



# Nez Perce National Historical Park

This map covers the 26 sites closest to the Nez Perce Reservation. Twelve additional sites are located in adjacent states.

## 1 Donald MacKenzie's Pacific Fur Co. Trading Post

Somewhere on the north shore of the Clearwater, Donald MacKenzie established a trading post in August 1812. The post was part of John Jacob Astor's plan to counter the work of the North West and Hudson's Bay Companies. The effort failed and MacKenzie sold out to the British.

## 2 Coyote's Fishnet

Nez Perce tradition abounds with tales of the exploits of Coyote. Once, he was fishing with a large net in the Clearwater. Black Bear happened to come by and angered Coyote, who stalked out of the water, hurled his fishnet up on the hill to the south side, flung Black Bear far up the hill on the north side and turned him into stone. Both are still visible in the rocks.

## 3 Ant and Yellowjacket

This legend also deals with Coyote, who tried to settle an argument between Ant and Yellowjacket. They paid no attention to Coyote, so he turned them to stone just as their backs were arched with their jaws locked in combat.

## 4 Spalding Visitor Center

Henry and Eliza Spalding established a mission here, close to today's Park Headquarters and Museum.

## 5 First Spalding Home

Henry and Eliza Spalding first settled here when they arrived in Nez Perce country in November 1836.

## 6 North Idaho Indian Agency

As part of the treaty agreements, the U.S. Government set up an agency to oversee the terms of the treaties. Originally located at Spalding, the agency was relocated in 1904 to the site of Fort Lapwai.

## 7 Fort Lapwai

In the fall of 1862, a detachment of volunteers arrived in the Lapwai valley, south of Spalding's mission, and chose a location for their fort. The

duplex officer's quarters (closed) at the southwest end of the parade ground was built in 1883.

## 8 Craig Donation Land Claim

This is the site of the first claim by a white settler in Idaho. William Craig was a mountain man, interpreter, and friend of the Nez Perce.

## 9 St. Joseph's Mission

This was the first Roman Catholic mission among the Nez Perce. It was dedicated on September 8, 1874 by Father Joseph Cataldo, who built it.

## 10 Cottonwood Skirmishes

After skirmishes with the U.S. Army and volunteers here on July 3 and 5, 1877, the main body of Nez Perce was able to flee to the east into the valley of the Middle Fork of the Clearwater River.

## 11 Weis Rockshelter

Humans have inhabited this rock shelter for over 8,000 years. The site is 7 miles from U.S. Highway 95 on a gravel road.

## 12 Camas Prairie

Today's wheat fields were once covered with blue camas lilies, a major food source for the Nez Perce. Tolo Lake, in the distance, was the last gathering place for the Nez Perce before war broke out in 1877.

## 13 White Bird Battlefield

On June 17, 1877, the first battle of the Nez Perce War was fought here. Thirty-four soldiers were killed, while the Nez Perce lost none. A self-guided walking tour of the battlefield is available at the visitor center at Spalding and at the trail head at White Bird.

## 14 Clearwater Battlefield

On July 11, General O.O. Howard crossed the Clearwater and hoped to take the Nez Perce by surprise. His hopes came to naught, and the fighting ended with the Nez Perce withdrawing.

## 15 Heart Of The Monster

This is the ancestral birthplace of the

Nez Perce people. Audio stations tell the story.

## 16 Asa Smith Mission

In April 1839, Rev. and Mrs. Asa Smith established a mission in the Kamiah area. Unsited to the demands of such work, the Smiths left in 1841.

## 17 Lewis & Clark Long Camp

Here, on their return trip, Lewis and Clark camped in the spring of 1806 while they waited for the snow to melt in the mountains.

## 18 Canoe Camp

Here in 1805, Lewis and Clark used the Nez Perce 'chip and burn' method to make canoes for their trip to the Pacific Ocean. Nez Perce guides were sent with them.

## 19 Lenore

For perhaps 10,000 years, this site has been inhabited by Nez Perce. Today it is a highway Rest Area.

## 20 Weippe Prairie

This root-gathering area is where Lewis and Clark first entered the

Nez Perce homeland on Sept. 20, 1805. 72 years later, the Nez Perce took council here and left their homeland in the 1877 War.

## 21 Pierce

One site here marks the spot, at the north end of town, of the first gold strike by W.F. Bassett in Sept. 1860. The other site of interest is the old Shoshone County courthouse, completed in 1863.

## 22 Musselshell Meadow

The Nez Perce have always harvested camas here.

## 23 24 Lolo Trail and Pass

This historic Nez Perce Trail, used by Lewis and Clark, extends from Weippe over Lolo Pass. U.S. 12 parallels the route. During the 1877 War, the Nez Perce followed the trail over Lolo Pass into Montana. The U.S. Forest Service maintains a seasonal visitor center at Lolo Pass and the Lochsa Historical Ranger Station on U.S. 12.

## 25 Looking Glass Campsite

In 1877, the Looking Glass Band tried to remain neutral in the conflict between the Army and the non-treaty Nez Perce. The Army did not trust them and attacked the village, destroying it and stealing hundreds of horses. Looking Glass regarded this as treachery and joined the others against the Army.

## 26 Buffalo Eddy

These ancient petroglyphs are located along the Snake River. From Clarkston, WA, take Highway 129 South to Asotin. From the stop sign, go straight and follow the Snake River 14.2 miles.

Additional Park Sites are described in the Park's official Map and Guide. Visit our website at [www.nps.gov/nepe](http://www.nps.gov/nepe)

