

Historical Facts of Vermillion

Heritage Notes

For 9-17-13

HISTORICAL FACTS

1843- *John James Audubon camped at the mouth of Clay Creek near Vermillion and referenced in his journal the birds he found in the ravine.

1859- *Vermillion is founded and Viola Belle Van Meter is the first child born in the new town.
*Clay County is officially opened for settlement as the Yankton Sioux tribe moved to a reservation.

1861- *Rev. S.W. Ingham formally organized the First Methodist Church in Vermillion.
*The 1st Judicial District held its initial term of court in Vermillion.

1862- *Company A, 1st Dakota Calvary is formed in Yankton.
*First County Board meeting is held in Vermillion.
*Federal Land Office opened for business in Vermillion.

1863- *One of the first homesteads in the United States was recorded in Vermillion when Mahlon Gore filed his claim a few minutes past midnight.
*A bill to “incorporate the University of South Dakota” was passed by the legislature.

1866- *James Hogan was lynched by an unknown person for making threats against the Lyman Burgess family.. He was hung from “Hangman’s Tree” in the ravine.
*Burr’s Broom Factory is turning out an excellent product.

1868- *The Baptist Congregation is founded in Vermillion and holding services in the Log School House.

1869- *The Incense Lodge #257 is organized in Vermillion. Its charter is the 2nd one in Dakota Territory.
*The Adelphi Hotel is opened for business with R.E. Blades as proprietor.
*The Old Settlers Organization was formed, with annual gatherings to be held on the anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans.

Upcoming CCHS events:

- *Thursday September 26, 7:00 pm. Antique item appraisals by Joe Hoffman at A-W House.
- *Friday December 6, 4:30pm to 8:00pm. Christmas Candlelight Tour of Homes
- *Saturday December 14, 10:00am to 1:00pm. Sweets & Treats Exchange at A-W House