

Stampede Story Map

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Map:



Figure 1: "Bison Robe Painting", 02/27/2020, (CU11031492) by Brown, David H. Courtesy of University Archives Collection, Libraries and Cultural Resources Digital Collections, University of Calgary.

Stampede Story Map by Adrian Stimson

Adrian Stimson, a member of the Siksika Nation, was invited by the Calgary Institute for the Humanities at the University of Calgary to create a story map that highlights lesser-known and sometimes controversial histories of the Calgary Stampede. The first Calgary Stampede was held in 1912, evolving from the Calgary Exhibition, which began in 1886.

In the artist statement, Stimson explains that part of the project's goal was to "indigenize the map" and decolonize it by using Blackfoot ways of knowing, specifically the Bison Robe winter count and pictographic style.

"The Bison Robe winter counts were created to record events in time; battles, warrior exploits, visions and specific events, they could be arranged in spiral, linear or snake-like patterns. Single pictographs could hold an entire year's worth of stories."

The robes were "stylized, abstracted depictions that depicted geographic features and places." Their intent was to play with notions of time, space, and stories in Mohkinstsis—the Blackfoot name for Calgary.

If you would like to know more, please visit [First Nations Stampede: A guide to First Nations history at the Calgary Stampede.](#)

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