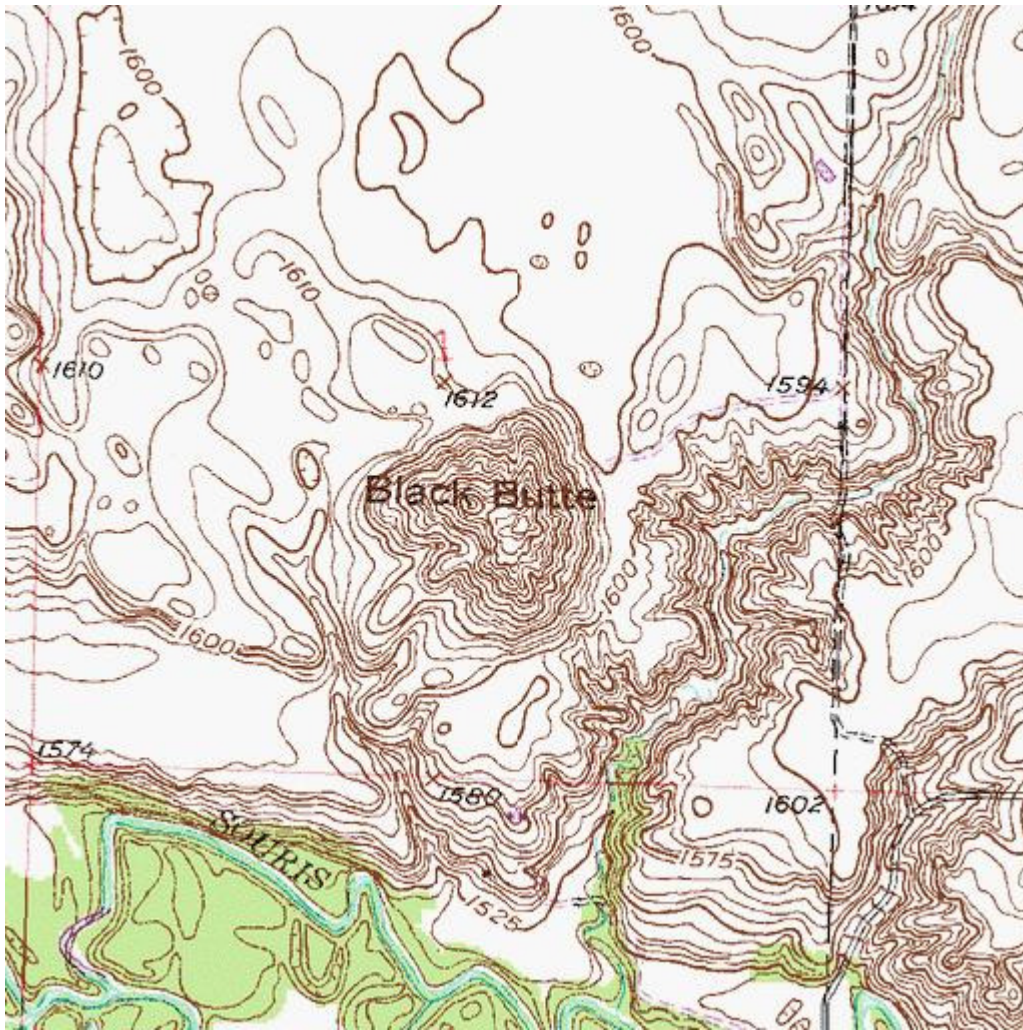


## Black Butte (Butte Noir):

Black Butte was a camping and meeting place for the Dakota and Metis buffalo hunters. It is located NE of Velva, North Dakota on the big bend of the Souris River.



The Buffalo Hunt of September 1860 is described in a report in the *Nor'Wester*, November 15, 1860, page 3. They note that the Metis camped at Butte Noir.

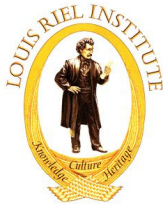
“From the Bout des Bois the brigade proceeded almost south bearing a little to the east, and passing certain hills named the Roche Blanche<sup>1</sup>, Loge de Boeuf<sup>2</sup> and others, and on

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<sup>1</sup> Roche Blanche (White Rock Hill) Wakanotina (Where the Spirits or something sacred Dwells). Located on the north side of Highway 2 by Denbigh, ND.

<sup>2</sup> So-called because of the buffalo skulls on this hill. Loge de Boeuf (Buffalo Lodge Hill [and lake]) Tatankaotina (Where the Buffalo dwell). The northern place where the buffalo emerge onto the earth. Located a few miles west of White Rock Hill, again on the north side of Highway 2.

Saturday the 22<sup>nd</sup> they camped at Butte Noire<sup>3</sup>, a hill about 40 miles north of Fort Mandan<sup>4</sup> on the Missouri, having had some very successful races on the way.”



Compiled by Lawrence Barkwell  
Coordinator of Metis Heritage and History Research  
Louis Riel Institute

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<sup>3</sup> Butte Noire (Black Butte) Pahasapa (Black Hill). Located south of the above places on the north side of Highway 52 by Velva, ND. Black Butte is located to the north of the Souris River at the big bend just west of present day Velva, N.D. It has an elevation of 1,713 feet.

<sup>4</sup> Fort Mandan is about twelve miles north-west of the present town of Washburn, N.D. It is approximately 50 miles south of Butte Noir.