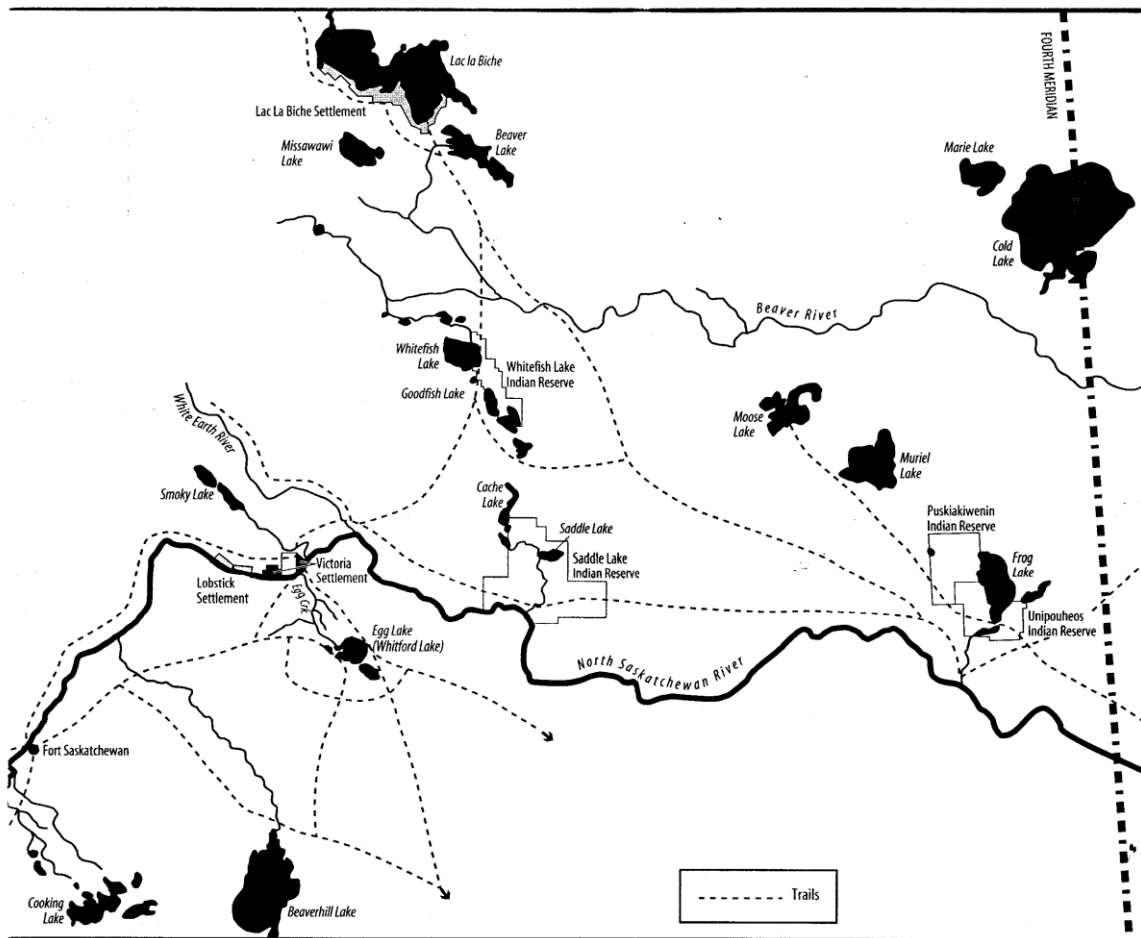


Carlton Trail

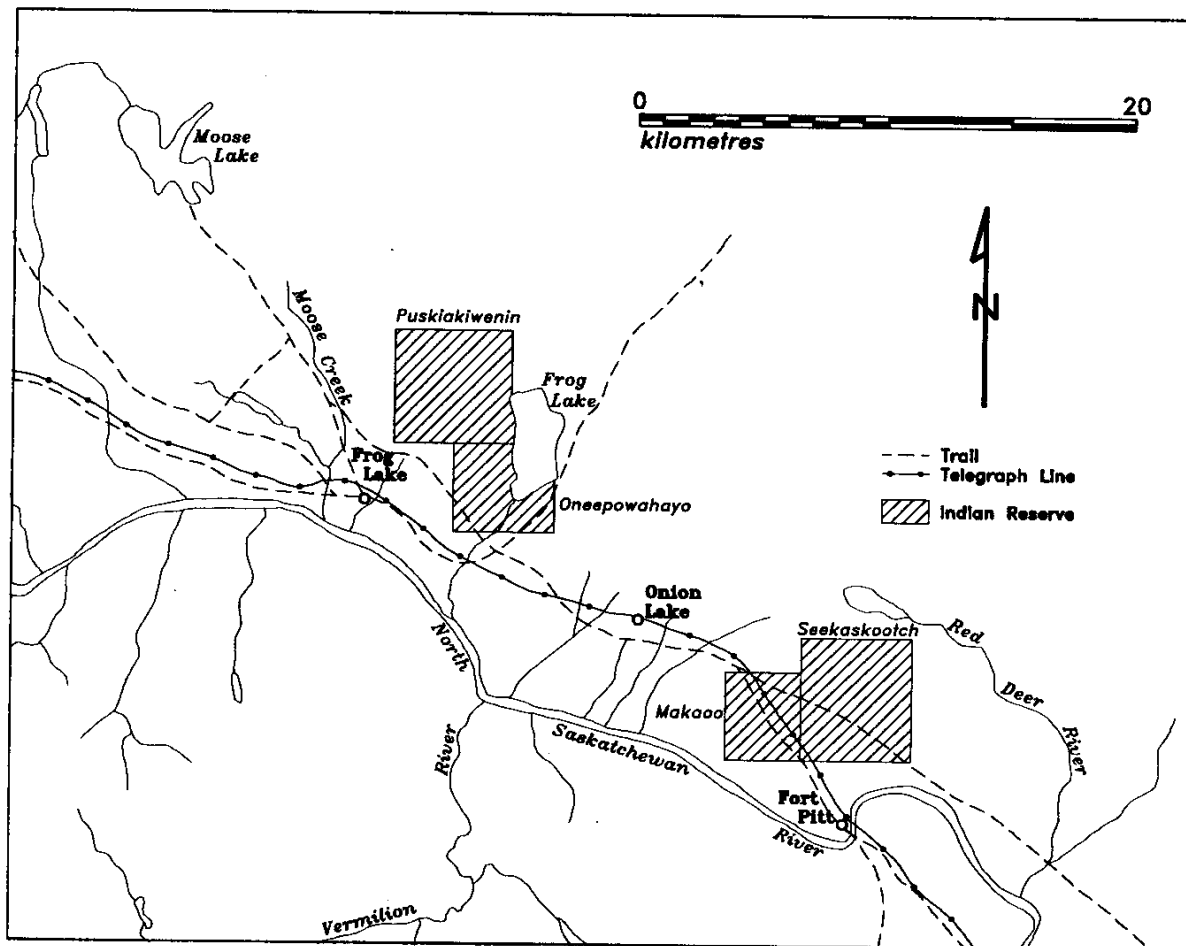
The hill overlooking the river here was a campground for many years for aboriginal people. In 1903 Bob Chandler, a bachelor NWMP patrolling out of Saddle Lake chose this location for his ranch "Coyotes Rest".



Early trails in the local area 1885

The bridge on the creek below the Mooswa Rest Stop is one crossing point of the Carlton Trail which ran from Winnipeg to Fort Carlton and then followed north of the river to Fort Battleford and then arrived at this point. From here it followed the high ground within a few miles of today's Iron Horse Trail to St Paul, then travelled to Victoria Settlement and on to Edmonton. Eventually the trail went on to Victoria.

After 1885 the telegraph line was put in from Edmonton to North Battleford following the Carlton Trail.

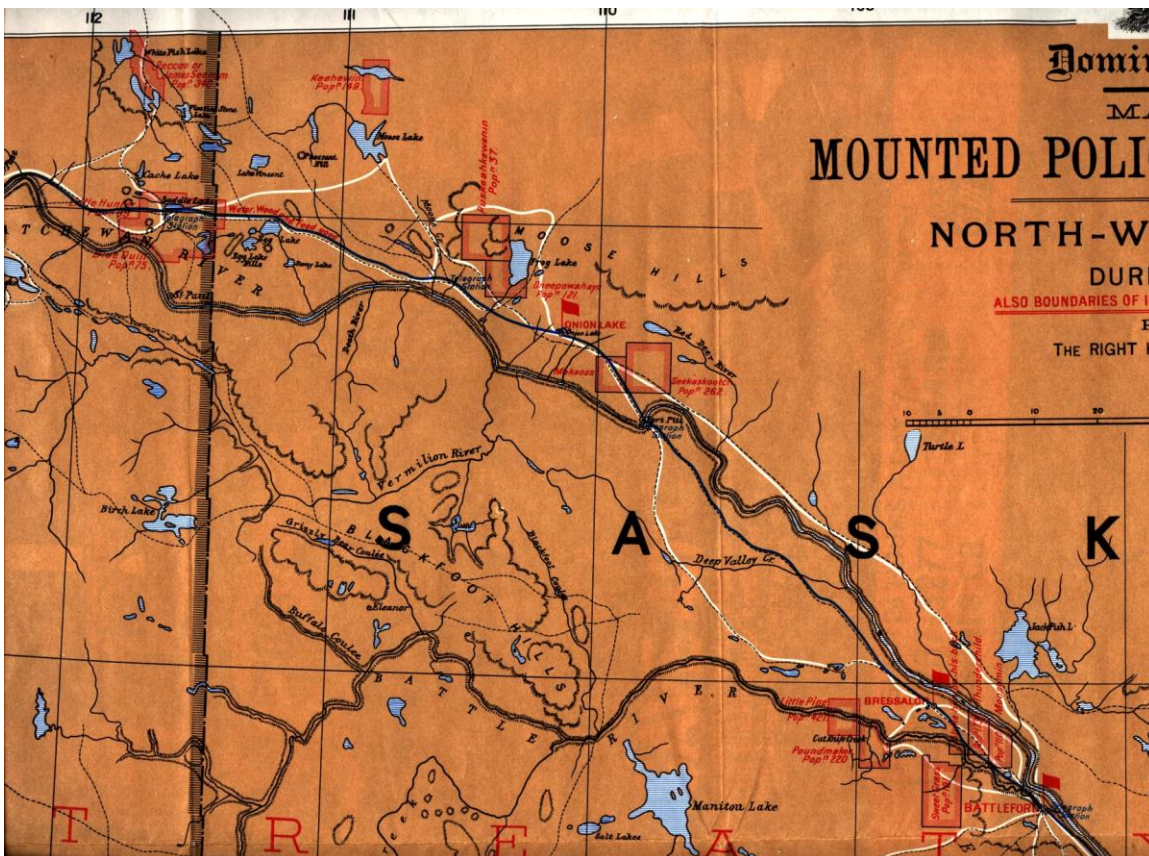


1 After 1886 Telegraph line followed Carlton Trail

Tyrol, the first post office in the area, was located in Maxwell's house. The 'Mac' Stewart Maxwell family had moved onto their homestead, later known as Tom Johnson's place, in 1909. The Tyrol post office was opened the following year. 'Mac' had a blacksmith shop and was the ferryman later on. In 1911 this post office was moved to the site of the Moose Creek Telegraph Station, the present Salt Plant site, and the post office was named Mooswa.

The Carlton Trail 1815 to 1915

Over many years a trail developed that connected Edmonton to Winnipeg over land to replace the previous water only route up and down the North Saskatchewan River. The trail stayed north of the river because that was Cree territory and was safer than the disputed territory on the plains, especially the land between the Battle River and the North Saskatchewan. The trail lasted for many years even finding use during the time of the steamboats on the Saskatchewan. Often the local telegraph line ran along it. It fell into disuse after the arrival of the railway in Vermilion and Vegreville in 1905.



2 NWMP patrol route map 1885 on

This hillside near the Salt Plant was where the trail came down to ford the Mooswa Creek and then moved up past the current Windsor Club Curling Rink and followed the south side of the small valley until it reached the sand plains where it went until it reached the gentle hill where Elk Point now is.

The following Carlton Trail Trekkers used the trail to enter the west:

1815 - John Rowan
North West Company
blazed the trail

1825 - Governor
Simpson, H.B.C -
declared the trail

1837 - Isadore
Dumont - moved his
family to Red Deer

1838 - Fathers
Blanches and Demers
- first priests west

1840 - Gabriel
Dumont moved to
Fort Pitt.

1841 - James Sinclair
- guided 200 settlers
to B.C.

1845 - Metis fur
brigade - Lac La
Biche to Fort Garry

1846 - Paul Kane -
wandering artist

1848 - Fur brigades
taking furs west for
Russia

1854 - Bishop Tache -
first visit west

1855 - Sutherland -
herded 300 sheep.

1858 - Captain
Palliser - mapping
expedition

1859 - Earl of
Southesk - hunting
trip

1859 - Sisters, Emery,
Lamy, Alponse - first
nuns west

1862 - Overlanders -
97 carts to B.C. gold
fields

1862 - George and John Methodist missionaries
1863 – Viscount Milton and Walter Cheadle traveling from Quebec to Jasper to Vancouver
1864 – Hudson Bay Company fur brigade - 100 red river carts were common
1865 - Chief Big Bear moves to Fort Pitt area
1867 - Father Lacombe - by dog team to Fort Garry
1871 - Sir Sanford Fleming - CPR. Survey

1874 - Inspector Jarvis - with 23 mounted police
1875 - E.W. Jarvis - CPR. Survey
1876 - Hon. Morris and Treaty Six Commissioners
1885 - Strange, Middleton, Steele, Otter - with troops
1892 - Ranchers - Beliveau, Cote, Matheson, Russell
1902 - Salter family - mail route
1907 - Early settlers
1927 - Lillian Alling - walking home to Russia