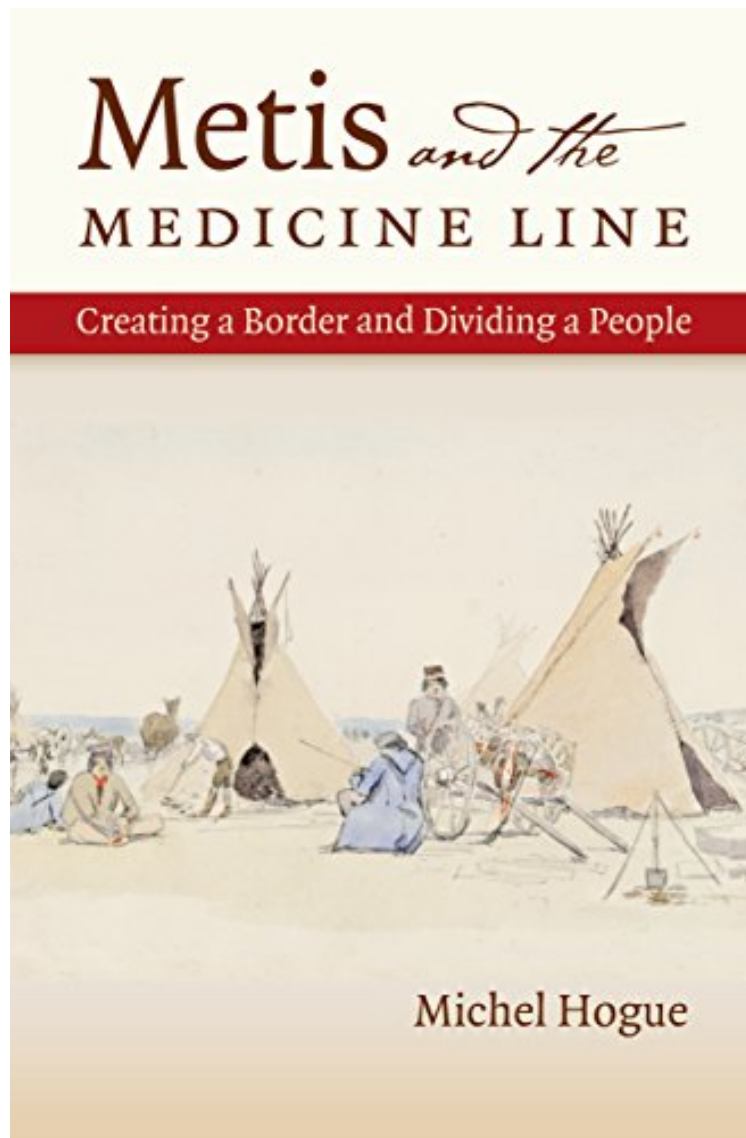


[Free] Metis and the Medicine Line: Creating a Border and Dividing a People (The David J. Weber Series in the New Borderlands History)

Metis and the Medicine Line: Creating a Border and Dividing a People (The David J. Weber Series in the New Borderlands History)

Michel Hogue

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Born of encounters between Indigenous women and Euro-American men in the first decades of the nineteenth century, the Plains Metis people occupied contentious geographic and cultural spaces. Living in a disputed area of the northern Plains inhabited by various Indigenous nations and claimed by both the United States and Great Britain, the Metis emerged as a people with distinctive styles of speech, dress, and religious practice, and occupational identities forged in the intense rivalries of the fur and provisions trade. Michel Hogue explores how, as fur trade societies waned and as state officials looked to establish clear lines separating the United States from Canada and Indians from non-Indians, these communities of mixed Indigenous and European ancestry were profoundly affected by the efforts of nation-states to divide and absorb the North American West. Grounded in extensive research in U.S. and Canadian archives, Hogue's account recenters historical discussions that have typically been confined within national boundaries and illuminates how Plains Indigenous peoples like the Metis were at the center of both the unexpected accommodations and the hidden history of violence that made the "world's longest undefended border."

Changes the terrain of our understanding.--American Indian Culture and Research JournalAn important addition to the Metis studies canon.--Canadian Journal of HistoryHogue has devoted himself to fingering through archival collections in seven states and four provinces to uncover the boundary-crossing history of the Plains Metis.--Literary of CanadaAn impressive piece of scholarship that examines how the Metis were impacted by the making of the border between Canada and the United States.--Journal of Genocide ResearchRich, detailed, and nuanced portrait of Native American whalers.--International Journal of Maritime History[A] substantial historical achievement . . . in the field of Metis history."Canadian Historical Particularly effective in documenting how questions of race and nationality as well as the disappearance of the buffalo and the emergence of a more well-defined border determined the fate of the Plains Metis...Recommended.--ChoiceAn important and useful book, exhaustively researched and well written.--Western Historical QuarterlyA stimulating read, and one worth pursuing for the reader with an interest in northern plains history.--North Dakota HistoryA welcome addition to the literature on Canadian metis and the westward expansion of Canada and the United States during the nineteenth century.--Journal of American HistoryOne of the best studies written about the western Canadian-US borderlands.--Labour/Le Travail Michel Hogue does what no other historian has managed. . . . Metis and the Medicine Line reshapes our understanding not only of the history of the international boundary but, importantly, of who the Plains Metis were and who they became as they helped to create and define that border.--Brenda Macdougall, University of OttawaThe complexity of this history is daunting, yet it could not be in more capable and confident hands. On one level, Michel Hogue's study constitutes a rigorous analysis of the Metis as a borderland people. But it is also a micro-history of families and individuals who are vividly brought to life--a demonstration of how the stories of the Metis people are inextricably bound to larger narratives of race and nation.--Sarah Carter, University of AlbertaThis book makes a crucial contribution to Metis studies and to literature on state formation. Bringing to the fore the important role of the border and the unique problems and solutions tied to race making at the time, this book is an important and noteworthy read.--Gerhard Ens, University of AlbertaAbout the AuthorMichel Hogue is assistant professor of history at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada.