



Upper Sioux Agency

Near Granite Falls

The Upper Sioux or Yellow Medicine Agency was established in 1854 as a U.S. government administrative center for the Sisseton and Wahpeton bands of Dakota. Most of the agency's buildings were destroyed in the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862. One structure, the agency house, has been reconstructed to its pre-1862 condition and the foundations of other buildings are marked.

Learn More

- Visit Upper Sioux Agency State Park, which is managed by the State of Minnesota and preserves the site of the Upper Sioux Agency.
- Walk the 18 miles of trails around the Yellow Medicine River Valley.
- Read interpretive signs that tell the history of this area and the Upper Sioux Agency.

“Families were torn apart. I just wonder how my relatives made it through all of that, how difficult a time that had to have been, to be able to survive.”

Lavonne Swenson, Lower Sioux, Oral History Project Participant

Above: Upper Sioux Agency, photograph by Dale Bohlke.



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Hear reflections on the values and enduring strength of the Dakota.