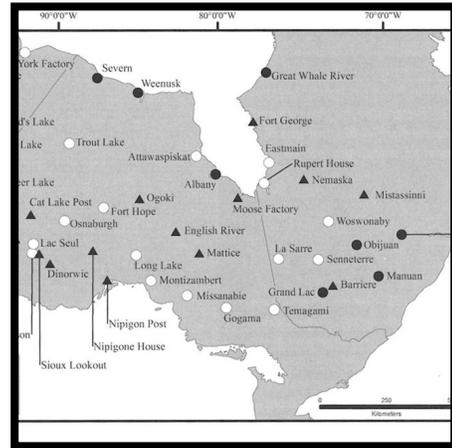
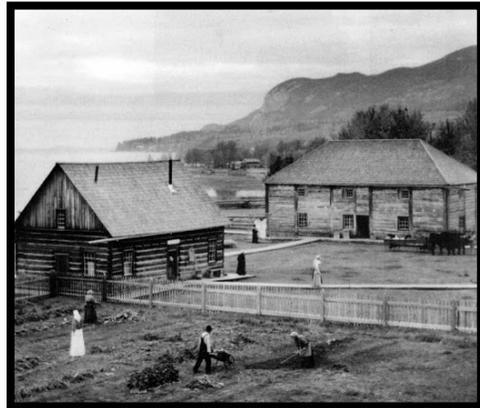


Trading Post Information Cards

Forts were located near rivers so that supplies could be transported easily. These rivers connected to big bodies of water that led to the Atlantic Ocean.



Forts were located where there was natural protection like near big hills or places that were close to islands.

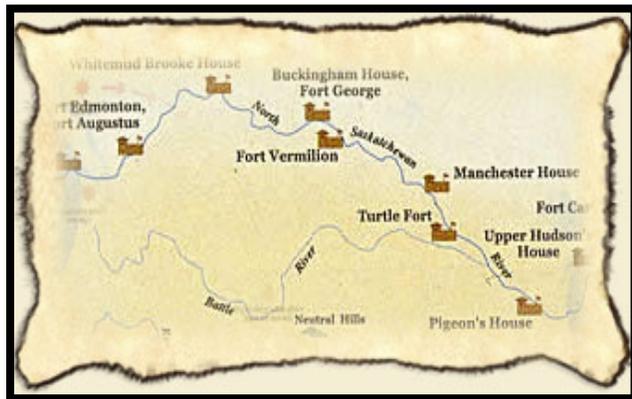


Forts were located near lots of natural resources were (lots of trees or stone) so that they had lots of material to build them.



Trading posts were often named for the local river or body of water.

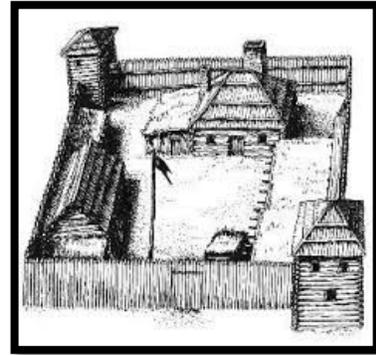
Sometimes forts were named after the person who first created the fort.



Forts were built to keep people warm through the winter. Wood stoves changed things for the fur trading forts because they provided a safe way to heat and cook.

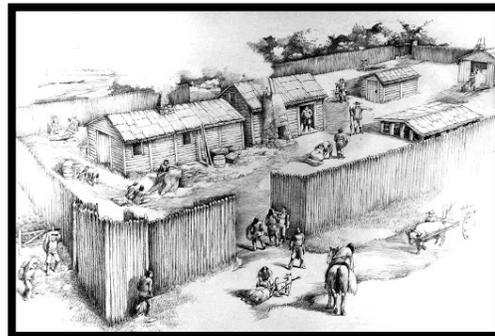


Most forts had a wall to keep animals out.



Buckets of sand were often kept to put out fires. They also made sure to be close to water.

Forts ALWAYS had a wall around them to keep unwanted enemies out. They had a gate that they kept guarded.



Forts used hills or islands as watch places so that they could see if enemies were going to attack.



Men prepared and bundled furs for trade with indigenous people.

Some men were blacksmiths who would build items for the fort.

Other men were carpenters that build furniture carts, canoes or boats for the fort.



There were not very many women in the trading posts – most of the men were married to indigenous women.

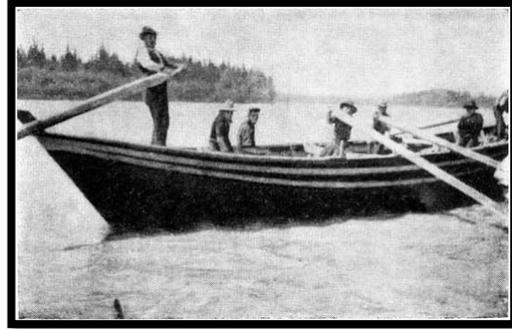
A few wives would be at the forts, most cooked, cleaned and looked after the children.



The Northwest Company used birchbark canoes and Voyageurs would paddle these boats back and forth.



Hudson's Bay Company used things called "York Boats" to sail the rivers because they could carry more (more fur, other products).



In the summer time, fur traders would eat whatever animal meat was easily available to hunt or fish.

They also ate more vegetables in this time.



Meat was preserved in salted water so that fur traders could continue eating meat in the wintertime when hunting wasn't as easy.



Many fur traders ate pemmican which was a mix of dried berries, animal fat and meat. It was easy to pack in their bags for long journeys.



The beaver was the most popular fur and most traded. It became the currency of the fur trade. Every other item priced in relation to the beaver. (ex. 1 cloth = 2 made beavers or MB)



To prepare the furs, they first removed the tough first layer of the beaver (which protects from water) and used the beaver's soft undercoat to make products.



All other furry animals were collected to make fur coats, collars, scarves and blankets but only wealthy people could afford these.



Beaver pelts were turned into felt hats which were very fashionable and expensive.

