



Double Ditch Indian Village Repairs Underway

State Historical Society Chief Archaeologist Paul Picha, Collections Assistant Meagan Schoenfelder, and Research Archaeologist Tim Reed oversee construction at Double Ditch Indian Village State Historic Site on July 28. The stabilization project to prevent further erosion of the Mandan village site will be completed by November.
Photo by Kim Jondahl, SHSND

A construction project to stabilize Double Ditch Indian Village State Historic Site north of Bismarck is underway. Double Ditch Indian Village was a major Mandan city and trading center for nearly three hundred years (from the late 1400s to 1785). Thousands of people lived and were buried at this village, and it became a state historical site in 1936.

Erosion at the site began occurring after the 2011 flood. From the river's edge approximately 100 feet of land became unstable. Rotational slumping resulted, causing 18 Mandan burials to be exposed, and additional deep cracks began forming that engineers indicated could cause nearly half of the site to fall into the river.

The State Historical Society is grateful for the 2013 and 2015 North Dakota Legislative Assemblies' appropriation of \$3.5 million to stabilize 2,200 linear feet of the site's riverbank, and for the 2017 Legislative Assembly, which carried forward remaining funding to complete this project. Representatives of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara (MHA) Nation and the State Historical Society have been involved with planning, selection of the engineering firm, and all stabilization decisions.

"The Mandan people fully support this important project to protect this land and the burial

continued on page 2

Double Ditch Indian Village Repairs Underway *Continued*



Double Ditch Indian Village riverbank on Aug. 11. The riverbank will feature a walking path, native vegetation, and new interpretive signs. *Photo by Dwayne Walker, AHP SHSND*

continued from page 1

grounds of our ancestors,” said Calvin Grinnell, historian for the MHA Nation and State Historical Board member. “This is a sacred, special place in North Dakota that has great historical significance worldwide. Our goal is to protect this educational resource for future generations and to pay proper respect to the people who are buried here.”

Before construction began, it was anticipated that additional burials would be identified, so staff were prepared. The State Historical Society and MHA Nation leadership are cooperatively following state laws and sacred practices of the Mandan to complete the sensitive nature of this work. Since the stabilization work began in mid-July, 198 burials have been exposed and cared for according to proper protocol. All remains will be repatriated to the MHA and interred in private ceremonies of the MHA Nation.

“It was necessary for the graves to be moved, and there really was not an alternative if we were to stop the erosion and preserve the site. The burials in the slump area would have been destroyed and eroded into the river,” said Fern Swenson,

Archaeology & Historic Preservation Division director. “Moving the graves is difficult for all involved. It makes you very aware of peoples’ lives and death—the fragile nature of life and the significance of this city for all.”

The engineering plan involves reshaping the bank by removing weight from the upslope and adding weight to the toe. The rock key/trench and pipe piles will provide mass and strength to stabilize the slope. State Historical Society staff has been onsite overseeing all stabilization work. Upon completion, the riverbank will be planted with native vegetation and will feature a walking path and new interpretive signs.

Stabilization work will be completed by November. Although the village site is open to the public (east entrance off Highway 1804), the construction zone is closed except for authorized officials due to safety issues.

Learn more about Double Ditch Indian Village at history.nd.gov/historicsites/doubleditch, and view a mural of the populated village at the ND Heritage Center & State Museum in Bismarck.

Field Trip Marks Twentieth Anniversary

Eighth-grade students from the Grand Forks Air Force Base’s Nathan F. Twining Middle School have been visiting the ND Heritage Center & State Museum for 20 years. “The Heritage Center is a great place to see and experience things that our students study in our eighth-grade curriculum,” said Jeff Welsh, Twining Middle School science teacher. Learn more about ND Studies’ online curriculum at ndstudies.gov.



Science teacher Jeff Welsh, back left in red, with Twining Middle School eighth-grade students at the ND Heritage Center & State Museum on May 17.

Native American Hall of Honor



The 1973 Fort Yates Warriors basketball team, which won the North Dakota Class A state basketball championship, will be inducted into the Native American Hall of Honor on Sept. 7. *SHSND SA 11321-00110*

The Native American Hall of Honor, founded in 2016 by the ND Indian Affairs Commission in partnership with the State Historical Society of North Dakota and its Foundation, recognizes traditional and contemporary achievements by North Dakota tribal members. The 2017 inductees are:

Sports/Athletics: 1973 Fort Yates Warriors basketball team, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe; Pete Fredericks, Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation

Culture/Arts: Dan Jerome, Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa; Mary Louise Defender Wilson, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe

Leadership: David Gipp, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe; Leigh Jeanotte, Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa

The public induction ceremony will be Sept. 7 at 6 p.m. at the ND Heritage Center. Inductees are featured in an annual exhibit at the State Museum. Learn more at bit.ly/nahoh.

State Historical Board Welcomes New Members



State Historical Board President Terrance Rockstad

The North Dakota State Historical Board elected new board officers beginning in July 2017: Terrance Rockstad, president; Gereld Gertholz, vice president; and H. Patrick Weir, secretary. The board welcomes new members Steve C. Martens of Fargo and Daniel Stenberg of Watford City, along with Melissa Baker, director of the Parks and Recreation Department, and Thomas Sorel, director of the Department of Transportation. Margaret L. "Peggy" Puetz and Diane K. Larson completed their terms, and we are grateful for their many years of service.

New Exhibit: North Dakota and the Great War



The ND Heritage Center & State Museum in Bismarck is currently featuring special exhibits, artifacts, and films to mark the centennial of World War I. Explore WWI-era posters from the State Archives, a special North Dakota-focused exhibit in the James E. Sperry Gallery, a hallway exhibit case in the Corridor of History, and a traveling exhibit titled *Women and the Great War* on loan from the International Peace Garden. The case, pictured above, was an intern project completed by Anna Killian. Learn more at history.nd.gov/WWI.



Chocolate Programs a Sweet Success

In conjunction with *Chocolate: The Exhibition*, the ND Heritage Center & State Museum hosted multiple programs over the summer that drew new audiences and inspired visitors to savor each moment. Two sold-out events included the "Chocolate Wine & Dine" on May 25 and a "Chocolate + Beer Night at the Museum" on July 13.



Left: State Historical Society Curator of Exhibits Genia Hesser plates chocolate baklava for the "Chocolate Wine & Dine" on May 25.



Right: North Dakota artist Jessica Wachter uses edible paint on a white-chocolate canvas at the "Chocolate Wine & Dine" on May 25.

Memorializing Jewish Homesteaders



Descendants of North Dakota's Jewish homesteaders gathered at Ashley Jewish Homesteaders Cemetery for a rededication in May. *Photo by Dale Bluestein*

On May 21, descendants and local residents gathered for a rededication of the Ashley Jewish Homesteaders Cemetery, where members of the Jewish Beth Itzchock congregation were buried from 1913 to 1932. McIntosh County, which includes Ashley, was the largest Jewish agricultural settlement in North Dakota. The cemetery was named to the National Register of Historic Places in 2015.

A historical marker in recognition of Jewish settlers and their impact on North Dakota's agricultural history was dedicated July 4 at Bonanzaville in Cass County. This marker is cosponsored by the Cass County Historical Society–Bonanzaville and the Jewish American Society for Historic Preservation and is part of the State Historical Society of North Dakota Historic Marker Program.

Remembering WWI at the Former Governors' Mansion



Dr. Herbert Wilson, a State Historical Society volunteer, shows World War I memorabilia to State Historical Society Director Claudia Berg at the annual Former Governors' Mansion Ice Cream Social on Aug. 13. Wilson is wearing his father's WWI uniform to commemorate the centennial of the US involvement in the war.

Three Properties Listed in National Register



George and Beth Anderson House by Jim Papachek; Sons of Jacob Cemetery by Lorna Meidinger; Mandan High School by Emily Dominijanni

Three North Dakota properties have been listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the federal government's list of properties it considers worthy of preservation and recognition:

The George and Beth Anderson House along the Red River in Fargo is a 1959 Wrightian house that is significant for its architecture. The Anderson House was designed by Elizabeth Wright Ingraham (granddaughter of Frank Lloyd Wright) and her husband, Gordon Ingraham, of Colorado.



The Sons of Jacob Cemetery near Garske in Ramsey County is the oldest cemetery for a Jewish agricultural community in North Dakota and is the only site remaining from the Garske Colony. Within this cemetery, there are stones with traditional Jewish funerary symbols and inscriptions and also uncommon homemade grave markers.



Mandan High School, more recently known as Mandan Junior High School, has original buildings designed by Gilbert R. Horton in 1917 and 1924 in the Tudor/ Collegiate Gothic style. Subsequent additions were designed by three different North Dakota architecture firms. The school is significant for its architecture and for its ability to tell the story of education in Mandan.

Sites Celebrate Grand Openings



Three state historic sites celebrated grand openings this summer. Thank you to the staff, donors, and volunteers who made these special events possible!

Peter Jerome, president of the Fort Totten State Historic Site Foundation, cuts a ribbon outside the renovated Fort Totten hospital/cafeteria, which houses the Pioneer Daughters Museum, on May 20. Joining Jerome are members of the Foundation, Lake Region Pioneer Daughters, elected officials, and State Historical Society staff. The Foundation presented the State Historical Society with a \$100,000 check for renovations.



Barb Lang, member of the 1883 Stutsman County Courthouse Committee, cuts a ribbon July 6 surrounded by other committee members, representatives from the Jamestown Area Chamber of Commerce, and State Historical Society staff. Courthouse restoration began in the 1990s, and the historic building is open to the public for the first time this summer.



Edna and Evelyn Schwab, nieces of bandleader Lawrence Welk, hold pieces of ribbon at the Welk Homestead State Historic Site grand opening near Strasburg on July 29. Also pictured are Gerard Schwab, Senator Robert Erbele, and Secretary of State Al Jaeger, who serves on the State Historical Board. The Welk Homestead was acquired as a state historic site in 2013 and now features updated exhibits and new programs.

History Comes Alive at Fort Abercrombie



Sonja Hegel and Thomas Huether enjoy camp vittles at Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site's Living History Weekend on June 10. The event featured blacksmithing, tinsmithing, and wool spinning demonstrations, book signings by local authors, period music, kite flying, and military drill reenactments.

Learn about upcoming events at history.nd.gov/events.

Scouts Beautify Camp Hancock



Century High School student Neal Bohrer (above inset) plants a tree at Camp Hancock State Historic Site in Bismarck on July 8. Bohrer organized a work day at the site as an Eagle Scout service project. About two dozen volunteers installed new ramps for the museum and Bread of Life Church, stained benches and a picnic table, painted interpretive sign bases, and replanted the center garden.

Special Education Pioneer Janet Smaltz

By Emily Ergen, archives specialist, State Archives



Janet Smaltz tests a young child inside the mobile clinic, which was also used as a living space for Smaltz and clinic assistants Marge Hurt and Lucille Holtan, circa 1947. SHSND SA 11320-00109

The North Dakota State Archives recently acquired a collection of Janet Smaltz personal papers and photographs (MSS 11320), which are accessible to the public.

Janet Smaltz (1916–2017) was a pioneer in the expansion of special education services in North Dakota and a leader in policy creation and reform. She came to North Dakota in 1947 to develop a mobile speech and hearing clinic for the Easter Seal Society. As she traveled throughout the state providing services to thousands of children, Smaltz documented the need for speech and hearing facilities. This led to the creation of special education programs in North Dakota public schools. Due to the work of Smaltz and many others, North Dakota made significant improvements in its special education policy.

In 1956, Smaltz became director of special education for the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction, a position she held until 1976. Her accomplishments, passion, and dedication to reform earned her numerous awards.

Volunteers Complete Seven-Year Project

By Virginia Bjorness, librarian/cataloger, State Archives



Over the past seven years, our Archives volunteers have helped add accession information to thousands of item records in our online catalog. Verlyn Larson and Cheryl Bailey entered accession information previously typed on catalog cards: accession number, number of copies (for books) or years available (for serial issues), cost of item(s), and donor names or place of purchase. Lilian Wilson helped verify that all books were on the shelf before the information was entered. Thanks to our wonderful volunteers, this information is now tied to the bibliographic records in our library catalog.

Lilian Wilson, left, assisted with an inventory of the State Archives' main library collection. Cheryl Bailey, middle, joined Verlyn Larson, right, who has been entering accession information into the online system since 2010. Larson is quite familiar with the data, as she was one of the volunteers who originally typed it onto the catalog cards!

Heritage Volunteer Awards

Aug. 15, 2017

Thank you to our State Historical Society volunteers!

First 100 Hours of Service

Barb Carter, Kathy Dorgan, Margie Ferderer, David Fournier, Leo Gefroh, Jeanette Nickisch, Denise Stuckle, Amy Weikum, Evonne Weikum

Dedication Award

Erllys Fardal

Curatorial Award

Verlyn Larson and Cheryl Bailey

Hospitality Award

Karen Pedigo

Special Project Award

Dolores Boint

10 Years of Service

Mary Diebel, David Nix, Robert Porter, Doug Wurtz

30 Years of Service

Marlene Hastings

35 Years of Service

Carol Heyd

FOUNDATION NOTES



History's

Foundation

State Historical Society
of North Dakota Foundation

Many Ways to Give to the Foundation

We are grateful for our members and for our North Dakota Heritage Center expansion donors. As we build relationships, we have the opportunity to share with people the many ways they can support the work of the Foundation.

Membership: \$35 to \$45 to \$100 or more provides a subscription to *Plains Talk* newsletter and *North Dakota History: Journal of the Northern Plains*, plus free admission to state historic sites, a 15 percent discount at all seven Museum Stores, and participation in the Time Travelers program, with discounted access to attractions around the US.

Annual Giving Campaigns: Three to four times a year we offer our members, donors, and friends the opportunity to give an *additional* gift to the Foundation's work. This is the perfect way to show your gratitude for what has been done and invest in projects moving forward.

Memorial Gifts: Hundreds of our members and friends honor their loved ones with memorial gifts. Gifts from \$20,000 to \$20 have been received and offer the donor a special opportunity to provide a memorial gift with a purpose—preserving and growing our historic resources.

Donor Recognition Events and Special Receptions: As you become more active and increase your giving levels, you will be invited to attend special dinners and receptions with other generous donors. A very pleasant way to participate in supporting the Foundation's work.

Leave Your Legacy and Make History: Planned gifts to the Foundation and its endowment may be eligible for tax incentives, including federal deductions and the North Dakota Charitable Giving 40 percent state income tax credit. Gifts may include outright gifts of cash, stock, or highly appreciated assets and required minimum distributions from an IRA. Additionally, charitable trusts or annuities generate an income for you now and leave a legacy for generations to come. Contact our development team to visit about these giving opportunities.

If you are happy with the ND Heritage Center expansion efforts and see the value of the programs and services of the Foundation and State Historical Society, won't you step up and increase your giving activity today?

Call us for details. 701-222-1966

NOTICE: FOUNDATION ANNUAL MEETING

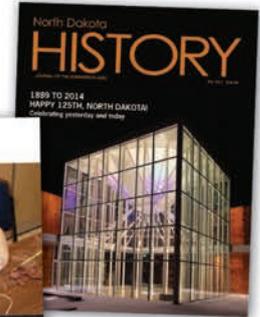
Tuesday, November 7, 2017 10:30 – 11:00 am

ND Heritage Center – Great Plains Theatre
Sponsored by Tom and Frances Leach Foundation

The Foundation annual report and election of new Foundation board members.
All Foundation members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

PLEASE JOIN US!!!

Following the annual meeting the Foundation Board will have their quarterly board meeting in the board room in Foundation offices.

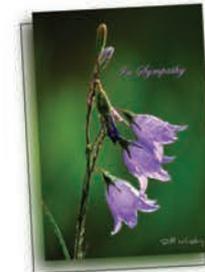


Membership Benefits

Annual Campaign Request for Support



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HOUSE & HOME

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...Though
we may roam.
Be it ever so humble.
There's no place like home.
— John Howard Payne, 1823



Visit two new temporary exhibits!
ND Heritage Center & State Museum
statemuseum.nd.gov






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