

The following excerpts, taken from "The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition"; Vol 3; Gary M. Moulton, editor; University of Nebraska Press, correspond directly to the Lewis and Clark campsites labeled on the map sheets within this guide.

Up the Missouri...



Buffalo and Elk on the Upper Missouri
by Karl Bodmer

Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha, Nebraska;
Gift of Enron Art Foundation

September 19th, Wednesday, 1804 (Clark)

"...The boat crew killed 2 Buffalow Swimming the river, handsome Countrey of Plains, I saw many trovs of Buffalow & a Gangue of 30 or 40 Elk and other Scattering Elk &c a find evening..."

September 20th, Thursday, 1804 (Lewis)

"...at the commencement of the big bend observed a clift of black porous rock which resembled Lava tho' on closer examination I believe it to be calcarious and an imperfect species of the French burr- preserved a specimen, it is brownish white, or black or yellowish brown..."

Here Lewis probably views a weathered zone of the Pierre shale. It is unrelated to volcanic activity, that is, lava.

September 21st, Friday, 1804 (Clark)

"... last night or reather this morning at half past one oClock the Sand bar on which we Camped began to give way, which alarmed the Serjt on guard & the noise waked me, I got up and by the light of the moon observed that the Sand was giving away both above and beloy and would Swallow our Perogues in a few minits, ordered all hands on board and pushed off we had not got to the opposite Shore before pt. of our Camp fel into the river ..."



Sandbar Bivouac by Ron Backer



Plains Tpee by Karl Bodmer

September 22nd, Saturday, 1804 (Clark)

"...near the upper part of this Island on its S. Side a Tradeing fort is Situated built of Cedar-by a Mr. Louiselle of St Louis, for the purpose of Tradeing with the Teton Bands of Soues about this Fort I saw numbers of Indians Temporary Lodges, & horse Stables, all of them round and to a point at top..."

Clark may have seen the frameworks of tipis, "temporary" in the sense that they were portable, although the nomadic Sioux lived in them all the time. However, he may have been looking at the remains of some sort of brush shelter over which hides or blankets could be thrown.

September 23rd, Sunday, 1804 (Clark)

"...Camped on the S. S. in a Wood. Soon after we landed three Soues boys Swam across to us, those boys informed us that a Band of Sieux called the Tetons of 80 Lodges wer Camped near the mouth of the next River, and 60 Lodges more a Short distance above them, they had that day Set the praries on fire to let those Camps Know of our approach- we gave those boys two twists of Tobacco to carry to their Chiefs & Warriors to Smoke, with derections to tell them that we wished to Speak to them tomorrow, at the mouth of the next river..."

Projection
Shore line
Stage of
Distanc