border canoe route with quotes from old journals.

Posts in the Minnesota Fur-Trading Area, 1660-1855, Grace Lee Nute, Minnesota History (Dec 1930). Good listing of all posts known at this time. Provides references for each post listed.

Roots: Fur Trade, Vol. 10 No. 1 / Fall 1981, Minnesota Historical Society. Issue of the MHS magazine for children. Well done primer for younger students with a study guide. Available at Duluth library.

Strangers in Blood, Jennifer Brown. In-dept look at the social customs of the HBC and the NWCo regarding marriage, family life, education of children, etc. Great companion with *Many Tender Ties*.

The Book of Buckskinning, Rebel Publishing. This is an excellent series of how-to books on everything from fire starting to camping to clothing to gear to survival.

The Broken Blade, William Durbin, A Yearling Book, 1997. Durbin, a Cook, Mn teacher, has written an adventure novel aimed at youth (ages 9-11) describing the journey from Montreal to Grand Portage for a first-time voyageur around 1800. A good book to open the door for children interested in the era. Historical accuracy is on target with one major exception that being, the mangeurs de lard are the ones who carry the packs across the Grand Portage, not the hivernants.

The Fur Trader and the Indian, Lewis O. Saum, University of Washington Press, 1965. A scholarly presentation of relationships between traders and Indians using journals and other period references as primary source material. This is a balanced account and is exceptionally useful for anyone trying to understand the complex and changing relationships that were central to the entire trade.

The Grand Portage, Walter O'Meara, Bobbs-Merrill, 1951. Novelization of the journals of Danial Harmon, a Nor'Wester trader. Implied sexual activity may make it unsuitable for the youngest readers, but it is a good read and a solid representation of the fur trade in all its glory and ugliness.

The History of Fond du Lac and Jay Cooke State Park, John Fritzen, St. Louis County Historical Society, 1978. Lots of pictures, drawings, maps and excellent narrative on the early exploration and settlement of Fond du Lac (Duluth).

The Illustrated Voyageur, Howard Sivertson, Midwest Traditions. Recent publication with original paintings of the voyageurs and a solid text. Excellent primer on the voyageur fur trade era.

The Journals of Zebulon Montgomery Pike, edited by Donald Jackson, University of Oklahoma Press, 1966 (excerpt regarding his travels up the Mississippi in 1805 is also on-line at www.startribune.com). Look for the section that details his trip up the Mississippi in 1805 when he confronts the NWCo which is still trading on US territory.

The Mishomis Book: The Voice of the Ojibway, Edward Benton-Banai, Indian Country Communications, 1988. A great introduction to the world view of the Ojibwe. Told in the form of stories by a mishomis (grandfather).

The Northwest Company, Marjorie Wilkins Campbell, St. Martins Press, 1957. Nonfiction presentation of the NW Company. Good source of information in an engaging presentation.

The Savage Country, Walter O'Meara, Houghton Mifflin, 1960. Story of the North West Company based on the journal of Alexander Henry the Younger. Excellent presentation of the trade, relations with Indians, and life in the north country. Although non-fiction, it reads like a story that just happens to deliver a tremendous amount of historical information.

The Voyageur and *The Voyageur's Highway* by Grace Lee Nute, Minnesota Historical Society. Classic books on the fur trade era. Good primers on the era.

Tidings from the 18th Century, Beth Gilgun, Rebel Publishing (Rt 5, Box 347-M, Texarkana, TX 75501). Excellent resource on clothing, lifestyle, cooking and the ins and outs of every day living in colonial times.

Voices from the Rapids: An Underwater Search for Fur Trade Artifacts 1960-73, (Robert C. Wheeler, Walter A. Kenyon, Alan R. Woolworth, Douglas A. Birk), Minnesota Historical Society, 1975. The account of the search for artifacts is interesting and highly informative. The section describing the finds is even more so (provided the basis for Wheeler's *Toast to the Fur Trade*).

Voyageur's Sketchbook, James A. Hanson. Excellent resource with drawings of artifacts and every day gear and equipment.

Where Two Worlds Meet: the great lakes fur trade, Minnesota Historical Society, 1982. Companion guide book for a MHS display on the fur trade. Another solid overview of the trade with many photos of gear. Good discussions on the impact of the fur trade on the two cultures involved.

Wild Plant Uses, Gil Quaal, 1995. Guide to natural plants and their uses. Written by the man who designed White Oak's nature trail.

With Pipe, Paddle, and Song, Elizabeth Yates, E.P. Dutton and Son, 1968. A fictional account of a first-time voyageur's journey from Montreal to Grand Portage around 1750. Pleasant reading for middle school children and gives a good view of travel by the brigades during the era. There are historical inaccuracies (e.g., the Grand Portage does not go up the slopes of Mount Rose). The song list at the back of the book is excellent.

Magazines

Museum of the Fur Trade Quarterly, Museum of the Fur Trade (Chadron, NE). Quarterly publication. Excellent source of information through in-depth articles.

Northwest Journal, Northwest Brigade Club (Calgary, Alberta, Canada). A well researched and well presented magazine on the Canadian fur trade. Every issue has pertinent stories on our era.

Video/Movies

Black Robe, National Film Board of Canada. Candid and brutal depiction of life in the 1600s in New France. Presents story of a young Jesuit who is venturing to a mission on Lake Huron. Excellent presentation of the era and of both French and Indian cultures. Graphic sex and violence makes this unsuitable for younger or sensitive viewers.

Ikwe, National Film Board of Canada. Depicts introduction of fur trade into an Ojibwe village from the perspective of the Indians. Not flattering of the traders. An excellent introduction to the era and Ojibwe values.