Almost certainly refers to St Johns ND, near Turtle Mt. Reservation (where there are Metis fiddlers). St Johns ND is a former substantial railroad town, on a line between Canada and the U.S. This originally came to us from Joe Pancerzewski, railroad engineer in ND and fiddler. At the Turtle Mt Res, fiddler Mike Page (d: 1/2016) remembered Joe, and also remembered Andy DeJ playing this on an old recording. Mike Page said Andy (though born in Woodridge, MB, Canada) grew up in St Johns ND, where his father worked. (The senior DeJarlis was a surveyor, so possibly he had gone to St Johns to work for the RR.)

St John's ND is now a pretty worn-out and nearly abandoned town. There is a left-over bar there, called the Border Bar, where Metis sessions and dances at least used to be held.

Interestingly, DeJarlis wrote another tune in F called Surveyor's Reel.

Note: I believe I recall that the original of this tune (as it came from Joe Pancerzewki, who

got it in ND, presumably from Metis fiddlers), repeated bar 7 of the "B" part an extra time

making a 9 bar part. **Imo** it was just a way of saying "we're French (and Indian), not English", as is sometimes also done in Quebecois tunes.