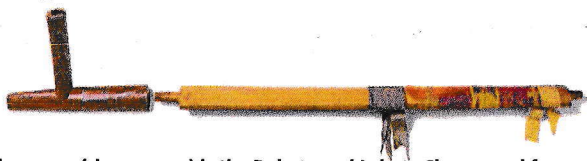




Pipes of Peace



Chanunpa (cha-new-pa) is the Dakota and Lakota Sioux word for pipe. Most Plains Indian style pipes have a similar inverted T shape.

Origin of the Peace Pipe

The term “Peace Pipe” came into being as a result of whites encountering them at treaty signings. The pipe was often used by Indian tribes to show intentions of peace, so this misnomer was given to an item that settlers knew very little about. To the American Indians of the northern plains, however, the pipe has a greater cultural significance. The Pipe is the primary communication between the spirit power and human beings.

American Indians believe that when a prayer is given with the smoking of the pipe, those prayers are carried to the Great Spirit on the smoke. The pipe is also used in religious ceremonies today, in much the same manner as it was hundreds of years ago.

Where did American Indians get tobacco?

Many tribes such as the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara cultivated large amounts of tobacco and traded it to other tribes. When tobacco was unavailable, *Kinnikinnick* was made. Kinnikinnick is a blend of leaves, stems, and bark of the willow, along with dogwood, sumac leaves, bearberry, rose bushes, and leadplant.

Pipestone National Monument

Purpose

The legislative purpose of the Monument is threefold:

To administer and protect the pipestone quarries, reserving the quarrying of pipestone for Indians of all tribes.

To preserve, protect, and interpret the cultural and natural resources associated with Pipestone National Monument

To provide for the enjoyment and benefit of all people.

National Monument Significance

The following statements identify significant cultural and natural components of Pipestone National Monument's ethnographic landscape.

Pipestone National Monument is significant as the only location where Indians have quarried the red pipestone (catlinite) from very early times to the present.

The National Monument is significant as a sacred site associated with American Indian spiritual beliefs and cultural activities.

Pipestone National Monument is significant for its history of American Indian and European-American contact and exploration in the early 1800's, specific quarrying rights, and the Pipestone Indian School (1893-1953).

Pipestone National Monument protects a significant cultural/ethnographic landscape.

Pipestone National Monument is significant for the landscape it protects, which consists of the tallgrass prairie that developed in association with the site's distinct hydrologic features. These features combine to provide an unusual array of habitats supporting a diverse assortment of prairie plants and animals and rare habitats, federally listed threatened and endangered species, and globally rare remnant plant communities.