# Midwest Lacrosse on the Prairie









By J. Alan Childs

### Origins of lacrosse St. Lawrence River Valley

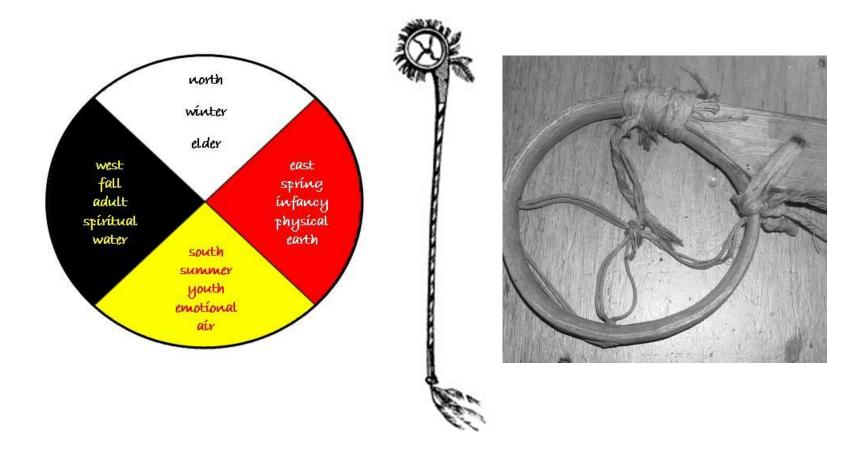


Migration



Algonquian moved from the east coast areas Spread out to the Midwest prairie Traveled through the Cradle of Lacrosse

## Medicine Game



#### Lacrosse Sticks

Western Great Lakes Style



Sketch from Dr. Beers book on Lacrosse

Six Nations Style



#### Brian Larney (Choctaw / Seminole Artist)



#### Ball Club and La Crosse



La Crosse, Wisconsin



near Leech Lake, Minnesota

# Fort Snelling



Louisiana Purchase 1803

Land acquired by Lt. Zebulon Pike 1805

Fort completed 1825

Built at B'Dote (Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers)

#### Giacomo Constantino Beltrami

Explorer trying to find the head waters of the Mississippi River.

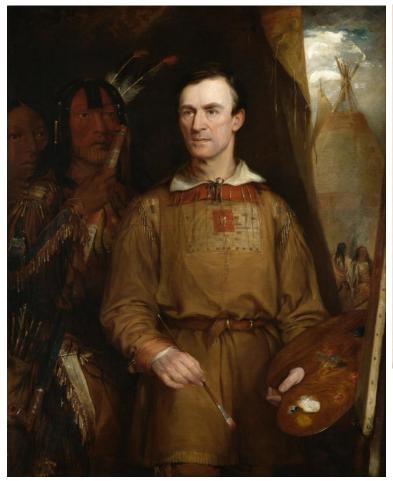
Acquired Red Lake Ojibwe stick



The Beltrami 1823 Ojibwe Lacrosse Stick Collected by Beltrami at Red Lake, Minnesota now located in Bergamo Museum, Italy



# George Catlin

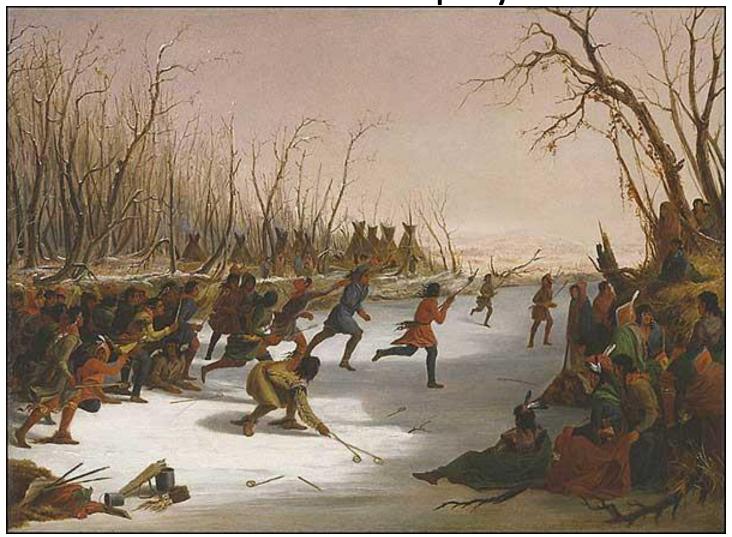


George Catlin by William Fisk, National Portrait Gallery

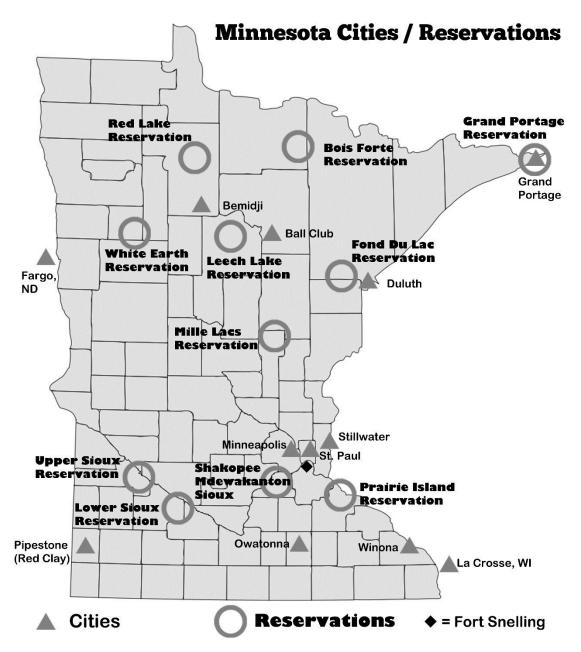


Ball Players, by George Catlin

Seth Eastman's – Ball play on the ice



Drifter's Village - Bloomington, MN



## Red Lake



# White Earth



### Game adopted in USA

Shamrock Lacrosse Club - World Champs, Montreal October 14, 1871 John R. Flannery, Sr. was the father of American Lacrosse First Player in center row reading left to right

#### United States Lacrosse Timeline

United States National Amateur Lacrosse Association – 1879 Newport, Rhode Island

#### Champions

1879 - Boston Union

1880 - Boston Union

1881 – New York

1882 – Louisville

1883 – Calumets of Chicago

1884 – St. Paul

1885 – St. Paul

1886 – New York

1887 – Calumets awarded cup

1888 – League ended

# St. Paul, Minnesota 1883





1st. Cricket Match, 10:30 A. M.—St. Paul vs. Minneapolis.

rear of Grand Stand 2nd, 100 Yurds-1st Heat-Championship Minnesota-Commencing 12 M sharp Liverpool, Eng. J. J. BYRNE, St. Paul A. C. HARRY LIECESTER, St. Paul A. C. E. F. BECK, E. GIBERTON. St. Paul L C. J. C. HARPER. Minneapolis A. C. THOS. H. WELLS, Stillwater. St. Paul L. C. ROBT, A. DEVINE, -3d. Second Heat of 100 Yards. St. Paul A. C. | H. J. MAYALL, White Bear. DAVE LONG. " L. C. W. S. FRY. Stillwater. ARTHUR L. COX. St. Paul A. O. ROBT. J. WALSH, 4th. Throwing the La Crosse Ball. St. Paul L. C. | S. W. CHIVRELL. A. D. WARNER. F. B. PETERS. G. C. SMITH. JOHN MOIR. H. WARWICK. St. Paul L. C. ROBT, A. DEVINE,

St. Paul Athletic Club sheet in 1884 showing Throwing of the Lacrosse Ball results



St. Paul Lacrosse Club late 1890s Source: Minnesota Historical Society



The Washington rink which had a hardwood skating surface 80 by 325 feet—the largest in the world.

Minneapolis Tribune June 30, 1912

# BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS in Lacrosse Games. They Challenge the Championship of the United States.

#### FROM THE EAIR GROUNDS.

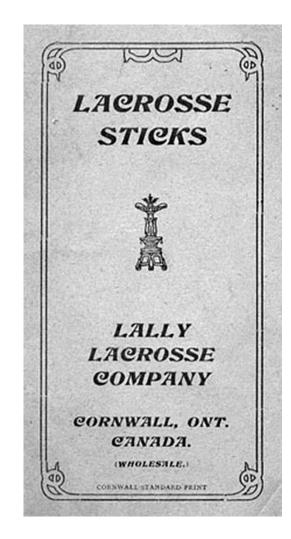
An effort is being made to secure railroad rates at one-half regular fare for the round trip from points on lines in the state.

Measurements were made of the grounds yesterday and the site found to be 2,425 feet east and west, and 3,025 north and south, an area of 7,335,625 feet.

The St. Paul Lacrosse club has sent word that they will challenge the visiting Indians, who are said to be experts, to play a game, the Indians to fix the date.

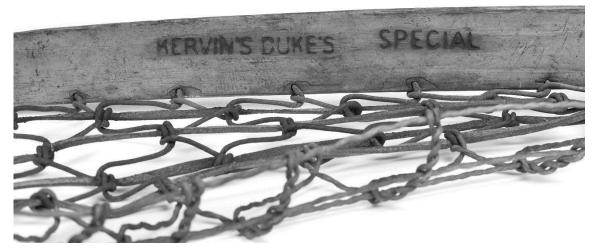


St. Paul Globe - 1884





St. Paul Lacrosse Club John Stark's "Lallys Special" Lacrosse Stick



Lallys Lacrosse Stick Catalog

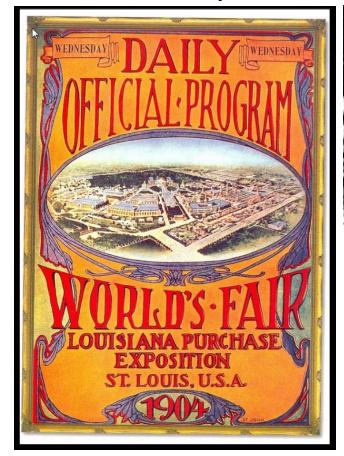
St. Paul Lacrosse Club George Kerwin's "Duke's Special" Lacrosse Stick



St. Paul Lacrosse Club at Lexington Park



#### 1904 Olympics – World's Fair 100 year Celebration of Louisiana Purchase





Shamrocks of Winnipeg Gold Medal Champions



St. Paul Lacrosse Club 1904

Tuesday, November 07, 2017

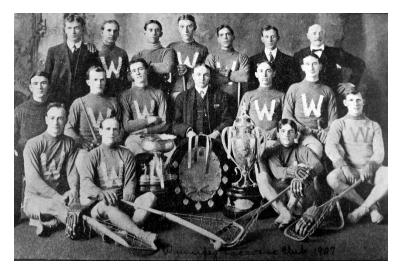
J. Alan Childs – Midwest Lacrosse on the Prairie



Drewry Cup – Championship Trophy of WCLA (Western Canadian Lacrosse Association) Archives of Manitoba, O'Dowda Collection #174



St. Paul Globe, 1903

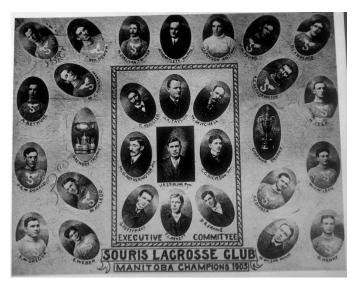


Winnipeg Lacrosse Club, 1907



SPORT - LACROSSE 9 1887 - Plum Creek Team, Lacrosse Champions of Manitoba

Plum Creek, 1887



Souris Lacrosse Club, 1905



Winnipeg, 1890

#### **End of US Midwest Lacrosse**

1905 – President Roosevelt saves the sport of football

1906 – Chicago fight ended the Northwest Lacrosse League

1911 – UMN Coach Trott dies on Lake Minnetonka

1914 – World War I

Boarding schools end lacrosse as part of assimilation

GI Bill allows Ojibwe and Dakota soldiers to attend college

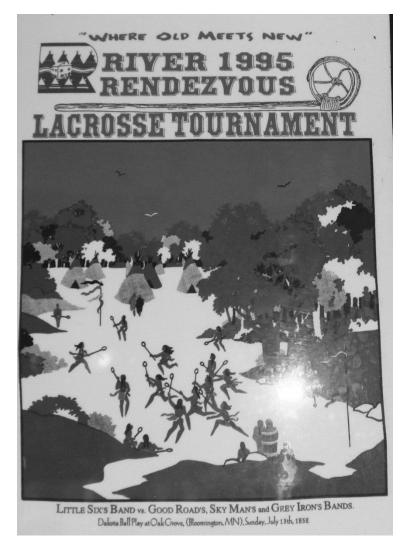
Traditions of lacrosse in Upper Midwest end in 1940s Red Lake, Leech Lake, Ball Club area all die out.

#### Dan Ninham – Oneida in Red Lake









#### Bringing lacrosse back home

