Museums and Historic Sites
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF NORTH DAKOTA

ND Heritage Center & State Museum, Bismarck
The North Dakota Heritage Center is home to the State Museum, the State Historical Society of North Dakota and its Foundation, the State Archives, the State Historic Preservation Office, and the state fossil collection of the North Dakota Geological Survey.
State Museum
North Dakota Heritage Center • Bismarck

Discover history for everyone at the newly expanded State Museum in Bismarck. Trace North Dakota history 600 million years in four new museum galleries during an educational and entertaining visit. See life-size Triceratops and T. rex skeletons poised for battle. View beautiful pottery and quillwork from the 1800s. Explore a ‘50s soda fountain and discover an experimental Mars spacesuit. Shop in the Museum Store. Have lunch or a snack in the James River Café!

State Archives
North Dakota Heritage Center • Bismarck

Find your North Dakota roots in the State Archives. Homestead and census records, photographs, county histories, newspapers, and more will help you discover your story.
Before Bismarck, there was Camp Hancock. Once a bustling military supply post and later a weather station, Camp Hancock is now home to the oldest building in Bismarck as well as an 1881 church and a locomotive from the glory days of steam transportation.

Explore the home of 20 former governors and their families at the Former Governors’ Mansion. A lovely staircase leads from the public rooms to private areas where children played, servants worked, and families enjoyed privacy from 1894 to 1960. A carriage house on the lot features exhibits from the time the house was occupied.
Built on a bluff overlooking Medora, the chateau was the 26-room summer home of the wealthy French nobleman and entrepreneur the Marquis de Mores and his wife Medora. Learn about his meatpacking plant dreams, stories of the Wild West, and his dealings with the young Theodore Roosevelt. The site features an interpretive center, the home, and stagecoach rides.
Fort Abercrombie once served as a gateway to the West and the spear point of the army’s advance into the Northern Plains. The original guardhouse and the reconstructed blockhouses and stockade attest to the bloody conflict that spilled into the Dakotas from Minnesota. Explore the buildings and visitor center.
Fort Buford
State Historic Site • Near Williston

Here, where two great rivers meet, people have gathered for thousands of years. At the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, take in the history of a place little changed since Lewis and Clark visited two centuries ago. At nearby Fort Buford, tour original and reconstructed buildings of the military post where Sitting Bull laid down his rifle.

Fort Totten
State Historic Site • Near Devils Lake

Visit one of the best-preserved frontier military forts in the United States, with 16 original buildings. When the military left, Fort Totten became one of the largest Indian boarding schools in the nation. Explore buildings that rang with the jingle of cavalry harnesses and the voices of children, as well as the visitor center.

Plan a unique stay at the Fort Totten Inn, located in an original fort building.
Visit an 1840s home and trading post. Gingras Trading Post was the home and business of Antoine Gingras, international mover and shaker of his time, and one of the wealthiest men of the Northern Plains in the 1840s.

This former missile launch site—once protected by high fences, search lights, and armed guards—offers visitors the opportunity to enter the security zone and drop 60 feet below ground to visit the launch control center on the front lines of America’s Cold War.
After the early ocean drained and glaciers left the area, people found a rich landscape in the Red River Valley. Bison hunters, fur traders, and farmers made this land their home. Visit the Pembina State Museum to experience 100 million years of history. View the vast expanse of what was once glacial Lake Agassiz from the observation deck.
For a long time, Whitestone Hill nourished millions of roaming bison and was a hunting paradise for Native American people. Whitestone Hill marks the site of the fiercest attack on Sioux people in North Dakota and a place to contemplate our tumultuous past. The richness of the grasslands makes it clear why the Native Americans treasured this place.
High on a bluff with stunning views of the Missouri River, Double Ditch Indian Village, home to perhaps 2,000 Mandan people at its founding, was a hub in a continental trade system. At about that time, Christopher Columbus reached the New World. Stroll the paths through the circular remains of earthlodges built from A.D. 1490 to 1785. Follow interpretive trails along the unique series of ditches, remains of defenses protecting a village.

The rural boyhood home of famous bandleader and native son Lawrence Welk (1903-1992), located outside of Strasburg, ND, provides visitors with insight into German-Russian culture and heritage, architecture, and northern plains agriculture.
Fort Clark State Historic Site • Near Washburn

A center of global trade and an exotic travel destination, Fort Clark was the site of a fur trading post and a thriving Indian village until a series of devastating epidemics arrived with the steamboats. Walk the pathways along the impressions left by the village and the post. Feel the past come alive.

Menoken Indian Village State Historic Site • Near Bismarck

Menoken Indian Village was established about 800 years ago on a quiet wooded spot beside Apple Creek. The village was built just as horticulture began to arrive in this region. Archaeologists continue to look for clues about how these changes affected villagers at this site.
Before Double Ditch was occupied, Mandan people built Huff Indian Village along the banks of the Missouri River. See impressions of rectangular lodges and the remnants of a fortification ditch, all on the native prairie that still grows where the village once stood.
1. Writing Rock
2. Fort Buford / MYCIC
3. Chateau de Mores
4. Fort Dilts
5. Medicine Rock
6. Killdeer Mountain Battlefield
7. Turtle Effigy
8. Crowley Flint Quarry
9. Sully’s Heart River Corral
10. Cannonball Stage Station
11. Bismarck-Deadwood Stage Trail
12. Fort Clark
13. Fort Mandan Overlook
14. Pulver Mounds
15. Molander Indian Village
16. Double Ditch Indian Village
17. North Dakota Heritage Center & State Museum
18. Former Governors’ Mansion
19. Camp Hancock
20. Steamboat Warehouse
21. Huff Indian Village
22. Fort Rice
23. Menoken Indian Village
24. David Thompson
25. St. Claude
26. Palmer’s Spring
27. Big Mound Battlefield
28. McPhail's Butte Overlook
29. Camp Whitney
30. Camp Grant
31. Camp Kimball
32. Fort Totten
33. Brenner Crossing
34. Stutsman County Courthouse
35. Whitestone Hill
36. Hudson Townsite
37. Fort Ransom
38. Standing Rock
39. Wadeson Cabin
40. Camp Weiser
41. Camp Sheardown
42. Camp Arnold
43. Camp Corning
44. Lake Johnson
45. Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile
46. Lake Jessie
47. Camp Atchison
48. Oak Lawn Church
49. Walhalla
50. Gingras Trading Post
51. Pembina State Museum
52. Sweden
53. Buffalo Creek
54. Maple Creek Crossing
55. Camp Buell
56. Fort Abercrombie
57. Welk Homestead

*Bold sites are featured in this brochure.*
State Museum and State Archives
North Dakota Heritage Center
I-94, Exit 159, State Capitol Grounds, Bismarck
701.328.2666

Camp Hancock State Historic Site
First and Main Avenue, Bismarck
701.328.9528 or 328.2666

Chateau de Mores State Historic Site
1/8 mile west and 1/8 mile south of Medora
701.623.4355

Former Governors’ Mansion State Historic Site
320 East Avenue B, Bismarck
701.328.9528 or 328.2666

Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site
Just east of Abercrombie, Highway 75
15 miles north of Wahpeton, 37 miles south of Fargo
701.553.8513 (Off-Season: 701.328.2666)

Fort Buford State Historic Site and Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center
Highways 58 and 1804,
21 miles southwest of Williston
701.572.9034

Fort Totten State Historic Site
Fort Totten, 13 miles southwest of Devils Lake
701.766.4441
Totten Trail Historic Inn: tottentrailinn.com
701.766.4874

Gingras Trading Post State Historic Site
Off Highway 32 near airport
1.5 miles southeast of Wahalla
701.549.2775 (Off-Season: 701.825.6840)

Directions to Our Sites

Museum Store Locations
Shop for unique handcrafted gifts!

- North Dakota Heritage Center
- Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center
- Fort Abercrombie
- Fort Totten
- Gingras Trading Post
- Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center
- Pembina State Museum
- Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile Site
Pembina State Museum
I-29, Exit 215, 805 Highway 59, Pembina
Museum free; Charge for Observation Tower
701.825.6840

Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site
Oscar-Zero: 4 miles north of Cooperstown on Highway 45
November-33: 2 miles east on Highway 200
701.797.3691

Welk Homestead State Historic Site
845 88th St. SE, Strasburg
701.336.7777

Whitestone Hill State Historic Site
10 miles southeast of Kulm
701.328.2666

Double Ditch Indian Village State Historic Site
7.5 miles north of Bismarck on ND 1804
701.328.2666

Fort Clark Trading Post State Historic Site
Fort Clark, 17 miles northwest of Washburn
701.328.2666

Huff Indian Village State Historic Site
22 miles south of Mandan on ND 1806 just south of the town of Huff
701.328.2666

Menoken Indian Village State Historic Site
11 miles east of Bismarck, just north of I-94
701.328.2666

Find hours of operation, admission fees, amenities, and more at history.nd.gov
Travel Guide available at Museum Stores

*A Traveler’s Companion to North Dakota State Historic Sites* showcases 68 state, local, and federal historic sites and parks.

This third edition features new maps, photographs, and updated information about each site. *A Traveler’s Companion* is the perfect field guide to the state’s rich history.

*A Traveler’s Companion* is available at:

- North Dakota Heritage Center
- Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile Site
- Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center
- Fort Totten State Historic Site
- Pembina State Museum
- Gingras State Historic Site
- Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Center
- Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site

Order online at statemuseum.nd.gov/store
You can be a vital part of helping us share North Dakota’s rich and unique history. Join us in building new exhibits, funding exciting projects, sharing our progress, and learning about the many ways you can be part of our work.

Benefits of Membership to the Foundation

- Free admission to all State Historic Sites
- 15 percent discount on museum store purchases
- Publications - *North Dakota History* and *Plains Talk* newsletter
- Membership in *Time Travelers*, free and discount admission to many museums nationwide (www.timetravelers.mohistory.org/institutions)

Become a Foundation member at www.statehistoricalfoundation.com or call 701.222.1966.

Levels of Membership: $35 Individual; $45 Family; $100 Sustaining; larger gifts welcome.