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## **Ethnohistorical Relationships among American Indian Tribes & the Missouri River**

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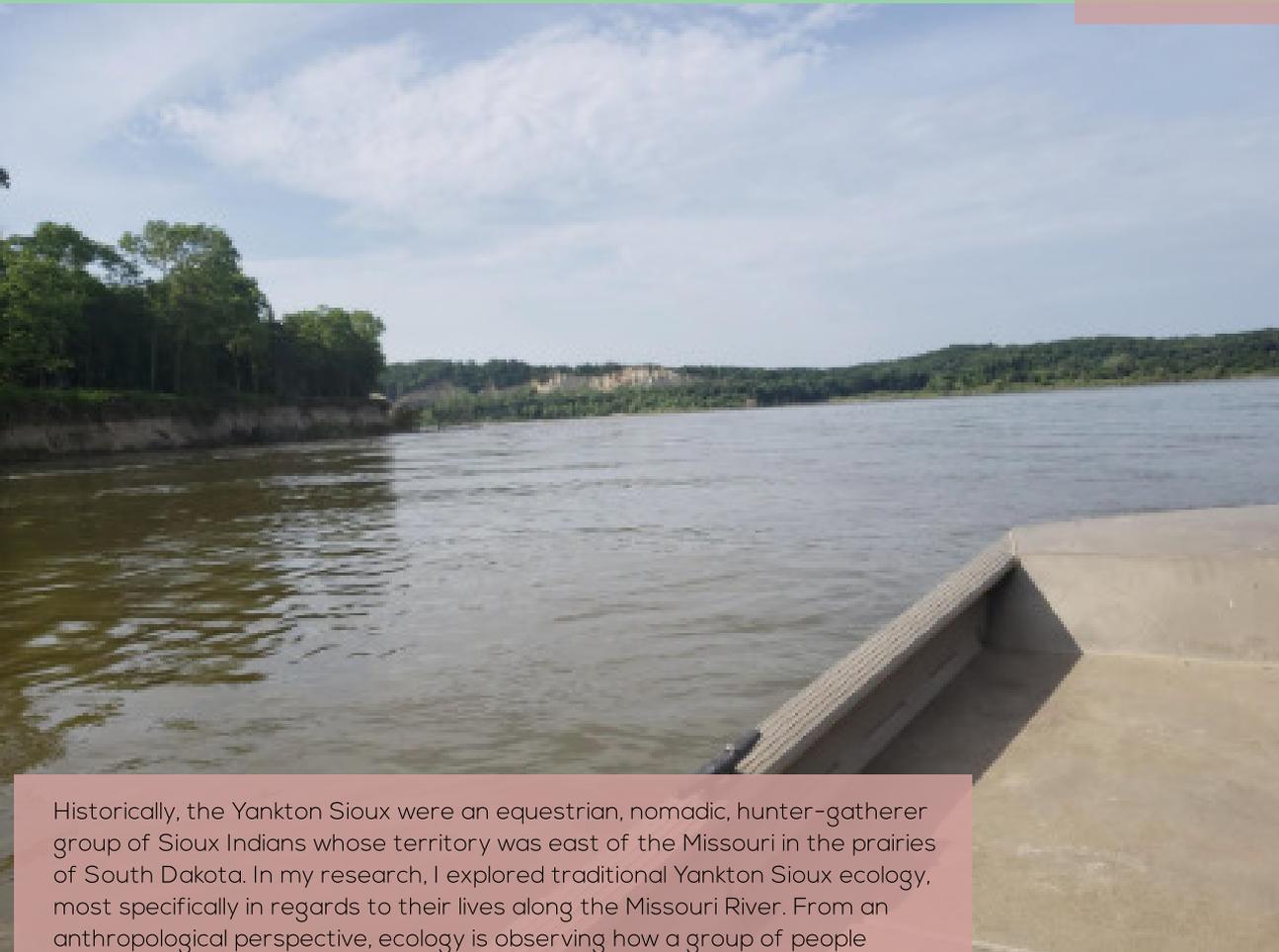


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## Ethnohistorical Relationships among American Indian Tribes & the Missouri River

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Historically, the Yankton Sioux were an equestrian, nomadic, hunter-gatherer group of Sioux Indians whose territory was east of the Missouri in the prairies of South Dakota. In my research, I explored traditional Yankton Sioux ecology, most specifically in regards to their lives along the Missouri River. From an anthropological perspective, ecology is observing how a group of people interacted with their surroundings. Interactions include those such as relationships with plants cultivated, how they hunted, fished, and other subsistence patterns are all looked at. I heavily looked at the impact of the reservation system in addition to how Yankton were impacted by the damming of the Missouri River, most specifically the impact of Fort Randall, which not only inundated cultural sites, but farmland as well. Lastly, in my research, I explore and observe the continuity and change in Yankton culture since the nineteenth century. The modern day practices aren't quite the same as they used to be, but Yankton have worked to make sure their culture stays alive despite the hardships they have faced, which have made maintaining cultural practices difficult. My research was done from my apartment in Vermillion where I read multiple different articles and books.



**Best memory:**

Visiting Ponca State Park was one of my favorite parts of the summer. Even though it was right at the beginning, the views were amazing and the temperature was really nice that day. A lot of our group field trips were a lot of fun for me actually since my research was spending a lot of time reading on my own, Monday outings allowed for more socialization than I got to do otherwise. I also really enjoyed learning about the other student's projects and hearing about their adventures in the field.

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