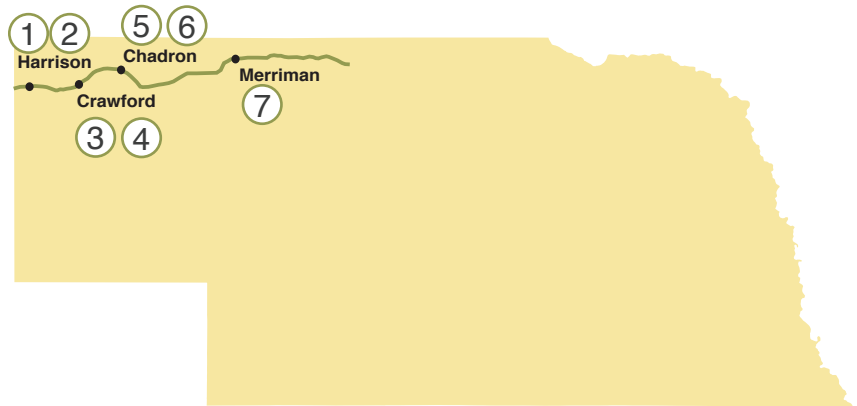


Bridges to Buttes Byway

Stretching from the city of Valentine to the Wyoming border along U.S. Highway 20, this byway winds through a plethora of important settings throughout history. You'll find prehistoric treasures, locales rich with military and Native American heritage, and reminders of the early pioneering and ranching days.

Historical Happenings



- ① The soil in the northwest corner of Nebraska is rich with fossils. South of Harrison, the Agate Fossil Beds National Monument has been deemed one of the most complete Miocene mammal sites in the world.
- ② Warbonnet Battlefield near Harrison was grounds for an 1876 encounter that took place between a group of Native Americans and the 5th U.S. Cavalry. In this conflict, Yellow Hair (Hand), a famous Cheyenne warrior, was killed by Buffalo Bill Cody.
- ③ Now a state park near Crawford, Fort Robinson was an important military outpost from the days of the Indian Wars through World War II. The fort has served many purposes including the Red Cloud Indian Agency, a cavalry remount station, a K-9 training center, and a WWII POW camp. It is also where Sioux Chief Crazy Horse died.
- ④ A bit of mystery surrounds Hudson-Meng Research and Education Center near Crawford. It is the site where 600 buffalo died around 10,000 years ago. Scientists are still uncovering pieces of the puzzle and can't quite decide how these animals died, but many arrowheads have been uncovered amid the bones.
- ⑤ At the Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center, a well-known author from the area is memorialized along with her archives. Sandoz made an impact on literature with such works as *Old Jules*, *Cheyenne Autumn*, and *Crazy Horse*, and she was recognized as an expert on Native American culture.
- ⑥ The Chadron area was popular with fur traders before homesteaders began settling in Nebraska. The Bordeaux Trading Post, now home to the Museum of the Fur Trade, was in operation from 1840 to 1872. The primary people this post traded with were the Brule Sioux Indians.
- ⑦ The ranching lifestyle is common in this area, and it has been that way for a long time. The Arthur Bowring Sandhills Ranch State Historical Park, which features Arthur and Eve Bowring's turn-of-the-century ranch near Merriman, serves as a reminder of this longstanding tradition.

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