

Custer with his guides and staghounds

The information about the individual campsites located between Mandan and Dickinson was drawn from the book "Following the Custer Trail" by Laudie Chorne, as are the map illustrations. Chorne notes that the trail depicted in the maps is approximate, and intended for the reader to gain an understanding of the terrain through which the soldiers traveled. Many of the landmarks seen by the troops traveling the Custer Trail are visible from Old Highway 10 and Interstate 94.

The Map Locations of the campsites were documented by Mr. Frank Anders between 1930 and 1950. Mr. John Carroll compiled Anders' work into a book entitled "The Custer Trail of 1876." The longitude and latitude coordinates are derived from the Map Location descriptions. Keep in mind that each camp was approximately one-half mile square to accommodate the large number of troops and animals that traversed the trail in the spring of 1876.

Most of the campsites are on private property. Anyone wishing to visit them must obtain appropriate permission from the landowners.

Campsite No. 6: West of Hebron

May 22, 1876 Map Location: Stark County T139 R91 W NE Corner Sec. 1

Taking I-94 Exit 102 to Hebron will lead you to Highway No. 10. Campsite is located approximately 3 ½ miles west of Hebron. It is 1.3 miles north of I-94 or about ½ mile south of Old Highway 10. Follow the same road along Old Highway 10 west which will lead you to camp No. 7. (Laudie Chorne, "Following the Custer Trail," p50)

The company broke camp and moved out at 4:40 a.m. on a bright, clear day. The traveling was easier and by noon the advance guard had made 15 ½ miles to the head waters of the Knife River, where they stopped for lunch. Because of a difficult dry-bed river crossing and a subsequent accident with one of the wagons, the march was delayed. Camp was established at 1:00 p.m. about six miles further, making the day's travel more than 21 miles.



Aerial view of Campsite No. 6: West of Hebron

Laudie Chorne, "Following the Custer Trail," p. 51