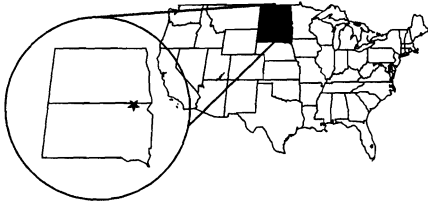
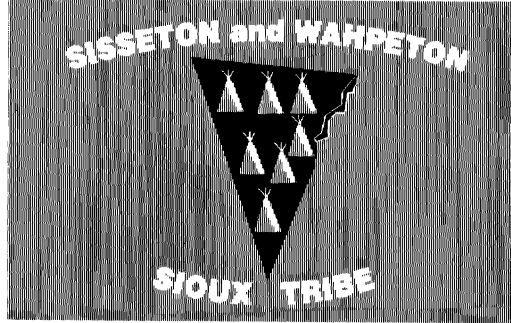


SISSETON & WAHPETON SIOUX



The Lake Traverse Reservation, a distinctive triangle in the northeast corner of South Dakota and southeast corner of North Dakota, is home to the Sisseton and Wahpeton bands of the Santee Sioux.

Like nearly all flags of Dakota branches, the Sisseton and Wahpeton flag features the tepee as a significant design element. As the rulers of the northern Plains, the Sioux constantly traveled, following the vast buffalo herds and using the tepee as a nomadic shelter. While the tepee is a unifying symbol among the various Sioux, the Sisseton did not begin to use the tepee until being forced westward and the Wahpeton never used the tepee at all. They relied instead on a bark-covered *tipi tonka* as a summer house and a domed earthen lodge for their winter dwelling (<http://swcc.cc.sd.us/culture2.html>).



The tribe's light blue flag bears the triangular map of the reservation in dark blue. On it, seven red tepees, accented in white, represent the seven districts of the reservation. On the "official" flags displayed in the tribal offices, each district is named. Arching over the reservation map, in white, is "SISSETON and WAHPETON" and below is "SIOUX TRIBE". 🏆