Fur Trade 10: Fur Trade Myths, Acknowledgements

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Fort St. Joseph Archaeological Project

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### Fur Trade Myths

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiction</th>
<th>Fact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>French fur trappers</td>
<td>The French traded for furs, but seldom if ever did any harvesting themselves.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steel traps</td>
<td>The steel trap came along in the 19th century. Native hunters clubbed or shot the animals.</td>
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<td>Muskets were so long because the traders made the Natives offer a stack of beaver pelts as high as the musket was long.</td>
<td>Weapon barrels were made long in an attempt to improve accuracy.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Traders cheated the Natives</td>
<td>While many tried, Natives had been trading for centuries. They knew quality and price, and how to get a good deal.</td>
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<td>Hudson Bay blankets came in &quot;Points&quot;: 2-point, 3-point, 4-point blankets. The points referred to the number of beaver pelts required to obtain one.</td>
<td>In reality, points denoted the size of the blanket, not its price.</td>
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