About Siouxland

Written by Grant Wittstruck Monday, 01 February 2010 15:58

The Siouxland is a geographic region found where the states of Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota are conjoined on the banks of the Missouri River. Sioux City, IA, a city of some 85,000 residents, provides the central urban landscape for the region.

Suburbs such as North Sioux City (SD), South Sioux City (NE) and surrounding smaller communities build the metro population to nearly 200,000 people.

The area is diverse in population and geography, quite unlike what might be typical of the three states.

The Loess Hills dominate the landscape on the lowa side of the river.

These hills provided a natural barrier that channeled the Lewis and Clark expedition of the Missouri River to the Sioux City area.

The only casualty of the expedition, the death of Sergeant Floyd, occurred in this region.

The region has a rich and fascinating history. Indigenous cultures were believed to have inhabited the area as long as 15,000 years ago. The 1700's saw the beginning of the fur trade with many native tribes dwelling along the banks of the Missouri River.

The region is served by large state universities and several top-drawer private colleges. The population is diverse, as well, with significant Native American and Hispanic communities woven into the fabric of the region.

The area boasts some of the richest farmland in the world and is prosperous.

The vagaries of the national economy are felt less because of the resilience of the agrarian basis of our livelihoods.

Major highways trace across the area, including Interstate 29, providing easy access to the region and transition from major urban centers such as Sioux Falls, SD, Omaha, NE, and Des Moines. IA.