

Captain Duncan Graham, an Historical Profile

Captain Duncan Graham was born, according to his death certificate, in 1772, and was reported to be from the Highlands, Scotland, UK.^{1,2} He was well educated as demonstrated by his letters written while employed by the Hudson's Bay Company in Canada. It has also been reported that his parents were members of the Scottish nobility and that his emigration was a protest against society of the day.^{3,4} He immigrated circa 1794 to North America landing at York Factory on the south west coast of Hudson's Bay in northern Canada. He was a part of a group of Scottish Highlanders who helped found the Selkirk Colony on the banks of the Red River where the city of Winnipeg is today. Soon after arriving in North America, he traveled up the Red to its source and then down the St Peter's/Minnesota river to its confluence with the Mississippi, where this unspoiled area was teeming with fur bearing animals.^{5,6} Lured by the profit in furs he established a trading post on the St Peter's river near the present day town of Mendota, MN, as early as 1802.^{7,8}

Between 1796 and 1802 he married Susanne Istagiwin Ha-za-ho-ta-win Pennishon daughter of the French Canadian Jean Pennishon and granddaughter of Wapasha I, the Grand Chief of the Dakota. At the time Europeans took Indian wives basically as a means of survival and thus creating a long term relationship with an established Indian Band. The downside for a fur trader was the Indian culture of kinship, which meant that families shared everything with a what is yours is mine attitude, which made it difficult for a trader to have a stock of goods for trading.^{9,10}

He built a trading post on Graham's Island in Devils Lake, North Dakota and the whole island is State Park named after him. The historical documents are contradictory as to the exact time he lived on the island and built his trading post. Most history references indicate that he lived in this area after 1815, however some say that it was much earlier. His granddaughter says that he was an independent trader and not associated with any company at the time, which would mean it was about 1809/11 because later fur traders required a license and were governed by trading companies. However a grandson said that his mother (who was born in 1805) was 12 at the time they left the island which would mean that he left the island in 1817. It is possible that he was on the island about 1810 and then again after 1815. One history book written in 1884 said that remnants of his old post were still visible on the island. The Indians called him 'Big Foot' and the island 'Big Foot's Island'.^{11,12,13,14,15}

During the 1812-1815 war Graham fought on the side of the British and in 1813 as a lieutenant was part of a force that was defeated by the American army lead by Col. Croghan at Lower Sandusky, Ohio.¹⁶ On 6 Sep 1814 at the battle of Credit Island, opposite Davenport Iowa in the Mississippi River, Duncan Graham and a troop of Indians forced Major Zachary Taylor to retreat during his attempt to recapture the fort at Prairie du Chein Wis. In recognition of his role in this action he was promoted to a Captain.^{17,18,19} At the end of the war he was initially barred from entering the USA, however was eventually allowed to join his wife and children. H.H. Sibley claimed that he was given USA citizenship at some point.²⁰

After the war we know that he worked as a trader for the Hudson's Bay Company as we have a copy of their ledger showing an advance of money at Montreal in 1815 with the last entry being in 1820. We also have copies of letters between Graham and HBC officials and others referencing Graham during the same time period.^{21,22} About this time he operated a trading post along the Red River at a place known as Graham's Point, which later became the site of Fort Abercrombie.²³ On 1 Feb 1817 Lord Selkirk wrote a letter to Graham acknowledging Graham's letters of Oct 11 and Dec 7 [1816] where he discussed the success Graham had in trading to date and gives specific instructions on what he wanted Graham to do in the future. Selkirk felt that Graham should remain at the trading post over the winter to ensure there was no conflict between the various bands of Indians.^{24,25} His work later took him to the upper Red River near Traverse Lake where he operated a trading post for the HBC which at some point, as a Canadian company, was barred from doing business in the USA.^{26,27} The letters show there was friction between the company and Graham because furs were not as plentiful as they expected. About 1820, Graham left the HBC and joined the Northwest Company to set up a trading post near Traverse Lake.^{28,29}

Their only son, Alexander, was born in Prairie du Chein, Wisconsin in 1821 and we know that he also lived there on 26 Jun 1827 which was quoted in a short narrative of Graham's life in a Minnesota History book.^{30,31} He must have been trading in the area as he purchased trading items on 15 Aug 1835 at Mendota, Dakota, Minnesota, USA, because we have a copy of his itemized purchases from the Sibley Trading Post papers for that date.³² On 16 Aug 1837 he was a signatory to a petition sent to the president of the USA for restitution for lands that they had settled between the falls of St Anthony and the mouth of the Minnesota River, which were to be taken for military reserve at Mendota, Dakota,

Minnesota, USA.³³ He was present at the baptisms of his daughter Sarah and son Alexander at St Peter's Catholic Church at Mendota on 5 Jul 1839.³⁴

In 1834 he retired to the Wabasha, MN where his three youngest daughters lived and for a number of years was engaged in carrying the mail between Prairie du Chien and points as far north as the Red River of the North.^{35,36} On 9 Feb 1843 he was acting postmaster at Wabasha, Wabasha, Minnesota, USA.³⁷ In 1843 in an elaborate ceremony, Duncan Graham named the town of Wabasha MN (originally Wabashaw), after his wife's grandfather, Chief Wapashaw I.^{38,39}

Captain Duncan Graham died on 5 Dec 1847 at Mendota, Dakota, Minnesota, USA.^{40,41,42} On 6 Dec. 1847 his body was placed in the Jean Baptist Faribault family vault at Mendota joined by his wife in 1848. In what must have been a huge operation, the remains of all relatives and near relatives were moved to the family plot at the Calvary Cemetery, Faribault, MN in the winter of 1865 because the new railway line needed the land occupied by the vault. His grave marker read "Duncan Graham, Born in Scotland". That grave marker no longer existed in 2008, as it may have been made of wood.^{43,44,45,46}

In 1910 the Historical Society of ND - Vol 3, published a picture of three of Graham's four daughters and in a biography of Duncan Graham on page 217 named the four daughters, all whom married prominent men in the history of the State of Minnesota; Mrs [Mary Elizabeth] Alexander Faribault, Mrs [Lucy Nancy] Joseph Buisson, Mrs [Sarah Mary] Oliver Cratte and Mrs [Jane] James Wells.⁴⁷

Endnotes

¹From the Registers of St Peter & St Paul Chapels and Mendota and St Paul, Death-Burial Records Catholic Church Record, Archives of the Catholic Archdiocese of St. Paul, Minnesota, Steven Granger, Archivist, 244 Dayton Ave, St Paul, Ramsey, Minnesota, USA 55102, 651-291-4485. Hereinafter cited as Death-Burial Records, St Paul Archdiocese.

²North Dakota Historical Society, *North Dakota History, Volume XV, No. 2,3,4, Jan-Oct 1948; "Ninety Six Years Among the Indians of the Northwest" - author, Philip F. Wells.*

(Bismarck North Dakota: Publisher, North Dakota Historical Society, 1948, pp 85-97). Hereinafter cited as NDHS, "*Ninety Six Years Among the Indians of the Northwest" North Dakota History, Volume XV, Jan-Oct 1948.*

³Graham Duncan, Letters from the Hudson's Bay Co. files, 1815-1820, Hudson's Bay Company Archives, Archives of Manitoba - Hudson's Bay Company Archives, 130-200 Vaughn Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3C 1T5, 204-945-4949.

⁴North Dakota Historical Society, NDHS, "*Ninety Six Years Among the Indians of the Northwest" North Dakota History, Volume XV, Jan-Oct 1948.*

⁵Ibid.

⁶Marie L. McLaughlin, *Myths and Legends of the Sioux, McLaughlin Marie L.* (Bismarck North Dakota, USA: Bismarck Tribune Company, May 1, 1913). Hereinafter cited as *Book, Myths and Legends of the Sioux, McLaughlin.*

⁷Minnesota Historical Society, *Minnesota History A Quarterly Magazine, Volume VIII, 1927, "New Light on Old St Peter's and Early St Paul," written by M.M. Hoffmann, Columbia College, Dubuque, Iowa.*

(St Paul MN: Published by Minnesota Historical Society, 1927, page 27). Hereinafter cited as MHS, "*New Light on Old St Peter's and Early St Paul," MN History, Volume VIII, 1927.*

⁸North Dakota Historical Society, NDHS, "*Ninety Six Years Among the Indians of the Northwest" North Dakota History, Volume XV, Jan-Oct 1948.*

⁹Ibid., The document states: "Taking a wife about 1796, Graham married Susan Pennishon, whose Indian name was 'Istagiwin' meaning 'Brown Eyes'. The name had been given to the first cross between the whites and the Santee Indians."

¹⁰"Research Notes and Data from Dr Phillip Graham Reedy Family," Dr Phillip Graham Reedy Family (USA), to J Ward (Canada), Research states: "About 1800 he married Susanne who was known as the Gray Huckleberry woman"; Research Notes , W. Fuller, Canada. Hereinafter cited as "Research Notes, Dr Phillip Graham Reedy Family."

¹¹A.T. Andreas, *Historical Atlas of the Dakotas* (Chicago, Illinois, USA: State Historical Society of North Dakota, published 1884), Atlas, 1884, Dakota Territory; Roll 04815.

States: "The earliest knowledge of the Devil's Lake region came through the fur traders who established themselves there as early as 1815. As far as known Capt. Duncan Graham, a Scotchman, was the first of these. He settled on Graham's Island where he built a trading post immediately succeeding the war of 1812-1815, and continued there for a number of years. A granddaughter of Graham [Marie J. Buisson], now the wife of Major Cramsie, the Indian agent, is living at Fort Totten. Remains of the old post are still visible. Graham's Island was named for this man". Hereinafter cited as *Book, Andreas - Historical Atlas of the Dakotas.*

¹²North Dakota Historical Society, *North Dakota History, Volume 16, No. 1,2,3 Jan-April -July 1949; "Recollections and Reminiscences of Graham's Island" - author, Usher L. Burdick.*

(Bismarck North Dakota: Publisher, North Dakota Historical Society, 1949, pp 1-13), Pages and 1 and 2 state: "After the war [1812-1815] he engaged in hunting and trapping. The story told by these grandchildren [Mrs. James McLaughlin and Antoine Buisson] gives some additional light on the first settler of this Island. He made his headquarters there for hunting and trapping but, being an independent trapper [not connected with the Hudson's Bay

Company or the American Fur Company], he was not very successful". Hereinafter cited as NDHS, "*Recollections and Reminiscences of Graham's Island*" *North Dakota History*, Volume 16, Jan-Apr-Jul 1949.

¹³North Dakota Historical Society, *North Dakota Historical Society Vol III- Biographies of Early Settlers on Graham's Island - "Captain Duncan Graham"* (Bismarck North Dakota: Tribune, State Publishers and Binders, 1910 - edited by O.J. Libby), "Sketch of Capt. Duncan Graham" p217; The footnote 1/2 states: "Antoine Buisson of Fort Totten, ND says that his mother, Mr Graham's second eldest daughter, was twelve years old when her father moved from the Island after about one year's residence there. As her mother died in 1888 at the age of 83, that would fix the date of Mr Graham leaving the Island, 1817. However, other members of the family believe that it was earlier."

"The Settlement of Graham's Island" p201 states: "Of all communities of North Dakota, probably none has a history more singular than the settlement on Graham's Island. The locality derives its name from Captain Duncan Graham, who resided there temporarily in the early part of the nineteenth century, probably not long after the War of 1812". Hereinafter cited as NDHS Vol III-Biographies of Early Settlers on Graham's Island.

¹⁴North Dakota Historical Society, NDHS, "*Ninety Six Years Among the Indians of the Northwest*" *North Dakota History*, Volume XV, Jan-Oct 1948, Page 90 states: "Sometime before 1812 he established a post near the present site of Grand Forks, ND and a few years later he established another one near the present site of Fargo, ND."

¹⁵Gary Clayton Anderson, *Kinship of Another Kind, Dakota - White Relations in the Upper Mississippi Valley 1650-1862* (Minneapolis, MN, USA: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1997), Page xv of the Introduction states: "The coming of the British in the 1770s and the Americans in the early 1880s brought change. Nevertheless, a series of kinship connections increasingly dominated economic relationships to such an extent that individual European explorers and fur traders married into established bands, creating long-lasting peace and friendship bonds with the Dakota people. Americans benefited from these relationships and continues to develop kinship connections among the Dakota after 1800. Inherent in the book's thesis is the argument that these kinship ties were based upon reciprocity -- the idea that goods and services were exchanged between Indians and whites without much regard to value because it was the exchange itself that cemented the relationship. Reciprocity, more than a market or growing economic dependency, characterized the early fur trade and Indian-white relationship."

Page xxvii of the Preface says: "Almost all whites who entered Minnesota after 1650 became, in the Sioux sense, kinsmen who were adopted into a band and given kin names in order to be viewed as friends or allies. But European kinsmen were expected to share and exchange resources so as to make the community strong, an economic obligation commonly found in communal societies. They in turn could expect assistance from their Dakota relatives in time of need. Once a trader received his kin name, he was formally considered a part of the Dakota 'tiyospaye', or lodge group. The family relationship, based upon trust, reciprocal sharing of resources, or blood ties, had special meaning to the Sioux, since kinship relations dictated behavior patterns and the way other people were treated". Hereinafter cited as *Book: Kinship of Another Kind*, 1997.

¹⁶Wisconsin Historical Society, *Report and Collections of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin for the years 1880,81 and 82; Volume IX; "Traditions and Recollections of Prairie du Chein"*

(Madison, WIS: David Atwood, State Printer, 1882, pp 262-300), The footnote on page 299 states, "he was an officer in the British Indian Department, and was present in command of a party of Dakota or Sioux warriors, composing a portion of the force that was defeated by Col. Croghan at Lower Sandusky, Ohio."

The footnote also states "Grigon's narrative in the 3rd Vol of this Wis. His. Collections state;" "Gen H.H. Sibley of St Paul, writes to the editor of this work: "I knew Capt. Graham well, he was the father-in-law of Alexander Faribault, lately deceased, who was the founder of the flourishing town that bears his name. He became a citizen of the US subsequent to the war and traded with the Indians for many years. For several years before his passing his leisure days in going from one part of this wild region to another, being a man of remarkable physical vigor, although of slight build."

The footnote further states; "Mr. Neil in his 1882 History of Minnesota, relates, on the authority of Gen. Sibley, that the crop of 1819 having failed in Lord Selkirk's Colony on the Red River, Duncan Graham, with one Laidlaw, was employed in the spring of 1820 to conduct three boats from Prairie du Chein, laden with 200 bushels of wheat,100 oats, 35 of peas to Pembina. This timely supply cost Lord Selkirk about \$6000."

Also "Capt. Graham was a native of the Highlands of Scotland, descendant from a good family. He appears to have shared with Robert Dixon and the Indians in the campaign of 1813 on the Maumee and at Ft Stevenson, and the next year at Prairie du Chein and Rock River Rapids". Hereinafter cited as *WHS, "Traditions and Recollections of Prairie du Chein" - WI History, Volume IX, 1882.*

¹⁷Minnesota Historical Society, *MHS - Minnesota History A Quarterly Magazine* (St Paul, MN: Minnesota Historical Society), Volume VIII, 1927, Page 44 states:

"On the side of the British, Graham fought in several campaigns in the 1812 war. He distinguished himself on September 6, 1814 by driving back Major Zachary Taylor in the battle of Credit Island in the Mississippi opposite Davenport. At the time he was a lieutenant in command of a three pounder and two swivels with a number of Indian auxiliaries serving under him. He was cited for Meritorious conduct in this affair, and later was promoted to captaincy because of his victory. He was granted extensive land by the British government for his service, but never realized anything because of litigation".

Hereinafter cited as *MHS - Minnesota History.*

¹⁸Wisconsin Historical Society, *Report and Collections of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin for the years 1880, 81 and 82; Volume IX; "T.G. Anderson Journal & Narrative"*

(Madison, WIS: David Atwood, State Printer, 1882, page 207 forward), The following is a summary taken from the Personal Narrative and Journal of Captain Thomas G. Anderson's (Duncan Graham's boss):

1800 Prairie du Chien, in Wisconsin had traditionally been a British trading post.

1810-1814 - The Americans would not permit British traders to carry goods into Indian territory within the USA - even though they were willing to pay the duty. The British traders traveled with armed escorts to get to Prairie du Chien p178

1814, April/May - word was received that the Americans had built a fort at Prairie du Chien p193

1814, June 24 - Duncan Graham is listed as an officer at Fort Mackinaw. p264

1814, June - Anderson (fur trader) was made a Captain in the army and led a force against the Americans and recaptured Prairie du Chien, taking 65 prisoners. p194-6

1814, Aug 23 - Graham was a lieutenant stationed at Fort McKay (Prairie du Chien). Indians reported that 8 American gun boats were heading north up the Mississippi to recapture the fort, so Graham was dispatched with 6 British volunteers and 1200 Indians to engage them. p211-216

1814, Sept 5 - There are several letters between Graham and Anderson describing the situation.

1814, Sept 6 - In a letter dated Sept 7 written from the battle ground, Graham describes in detail how they chose the best spot for an engagement just at the rapids where Rock River enters the Mississippi and when 8 very large American gun boats with about 6-800 men tried to negotiate the rapids, engaged them with heavy fire shooting 50 holes in their boats with their large guns [this is at Credit Island in the Mississippi River opposite Davenport today]. The Americans fled south stopping to bury their dead. p226-228

1814, Sept 14 - In a letter to Lieut. Col. McDougall - Anderson described the battle and recommended Graham be recognized for merit. p230

[Note]: There is a lot of detail facts here for those interested in military strategy and involving Duncan Graham. Hereinafter cited as *WHS, "T.G. Anderson Journal & Narrative" - WI History, Volume IX, 1882.*

¹⁹L. Homfray Irving, *Canadian Military Institute - Officers of the British Forces in Canada during the War of 1812-15* (Welland, Ontario, Canada: Welland Tribune, 1908), J. Ward found this book in the Canadian Archives Library, Ottawa, where p211 shows that Duncan Graham of Mackinaw was promoted to 'Captain' effective 6 Sept. 1814. Hereinafter cited as *Book, British Forces in Canada 1812-15.*

²⁰Minnesota Historical Society, *MHS, "New Light on Old St Peter's and Early St Paul," MN History, Volume VIII, 1927.*

²¹Graham Duncan, Accounts Ledger - Hudson's Bay Co., 1815-1820, Reference # A.16/53, Hudson's Bay Company Archives, Archives of Manitoba - Hudson's Bay Company Archives, 130-200 Vaughn Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3C 1T5, 204-945-4949.

²²Graham Duncan, Letters from the Hudson's Bay Co. files, 1815-1820 Hudson's Bay Company Archives.

²³Minnesota Historical Society, *MHS - Minnesota History, Volume 46/3 Fall 1978, Footnote #13 "Journey of a Trip" by Peter Garrioch. Also Nute, ed., in Minnesota History, 4-414,415 states: "On Graham's Point which later became well known as the site of Fort Abercrombie, see Graham to Lord Selkirk, Dec 7, 1816, Selkirk papers, originals in the Public Archives of Canada, microfilm copy in the Minnesota Historical Society."*

²⁴Letter from Lord Selkirk (Fort William (a Hudson's Bay Co. post was situated at the mouth of the Red River Delta and Lake Winnipeg (now Manitoba) at the time.) to Captain Duncan Graham, 1 Feb 1817; GRA-GRA, page 1-16,17 Wabasha City Library (168 Allegheny Ave, Wabasha, Wabasha, Minnesota, USA). The following letter was copied from the original by a reporter

Wabasha Herald - Newspaper Article, dated Monday, January 24, 1876

EARLY DAYS IN MINNESOTA

Lord Selkirk to Capt. Duncan Graham
Fort William, February first, 1817

Dear Sir:

I have received your 2 letters of Oct 11th and Dec, 7th with its enclosure. I am happy to learn that you have so far succeeded in your place and with such good prospects of further success. The supply of provisions from your post will be of great consequence to the settlement. I am sorry that you omitted to mention the name of the officer at Prairie des Chien, also the trader on the River St. Peter to whom you alluded. In other respects your narrative is distinct and satisfactory. The deficiency of goods at Alle de Carbeon was unavoidable as Mr. McDowell's destination there was not preconcerted, but determined upon the spur of the moment, in consequence of the unexpected intelligence from Red River which we received at the Sault many articles which it would have been desirable to send were of course not at hand: but I will attend to your list of which almost every article is most material and shall be supplied from here as soon as we have means of conveyance. You will hear from Lake LaPlein whether Capt. D'orsinus? will remain at Red River. You will inform him or Gov. McDowell of the amount of provisions which you can supply and take their orders as to forwarding them. I am happy to hear that it can be done so easily. In the mean time you will make your preparations, but will not send them actually away until you have advices to that effect from Captain D'orsinus?. You should also prepare a large ice house so as to be able to preserve a stock of meat through the summer. If that should be requisite.

With respect to your proposed journey to Prairie des Chiens I would by no means wish you to undertake it this season. None of the articles that are to be had there are of immediate consequence and I would be very sorry that you should leave your post at present for any object of secondary consequence. Roseon might be capable of taking care of the remaining goods, but I consider your stay at the post an of essential consequence with a view to cultivate the friendship of the Sioux and to prevent any misunderstanding between them and our Indians on the Red River or those among whom Mr. McDowell is wintering. The peace between them cannot yet be firmly established and fatal accidents might happen if there were not some person of influence upon the spot to check any hostile dispositions before they go too far. For that reason, though I would be very happy to see you here, I must request you to defer your visit till I come into the interior, in the spring. There will be plenty of time then to settle on the points of business to which you refer. If our affairs go well on the Red River you will probably have to go down to the Forks early in the spring, soon after navigation opens and I may meet you there or on my way from thence, but I cannot determine absolutely what your motions should be till I receive further intelligence from the interior.

I am Dear Sir, Your, & c..
SELKIRK

P.S. I send with this dispatch a letter for Colonel Miller Commandant of Michillmocino which I hope there may be an opportunity of forwarding to Prairie des Chiens or to the nearest American garrison, through the medium of some of the traders on the Mississippi, or river St. Peter. I wish you would write to any of your friends on the way to assist it getting it forwarded., This letter places Graham as a trader in the Lake Traverse area for the winter of 1816/17.

²⁵Early Days in Minnesota, *Newspaper Article, Wabasha Herald*, Wabasha, Minnesota, January 24, 1876. Hereinafter cited as Newspaper Article, Wabasha Herald.

²⁶North Dakota Historical Society, *North Dakota Historical Society Volume XII, Number 3, 1945*; "Notes on the Activities of the Hudson's Bay Company in North Dakota" (Bismarck North Dakota: North Dakota Historical Society, 1945, pp 144-158), Page 148 states; "In 1818 a temporary agreement was made between the Hudson's Bay Company and Joseph Ranville and Duncan Graham relative to a joint trade to be carried on between then in the upper parts of the Red River." [the source of that river being Lake Traverse-wlf]

Pages 151-154 quotes a section from the journal of Bourke: "The following extracts from the Journal kept by John Palmer Bourke, who wintered at Graham's post at Lac Traverse in the Sioux country in 1819/20".

"1819 - Sept 17, .. Mr [Duncan] Graham intends as the carts are not arrived to go off with the boat so as that he may arrive the sooner at Lac Traver."

"Nov 3, Made the traverse from, Nov 5, encamped opposite Mr. [Duncan] Graham's old wintering place, Nov 10, Reached the place of our destination but had no House to go into. Mr [Duncan] Graham's wife pitched a leather tent for me and in this I am to remain until Mr Graham's house is finished Nov 17. The men employed preparing wood for a House, Nov 18 ...laid the floor in Mr Graham's house ..., Feb 6 [1820], Messer's Graham & Ranville went to the American Post ..., Feb 10, The Gentlemen arrived Mr Graham purchased some tobacco from the Americans..., March 2, Mr Graham & Francois Roy went on a friendly visit to Mr. Moore". Hereinafter cited as *NDHS, "Notes on the Activities of the Hudson's Bay Company in North Dakota" - N D History Volume XII, Number 3, 1945*.

²⁷Minnesota Historical Society, *Minnesota History, Volume 22, Number 3, 1941*; "Hudson's Bay Company Posts" - Author Grace Lee Nute. (St Paul MN: Published by Minnesota Historical Society, 1941, pp 282-85), Page 282 states: "During the winter of 1819-1820 Graham, Bourke and Joseph Renville maintained a post for the HBC on or near Lake Traverse and the following season Bourke and Renville were there."

Page 282 states: "Duncan Graham of the HBC has a post near the Wild Rice River prior to 1819, for on Nov 4, [1819] of that year John Brouke proceeded along the "Riviere a Folle" and on Nov 5, passed the river and encamped opposite Mr. Graham's old wintering place". Hereinafter cited as *MHS, "Hudson's Bay Company Posts" - MN History, Volume 22, Number 3, 1941*.

²⁸Ibid., On page 282 it states: "By 1820 the arrangements between the company on one side and Renville and Graham on the other for the joint trade near Lake Traverse had become unsatisfactory. Graham seems to have entered the service of the Northwest Co. and to have established a rival post on or near Lake Traverse."

²⁹North Dakota Historical Society, *NDHS, "Notes on the Activities of the Hudson's Bay Company in North Dakota" - N D History Volume XII, Number 3, 1945*, Page 148 states that; In a letter dated Jan 12, 1820 W. Williams, Governor in Chief of Rupert's Land writes to Colonel Robert Dickson: ".... The Sioux Trade has been Very unsuccessful and a great loss has been sustained by the HBC, the furs indifferent and the concern badly conducted by [Duncan] Graham."

And on the same page - in a letter dated March 11, 1820, he states "....With respect to Mr. [Duncan] Graham and the Sioux trade they appear equally bad, the one in returns and expenses and the other in conduct and bad management." Later in the same letter he states: "...you seem to think that [the venture] may be carried on without loss, if so by all means adopt it, you have my full consent to take any measures you deem necessary, but not to employ Mr. [Duncan] Graham"

On page 154 - "The following extracts from the Journals kept by J.P. Bourke when he was in charge of Lac Traverse during the trading season 1820/21...", "Oct 23, 1820 Arrived at Lake Traverse with all our Goods safe in the Company of Mr. Duncan Graham on the part of the North West Company."

Page 151 states: "Peter Fidler - Surveyor of the HBC in a report on the Red River District of May, 1919, states that along the height of land dividing the waters flowing into the Gulf of Mexico from those flowing into Hudson Bay there was considerable number of beaver, but being situated on the borders of the Sioux, Souteau [sic] and Cree Country, the different tribes were adverse to hunting there. Fidler adds that Duncan Graham had traded in this region during the three preceding winters (1816/17, 1817/18, 1818/19) but had met with little success in procuring beaver although he had had a large supply of men and goods."

NOTE- wlf Nov, 2008: This would appear to say that Graham was at Lake Traverse for the winters of 1816 - 1819 with HBC and there in 1820 for the Northwest Co. as the land between Lake Traverse (flows north) and Big Stone Lake (flows south) is likely the high ground that he talks about.

³⁰North Dakota Historical Society, *NDHS Vol III-Biographies of Early Settlers on Graham's Island*, "Sketch of Cpt. Duncan Graham" p217 states: "By 1827 he was back in Prairie du Chein. In the summer of that year in company with J.B. Layer, he was sent to Fort Snelling to secure reinforcements for the former post , an Indian attack was feared there."

³¹Rev. Edward Duffield Neill, *History of Minnesota from the Earliest French Explorer, 1882* (Minneapolis, MN, USA: Minnesota Historical Company, 1882), On page 395 it says: "On the 26th of June 1827, Red Bird, with two other Indians, entered the dwelling of a trader at Prairie du Chien by the name of Lockwood, who was absent, and loaded their guns in the kitchen, proceeded to the bedroom of his wife. On their entrance, she crossed the hall into the store, where she found Duncan Graham, a man of influence with the Indians, who induced them to leave."

Note: wlf - The next pages explain that these Indians then went to another cabin a killed 2 occupants and after some interaction, Duncan Graham went overland to Ft Snelling to report the murders and Col Snelling took his men to the village and ordered the capture of Red Bird. Hereinafter cited as *Book, History of Minnesota, 1882*.

³²"Traders Ledger - H H Sibley Papers, 1835," (MS, M164, Roll25, Vol 52, p40; Mendota, MN); Gra-Gra, p1-12+, North Dakota State Historical Society; 612 East Boulevard Ave., Bismarck, Burleigh, North Dakota 58505, USA, (701) 328-2666. Hereinafter cited as "Book, H H Sibley Papers."

³³Minnesota Historical Society, *MHS, "New Light on Old St Peter's and Early St Paul," MN History, Volume VIII, 1927*.

³⁴Ibid., This publication states that:

In 1839 this area west of the Mississippi, was known as St Peter's and was part of the Iowa Territory and also part of the diocese of Dubuque. Leaving Dubuque on June 23, 1839, Bishop Mathias Loras visited St Peter's for the purpose of connecting with his parishioners. His notes say that he found 185 Catholics, 56 were baptized, 8 were confirmed and communion was given to 33 adults. When he returned to Iowa, he took with him the records of the baptisms as part of the Dubuque archives. pp35/36 "Baptized at St Peter's, July 5, 1839 by Bishop Loras; 43. Alexander Graham, born October 15,

1821. Parents Dom. Graham and Mrs. N., his wife. Godparents Louis and Francoise Dejarlat. 44. Sara Marie Graham, 28 years of age. Parents Dom Graham and his wife. Godparents Louis and N. Massy."

³⁵Obituaries - Captain Buisson, *Wabasha Herald - Captain Joseph Buisson Obit*, Wabasha, MN, Oct. 31, 1918 + Nov 7, 14, 1918. Hereinafter cited as *Obituary, Wabasha Herald*.

³⁶North Dakota Historical Society, *NDHS, "Ninety Six Years Among the Indians of the Northwest" North Dakota History, Volume XV, Jan-Oct 1948*, Page 91 states: "Graham retired in 1834 and moved to the present site of Wabasha, Minnesota, which he named after Wapashaw I. He wrote the name of the future city along with an account of certain events at that site, and sealed it in a glass bottle, which he buried near the bank of the Mississippi River."

³⁷Letter from Duncan Graham (Wabasha, MN) to Postmaster General C.A. Wickcliff, 9 Feb 1843; GRA-GRA, page 1-23 Research Notes, W. Fuller (Canada), The letter states: "I have to acknowledge the receipt of an appointment from the appointment office appointing me Postmaster of Wabasha to which I beg to state in reply, that I cannot enter into bonds to be bound to all the duty required by law, of a Postmaster, for he trifling sum of from between seven and eight dollars a year, which the quarterly account will show, therefore I must decline accepting the honor you did to me by conferring the appointment. All the duties of the post office shall be attended to as before until further orders is received respecting it. Yours most respectfully, Dunkin Graham, Acting Postmaster."

³⁸Franklyn Curtiss-Wedge, *History of Wabasha County, 1920* (Winona, Minn, USA: H.C. Cooper Jr. & Co., 1920), Page 198 states: "The city of Wabasha was named in 1843 after the great Dakota chief [Wapashaw]. An interesting ceremony accompanied the christening. A hole was dug in the ground on the levee, and a bottle containing a paper giving an account of the event was placed in the hole; then a post was set up over it with a board nailed thereon, upon which was printed or written the name 'Wabashaw' in large letters". Hereinafter cited as *Book, History of Wabasha County, 1920*.

³⁹Francis Talbot et al, *History of Wabasha County, 1884* (Chicago, Illinois, USA: H.H.Hill and Company, Published 1884 (also see the 1920 book by Cooper)), A biography states: "Graham, Duncan, (page 935), was one of the pioneers of the northwest, who was born in Scotland. He came to this country in the early part of the century, and to Wabasha about 1834. He was engaged for a number of years in carrying the mails between Prairie du Chien and the Red River of the North. His travels extended throughout most of the northwestern states, and one of the island in Devil's Lake bears his name. The occasion of his final location at Wabasha was the residence of a daughter at that place, who had married Joseph Buisson, and Indian trader and voyager, who had established a trading post at the place as early as 1832. An interesting item in the history of Wabasha is the naming of the town by Mr. Graham, who wrote the name of the future city and an account of some of the transactions that had taken place here, sealed them up in a glass bottle and buried the same in the ground near the bank of the river. Over the spot he planted a post, which has been seen by some of the early settlers now living, but it is now gone and the exact location is not known. It is supposed, however, to be near the river bank and just back of the First National Bank building. Mr. Graham was an educated gentleman and kept detailed diaries, in one of which he describes the occasion of the burying of the record, as above stated. He resided here until about 1847, when he removed to Mendota, where he died December 5, of above date, at the age of seventy-five years." Hereinafter cited as *Book, History of Wabasha County, 1884*.

⁴⁰From the Registers of St Peter & St Paul Chapels and Mendota and St Paul, Death-Burial Records, St Paul Archdiocese.

⁴¹"Research Notes and Data from the MN Genealogical Society (MN, NW Territories and French Subgroup)," Minnesota Genealogical Society (St Paul, MN), to J Ward (Canada), This researcher has found that he died at the home of Alexander Faribault; Minnesota Historical Society and State Archives, 345 W Kellogg Blvd - 55102-1906, St Paul, Ramsey, Minnesota, USA, 651-259-3000. Hereinafter cited as "Research Notes, MN Genealogical Society."

⁴²Lillie Clara Berg, *Early Pioneers and Indians of Minnesota and Rice Counties* (San Leandro, California, USA: Lillie Clara Berg, 1959), Here she talks about moving the bodies from Mendota to Faribault in 1865. Hereinafter cited as *Book, Early Pioneers of Minnesota & Rice Co, 1959*.

⁴³From the Registers of St Peter & St Paul Chapels and Mendota and St Paul, Death-Burial Records, St Paul Archdiocese.

⁴⁴"Research Notes and Data from Charles Edward Cratte", Received March 7, 1984, Charles Edward Cratte (102 Seashore Manor, Biloxi Mississippi, 39530), to J Ward (Canada); Research Notes, W. Fuller, Canada. Hereinafter cited as "Research Notes, Charles E. Cratte."

⁴⁵"Research Notes and Data from Doris McLean," Doris McLean (USA), to J Ward (Canada), Doris had sent this 1937 Newspaper article written by Agnes G. Fredette which tells the life story of Duncan Graham and also gave the location and description of the marker on his grave; Research Notes, W. Fuller, Canada. Hereinafter cited as "Research Notes, Doris McLean."

⁴⁶Lillie Clara Berg, *Book, Early Pioneers of Minnesota & Rice Co, 1959*, When the Milwaukee Railroad was built about 1865, it was routed to run through the bluff in Mendota where Jean Baptiste Faribault had a vault containing the bodies of relatives and near relatives. These bodies had to be moved. That winter sixty teams and sleighs removed the bodies and brought them to Faribault, Minn., where Alexander Faribault has a temporary vault excavated to the bodies until spring for burial in the ground he donated for a cemetery, now known as Calvary Cemetery. Over eighty bodies were buried in that plot.

⁴⁷North Dakota Historical Society, *NDHS Vol III-Biographies of Early Settlers on Graham's Island*.