

# VIDEO SCRIPT

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**TITLE: Maps and Borders**

**PREPARED FOR: Dakota Pathways: A History**

**WRITER: Paul Higbee and Julia Monczunski**

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**SCRIPT: #12**

**TRT: 14:00**

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FADE IN:

Open

Kids at cultural center, Pierre

Nat Sound Up and Under

MUSIC UP AND UNDER DWCD 251 Cut 1 "Easy Come, Easy Go" (Open)

MUSIC OUT

Earth from Space

MUSIC UP AND UNDER DWCD 147 Cut 24 "Heavenly Voices"

EROS photos.

NARRATOR:

These are pictures of Earth, taken by satellites in space...

EROS center.

...and transmitted to the EROS center, north of Sioux Falls.

NASA PHOTO showing earth from space with North America showing

This photo shows part of North America. At first glance, it may seem something's missing:

Super U. S. – Canada border on photo.

lines marking the borders between nations—in this case between Canada and the United States.

Super South Dakota borders on photo.

And between the states. South Dakota's borders would be just about here.

NASA Photo

Of course, nothing's really missing on the photos. Border lines are seen on maps...

MAP then DISSOLVE TO:

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WS Open countryside in South Dakota

NARRATOR:

...not painted across the countryside. But that doesn't mean they're not real.

PAINTING: Redcoats in War of 1812  
LOC Genral Collection

Wars have been fought over where borders should be.

WS road, with a sign marking the Iowa-South Dakota border.

And if your house sits on this side of the road sign, you'll vote and pay taxes in South Dakota. Those houses just down the road are homes to Iowans, who vote and pay taxes in that state.

MAP of South Dakota pan east to west

South Dakota borders are real and exact, and sometimes people talk as if the state has existed within these lines forever. That's not the case.

MAP of Europe showing France and Spain's locations.

France and Spain are European nations, far across the Atlantic, but there were times when their kings considered today's South Dakota to be their land.

MAP: United States with GRAPHIC move of Union Jack down into the states from Canada

And a time when the United States worried that Britain might make a grab for our rivers and prairies.

VIDEO: New Orleans and Mardi Gras. New Orleans Metropolitan Convention and Visitors Bureau

Say Louisiana today, and folks think of New Orleans, Mardi Gras, and alligators. But once Louisiana's borders reached far to the north and took in today's South Dakota.

MAP: United States

WS EXT Old Faithful. Yellowstone National Park

And later the land called Dakota included Yellowstone country...

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Rocky Mountains Wyoming Public TV

NARRATOR:

...and part of the Rocky Mountains.

MAPS: of the Louisiana Purchase, the original Dakota Territory, today's South Dakota.

All of which goes to prove, given that mountains and geysers don't change locations, borders do.

EXT Prairie "Walk the Dog" shot through the grass

Some of what we know about distant nations once claiming this countryside is because of five Fort Pierre teenagers. Walking near the Missouri River in 1913, they discovered an eight inch by six inch metal plate put there in 1743.

DISSOLVE to Verendrye Plate back.

Verendrye plate front

The plate was a marker left by French fur trappers, led by two brothers named La Verendrye. The marker claimed the land for King Louis of France.

PAINTING King Louis

Karl Bodmer painting of him visiting with the Indians

Of course these Frenchmen, and other Europeans later, knew the land to be home to American Indian people, who lived in villages along the rivers or in camps that moved across the prairies.

Bodmer painting "River Camp"

Lewis and Clark recreations of the Corps of Discovery trading goods..

We know some Europeans believed American Indians had the right to claim land ownership, because money and goods were often traded for those lands. But again and again that caused confusion...

Lewis and Clark recreations of Indians walking along river.

because most American Indian groups didn't think of land as something that could be owned.

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Indian braves on horseback hunting.  
Indian man with horses

**NARRATOR:**

These people pulled fish from the Missouri River, and hunted bison across a big patch of the prairie. They fought other people to keep them away from their villages and from the fish and bison. And they made trades, like horses or bags of flour in exchange for fishing and hunting.

Soaring Badlands ridge  
Man with telescope looking across river.

But it seemed strange to think of the land itself as something to be traded, or to be divided on maps with exact borders. Surveyors eventually arrived...

Sextant on table in L&C camp

with instruments that calculated border locations right down to yards and feet.

Keel Boat on Missouri River

In the late 1700s and early 1800s, fur traders and explorers made their way up and down the Missouri River, and sometimes across the prairies.

Men spotting Buffalo

MAP with detailed drawings and map making tools

The region was also getting attention from the world's map-makers. First, just as the La Verendye brothers claimed, maps showed today's South Dakota to be French country—named Louisiana after France's King Louis.

MAP showing Louisiana

Cut to old-time sea battle art. **NARA General Collection**

But then France went to war with Britain...

Painting of King Louis XVI **LOC American Memory Collection**

And the French king worried he couldn't defend his property way off in the middle of North America. He turned to a cousin for help...

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Painting of King Charles IV (Carlos) of Spain LOC American Memory Collection

NARRATOR:

...a cousin who happened to be king of Spain. The deal was Spain could consider our region its own until France was ready to take it back.

PAINTING Manuel Lisa

SUPER *Manuel Lisa 1772-1820* LOC American Memory Collection

EXT DAY Mountain man scrapping a hide

EXT DAY Mountain man talking to Indian

The best remembered Spanish figure from that time is Manuel Lisa, who explored and mapped rivers and later started a successful fur trading company. He often traded seeds and farming tools to American Indians in exchange for trapping.

GLOBE showing Spanish & French Territories

By the time the French were ready to reclaim the land from Spain, in 1802, two revolutions had greatly changed world maps.

MAP of United States showing early territory to Mississippi.

The first revolution established the United States as a nation, and the young country claimed land from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mississippi River.

PAINTING: French Revolution by Victor Schnetz "Combat Before the Hotel deVille" Reunion des Musee Nationaux

The second revolution was an uprising in France that ended that nation being a kingdom. Instead of a king...

PAINTING: French Revolution by Erich Lessing "Taking the Bastille" Reunion des Musee Nationaux

PAINTING: Napoleon Bonaparte Reunion des Musee Nationaux

...the French leader who took back the North American property was Napoleon Bonaparte, emperor and general, never shy about going to war to advance French interests.

PAINTING: Thomas Jefferson LOC American Memory Collection

Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States...

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MAP: Showing Great Lakes and upper Louisiana

NARRATOR:

...could look at a map and see a war-minded neighbor like Napoleon might be a problem.

Cut to another art image of Jefferson.

So Jefferson took action, offering to buy Louisiana for eleven million dollars.

Cut to Napoleon.

Napoleon accepted, because his wars left him with lots of bills to pay.

Cut to map showing the Louisiana Purchase.

In 1803, the Louisiana Purchase made the United States a much bigger country.

Cut to Lewis and Clark recreation.

After Lewis and Clark explored the new property for President Jefferson between 1804 and 1806...

Cut to recreation of a map-maker.

Providing new details for map-makers...

Cut to map showing the United States as a transcontinental nation.

Americans began thinking of how the United States might grow bigger still.

“ “

It could stretch from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean...

Cut to map defining British territories to the north in 1800.

especially if another European nation, Britain, kept the borders of its North American lands far to the north.

Any War of 1812 art.

South Dakotans usually think of the War of 1812, between the United States and Britain, as happening in the eastern United States...

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White House burning.

NARRATOR:

...where the British burned the White House...

Cut to Fort McHenry art.

and where Francis Scott Key wrote the Star Spangled Banner as he watched a battle at Baltimore.

Music up and out. (Star Spangled Banner)

Cut to animation showing how British borders could have moved south.

But British success in the War of 1812 might have meant border changes out west, with today's South Dakota becoming British land.

Cut to a recreation of peace negotiations, or art depicting peace talks at Ghent.

As it turned out, neither Britain or the United States could claim a clear victory in the war. In the end leaders of the two nations sat down and drew a border between their lands about 200 miles north of today's South Dakota...

Cut to border at the International Peace Gardens.

Now the United States-Canada border.

Cut to old map designating Dakota Territory.

For much of the 1800s the land that would become South Dakota was a territory—part of the United States, but without enough people to function as a state.

Cut to modern map showing old territory in relation to modern states.

At first Dakota Territory's borders took in today's North and South Dakota, plus big parts of modern-day Wyoming and Montana.

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American Indian people on any 1800s reservation.

NARRATOR:

Within territory borders were other borders, marking reserved lands—or reservations—for American Indians. In the thinking of settlers and the United States government in the 1800s, moving American Indians onto reservations was a step toward building farms and towns on lands these people left.

Cut to Lincoln's likeness on Rushmore.

About the time Abraham Lincoln became president in 1861...

Cut to art depicting 1860s river traffic.

...talk began about moving enough settlers into Dakota Territory to make it a state.

Cut to John Todd portrait.

In fact John Todd, cousin of President Lincoln's wife, was among the first to work for the establishment of towns and farm lands in the territory.

Cut to modern map showing reduced Dakota Territory in relation to today's states.

By 1874, when territory leaders first made a push for statehood, Dakota Territory had been reduced in size to the land that's today's North and South Dakota. Most people believed this area would become one new state.

Cut to a pan across Washington in 1870s, showing U. S. Capitol.

But statehood didn't happen quickly. Settlement was slower than leaders hoped. In Washington, D. C., the Democrat and Republican parties worried that new states would upset the political balance in Congress.

***Pop-up Fact: "At least 60,000 people had to live in a territory before it could become a state."***

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Cut to shots of old Yankton capitol building, and then the U. S. Capitol.

NARRATOR:

Later leaders in Dakota Territory and Washington, D. C. discussed possibilities for two states...

Cut to map showing what East Dakota-West Dakota might have looked like.

perhaps divided east and west...

Cut to North and South Dakota map.

or north and south.

Cut to map showing state of Lincoln in the west.

And they discussed the possibility of a state, to be named for President Lincoln, with borders around the Black Hills region.

Cut to historical shot of Yankton, and of a map showing Yankton far in the south.

At first Dakota Territory's capital was Yankton. Politicians from the north didn't like traveling so far to the capital, on the territory's southern border.

Cut to map animation showing Yankton fading and Bismarck appearing.

In 1883 the northerners were successful in getting the capital moved to Bismarck. Now those in the south complained about distance.

Cut to recreation of a smoky-room debate, and then to a national map showing the two states' locations, and to a President Harrison photo.

There were other hard feelings and matters of disagreement between southern and northern Dakotans. Southern Dakotans believed they were more committed about holding onto school lands, used to raise education money. Southerners worried the wealthy Northern Pacific railroad, running across the northern part of the territory, gave that region too much political power. Northerners pointed out that perhaps the south's bigger population gave it unfair political strength. The two sides worried less about each

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Cut to old style map defining South Dakota.

NARRATOR:

other after President Benjamin Harrison signed papers establishing two new states—South Dakota and North Dakota—in 1889.

Cut to railroad poster advertising three million acres of Cheyenne River Reservation land for settlement (page 61, Donovin Sprague's book).

South Dakota's borders have remained the same ever since. Even a surveyor's mistake along the western border that gave Montana a little more land than originally planned has not been corrected.

Cut to Donovin Sprague with cutaways showing a map with shrinking reservation borders.

But the borders marking reservation lands have been anything but unchanging.

DONOVIN SPRAGUE On Camera  
ADDRESSING HOW THE GREAT SIOUX  
RESERVATION WAS BROKEN UP TO OPEN  
UP LAND FOR HOMESTEADERS.

Cut to map showing South Dakota counties.

NARRATOR:

Like reservations, South Dakota counties are defined by borders.

Sioux Falls city limits sign.

City limits are borders telling us who lives or works within a community, and who's in the rural countryside.

Cut to a detailed map showing South Dakota, with county lines and color-coded reservations.

And while all these borders are, indeed, real...

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Cut to EROS photo.

Cut to shot of prairie from a plane,  
dissolving to a wide EROS photo.

Program close.

**A U D I O**

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NARRATOR:

It's good to look at an EROS photo once in a  
while...

And be reminded that in our part of the world,  
borders aren't barriers. We're free to cross them  
as we wish, as we explore all corners of South  
Dakota, and beyond.

Closing music.