

TOPIC 6 – SELKIRK COLONY

Topic Overview

- Topic 6 highlights the Selkirk Colony. It includes primary sources that will help you understand who the Selkirk people were and why they came to North Dakota.

Topic Objectives

- As a result of the study of Topic 6, you will be able to
 - Analyze and interpret primary documents.
 - Recognize the importance of the Selkirk Colony in North Dakota history.

ND Content Standards

- 8.1.2
- 8.2.11
- 8.5.3
- 8.6.2

Common Core Standards

- RH 2
- RH 7
- WHST 2
- WHST 7
- WHST 9

Topic Activities

- Debate/Discussion
- Creative Interpretation



Debate/Discussion

To access a photo/document/map, refer to the topic reading assignment or use the SEARCH feature to enter its name or number.

From your reading about Selkirk and looking at the images, write discussion points on how each of the following persons or events contributed to the growth and development of North Dakota. Write a paragraph summarizing your findings. Discuss with a classmate or small group.

- Thomas Douglas, the fifth Earl of Selkirk:

- Fort Daer:

- The 1818 agreement between the United States and Great Britain:

- The Red River oxcart trail:

- Charles Cavileer:

Summarizing Paragraph:

Creative Interpretation

To access a photo/document/map, refer to the topic reading assignment or use the SEARCH feature to enter its name or number.

The Red River Trail (south to the headwaters and east to the Minnesota River) connected Pembina to a trading center at St. Paul. Red River oxcarts, well known for their large carrying capacity and their squeaky wheels, carried furs and other products from Pembina to St. Paul and returned with supplies. By 1843, the Red River oxcart trail had a small stream of regular traffic.

Conduct further research using web sites, historic maps, atlases, State Historical Society of North Dakota Archives, etc. to find additional information about Red River oxcarts and The Red River Oxcart Trail

- Red River oxcarts (**Image SHSND 10737-149**)
 - Who used them?
 - What were they used for?
 - How were they constructed?
 - How were they maneuvered?
 - What was their importance?
- The Red River Oxcart Trail
 - Find maps of the travel routes used by the Red River oxcarts.
 - Identify landmarks along the route.

Extension:

Using facts from your research, choose one or more of the following activities to complete:

- Write a fictional short story or newspaper article.
- Write a conversation between two or more oxcart drivers.
- Create a group mural or exhibit.
- Select phrases or words from your research to compose a poem.

