



LOWER FORT GARRY NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE OF CANADA

# TEACHER'S GUIDE

PREPARE YOUR STUDENTS



## INSIDE

Historic Information  
Teacher Tips  
Recommended Educational Material  
Lower Fort Garry Map  
Building Orientation  
Comment Form

## LOWER FORT GARRY NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE OF CANADA

5925 HWY 9  
St. Andrews, Manitoba R1A 4A8

**Phone:** 204-785-6050  
**Toll free:** 1-888-773-8888

[www.pc.gc.ca/garry](http://www.pc.gc.ca/garry)  
[lfgnhs.info@pc.gc.ca](mailto:lfgnhs.info@pc.gc.ca)



Parks Canada    Parcs Canada

Canada



## **Come Play with History**

Your journey of discovery actually begins in downtown Winnipeg, at The Forks, where the original Fort Garry once stood. The unforgiving flood of 1826 destroyed Fort Garry, depriving the Hudson's Bay Company of a vital centre for trade. In 1830, construction began on a new fort 32 km (20 miles) downriver, one that would stand on higher ground and be situated north of the gruelling St. Andrews rapids. Lower Fort Garry's main buildings were completed by the early 1840s, using limestone and wood from the surrounding area. Today, these buildings stand as one of the finest collections of early stone buildings in Western Canada.



For three decades, Lower Fort Garry's thriving agricultural and industrial production provided many of the materials needed to fuel the fur trade in the HBC's Northern Department. Food, livestock, York boats, and labour were supplied by Lower Fort Garry. The fort also served as an essential supply and distribution centre for fur and trade goods.

On August 3, 1871, at "The Stone Fort", a treaty was made between chiefs and representatives of the Ojibway and Swampy Cree nations in southern Manitoba and the Crown. Treaty No. 1 was the first of 11 numbered treaties that set the stage for the settlement of Western and Northern Canada.

In later years, the fort served as one of the first training grounds for the North-West Mounted Police prior to their march west, a provincial penitentiary, and a mental health facility. The HBC ceased operations at the fort in 1911, and the Manitoba Motor Country Club leased it from 1913 to 1963. Lower Fort Garry became a national historic site in 1951 and its buildings were restored throughout the 1960s and early 1970s.





## Experience Life in the Year 1851

What would have been going on at LFG if you had visited in the year 1851? Who would have been there? What would you have seen? Would the fort look just the same as today?



Come and meet the people who lived in this fascinating time! It was an era when the Hudson's Bay Company operated a string of fur trade forts throughout the area they called Rupert's Land – the same territory the Aboriginal peoples of Western Canada called home. You will meet costumed guides throughout the site representing the people who lived here in the early 1850s.

You can help Parks Canada take care of Lower Fort Garry by not bringing any food or drinks (other than water) on the historic grounds. Please do not litter.

We hope you enjoy your visit. Please bring your family and friends back this summer and teach them all the fascinating things you learned.

You can learn more about Lower Fort Garry on our website at [www.pc.gc.ca/garry](http://www.pc.gc.ca/garry). See you soon!

### Recommended Educational Material

**Lower Fort Garry:** <http://www.pc.gc.ca/garry>

**Parks Canada Teacher's Corner:** <http://www.pc.gc.ca/education>

**Our Roots Our Future:** [http://parscanada.pch.gc.ca/apprendre-learn/prof/racines-roots/index\\_E.asp](http://parscanada.pch.gc.ca/apprendre-learn/prof/racines-roots/index_E.asp)

**Hudson's Bay Company:** <http://www.hbc.com/hbcheritage/learning/explorers/>

**HBC Archives:** <http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/archives/hbca>

**Historica:** <http://www.histori.ca/>

**Fur Trade Stories:** <http://www.furtradestories.ca/index.html>





## Teacher Tips

- Washroom facilities are located in the Visitor Reception Centre (VRC) and inside the fort walls
- Picnic shelter is available for school groups
- Bag lunches may be stored inside the VRC
- Staff are not responsible for bags left unattended
- We discourage the wearing of backpacks while on the historic grounds, due to the limited space inside the historic buildings
- The Gift Shop is located in the VRC
- No food, drink, candy or gum permitted on the historic grounds
- All students must be accompanied by a supervising adult while touring the grounds
- Please dress for the weather as programs run rain or shine
- **We encourage you to arrive 10 minutes before your scheduled program.** We will do our best to accommodate late arrivals. Groups arriving late may experience an abbreviated program to ensure the subsequent group's booking runs on schedule
- Payment is due on the day of your field trip. Fee payment is located in the Visitor Reception Centre and can be made by Visa, Mastercard, American Express, Interac, or cash. Cheques are to be made payable to "Receiver General for Canada".

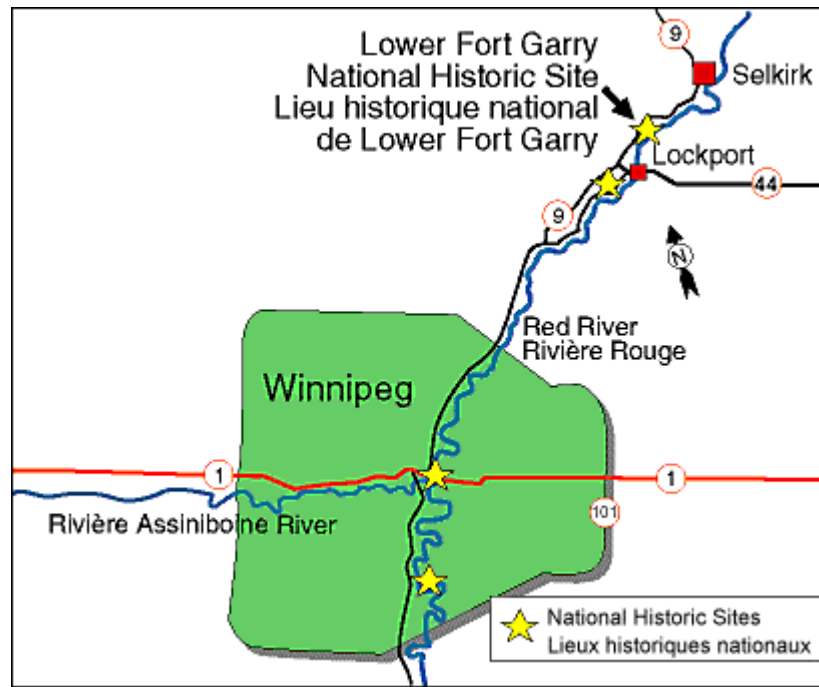


**Visitor Reception Centre**





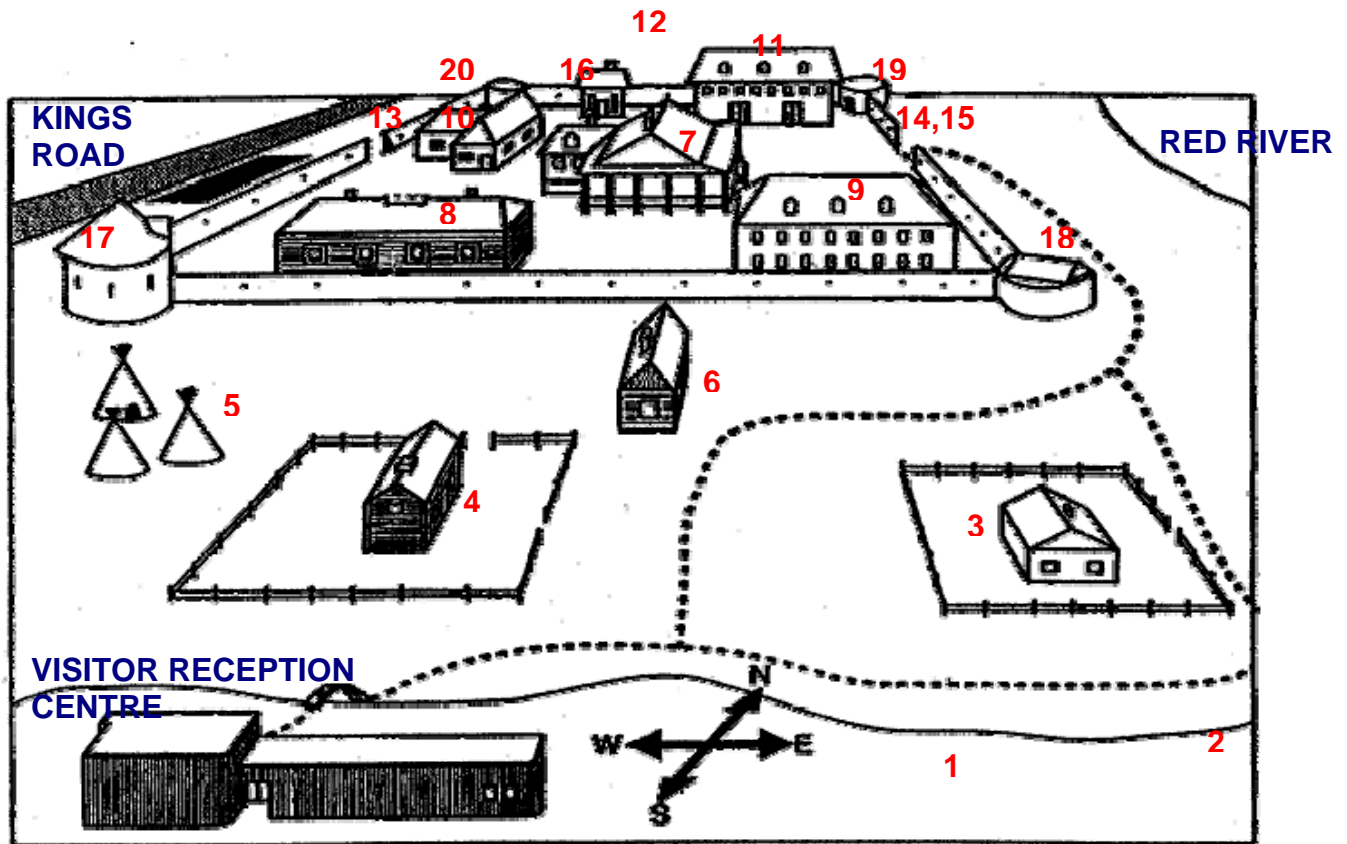
## Location/Directions



Just a half-hour drive 32 km (20 miles) north from downtown Winnipeg and a few minutes south of Selkirk on Highway #9 (Main Street).



## Lower Fort Garry Map



### Legend

- |                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Industrial Complex    | 11. Warehouse         |
| 2. Docking Area          | 12. Farm Complex      |
| 3. Guest (Ross) Cottage  | 13. West Gate         |
| 4. Farm Manager's House  | 14. Walls             |
| 5. Aboriginal Encampment | 15. East Gate         |
| 6. Blacksmith Shop       | 16. Doctor's Office   |
| 7. Big House             | 17. Southwest Bastion |
| 8. Retail Store/Museum   | 18. Southeast Bastion |
| 9. Furloft/Saleshop      | 19. Northeast Bastion |
| 10. Men's House          | 20. Northwest Bastion |



**1. Industrial Complex:** Foundations still remain of many of the buildings of the Industrial Complex, in use during the 1860s. A malt house, distillery, lime kiln, gristmill, and York boat building shed were located near Monkman's Creek.



**2. Docking Area:** York boat brigades left the docking area for the North and West every June, laden with food and trade goods. Today, tour boats unload visitors in the same location.



**3. Guest (Ross) Cottage:** Chief Factor Donald Ross of Norway House moved into this house with his wife in 1851 to recover from what was probably tuberculosis.



**4. Farm Manager's House:** Alexander Lillie was the Company Farm Manager in the late 1850s, responsible for one of the earliest large-scale commercial farm operations in Western Canada. Mr. Lillie lived in a house similar to this with his wife and children.



**5. Aboriginal Encampment:** Aboriginal people living in the surrounding settlement would stop at the fort in the summer months to trade, sell goods, work for the Company or visit relatives.



**6. Blacksmith Shop:** The Blacksmith was one of the many skilled labourers who worked at Lower Fort Garry. Other tradesmen included boatbuilders, carpenters, coopers, wheelrights, and masons.





**7. Big House:** HBC posts usually had a dwelling for the officers, or business executives, of the Company. The Big House at Lower Fort Garry is one of the more elegant examples of such a house, and is the oldest building on site.



**8. Retail Store/Museum:** The only reconstructed building within the fort walls, the Retail Store/Museum building is a replica of the Company Retail Store built in 1873. It is now used for the exhibit “First Nations and Métis Peoples of the Lower Red River”.



**9. Furloft/Saleshop:** The Furloft/Saleshop, built in 1831, was the commercial center of the settlement in the 1850s. Most of the business transactions, such as shopping and trading, took place here.



**10. Men's House:** The Men's House, built in 1850, served as a residence for the labourers and tradesmen who came from other communities, some from as far away as Scotland.



**11. Warehouse:** The Warehouse was built to house supplies and equipment for the fur trade.



**12. Farm Complex:** The Company began its large farming operation at the fort in the 1850s. The area north of the fort contains the archaeological remains of oxen, cattle and horse stables, and the stablemen's house.







**13. West Gate:** Here, outside the **West Gate**, chiefs and representatives of the Swampy Cree and Ojibway peoples of southern Manitoba and the Crown made Treaty No. 1 in 1871. They made promises and granted each other rights and obligations. All Canadians remain party to the treaty.



**14. Walls:** The **walls** around the fort were constructed between 1839 and 1848. Although Lower Fort Garry may appear to be a military fort, it never saw a battle. The walls are largely ornamental.



**15. East Gate:** The East Gate served as the main entrance to the fort because it faced the river. The names of some soldiers of the Québec Rifles, stationed here in 1870-71, are carved in the stone.



**16. Doctor's Office:** This is the only original wooden structure on site. It was built in 1885 to serve as the Doctor's Office when Lower Fort Garry housed a mental health facility.



**17. Southwest Bastion:** The Southwest Bastion was used for storage. Visit a display here about fur trade architecture.





**18. Southeast Bastion:** The Southeast Bastion was once an icehouse. Washrooms are now located here.



**19. Northeast Bastion:** The Northeast Bastion was used to store gunpowder.



**20. Northwest Bastion:** The Northwest Bastion was used as a Company bake house. Bakers made hardtack biscuits, which were a staple on York boat trips.





# Lower Fort Garry

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE OF CANADA

**In order to improve the quality of our school programs and activities, we ask that you take a moment to tell us what you thought.**

**Program (check one):**

- That BIG Stone Fort (K-2)
- Beaver on the Coin (3-4)
- Each Played a Part (5-6)
- Prejudice and Bias (7-12)
- Quest For The Cache (9-12)

**Activity (check one if applicable):**

- Build-A-Fort
- Artifact Bingo

**Please evaluate the following statements on a scale of 1 to 5.**

**1 = not true at all**

**5 = completely true**

The booking process was easy and convenient.	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
The pre-visit materials available on the Web were very useful.	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
The time slots offered worked well for my group.	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
The interpreter(s) leading my group did an excellent job.	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
My students had a memorable experience.	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
The <b>program</b> helped me satisfy curriculum objectives.	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
The <b>program</b> was well-organized.	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
The length of the <b>program</b> was appropriate.	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
I will book this <b>program</b> again.	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
I would recommend this <b>program</b> to other teachers.	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
The <b>activity</b> was a fun way for my students to learn.	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
The <b>activity</b> was well-organized.	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
I will book this <b>activity</b> again.	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
I would recommend this <b>activity</b> to other teachers.	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
My students learned about LFG's importance as an agricultural/transshipment depot.	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
My students learned that LFG is one of the finest collections of stone buildings in western Canada.	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
My students learned about the important treaty that was signed at LFG.	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
My students learned about LFG's history <i>outside</i> of the fur trade (penitentiary, asylum, training ground for the Northwest Mounted Police).	1	2	3	4	5	N/A





## Suggestions for improvement/additional comments:

---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like a response to your comments?      Yes      No

Would you be interested in receiving information      Yes      No  
about our upcoming programs and events,  
including our fall school programming?

If so, what is the best way for us to contact you?      Phone      Fax      E-mail

Where did you hear about Lower Fort Garry's school programs? (check all that apply)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> School program brochure  | <input type="checkbox"/> Phone enquiry  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lower Fort Garry website | <input type="checkbox"/> Previous visit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Word of mouth            | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____   |

Please return completed survey to  
**Lower Fort Garry National Historic Site of Canada**  
 5925 Highway 9, St. Andrews, MB R1A 4A8  
 Fax: (204) 482-5887 E-mail: [lfgnhs.info@pc.gc.ca](mailto:lfgnhs.info@pc.gc.ca)