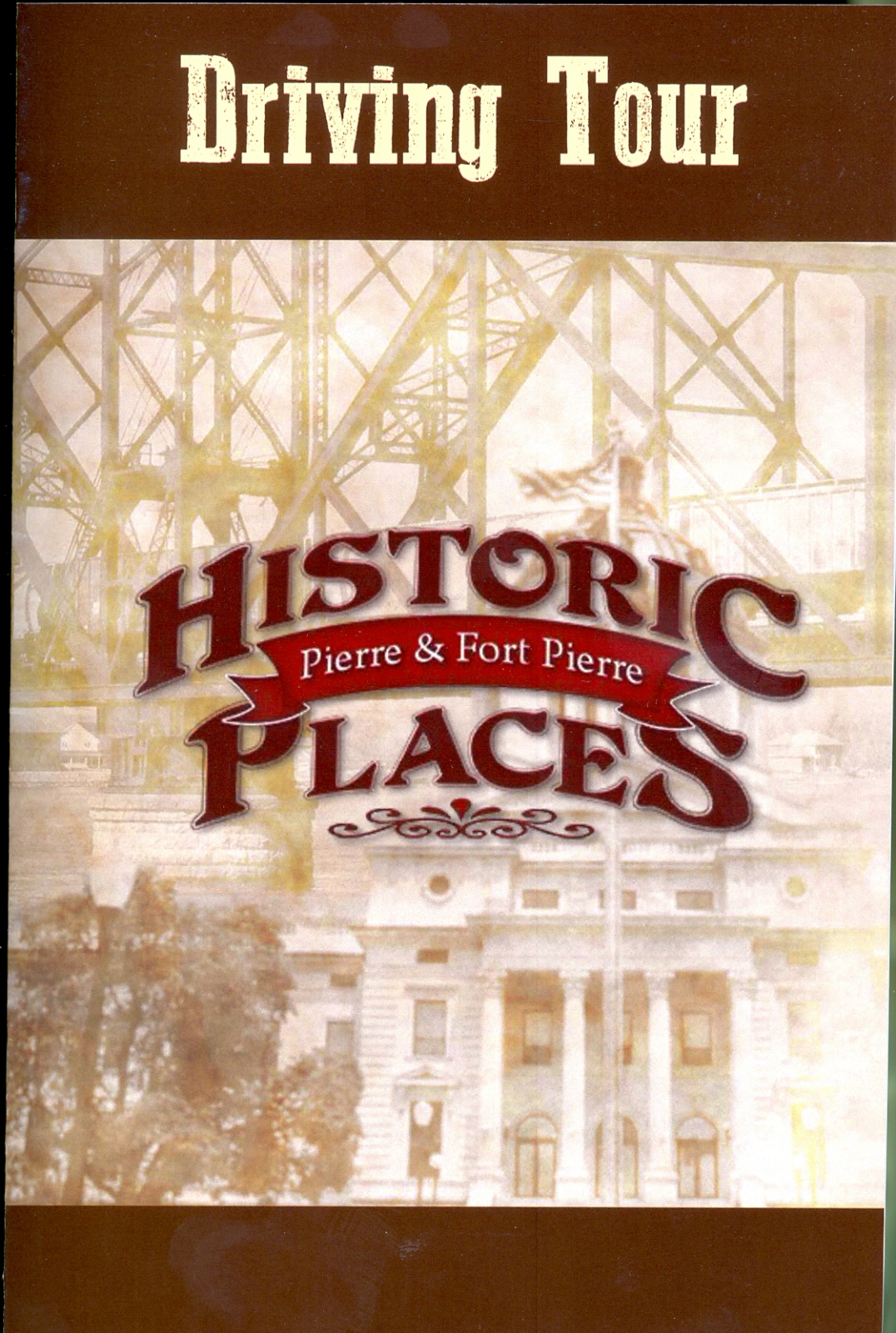


Driving Tour



HISTORIC Pierre & Fort Pierre PLACES

1. Stanley County Rodeo Arena and Fairgrounds 320 S Casey Tibbs Street, Fort Pierre

Directions: Entering the area from Hwy 83 south of Fort Pierre, turn right on Cedar Avenue and continue to Casey Tibbs Street where you will see the Expo Center and the Stanley County Rodeo Arena and Fairgrounds.

There are 4-H groups and rodeo circuit events regularly. A traditional rodeo and fireworks are held annually on July 4th. Horseraces in April are usually the kickoff event for the year.



2. Fischers Lily Park/Lewis and Clark Encounter 200 2 Rivers Street, Fort Pierre

Directions: Turn left on Casey Tibbs Street, right on Ash Lane, driving into Fischers Lily Park to the east end where there are about 12 camping spots and information panels.



The Missouri River flows from the southeast and the Bad River flows from the west. At this location on September 25, 1804, several hundred members of the Teton Sioux Tribe watched as three of their chiefs met the Lewis and Clark explorers. The meeting nearly ended in disaster when one of the Sioux chiefs took offense to the quantity of gifts offered. Warriors drew their bows and soldiers shouldered their rifles. Had this confrontation not been diffused, the Lewis and Clark Expedition could have ended right here. Fortunately, another of the chiefs intervened and, over the next two days, hosted the men of the expedition as guests at his village, a few miles upstream. The park is certified as a National Park Service Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail site.



Authors:

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Photo Credits:

Casey Tibbs Center	Sunny Hannum, Fort Pierre
City of Fort Pierre	Development Corp
Kelli Buscher	Stanley County Fairgrounds
SD Cultural Heritage Center	US Army Corps of Engineers
SD Game, Fish and Parks	

www.historicpierrefortpierre.com

email: info@historicpierrefortpierre.com

3. Log Cabin Visitor Center 4 East Main Avenue, Fort Pierre

Directions: Follow Casey Tibbs Street back, turn right on Cedar Avenue, and right on Hwy 83. The Log Cabin Visitor Center is located at the corner of Main Street and Hwy 83 at the stoplight.

The Log Cabin is owned and maintained by the Verendrye Museum and has served as a Visitor Center for the City of Fort Pierre since 2000. Visitors will find a selection of brochures and showcases depicting items from the pioneer history of the area. The historic Sansarc School and Old Jailhouse are next to the Visitor Center and can be toured during the hours the Visitor Center is open. The office of Fort Pierre Development Corporation is located in the Log Cabin. (www.fppierre.com)



4. Sansarc School 4 East Main Avenue, Fort Pierre

Directions: Behind the Visitor Center and next to the old Jailhouse.



Built in 1910 and used actively as a school for grades first through eighth and as a polling place until 1969. The building was purchased and moved to Gene Stoesser's ranch in 1973. Gene brought the schoolhouse to Fort Pierre in 1975 to be used as a museum. In 2014, Deb Stoesser Schiefelbein guided the cleaning and furnishing of the school, improving the appearance and functionality of the building. It was open as an interpretive museum in June 2014.

5. Old Jail 4 East Main Avenue, Fort Pierre

Directions: On the corner of First Street and Main Avenue in Fort Pierre.

In 1905, the Old Jail cost \$400 to build; it is undergoing its latest restoration in 2019. In 1921, a 200-pound mountain lion from Kalispell, MT escaped while being shipped to an eastern zoo. The mountain lion was re-captured and kept safely in the jail until it could continue its journey eastward.



6. The Stockgrowers Bank 34 East Main Street, Fort Pierre

Directions: Continue down Main Street towards the Missouri River and on the left is the Historic Stockgrowers Bank. (commodities including grain and livestock)



The Stockgrowers Bank is the single example of Romanesque Revival architecture in Fort Pierre.

The building represents an interesting and well-executed adaptation of the style to the needs of the small frontier community. It was the most important commercial building erected in Fort Pierre during the 20th century. The bank symbolizes the commercial development of Fort Pierre during the early 20th century as the business center for much of western South Dakota's cattle raising activity. In 1903, Charles L. Millett, along with Gaylord E. Sumner and James (Scotty) Philip, constructed the building and began the Stockgrowers Bank and a chain of associated banks in Midland, Philip, Kadoka, Cottonwood, and Milesville. In addition to the bank itself, other tenants included the Lynch Barber Shop; Phillip, Young & McPherson Land Office; the first telephone exchange in Fort Pierre; Binder & Borst Hardware Store; Hargesheimer



Drug Store; the Webb-Lambert Attorney's Office; and the offices of Doctors Lavery, Walsh, and Morrissey.

7. Verendrye Museum 115 Deadwood Street, Fort Pierre

Directions: Turn the corner to the left and you will be on Deadwood Street. Continue north to see the Verendrye Museum on the left.



The Historical Society of Old Stanley County chartered the Verendrye Museum and housed its collection in the old American Legion in downtown Fort Pierre. The Verendrye Museum is a 1930's vintage building that was placed on the National Historic Register on July 31, 2017. Thousands of authentic early-day items make the Verendrye Museum one of the finest Western memorabilia collections on the High Plains. Most of the permanent exhibits were donated by local, pioneer families interested in preserving an accurate record of life in central South Dakota. (www.ftpierre.com)

8. Casey Tibbs Rodeo Center and Mattie Goff-Newcombe Conference Center 210 Verendrye Drive, Fort Pierre

Directions: Continue down Deadwood Street to Second Avenue and turn left. Cross Hwy 83 and go straight until you reach Verendrye Drive on the right and turn right. Follow the road up the hill to the Casey Tibbs Rodeo Center on the right.

A historical museum devoted to the sport of rodeo with memorabilia from superstars, including Fort Pierre native, Casey Tibbs. (www.caseytibbs.com)



9. Verendrye Monument – National Historic Landmark Verendrye Drive, Fort Pierre

Directions: Cross Verendrye Drive directly south to the Verendrye Monument



The Verendrye Plate is one of the most significant artifacts in United States history. The Verendrye Monument marks the place it was discovered in 1913 by Fort Pierre schoolchildren. The plate was buried by Pierre La Verendrye's sons in 1743, claiming this land for the King of France, as they searched for a route to the Pacific Ocean – the famed “Northwest Passage.” The Verendrye Museum is named in honor of this artifact and the family of explorers. You can see the actual Verendrye Plate at the SD Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre.

10. Cedar Hill Cemetery Cedar Hill Road, Fort Pierre

Directions: From the Verendrye Monument turn left and go up the hill about 1 mile, turn left on Cedar Hill Road, follow the gravel road to the cemetery gate (end of road) about 2 miles. Visitors have an opportunity to enjoy the Missouri River and a bus-tling community from a bird's-eye view.



On May 27, 1894, this area was surveyed and laid into a cemetery plat by F. W. Pettigrew. Cedar Hill is the final resting place of some local colorful personalities including outlaws, fur traders, military veterans of the Civil War, World War I and World



War II, prospectors, Native American residents, suffragettes, murder victims, historic leaders, and a great many children who succumbed to multiple epidemics. Originally, the cemetery was divided into Protestant and Catholic sides, and there are different sections including an area called

Boot Hill, where there are graves of the unknown. The original name was Union Cemetery, probably due to the influence of the Civil War. After an addition of city land was made, the name was changed in 1933 to Cedar Hill, in reference to the abundance of cedar trees naturally growing at the site.

11. Fort Pierre Depot Hwy 83, Fort Pierre

Directions: Going back to the intersection of Second Avenue and Hwy 83, turn left and you will see the Fort Pierre Train Depot 1/4 mile on the left.



The Chicago and North Western Railroad built a depot in Fort Pierre in 1906 as part of the railroad's expansion to Rapid City and beyond. In 1958, the depot was closed because of poor economic conditions and sold as surplus in 1963. In early 1964, rancher Shirley Miller moved the building to his ranch near Mud Butte and used it for storage. In 2010, the depot was "discovered," and the Verendrye Museum initiated discussion of returning the building to Fort Pierre. Mr. Miller donated the building to Fort Pierre with the condition that it be used for historic purposes and someone would have to "come and get it." The "Bring It Home" group formed in 2010. After two years of fundraising, the Fort Pierre Railroad Depot was finally in Fort Pierre in March 2013 and the rehabilitation is finished. It is now open as a museum containing the original telegraph and other railroad and local memorabilia.



12. Bad Humored Island

Directions: Take Hwy 83 north to Stanley Road, turn right on Stanley Road and go to Yellowstone where you will see the sign on the east side of Yellowstone in front of you.

This is the location where the two captains, Merriweather Lewis and William Clark, and their men camped for the night on September 25, 1804, after their encounter with the Lakota. Clark wrote in his journal, "I called this island Bad Humored Island, as we were in a bad humor." (Bad Humored Island was later named Marion's Island, which was near Holiday Inn Express in Fort Pierre).



13. US Navy Lieutenant Commander John C. Waldron Bridge Missouri River Bridge, Fort Pierre

Directions: At the intersection of Stanley Road and Yellowstone Street, turn left. Turn right on Hustan Avenue. Continue to the end of Hustan Avenue to the Missouri River Bridge.

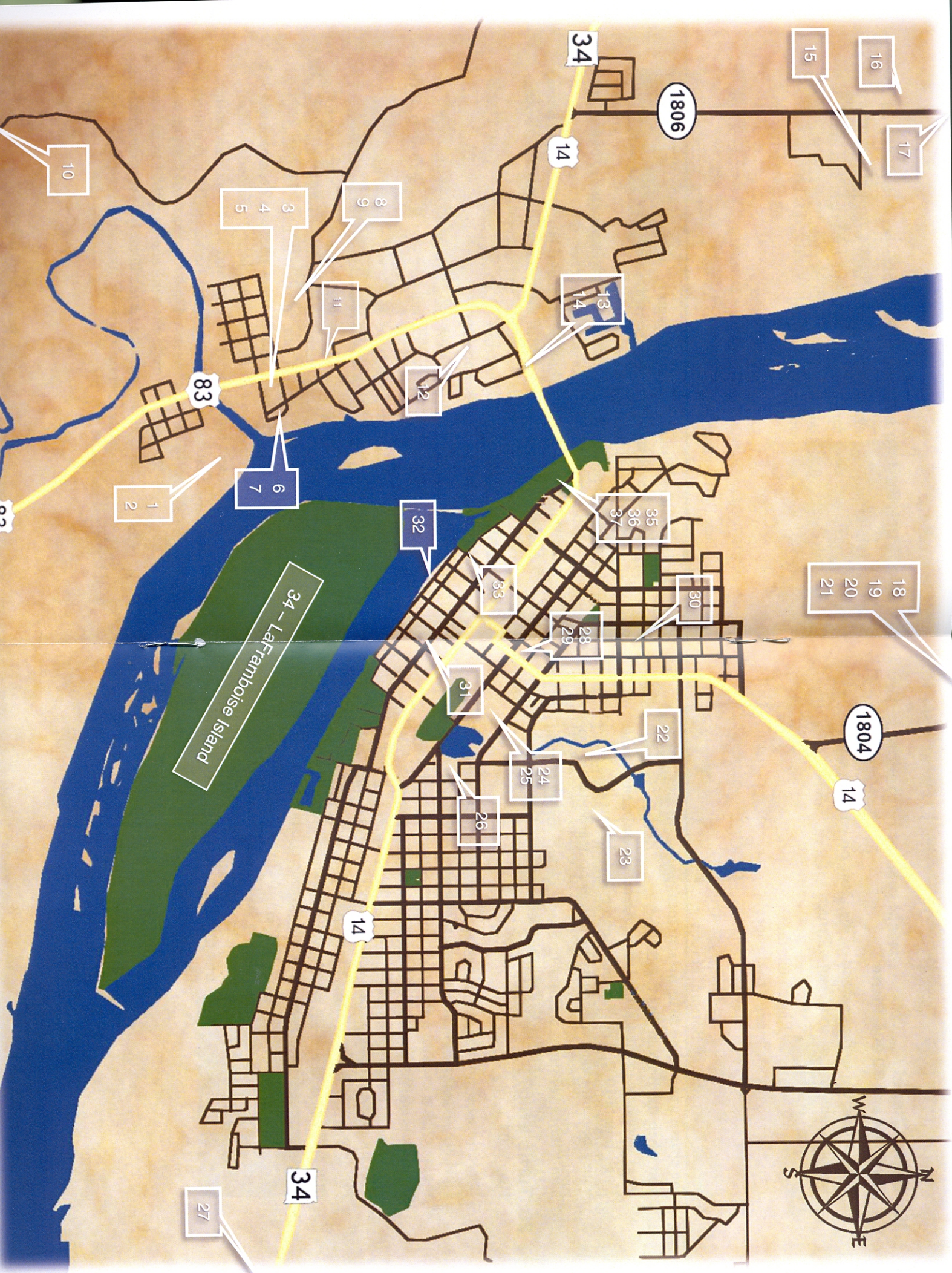


John Charles Waldron (August 24, 1900 – June 4, 1942) was born in Fort Pierre, South Dakota, the son of rancher Charles Westbrook Waldron and Jane Van Metre. He was of colonial New Hampshire families on his father's side, and of Oglala Lakota on his mother's side. In the midst of his armed forces career, he married Adelaide Wentworth and had two daughters.

Waldron was a United States Navy aviator who led a squadron of torpedo bombers in World War II. He and most of his squadron perished in the Battle of Midway. The John C. Waldron Bridge, which was renamed in his honor in 2002, crosses the Missouri River between Pierre and Fort Pierre, SD.

14. 1876-1906 Old Deadwood Trail Missouri River Bridge, Fort Pierre

Directions: The wooden sign erected in 1975 is nearby.



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1806

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1804

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34 - LaFramboise Island

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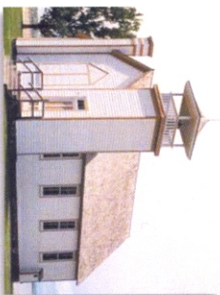


19. Oahe Chapel

Hwy 1804 and SD 204, Pierre

Directions: Go to the east end of the Dam, on your left you will see the Oahe Chapel and Visitor Center.

Reverend Thomas R. Riggs built the chapel in 1877 as a mission to the local Native Americans. It served as both church and schoolhouse. The original location was at Peoria Bottom. However, the chapel was moved to its present location when the Bottom was flooded. Services were held in the Lakota language and were not changed to English until 1931. The Visitor's Center offers an area for picnics with a beautiful view of the lake as well as postcards, local information, etc.



20. Turtle Effigy

Hwy 1804

Directions: From the east end of the Dam, go south on Hwy 1804 just over 3 miles. The historical marker is on the right side of the road. You can drive about 300 feet up the private driveway. Then walk south about 1,000 feet. Keep the gate closed.

This monument consists of a series of rocks laid upon the land. Folklore has it that a young Arikara Brave was scouting for his tribe when he came upon a war party. He ran to warn his people but was discovered and was wounded in flight. A rock was laid to mark each drop of his blood and the series of rocks was constructed in the form of a turtle, which was the insignia of his tribe.



21. Lindbergh Landing Marker

Hwy 1804

Directions: Continue south on Highway 1804 for 2 miles. The site is on the left (east) side of the highway.

Charles Lindbergh landed his famous Spirit of St. Louis airplane on this location on September 1, 1927. See the historical marker for more details.



22. Hilgers Gulch

Governor's Drive, Pierre

Directions: Continue south on SD Hwy 1804 until you get to US Hwy 83/14, turn right and come down the hill into Pierre. You are now on North Euclid Avenue. Continue south for about a mile, to 4th Street and turn left on 4th Street. Travel 2 blocks and on your right, you can see Hilgers Gulch.

Hilgers Gulch is a large grass area with a creek flowing through it and a walking path on both sides. The land that makes up Hilgers Gulch was part of the original land claim by Anson Hilger, one of Pierre's first businessmen. For many years, the gulch was an unsightly slough. In 1987, Governor Janklow was determined to do something to show appreciation to the citizens of Pierre for all they do for state government. He converted the slough into a beautiful park. Governors Grove has the tree species chosen by each Governor, along with a marble

marker showing the Governor's name and years served.



23. South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center (SDCHC) 900 Governor's Drive, Pierre

Directions: From Hilgers Gulch, take a right onto Governors Drive. Next, you will see the entrance signs to parking at the Cultural Heritage Center on the left. Parking is at the top of the hill.

The SDCHC is a modern earth-mounded building covered with native grasses. The Center houses interpretive displays of the state's history. There is also an Archive for genealogists and historians.



24. South Dakota State Capitol Building 500 East Capitol Avenue, Pierre

Directions: From the Cultural Heritage Center, turn left on Governors Drive, turn right onto Church Street, and turn left on to SD Boulevard. You can cross Broadway Avenue, arriving at the north side of the Capitol. Ample parking is available; handicapped parking is at the west end of the Capitol.



The SD State Capitol Building was constructed between 1905 and 1910. It is a scaled down version of the Montana State Capitol Building. Extensive restoration began in the 1970's and continues to this day, providing the building with lasting significance and beauty. There is a self-guided tour script available.

25. Capitol Lake, Flaming Fountain, and Memorials 500 E. Capitol Avenue, Pierre

Directions: To the east of the Capitol parking lot, within walking distance, is the Capitol Lake, Flaming Fountain, and Memorials.

- Capitol Lake is an artesian-fed manmade lake next to the Capitol building.
- The Flaming Fountain Memorial features an artesian flowing well that provides a background for the WWI and WWII memorials. There was natural gas in the water that was ignited and burned for years until it was depleted.
- The Fighting Stallions Memorial honors the lives of eight men, including Governor George S. Mickelson, who were killed in the crash of a state aircraft on April 19, 1993. The stallions are life-size bronze by Korczak Ziolkowski.



- Sculptures in bronze by Lee Leuning and Sherry Treeby are in the following memorials:

- WWII memorial is a tribute to the 65,000 South Dakotans involved in the war represented by six different soldiers saluting the American flag.
- Korean War Memorial is a statue of an American GI placed in front of the Korean War Memorial Wall.
- Vietnam War Memorial depicts a battle-weary foot soldier bearing his M-16 rifle in one hand and the dog tags of a fallen brother in the other outstretched hand.



- Nearby memorials honor the state's fallen firefighters and law enforcement officers
- Across the Capitol Lake is a granite statue and monument of a 1918 Union Soldier erected in honor of our military personnel. The Civil War Monument was the first war monument on the South Dakota State Capitol grounds.
- In the surrounding Capitol Campus and local Pierre streets are located several bronze statues of former Governors called the Trail of Governors. Three statues are added each year. For more information, visit

www.trailofgovernors.com.



31. South Dakota National Guard Museum 301 East Dakota Avenue, Pierre

Directions: Located in downtown Pierre, turn left on Pierre Street and go three blocks on Dakota Avenue to S. Chapelle Street corner.

Collections include memorabilia and artifacts of the SD National Guard from 1862 up through the present and the SD Air National Guard from the late 1940's to the present.



32. Legion Cabin 520 South Pierre Street, Pierre

Directions: Continue down Chapelle Street to Island View Drive. You will see La Framboise Island straight ahead. Turn right 3 blocks to the Legion Cabin.



The log building was built out of native Black Hills logs. It was completed in the Spring of 1942. The Legion Cabin was used for United Services Organization (USO) shows during WWII. It has been used as the headquarters for the American Legion Post 8 ever since. Notice the Vigilante sign there.

33. Girl Scout Cabin 309 West Missouri Avenue, Pierre

Directions: Drive west on Island View Drive until you must turn right. Turn left in one block onto Missouri Avenue and on your left is the Girl Scout Cabin.



The log building that eventually became the Girl Scout Cabin in Steamboat Park was constructed in the early days of Pierre. No exact date has been pinpointed, but it is believed the cabin was built prior to 1889. The city gave the cabin to the Girl Scouts in 1929. The cabin was remodeled in 1930, possibly with help from the Works

Progress Administration. The Scouts named the cabin Tichicala (pronounced Tee Chikala), Dakota Sioux for "The Little House."

34. La Framboise Island South Poplar Street, Pierre

Directions: Go two blocks, then turn left on Poplar Street and continue across the causeway.

The Island was named for Joseph La Framboise who built a fur trading post near here in 1817. The information panel shows several hiking, biking trails where you will find lots of wildlife.



35. Pierre's First Schoolhouse West Dakota Avenue, Pierre

Directions: The schoolhouse is located in Steamboat Park. Continue on Poplar Street to West Dakota Avenue and turn left. Travel west to the other end of Steamboat Park. Pierre's First Schoolhouse will be on your left before you get to the "Do Not Enter" sign on the street.



The building was a school in 1881 with eighteen students in a 16'x20' space. Later, it was a hat shop and a gunsmith workshop.

36. Pierre Visitor Center 800 West Dakota Avenue, Pierre

Directions: Across the street from the schoolhouse on James Street, the visitor center is on your left.

The visitor center contains a wealth of information about nearby historical sites, hotel, restaurants, local events, and a lot more information. www.pierre.org

37. South Dakota Discovery Center
805 West Sioux Avenue, Pierre

Directions: Right next to the Visitor Center.

This building, completed in 1933, formerly housed the Pierre Electric Power Plant; now it has become a fun and interesting family attraction, consisting of hands-on scientific and technological exhibits.



This program receives Federal financial assistance from the National Park Service. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and South Dakota Codified Law 20-13, the state of South Dakota and the US Department of the Interior prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, sex, disability, ancestry, or national origin. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please write to: SD Division of Human Rights, 500 E Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501, or the Office of Equal Opportunity, National Park Service, 201 I Street NW, Washington, DC 20240.

Revised 4/6/2019

**Thank you for visiting our twin cities on the
Missouri River. We hope you enjoyed your tour!**

Please come back again!!

