

ashland

MONTANA

Ashland, Montana



Ashland is a small town among semi-arid rolling hills and open plains near the Tongue River valley adjoining the Northern Cheyenne and Crow Indian reservations in Southeastern Montana, and a two hour drive east from Billings. With some irony, the National Forest to the east of Ashland is named for US Army General Custer, whom the Northern Cheyenne and Sioux defeated in 1876 in their unsuccessful resistance to being confined on reservations after they were removed from their homelands in the northern Midwest. Jesuit Volunteers served on these reservations with Jesuits based in missions at Ashland, Lame Deer, Pryor, and St. Xavier during 1972-83. The St. Labre mission, founded in 1884 and named for Benedict Joseph Labre, patron saint of the poorest of the poor, is now affiliated with the Capuchin Order.