abandoned by the Mandan Indians about 1764 (forty years prior to the Lewis and Clark Expedition).

The fabulous era of the Missouri River fur trade was opened following the Lewis and Clark exploration of 1804-06 and the intense rivalry of the British and American fur traders is richly documented in countless publications. The Bismarck-Mandan area soon became the mid-point of commerce between St. Louis and the northwest wilderness.

Authenticity of the restored Indian mound dwellings has been achieved from the paintings of Karl Bodmer, a Swiss artist hired by Prince Maximilian of Germany to accompany a scientific exploration among the Indians of this area in 1833.

Depletion of furs and the decline of the fur trade was soon followed by mass slaughter of buffalo for their hides. The Indians, perceiving the white man's threat to their life style, fought back and there was intermittent military occupation of the area from about 1860 through 1890. And, although there were many lesser skirmishes within this area, the Fort Lincoln-Fort McKeen locations is most famous for the fact it was the base from which General George Custer launched his ill-fated campaign against the allied Sioux and Cheyenne Indians which ended in disaster on June 25, 1876 at the Little Big Horn in Montana Territory. And, it was to Bismarck where the Steamboat Far West, under the command of Captain Grant Marsh, returned the wounded survivors of the Custer "Massacre" in a record run of 54 hours. The controversy which grew out of that debacle still rages today.

The era of riverboat transportation from St. Louis to Fort Benton, Montana covered roughly 1850 to 1880 but those extraordinary years racked-up an amazing accomplishment in frontier transportation. Riverfront warehouses lined the east bank of the Missouri at Bismarck for a half mile north of the old bridge.

The end of riverboat transportation was destined by the arrival of the Northern Pacific Railway in 1873 from St. Paul.

Agricultural development by pioneers and homesteaders was the final and stabilizing period in this young area's history.

Indians, traders, trappers, hunters, gold seekers, soldiers, railroaders, sodbusters, cattlemen, explorers, riverboatmen, cowboys, gamblers, merchants, scouts, and miners—all passed through or came to stay but all left their contribution to this area's history.

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Educational Materials Produced During The Old West Regional Range Program, 1975—79

Bob Gartner

The "Regional Range Program" was a joint educational project administered by the Society for Range Management and funded by the Old West Regional Commission (OWRC). A number of educational materials were developed by SRM-Old West staff, often in cooperation with state and federal agencies, to aid in youth and adult range management education. The purpose of this article is to provide information on current availability of some of these materials.

Since the termination of the 4-year Regional Range Program, members of the SRM-Old West staff have moved to other jobs. Hence, they can no longer be contacted for materials. Some of the educational materials on the following list may be available from SRM headquarters in Denver. These include the slide-tape programs, the rangeland inventory publications, and the brochure entitled "You're in Old West Country—Enjoy the Rangelands." The supply of publications at SRM headquarters was limited, and may be exhausted.

Some of the publications are available through the Cooperative Extension Service or the Extension Range Specialist in the Old West states (Montana, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, and Wyoming). These are indicated by Extension Circular (EC) or Experiment Station number in the listing which follows.

Free loan prints of the 16mm movies are no longer available from Piccadilly Films International, San Antonio, Texas. However, prints may be obtained for a modest fee from the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) Film Service, P.O. Box 855, League City, TX 77573 (Tel. 713/332-3402). Likewise, film prints are available from the film libraries of the land grant universities in each of the Old West states (Universities of Nebraska and Wyoming; Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota State Universities). Slide-tape programs may be available on a loan basis through the Cooperative Extension Service or the Extension Range Specialist in the Old West states. These educational aids may also be available in the future from the NACD Film Library.

Films

The Maverick, (25 min., color, sound).
TV Public Service Announcements

1976: Three, 30-second PSA's, produced by Montana Film Productions and Old West staff. (Initially distributed to all television stations in the Old West Region, later outside the Region upon request.)

1978: One, 30-second PSA and three 60-second PSA's, produced by Montana Film Productions and Old West staff. (Distributed to all television stations in the Old West Region and several outside the Region.)

Slide/Cassette Tape Programs

The Old West Range Program, SRM and Old West staff, 1977. (68 slides).


Grazing Management, Tom Sparks, 1979. (35 slides; 5:35).

Range Nutrition, Tom Sparks, 1979. (32 slides; 5:30).


Livestock Water Development, Rod Baumberger, 1979. (43 slides; 6:00).

Mechanical Range Improvement, Rod Baumberger, 1979. (45 slides; 6:30).

Range Wildlife, Dan Bose, 1979. (69 slides; 10:00).


Range Sites of Nebraska, Dan Bose, 1979. (64 slides; 10:30).


Publications


Assembled Materials


Youth Range Camp Handbooks. (Prepared annually in Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming). (Loose leaf, n.p.)


Brochure

You're In Old West Country - Enjoy the Rangelands. 1979. Public information brochure distributed through Old West state travel and tourism departments in 1980. Produced by Old West staff. (one page 8½" × 11")