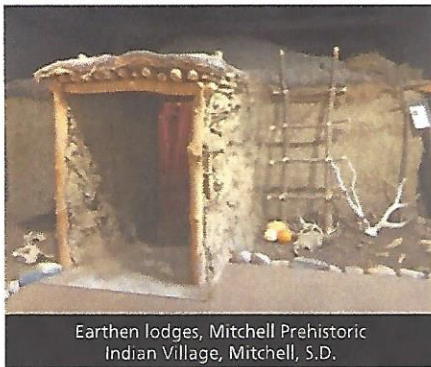


Dig into Native American history

Learn about the tribes that inhabited the land over a thousand years ago at the Mitchell Prehistoric Indian Village. Located in Mitchell, the village is open from April to October.

The venue shares discoveries from archaeological digs, dating to 1910, when the area was discovered by a Dakota Wesleyan University student.

Today, the village is the only archaeological site in South Dakota open to the public. The complex sits on approximately 7 acres and consists of two main buildings: the Boehnen Memorial Museum and the Thomsen Center Archeodome, which encloses the dig site, exhibits and laboratory.



Earthen lodges, Mitchell Prehistoric Indian Village, Mitchell, S.D.

PHOTO: MITCHELL PREHISTORIC INDIAN VILLAGE

“As an active archaeological site and research center, we’re considered ‘one of the most important archaeological sites in the Northern Plains’ by the United States Department of the Interior,” said Cynthia Gregg, executive director. “This 1,000-year-old village shows how people lived and that they were quite advanced.”

Many visitors think that all Native Americans lived in teepees. Artifacts show that some lived in structures, similar to homes people live in today, with more than 70 earthen lodges buried on the grounds.

The Indian Village hosts a range of activities throughout the year. The signature event is Archeology Awareness Days, July 1–2, 2017. The event brings archaeologists, primitive technologists and Native American performers from around the United States.

“We’re a very hands-on museum,” Gregg said. “Visitors can handle many

of the artifacts on display, learn how to throw spears using an ancient tool called an atlatl, see a potter create pottery, play ancient games and enjoy dancing, drumming or storytelling.”

The village is open by appointment only from November to March. Reduced rates are available for groups of

10 or more.

“We’re able to demonstrate that archaeology is not all ‘Indiana Jones,’ but still fun and fascinating,” Gregg said. 📌

Mitchell Prehistoric Indian Village
605-996-5473
mitchellindianvillage.org

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