A view of the Orion Nebula from the Hubble Space Telescope. Courtesty NASA, ESA, and the Hubble Heritage Team (STScI/AURA)

NASA's *New Views of the Universe: Hubble Space Telescope* exhibit opened Sept. 30 at the North Dakota Heritage Center & State Museum in Bismarck. The temporary exhibition, free and open to the public through June 5, 2018, immerses visitors in the magnificence and mystery of the Hubble mission. A scale model of Hubble is the focal point. Through videos and interactive displays, visitors learn about Hubble's contributions to the exploration of planets, stars, galaxies, and the universe.

"NASA's Hubble Space Telescope is making history and expanding our knowledge of the universe," said Mark Sundlov, State Historical Society Museum Division director. "The exhibit provides the foundation for understanding what Hubble is and how it works, and it also places us, and our shared human story, in a much broader context. The telescope's images, along with the exhibit, are both inspirational and grounding."

The exhibit contains images and data taken from Hubble of planets, galaxies, black holes, and other celestial objects. One section of the exhibit is devoted to the James Webb Space Telescope, a joint project of NASA, the European Space Agency, and the Canadian Space Agency scheduled to launch in 2018.

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Hubble Exhibit Launches at State Museum

The State Historical Society already has found success with space-inspired programs combining history with science, technology, engineering, and math. NASA Program Manager Maurice Henderson spoke at the exhibit preview Sept. 29, and Bismarck native Jon Rask, NASA’s Space Life Sciences Training Program director at Ames Research Center, presented “The Intersection of Space and Home” on Nov. 14. “Space Science Saturday,” a partnership with Gateway to Science, drew dozens of aspiring astronauts to the State Museum on Oct. 21.

The Hubble traveling exhibit was developed by the Space Telescope Science Institute and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service, and is made available from the Hubble Project Office at NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center. For information, visit statemuseum.nd.gov/exhibits/hubble.

New Exhibit: House & Home

What makes a house a home? A new traveling exhibit at the North Dakota Heritage Center & State Museum explores the varied history and cultural meanings of the American home. Developed at the National Building Museum and toured by the National Endowment for the Humanities, House & Home presents an overview of architecture styles and living patterns featured in American homes. Quotes, toys, and advertising materials prompt visitors to think about the different ideas embodied in the words “house” and “home.” The exhibition also showcases domestic objects—from cooking utensils to telephones—and traces how household goods tell the stories of our family traditions, heritage, and the activity of daily living. The exhibit is on view in the Governors Gallery now through March 25, 2018. Learn more at statemuseum.nd.gov.

New Property Listed in National Register

by Lorna Meidinger, architectural historian, Archaeology & Historic Preservation

A North Dakota property has been listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the federal government’s list of properties it considers worthy of preservation and recognition. The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd in Lakota was designed by George Hancock with close collaboration from Bishop William D. Walker and built between 1884 and 1886. This stone church is an excellent example of the High Victorian Gothic/Second Gothic Revival architectural style. In addition to its architecture, this church represents the progressive cultural presence of the British gentry who promoted the town and sponsored building the first school in Lakota along with this church.
The State Historical Society of North Dakota hosted the 75th Plains Anthropological Conference in Bismarck Oct. 4–7. More than 300 attendees came from all points—Miami to California and Calgary to the Rio Grande Valley. Attendees were treated to a reception at the North Dakota Heritage Center & State Museum, including behind-the-scenes tours of the Archaeology & Historic Preservation Division, as well as tours of local state historical sites. Several State Historical Society staff members authored papers and posters for the conference.

Plains Anthropological Conference Visits Bismarck

Mandan Hidatsa historian Amy Mossett, far right, shares aspects of Mandan domestic life with conference attendees inside a reconstructed earthlodge at On-A-Slant Village, Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park. Photo by Brooke Morgan, SHSND

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State Archives Catalogs Dalrymple Papers

by Lindsay Schott, electronic records archivist, State Archives

The State Archives has long been the official repository for state documents. When Doug Burgum became North Dakota’s governor on Dec. 15, 2016, the transfer of records from the previous governor, Jack Dalrymple, began. Processing Gov. Dalrymple’s records is a first of its kind for the State Archives, because the majority of his records are in electronic format. Recently, the State Archives implemented Preservica, a digital preservation tool, to assist in the management and preservation of electronic records.

Dalrymple’s records are currently being processed and will be available to researchers in the near future. Through the State Archives, researchers will be able to find his correspondence with federal and state agencies, materials related to boards and commissions, publications, special projects, speech materials, and photographs. When finished, these records will be one of the State Archives’ first electronic records series available in Preservica.

Native American Hall of Honor Ceremony

Six new members of the Native American Hall of Honor were inducted Sept. 7 at the ND Heritage Center & State Museum. Several hundred people attended the buffalo feed and induction ceremony, organized by the North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission in partnership with the State Historical Society and a committee of tribal representatives from across the state. See the exhibit at the State Museum. Learn more at bit.ly/nahoh.

Documenting the Vietnam War

by Ann Jenks, division director, State Archives

Prairie Memories: The Vietnam War Years is a year-long, region-wide initiative aimed at inspiring North Dakotans and Minnesotans to remember and share stories, recognize bravery, honor those lost, express reasons for dissent, and foster understanding of the lasting impact of war. The State Historical Society partnered with Prairie Public for the project, which was funded by the Minnesota Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund.

In August and September, Prairie Public TV hosted events to capture oral history interviews representing the diversity of experiences in the Vietnam War years. At these events, the State Historical Society partnered to digitize participants’ photographs, correspondence, documents, and artifacts for the state’s digital archive, Digital Horizons. Four half-hour documentaries were created. Interviews and supplementary material can be found at digitalhorizonsonline.org.
Local History Award Presented

Kathy Holtan Wilner, the 2017 Local History Award recipient (center), with State Historical Society Director Claudia Berg and Outreach Program Coordinator Danielle Stuckle.

Kathy Holtan Wilner of Bowdon received the Heritage Profile Honor Award Nov. 16 at the North Dakota Heritage Center & State Museum in Bismarck. This award, bestowed by the State Historical Society, honors individual achievements related to North Dakota history. Wilner has documented more than 500 historic one-room schools throughout North Dakota, and she is a past recipient of several Cultural Heritage Grants to document and nominate schools to the National Register of Historic Places.

Nominations for Local History Awards are due annually the second Friday in July. For more information call 701.328.2794 or visit history.nd.gov/historyawardforms.html.

McHenry County Joins Affiliate Program

by Danielle Stuckle, outreach program coordinator, Communications & Education

McHenry County Courthouse in Towner, shown here in 2015, was named to the National Register of Historic Places in 1980. AHP 32MH00002

The State Historical Board approved the McHenry County Historical Society as the newest affiliate at its October meeting. In accordance with North Dakota Century Code, each county is authorized to have one official county historical society, which may become an official affiliate of the State Historical Society. Only official affiliates are eligible for mill levy funding through their respective counties. Out of the 53 North Dakota counties, 47 now have official affiliates. The last affiliate was approved 14 years ago for the Golden Valley Historical Society in Beach. Other benefits of affiliation include professional development and outreach services such as site visits, workshops, and other technical assistance. For more information, call 701.328.2794 or email dlstuckle@nd.gov.

ND History Journal Wins Award

Photo Archivist Sharon Silengo, North Dakota History Editor Pam Berreth Smokey, and Associate Editor Ann Crews Melton with the 2017 MPMA Publication Design Award.

For the second consecutive year, North Dakota History: Journal of the Northern Plains has won the Mountain-Plains Museums Association Publication Design Award. Congratulations to all staff, contributors, and reviewers who helped North Dakota History achieve this notable recognition. Read the main article from the winning journal (Summer 2016) on photographer O. S. Goff at bit.ly/ndhfeatured.

Educators Learn Visual Thinking Strategies

(Kneeling) Erik Holland, State Historical Society curator of education, and (standing from left) Barb Sandstrom and Shawna Marion of Turnaround Arts: ND, with Visual Thinking Strategies trainers Kay Cutler, Lynn Verschoor, and Mary Moeller.

On Sept. 29–30, the State Historical Society partnered with Turnaround Arts: ND, the North Dakota Council on the Arts, and the Missouri River Educational Cooperative to launch a year-long professional development opportunity for educators on Visual Thinking Strategies. The training was facilitated by South Dakota Art Museum Director Lynn Verschoor and Mary Moeller and Kay Cutler from South Dakota State University. Participants learned how to use images, murals, and artifacts from the State Museum to lead small group discussions, helping audiences engage with art and historical objects. The educators will participate in virtual coaching sessions throughout the year and reconvene at the ND Heritage Center in May 2018.
Fall at the Sites

A) Local volunteer Jim Herman speaks to LaMoure Public School students at Whitestone Hill Education Day on Sept. 13.

B) Agriculture Education Day volunteers Violet Olhauser, Betty Maier, and Elaine Wald stand outside at the Welk Homestead State Historic Site near Strasburg on Sept. 20.

C) Former Governors’ Mansion Site Supervisor Johnathan Campbell, Assistant Site Supervisor Kris Kitko, Collections Assistant Brooke Morgan, and State Historical Society Director Claudia Berg prepare to welcome more than 500 guests to the mansion’s Halloween Open House on Oct. 28.

D) Stutsman County Courthouse Site Supervisor Steven Reidburn, left, and volunteer Art Todd, center, attempt to spook new Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile Site Supervisor Robert Branting at the courthouse’s Halloween Open House on Oct. 31.

E) The Double Ditch Indian Village bank stabilization project, shown here on Nov. 1, was completed on schedule. The site now includes water access, a walking path, and new interpretive signs.

F) For Hayride and Pie Day, Chateau de Mores State Historic Site provided free horse-drawn hayrides through the scenic bottomlands near Medora on Oct. 28. Courtesy Arlene Schmeling, Friends of the Chateau de Mores

G) Gov. Doug Burgum, left, visited Fort Totten State Historic Site on Aug. 25 and received a tour from Site Supervisor Kyle Nelson.
Mothers Room Provided at ND Heritage Center

The North Dakota Heritage Center & State Museum now offers a Mothers Room next to the Treehouse exhibit. This private, designated space for nursing mothers includes a rocking chair and sink. Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health provided furnishings and signage.

Boards Join Together for Strategic Plan

The State Historical Board, the SHSND Foundation Board, State Historical Society Director Claudia Berg, division directors, and selected staff came together for a two-and-a-half-day strategic planning session led by the Prouty Project of Minneapolis in late October. This team created the beginning draft of a new vision statement and strategic planning process to help guide the agency into the next decade. Look for updates on the strategic plan in the coming months.

Piecemakers Raise Funds for Camp Hancock

Piecemaker Shirel Zillier (center right) hands a check to SHSND Foundation Director Virginia Nelsen for the restoration of Bread of Life Church at Camp Hancock. Also pictured (from left) are Karen Palaniuk, Kate Hanlon, Historic Sites Regional Manager Diane Rogness, and Carol DeWall.

The Piecemakers quilting group of St. George’s Episcopal Memorial Church in Bismarck presented a $1,275 check to the SHSND Foundation on Oct. 31. The group raffled off a quilt to raise funds for restoring and maintaining the Bread of Life Church at Camp Hancock State Historic Site. The Bread of Life Church, later renamed St. George’s Episcopal, was in use from 1881 to 1949 and is the oldest church in Bismarck.

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Marlo Sveen, SHSND Foundation Development Director

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