

July 18, 2001

We decided to really put in a long day today, so we drove about 110 miles. We ended up at a crossroad about 22 miles from Murdo, SD.

Our first interesting stop was at Wall Drug, in Wall SD. You see signs about it for hundreds of miles away. It would drive you crazy if you didn't stop. You know it is a tourist trap, but you stop anyway. There are junk stores all over, including Wall Drug. The drug store is so big, and sells everything but drug items. I found about 2 shelves with drug items. Everything else is for tourists!

Leaving town we took the road that goes through the Badlands. As far as badlands go, this was pretty bad! It turns out that badlands are kind of generic. There are other badlands, including Cedar Breaks, Bryce Canyon, Death Valley, etc. So I guess we have been in badlands before.

We were quite desperate to see something today, so we saw this attraction, this lonely attraction called 1880's town. It advertised that Dances with Wolves was shot in part, at this location.

After setting up in the local KOA, we went to examine the town. There were about 35 old 1800 era buildings collected into a town. Most were furnished with period items. It is always amazing to see how the settlers lived and with what items they used to live with. I don't think I would have liked to have lived in those times.



A small cook shack at the KOA served a dinner of Buffalo roast. We had to eat it outside at a picnic table, however the flies were so bad and bit so fierce, we packed up the plates and fled to the rig and ate inside. The buffalo meat was very lean, not a trace of fat to be found. The flavor was slightly bland but not gamey like venison.