21 Explorers Murdered

Massacre Island Named in their Honor

RESTORATION

Canada

LOCALS STRIKE ST. CHARLES OF FORT

Angle & Islands. As you read this Greetings to you from the Northwest

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THE PARTY

newspaper, you will see we are a Co-mingled with the histories of the aboriginals and First Nation peoples, colorful and memorable stories of fact, historically rich and deep area. French and Canadian, British, we are proud to share the following fiction, and folklore of the area with you.

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3rd Edition

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ISTORY, MYSTERY AND MORE. T'S SETTLED!! THE ANGLE | Ignorance, Inaccuracies, Bad Timing Favor the U.S. Lake of

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HISTORY, MYSTERY AND MORE

Lake of the Woods Discovered

The year is 1688. A 20-yearold French lad, Jacques de Novon, and his Indian companions guide their canoes around the last bend in the Rainy River. De Noyon becomes the first white man to see one of the most beautiful and exciting bodies of water in all the world the Lake of the Woods. De Noyon built a fort on Rainy River and made his mark in history as the first white man to see the Lake of the Woods.

Someone had to be first. We will never know, of course, the name of the first Indian to come upon our lake. If the legends of Vikings or other whites coming to this continent before Columbus have a kernel of truth, it might just be possible that we don't even know the name of the first white man to arrive at Lake of the Woods. But history does record that a white man did come to the lake in 1688, a Frenchman named Jacques de Noyon. We shall therefore give him full credit for discovering Lake of the Woods - credit well earned.

What was he doing in the middle of the continent three centuries ago? Primarily, he was interested in furs. During the first century of white man's contact with the area, there seemed to be an almost continuous struggle for possession of the lake between the woodland Indians (the Cree and Ojibway) and the Indians of the plains (the Sioux). Prior to De Novon's discovery, you can almost picture the lake with Indian villages along the shores and on the larger islands.

De Noyon (like most of his contemporaries and successors) had an additional mission in mind - to find a route to the Western Sea. However, his major contribution to the body of knowledge of his day was finding and detailing a route to these lakes from Lake Superior. De Novon, his contemporaries and his successors, were often gullible explorers. Upon hearing Indian stories of how close they were to the salt water of the Western Sea, they naturally displayed a great deal of pleasure and excitement. As a result, the Indians told the whites what they wanted to hear and exaggerated all the more. Between De Noyon's expeditions and La Verendrye's explorations, no known others penetrated the Lake of the Woods region

De Noyon Island, south of Big Narrows Island, honors the first European to reach Lake of the Woods.

Following De Noyon's

the Northwest Angle's history. in 1685, he was an adventurous individual. He joined the

building 3 forts at Rainy Lake, Lake of the Woods, and Lake Winnipeg, as well as trading furs with the Indians. The La Verendrye party left Montreal June 5, 1731, with a crew of 50 men. They made it to the source of the Rainy River and built a fort, now named Fort St. Pierre, in honor of Pierre La Verendrye (one of

Ignorance, Inaccuracies, Bad Timing Favor the U.S.

IT'S SETTLED!! THE ANGLE IS ALL AMERICAN

The history of why the Northwest Angle & Islands is part of the United States and Minnesota is very interesting...The Angle was created because some of our founding fathers didn't know their wilderness geography. In defining the boundary between American and British possession (to become Canada) at the treaty of Paris after the French and Indian War, the intention was to run a line through the Great Lakes to the ultimate source of the St. Lawrence River. Relying on an inaccurate map (Mitchell's Map of North America), the boundary makers goofed. They ran the line, instead, to the ultimate source of the Winnipeg River, which discharges into Hudson Bay. In doing so, they defined the boundary of "lake of the woods" being due west of the Mississippi River. If the boundary makers would have driven north to the Angle from, say, a point around Minneapolis and St. Paul, they would have discovered that the source of the Mississippi lies 140 miles south of Lake of the Woods.

Individuals involved in the decision to include it in U.S. lands, eventually to be part of Minnesota were Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and John Jay – the land became U.S. property because of ignorance, compromise, accident, and an astronomer's ruler. Boundary disputes arose, some serious, some complicated, because of the lack of sufficient geographical knowledge as well as errors in the reading of maps, sometimes crudely made.

The confusion had its beginning at the treaty of Paris at the conclusion of the American Revolutionary War (1783) and



did not end until the boundary was surveyed and definitely established in 1925 - nearly a century and a half later.

Franklin, Adams and Jay were among those representing the U.S. at the Treaty of Paris. The British ministry suggested that the boundary follow Rainy River "to the Lake of the Woods, thence through the said lake to the most northwestern part thereof, and from thence on a due west course to the river Mississippi."

Shortly after the signing of the treaty, the British became aware of the problem. As the Treaty of Ghent was being negotiated, they proposed that boundary negotiations be reopened and that the line be redefined. The U.S. acknowledged the problem, but said that it was not interested in dropping the border south of Lake of the Woods to the Mississippi River. If it had, the Mesabi and Vermilion iron ranges, and most of what we call the Arrowhead Country, would have been lost by us to Britain, An international commission was appointed to resolve the problem. However, the surveyors hired to locate the "northwesternmost point" found they could not cope with the irregular shoreline and all of the peninsulas and bays. They

actually gave up and reported the impossibility of the task.

In 1841, they appointed Dr. I. L. Tiarks, an astronomer, to study the problem. He finally took a map of the lake and a ruler. He placed the ruler across the lake at an exact NE to SW direction and then slowly moved it to the left across the map. He determined that the last point of shoreline touched by the ruler as it moved away from the lake would be the northwest point. Once the northwesternmost point was established by Dr. Tiarks, he dropped a line straight south to the 49th parallel, thus creating the Northwest Angle of the United States (the present "chimney" on top of Minnesota). His decision was accepted by both sides, but to the favor of the United States. The British government became aware of the fact that a piece of land was to be left in United States territory that they thought rightfully should be theirs. Again - argument, protest, and further investigation was requested between the two countries. Britain wished to retain what is now Angle Inlet for herself. However, America got that bulge of land on the continent because the British agent, a man by the name of Cameron, received the order to delay signing the final agreement too late because a prairie fire burned down the telegraph poles.

It wasn't until 1872 that this point was finally announced as 29 23', 50.28 latitude and 95 08', 56.7 longitude. In an interesting book by William E. Lass, Minnesota's Boundary With Canada, published by Minnesota Historical Society Press, he refers to the Northwest Angle as "that seeming aberration of man's rationality.

The sometimes irregular boundary line between the mouth of the Rainy River and the northwest point was worked out separately, thus deciding which islands would be American and which Canadian. In that long process, however, this island we now call Oak came into discussion.

OAK ISLAND

The question was whether Oak Island was in U.S. or in Canadian waters. Steamboat captains used the channel south and west of Oak Island just as in our day this channel was commonly used by the Island Queen, Bert Steele, and the Resolute. So local people thought that this channel was the international border and that, therefore, Oak Island was part of Canada. However, it was finally established that the island referred to as "No. 1" in the Webster-Ashburton Treaty was Oak Island, and therefore, it was part of the United States. So Oak Island, the largest island on Lake of the Woods in U.S. waters, ended up on the map at the top of the chimney-like Northwest Angle. Until the United States admitted Alaska to the Union in 1959, the Angle had the distinction of being the northernmost point in the United States.

Colonel Wolselev

The year 1870 was of

considerable significanc the history of the Lake the Woods and the Cana West. It was the year "law and order" arrived the wilderness. Reports revolts and lawlessness the Red River area arou sufficient concern on th part of the Dominion Government to send Lt. John Garnet Wolseley v contingent of 1,200 me that area via Lake of th Woods and Rat Portage Although they traveled established route, the si the army made it neces to literally carve a path through the Canadian wilderness. After a grue three-month journey, the (now called Kenora) o August 14, 1870.

The real significance the expedition lay in th that law and order had to the West. Colonel Wolseley had demonsti that a sizeable military could be moved across the wilderness whenever necessary and lawlessn would not be tolerated. travel difficulties of the expedition were a dran demonstration of the n for improvement of the Dawson route.

READ ON

More interes stories about areas histor people and development The Northw Angle and Isla

East Coast to West Coast Waterway Sought

THE PACIFIC OCEAN IN SIGHT?

Voyageurs Establish Fort St. Charles in their Quest to the West

travels, another explorer, Pierre Gautherier De La Verendrye became an important figure in Born at Three Rivers, Quebec, army at age 12. He fought the British in Boston and the men of the Duke of Marlborough in Flanders. On his return to Canada he was named commander of a small trading post

His adventures started in June of 1731, with a goal of his sons). In the spring and

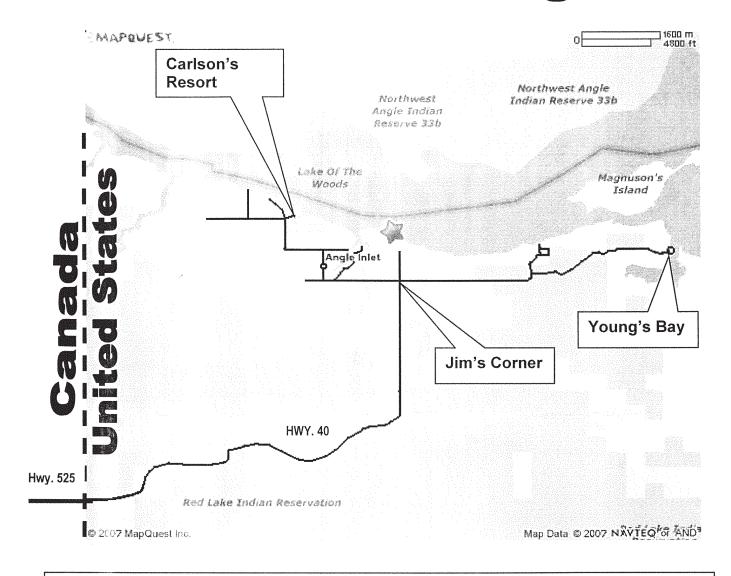
Charles was built at the mouth of the inlet. Many years later, with water erosion, the land became an island; it is now called Magnusons Island. What La Verendrye did not know and what was not to be discovered until more than a century later, was that he had built his fort at the top of the Northwest Angle, the most northerly land in the contiguous United States. At the tip is Angle Inlet, a unique geological formation,



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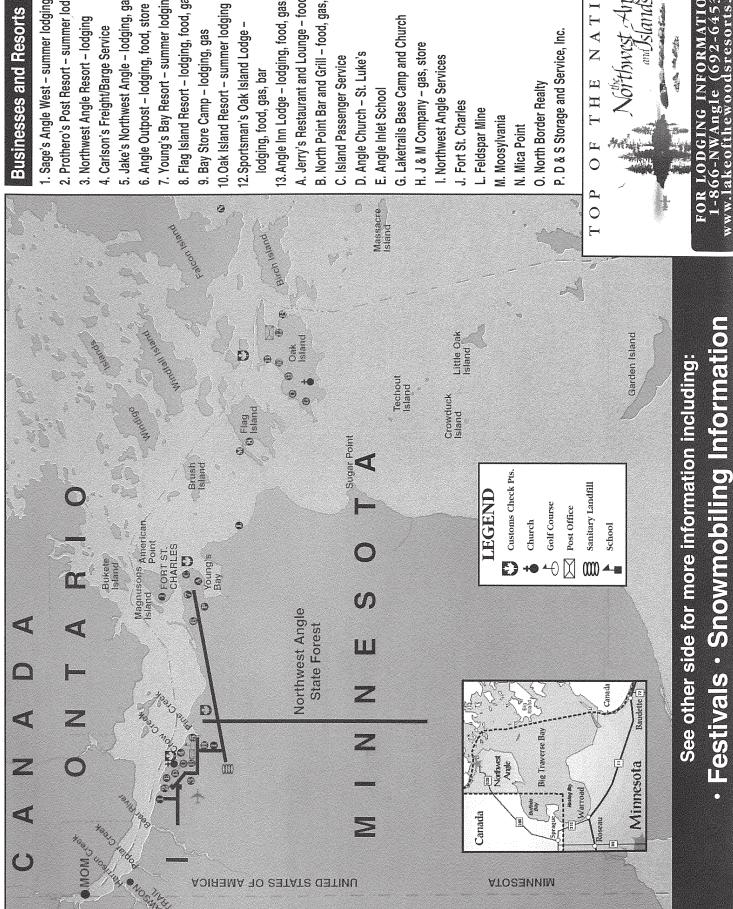


Phone Reporting from the North West Angle



- Enter the North West Angle on Highway 525 in Canada then onto Highway 40 on the US side. Proceed to Jim's Corner. Go into the white building and push the "US FLAG" button on the reporting phone and it will auto-dial US Customs (as you are going into the US).
- When you leave the Angle, stop at the white booth at Jim's Corner and push the "CANADA FLAG" button on the reporting phone and it will auto-dial Canada Customs (as you are going into Canada).
- When Staying in a resort on the US side and you are going into Canadian waters, use one of the reporting phones at the docks at either Carlson's or Young's Bay. Report to Canada Customs before leaving and then to US Customs when returning.
- When staying in a Canadian resort and you are going into US water, use the reporting booths at either Carlson's or Young's Bay. Report to US Customs before going out on the lake and report to Canada Customs on your way back to the Resort.

Failure to report on each trip from one country to the other may result in a substantial penalty.



Businesses and Resorts

- I. Sage's Angle West summer lodging
- 2. Prothero's Post Resort summer lodging
- 3. Northwest Angle Resort lodging
- 5. Jake's Northwest Angle lodging, gas
- 7. Young's Bay Resort summer lodging, gas, store
 - 8. Flag Island Resort lodging, food, gas, bar
- 12. Sportsman's Oak Island Lodge -
- 13. Angle Inn Lodge lodging, food, gas, bar
- A. Jerry's Restaurant and Lounge food, gas, bar
 - B. North Point Bar and Grill food, gas, bar
- C. Island Passenger Service

- G. Laketrails Base Camp and Church
- H. J & M Company gas, store
 - I. Northwest Angle Services

NATION



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Northwest Angle & Islands Chamber of Commerce information:

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along with proof of citizenship (birth certificate or naturalization certifipresent a government issued ID (driver's license) as proof of identity cate). Up-to-date information is available through travel.state.gov If you have a current passport now, that is the most preferred travel

document.

take a minute to read the sign, then proceed approximately 8 miles to miles through Canada to the Angle. Once you are back in the USA you will see a big BLUE sign with immigration information. Please Jim's Corner and STOP at the USA/Canadian OARS phone. You Once you have cleared the Canadian Customs at South Junction (Roseau) or Sprague (Warroad), you will travel approximately 50 must report - press the button with the US flag to talk to a US Immigration official.

foung's Bay or at the bridge near Angle Inlet School. Cyclone Island please follow the same directions using OARS phones located at If you arrive/depart the Northwest Angle via boat or snowmobile, has a phone for clearance back into Canada only.

on a road check, that number proves you "cleared customs." Continue Canadian flag to speak with a Canadian official who will give you from the Canadian official; if you are stopped by a Canadian official Leaving the Angle, remember to stop at the phone, press the clearance back into Canada. Be sure to get a clearance number to the Warroad or Roseau, MN, U.S. Customs Office.

Ride The Ed

to cross the border at certain remote areas without reporting to a port A REMOTE AREA BORDER CROSSING (RABC) permit allows you 807-852-3986. RABC permit applications may be picked up and of entry, as long as you declare your imported goods by calling processed at any Canada Customs Building (Fort Frances, River, Emerson) or call 1-800-642-2158.

BUSINESS LOCATIONS

NORTHWEST ANGLE **AVAILABLE AT MOST**

& SLANDS

How to Get Here

he Northwest Anale), air, watercraft, snowmobile, bombardier or your The Northwest Angle and Islands is accessible by car (mainland of own boat. Area businesses can make travel arrangements to your destination when you make reservations.

for the Northwest Angle sign (junction 525). Turn right onto Hwy. 525 Manitoba. From Roseau, take Hwy. 310 to South Junction, turn right to Sprague, Manitoba. From Sprague, go north on Hwy 308. Watch AUTOMOBILE: From Warroad, go north on Hwy. 313 to Sprague, and proceed to Jim's Corner.

AIR: Plane service is available out of International Falls Personal float planes can also be used.

island section of the lake. Transportation services are also available island businesses, a short 10-mile, 15 to 20 minute ride through the service, or the ice road from the mainland provide access to the WATER: The Island Passenger Service, winter bombardier across the lake from Baudette, MN, and Warroad, MN

by sled. Departures can be from Roseau, Warroad, Baudette or the SNOWMOBILE: Snowmobile Trail Maps are available for arrivals mainland of the Northwest Angle & Islands.

Border Crossing Information Customs/

Visitors entering the Northwest Angle & Islands via the road will need

Until the passport requirement is fully implemented, you will need to

passports (tentatively scheduled for June of 2009 implementation)



TANDES

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