

Cooks Creek, Manitoba:

Cooks Creek was named after Joseph Cook who lived at the confluence of the Red River and Cooks Creek. It enters the Red River north of East Selkirk. The community formed by Ukrainian settlers is on the Creek southeast of Lockport. A school under Joseph Cook (1788-1848) was opened in 1834 at Sugar Point (Mapleton-Selkirk) and people were encouraged to build houses and learn to farm. The log school-house (6 x 12 metres) also functioned as a teachers' residence, and had a loft that doubled as a granary. Cook was the first teacher, with 32 children attending.

St. Peter's Anglican Mission was started at the Cook's Creek location in 1833 by Reverend William Cochrane on land donated to the CMS by Chief Peguis. The first church was built in 1836. Chief Peguis was baptized there in 1838. By 1850, there were about 500 residents with 230 acres of land under cultivation on narrow river lots adjoining the church. The present day stone church, St. Peter Dynevor, was constructed 1852-54.



LOUIS RIEL INSTITUTE

Knowledge • Culture • Heritage

Compiled by Lawrence Barkwell
Coordinator of Métis Heritage and History Research
Louis Riel Institute